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# **Hdmi to HdTV Cable - What You Need to Know Before Making the Purchase**

# HDMI to HDTV - What to Know

When you're in the market for a digital *HDMI to HDTV Cable* there are many things you may want to consider before pulling the trigger. Are you running the cable through the wall? Is a CL2 rated cable really necessary when installing a cable inside the wall? What gauge wire do you need? How long of a cable do you need? How much is too much to spend?

All of these things can be a bit overwhelming to some people. Hopefully this article can clear some things up for people looking for a **digital HDMI to HDTV Cable** to hook up their fancy home theater.

## Running a Digital HDMI Cable through the Wall

If you're planning on running your cable through the wall, you need a cable that is CL2 rated. Some say it's necessary to avoid potential fires. Others will tell you that it's not that big of a deal if your cable isn't in-wall rated.

However I would recommend an in-wall HDMI cable simply because it's the right thing to do. It is also necessary because if you are planning on selling your home in the future, you will need a [CL2 rated cable](#) to pass the inspection. So yes, it is most definitely recommended to fork over just a little more cash for a CL2 In-Wall rated HDMI cable if you're planning on an in-wall installation.

## What gauge wire do I need

The standard for wire thickness is known as the American Wire Gauge (AWG). Typically for [digital HDMI cables](#), you will see 28AWG, 24AWG, and 22AWG cables. Out of these three gauges, the 22AWG cable is the thickest one. You may ask, which one do I need?

Well it depends on how long you're planning on running the cable. If all you need is a 6 ft HDMI cable, or a 10 foot, the cheaper [28AWG](#) cable will work perfectly for you. However, if your planning on running a long HDMI cable, you are going to need a thicker 24AWG or 22AWG cable. This will ensure that you maintain a strong signal throughout the length of the cable.

*Please note that it is a smart idea to test your longer HDMI to HDTV Cable before running them through the wall.*

## How much is too much to spend on a HDMI to HDTV Cable

Simply put, go with the cheapest one. Many people end up spending far too much for their HDMI cables when it will not make a bit of difference in quality. This is because all it takes to get that high-definition picture is a bunch of 1's and 0's. Cheap HDMI cables do fine in sending the 1's and 0's so why should you waste your money on overpriced cables? Of course, you still need to consider what was mentioned above regarding wire thickness and the length of the cable.

You should now have a good understanding on what you need to look for when purchasing an HDMI cable. Now plug in your cables and enjoy that nice high definition picture!

HDMI cables have created quite a stir in the AV world. It's a new digital format which has incredible capabilities both in the speed in which it can transmit data and the way it transmits data. Gone are the days when you need to ask your technical guru about which cables to use. With HDMI, it's one cable and you're ready to go for just about anything.

However, debate has also sprung up amongst enthusiasts and purists with regards to whether or not high end HDMI cables make a difference. The argument is simple: if HDMI is digital, what advantages would higher quality HDMI cables bring? Additionally, is there any point at all spending money on anything other than the cheapest and most basic cable?

Unfortunately there is no simple answer to this question. Firstly, not all HDMI cables may be compatible or capable for the application. HDMI has only been around a relatively short time, yet at the time of writing we've already had 3 major updates post the initial release: V1.1-1.3. The latest standard alone, V1.3, has already had 3 versions: V1.3 a, b and c.

Inevitably, the latest version will cost more than the earlier versions by the very fact that it's newer and up to date. While the version differences in the latter releases may be minimal, it is worth checking if the appliance requires a particular standard. Using a version lower than that required may be detrimental to quality or functionality.

### **HDMI to HDTV Cable - Considerations**

Another consideration is the quality and design of the cable itself. The HDMI signal is in fact, extremely demanding on the cable. With any cable, the longer the run, the better the cable needs to be. In other words, the longer the cable, the more interference and noise is induced into the cable. Cables are manufactured and tested only on the length they are designed.

If a short run of cable were to be extended, there is no guarantee that the cable would keep its performance, or in extreme cases, if it would work at all. This means that if a poorly controlled manufacturing/testing process were to be used to produce the cable (e.g. from a low quality brand), then the quality of a cable would certainly make a difference.

### **Last but Not Least - HDMI to HDTV Cable**

The last point to consider is HDMI's built in ability for error correction. It is true that there is some capability for error correction in HDMI's design. However, this does not apply to video or audio. When used with a compatible appliance, the error correction will simply attempt to guess what the signal could have been.

This means that errors will still occur if not transmitted correctly. While the probability of errors is certainly reduced with superior design of the HDMI signal, it is by no means error free. A better quality cable would therefore reduce the chance of this occurring.

In an ideal world, there would be no difference between a quality HDMI cable and an ordinary one. Unfortunately in the real world this is not the case. There are always bad products, good products and better products.

The good news is that the difference between the performance of these products is becoming more and more marginal. If you are looking to buy a cable to connect your flat-screen TV, it's certainly worth getting a quality **HDMI to HDTV Cable**.center;">HDMI to HDTV - What to Know

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