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Proudly Presents: FIRST LOOK – DISH Network Sling Adapter by Sling Media



I feel that one of the greatest inventions of the 21st century has been the Slingbox, it is one of my favorite electronic gadgets that I seem to use on an everyday basis.

With a Slingbox it makes the promise of TV Everywhere a reality. With a Slingbox you can truly watch you television programming anywhere you have an internet connection. And with the advent of the Slingbox it made it easy to take your TV Everywhere with you... and now DISH Network makes it even easier!

With an old fashioned Slingbox setup was simple yet at the same time it was also cumbersome for many. You first had to hook the Slingbox up to your satellite receiver, you then had to hook it up to your TV, you had to plug in and aim IR remote blasters and you had to program the Slingbox software to be able to control your satellite receiver. With the new Sling adapter it's much easier to setup.



(Do not eat, its not a Eggo Waffle, its a DISH Sling Adapter!)

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Basically you plug the ultra slim Sling Adapter into your 722 or 722k's USB port and your done! No IR blasters and no programming your receiver to work.

If you have not hooked up broadband to your 722 or 722k yet there is one more step you will need to make (besides hooking the receiver to broadband) and that is activating your receiver online. Doing this is simple, on your remote control press MENU – 6 – 1 – 9 then select Web Activation and follow the on screen prompts. Once you're done with that you are ready to go!

Now anywhere you have internet access and a web browser you can watch you anything from your 722 or 722k including live shows and all the contents from your DVR as well!

As of this review the only way to watch programming from your Sling Adapter is via DISH Remote Access at DISH.COM. (Mobile Apps are coming shortly) To do this go to <http://www.dish.com> and log in to your DISH Network account, once logged in select DISH Remote Access. Once you are at DISH Remote Access you can now watch television from your 722 with Sling Adapter! (Note if you already have a number of your DISH Network DVR's Networked you may need to select your receiver that you have your Sling Adapter hooked to from the pull down menu on the top of the screen.)

The screenshot displays the DISH Network Sling Adapter web interface. At the top, it shows the user's account information: "MY ACCOUNT WELCOME SCOTT (LOGOUT)". The current channel is "BEDROOM722K" and the time is "Wednesday, Nov 17 7:31 PM". The main video player shows a live stream of "Access Hollywood" featuring Billy Bush. The video player includes playback controls and a "LIVE RECORD RECALL UP CHANNEL DN ZOOM FULLSCREEN" menu. To the right of the video player is an "Info" panel for "Access Hollywood" with details such as "ORIGINAL DATE November 17, 2010", "TIME LEFT 0:28", "CHANNEL WWIT, 30-00", "RATING PG", and "DATE Wednesday, November 17 7:30 PM - 8:00 PM". Below the video player is a navigation bar with tabs for "GRID", "NOW", "TODAY", "LATER", "MY DVR", and "PREFERENCES". The "GRID" tab is active, showing a program guide for "Wed, 11/17" from 07:00 PM to 09:00 PM. The guide lists various programs including "WFSB Inside Edition", "Entertainment Tonight", "Survivor: Nicaragua", "Criminal Minds", "Jeopardy!", "Wheel of Fortune", "The Middle", "Better With You", "Modern Family", and "Cougar Town". At the bottom of the page, there is a "Support" link and a "Version: 2.10.11.01" indicator.

By default you will see a guide being shown, and you can select any show that is airing, point to it and select watch on the web. After a few moments you will then see your video on the screen LIVE! (Note if it is your first time at the Dish Remote Access Site watching Sling content you may need to install a browser plug in. Just follow the on screen prompts for how to install this plug in.)

In addition you can also watch recordings on your DVR by selecting the DVR tab, selecting a show you want to watch and select watch on web.

For long time Slingbox users a big change comes to the new Sling Adapter and watching online. The big change is there is no longer a remote control on the screen; instead you now see your controls below the screen. Here you can do most of the remote control functions but not all. I was honestly bummed to hear that the remote control feature was removed from the Sling adapter but after using the Sling Adapter for awhile I grew to like the controls below the screen. While I do wish they added a MENU key to the choices, it is 100% usable for watching your content everywhere.

So far the only places you can watch video from your DISH Network Sling Adapter is at DISH.COM and on your iPhone using the new DISH Remote Access application. However DISH will soon be releasing a new free DISH Remote Access app for the Android device soon that will let you enjoy your TV anywhere.



(Screenshot from iPhone DISH Remote Access App)

I came into this review expecting to hate the stripped down Sling Adapter, but honestly it is a great device so great that I can only find one flaw with it. That flaw being you can only watch that device while being logged into your DISH Network account; you can't watch it via the classic Slingplayer software on your PC or MAC. Now I don't know about you, but I am not comfortable giving my kids or friends access to my full DISH Network account just so they can access my Slingbox

I do hope that DISH will come up with a way to allow us to create a different login we can give to our kids or friend without exposing our full DISH Network account, or better yet come out with a new version of the stand alone Slingplayer application which uses our Sling login, like we have for years with out regular Slingboxes.



(Even Billy Bush looks good in HD via the DISH Sling Adapter)

But with that flaw the hardware is perfect. The video quality shines brightly including excellent near HD quality streams. In fact I own a Slingbox Pro HD and the HD streaming quality actually seems a little better then what I get out of the Slingbox Pro HD unit!

For those of you wondering, The Sling Adapter automatically uses the TV2 tuner from the 722. If someone is watching TV on TV2 both the home user viewing TV2 and the Sling user will see the same programming. If you use your 722 normally in single tuner mode it will automatically flip to dual mode when someone connects to your Sling Adapter. This means you can watch one show on your TV and another show at the same time on your computer or mobile device.

Overall thoughts

The DISH Network Sling Adapter requires a high speed internet connection. DISH Network recommends a 3 Mbps or higher Upstream connection for HD Viewing, 600 Kbps for SD Viewing and for Mobile Viewing they recommend 150 Kbps or higher.

Other companies talk about TV Everywhere but DISH Network is actually delivering and is doing a good job at it too.

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Sling technology is hard to explain to people at times, but I am sure if you had a chance to play with one you would really want one. I can't imagine not having a Slingbox, I use mine every day. I love the Slingbox technology so much that I now have 7 Slingbox units.

If you're a happy DISH Network customer who has a 722 or 722k and has been thinking about getting a Slingbox think no more, this is the perfect accessory to your DISH Network subscription. At only \$99 MSRP it should be the one gift that SatelliteGuys and Gals places on their Christmas list to Santa this year.

Thank you for reading this SatelliteGuys First Look at the new DISH Network Sling Adapter by Sling Media!

Our thanks to the folks at DISH Network for providing us the Sling Adapter used for this review!



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