

TVs, streaming & smart home | Easy | 2 min read

How to connect a laptop to your TV

Connecting a laptop to a TV lets you watch videos, photos or a presentation on the big screen. You will need an HDMI cable, and sometimes an adaptor. Menus differ by brand and Windows or Mac version, so use these steps as a guide.

What you need

- An HDMI cable long enough to reach.
- A free HDMI socket on the TV.
- A laptop with an HDMI socket. Many newer laptops only have USB-C sockets, so you may need a USB-C to HDMI adaptor or cable.

Connect the cable

1. Turn the TV and laptop on.
2. Plug one end of the cable into the laptop, via the adaptor if needed.
3. Plug the other end into an HDMI socket on the TV. Note the socket number, such as HDMI 2.
4. Press **Source** or **Input** on the TV remote and choose the same HDMI number.

Show the laptop screen

On Windows, press the **Windows key** and **P** together. Choose **Duplicate** to show the same on both screens, or **Extend** to use the TV as a second screen.

On a Mac, open **System Settings**, then **Displays**, and check the TV is listed. You can choose to mirror displays.

If the picture does not fit

- Look in the TV picture settings for **Screen size**, **Aspect** or **Just Scan**. The name varies by brand.
- Choose the option that shows the full picture without cutting off the edges.

If there is no sound

Sound should travel down the HDMI cable. If not:

1. Check the TV volume and mute.
2. On Windows, click the speaker icon in the bottom corner and choose the TV as the sound output.
3. On a Mac, open **System Settings**, **Sound**, then **Output**, and pick the TV.

No signal

Try another HDMI socket, a different cable and restart both devices.

When to get more help

Get in touch if the TV says "no signal" even with a new cable, if you are not sure which adaptor you need, or if the picture looks blurry. We can help choose the right cable and settings.

Still stuck? Email admin@visiontech336.com and tell us what you can see on the screen. Menus and button names can differ slightly between versions and makes. If something does not match, stop and ask rather than guess. Please never send passwords or card details.