How to connect a laptop to a TV with an HDMI cable

This is the simplest and easiest way to connect your laptop to a TV. All you need to get the job done is an HDMI cable, which you can get on Amazon for less than $10. An HDMI cable can handle both audio and high-resolution video, so it’s great for streaming your favorite movies.

To make this work, both your laptop and TV have to have an HDMI port. Keep in mind that some laptops have a micro HDMI or a mini HDMI port, so you’ll need a different cable — you can get it via the buttons below. Alternatively, if you already have a regular HDMI cable, you can just buy an adapter to save some money. You can get it here (mini HDMI to HDMI) and here (micro HDMI to HDMI).

Step-by-step instructions:
1. Turn on both devices.
2. Connect the laptop to the TV with an HDMI cable.
3. Select the correct HDMI input on the TV with the remote.
4. The connection between the two devices should be established automatically.

Casting on Chromecast, Apple TV, Roku

Chromecast
You can “cast” a video from your computer or smart device (phone, iPad).

Step-by-step instructions:
1. Open the movie on your device (computer or phone).
2. At the bottom right of the screen you should see the casting icon. It looks like this: 📺
3. If you don’t see that icon and you’re casting from a computer in the Chrome browser, you can open the menu in the upper right corner of the window (or the View menu) and select “Cast”.
4. Once you select that button, it should give you the option to select a nearby device, so you’d then select your Chromecast. If you don’t see your Chromecast, make sure both devices are on the same wireless network.

You can find more information on the Chromecast website.
Apple TV
You can cast a video using a method called AirPlay!

Step-by-step instructions:
1. Open the movie on your Apple device (computer, iPhone or iPad)
2. At the bottom right of the video window you should see the AirPlay icon.
3. It looks like this: ▲
4. Once you tap the icon, select “Apple TV” from the list of devices

You can also find more information on the Apple website.

Roku
You can cast a video from your Android or Windows device.

Step-by-step instructions:
1. Open the movie on your device.
2. At the bottom right of the screen you should see the casting icon. It looks like this: ▼
3. Once you select that button, it should give you the option to select a nearby device, so you’d then select your Roku/Chromecast.
4. If you don’t see your Roku/Chromecast, make sure both devices are on the same wireless network. The channel should launch automatically and playback will begin.