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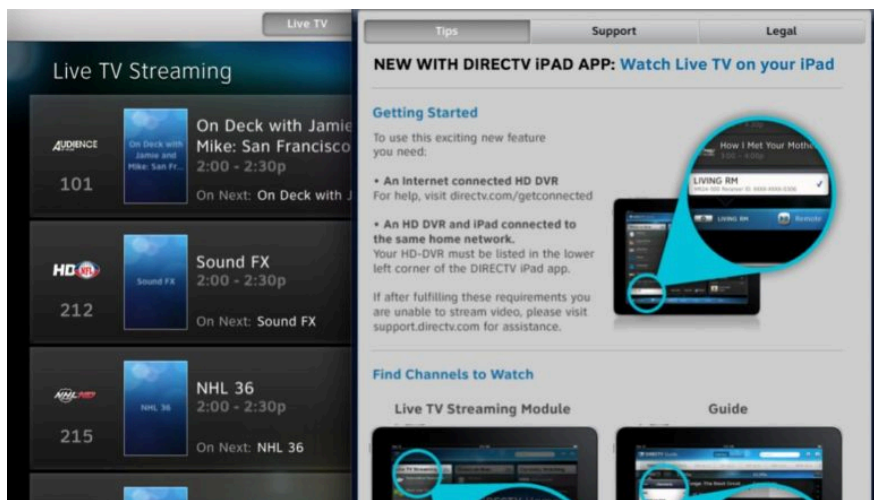
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REVIEWS

Hands on with DIRECTV Everywhere



POSTED BY: **STUART SWEET** MARCH 11, 2012

TOPICS: COMPUTERS AND INTERNET DIRECTV

I've made no secret that one of my favorite apps for my iPad comes from DIRECTV. How can you go wrong with one **free** app that turns your iPad into a mega-remote lets you

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iPad app, as great as it is, suffers from the same problem as other DIRECTV features: you pretty much have to be inside the home to use it. While competitors have piled on the remote management features, DIRECTV has chosen to hang back, get the contracts settled, and wait until they could provide the best possible experience.



DIRECTV Everywhere, they call it. With the latest version of the app (still free) you can watch selected programs from outside the home. Right now the selection is limited to a few movie channels and the Audience Network, but you know that there are going to be more channels added. If things go the way they have in the past, those channels will be added automatically to the app. Watching DIRECTV outside the house is easy to do but it does take a few steps. **Tap on the Watch on iPad button**, located at the lower right, to get to a menu of everything you can watch on the iPad. **Tap on Networks** near the top to see the networks you can watch anywhere.



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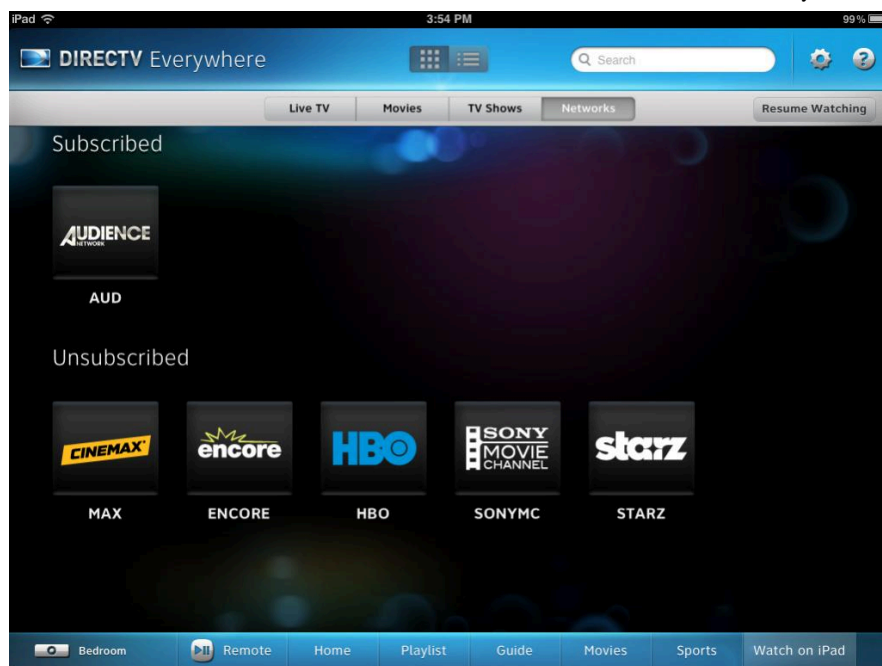
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dmeader on **What is hardline cable?**

Hardline is EVERYWHERE in

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Then, **tap on a network** to bring up a list of what you can see. **Tap on a show** to see available episodes, and **tap on Watch Now** to start watching. It sounds harder than it is, and if you tap on the large question mark on the upper right, there is a help menu to get you started. There's a large amount of content from the Audience Network that's free to anyone, and if you subscribe to Starz, HBO, Cinemax, Encore, or Sony Movie Channel you can watch that content as well. Once you've done it once or twice it's actually pretty easy. Video quality can be affected by a poor internet connection, of course, so make sure that you've got a nice clean connection. A wi-fi connection is a good bet there although this should work over 3G or the 4G connection coming with the new iPad.

antenna?

Interesting! I'd like to try one of these for FM D...



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Social networking is easier than ever with the iPad app. What's Hot now takes recommendations from your twitter feed and facebook page, as well as from DIRECTV's own feed to give you a much more comprehensive view of what's really going on and what people are watching. It's easier than ever to see what your friends are watching and schedule your own viewing. Every info screen also has a share button allowing you to quickly post to Facebook, Miso, GetGlue, and Twitter. For those who are unfamiliar with Miso, it's a real-time social networking app designed to give anyone the opportunity to create a "second screen opportunity" with comments and trivia. It's available for desktop computers and iPhones.

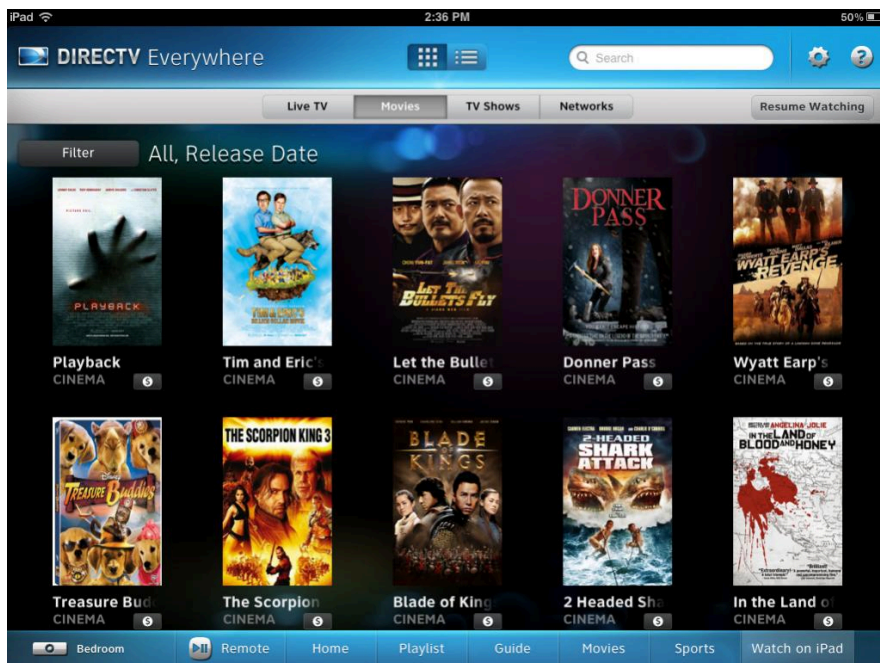
Here's a video of the app in action:

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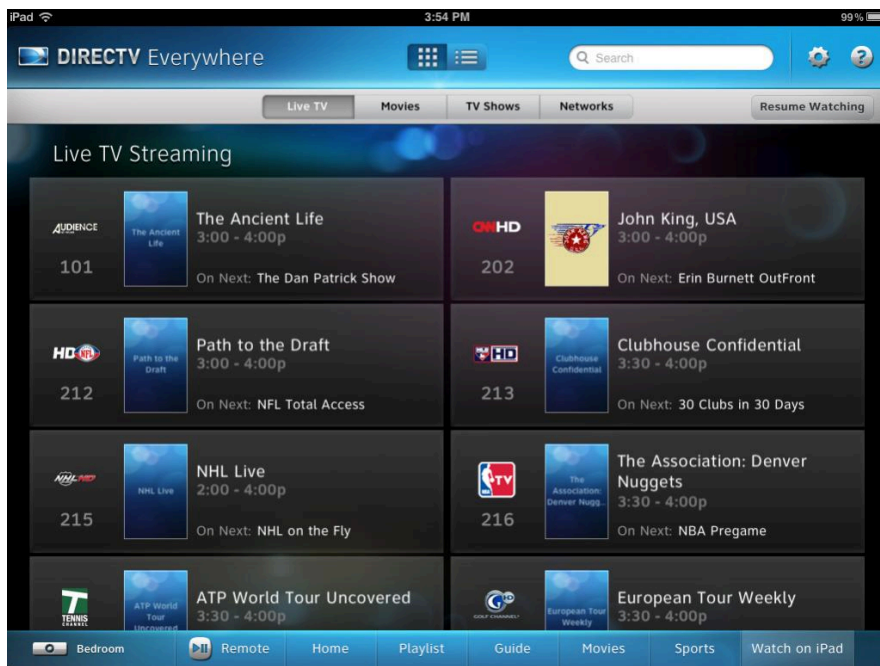
DIRECTV Everywhere Mini Review



Here are a few more shots of the iPad app.



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DIRECTV didn't stop at streaming, either. They added an easy link to the Answer Center. **If you read my review of the mobile site**, you saw that I complained that the Answer Center was very hard to get to, all the way at the bottom. Here, click the question mark and tap "Support" and you'll be given a link that opens a full version of the DIRECTV site within the iPad App and starts at the Answer Center

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coming, but it's too early to say when they will come. Still, I think DIRECTV made the right decision in starting with the iPad app. If I were streaming video, that's the platform I'd use.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Stuart Sweet

Stuart Sweet is the editor-in-chief of The Solid Signal Blog and a "master plumber" at Signal Group, LLC. He is the author of over 10,000 articles and longform tutorials including many posted here. Reach him by clicking on "Contact the Editor" at the bottom of this page.

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