

Maximize Reception with Your Indoor Antenna With These Essential Tips

Look For The Broadcast Towers Near You

Based on your location and geography, you should have a good grasp on the available channels in your area. For those who don't, with AntennaWeb or RabbitEars you can easily identify all the available channels and their corresponding signal strengths.

When you buy an indoor antenna be sure that it covers your home's distance from the broadcast towers. Why? Because channels have distance ratings. The closer you are to the broadcast towers, the better reception you'll get for the channels.

Place Antenna Near Your Window

Placement can be a challenge since it's mostly trial and error. One of the best things you could do is put the antenna near your window. By doing so, you are placing the antenna to get the best line of sight to the nearest TV towers. If the window has a lot of obstructions, you can place the antenna near a door or a similar opening.

Keep in mind that walls and ceilings are considered obstructions that directly affect the reception. That's why placing it near your window is a good idea. In addition to this, experts recommend that you should place the antenna with white side facing outside for minimal heat absorption. Plus, when you are using a flat antenna, be sure to tape it on all four corners to the window to prevent it from warping over time.

Go High

If you're struggling with your antenna's reception, it's a good idea to go high. This placement prevents the signal from being blocked since it puts the antenna above the level of low-lying objects. There are cases when roofing materials interfere with the signal, thus, affecting your reception. In this case, mounting the antenna up near the ceiling is a good way to get better reception. If your cable is not long enough, you can use an extension cable and coupler.

Most of the population prefers to have their antennas installed in the same room as their TV. If you want to do the same, you may have to use at least 10 feet of cable in order to install the antenna on a higher platform like the ceiling. Putting your antenna as high up as possible would boost your reception especially if it's with a line of sight to the transmitters.

Don't Place It Near Metal

For the best possible reception, don't place your antenna near metal since it is a strong object that interferes with the signal and blocks your reception. Let's say, you want to place your antenna near the window, but the window has metal bars around it. In this case, placing it near the window won't be a good idea since metal can cause reception issues. Whenever possible, be sure to place the antenna at least six feet away from the metal.

Move It Around

Yes, you read that right. As mentioned previously, installing your indoor antenna is a trial and error that's why if it doesn't work well in a certain position, you need to move it to a different one. Let's say you want it installed in the living room but there are a lot of objects or obstructions that can interfere with the signal such as electronic devices. The best thing to do is move it to another room using a longer cable.

Don't forget to test-run whenever you place it in a different location. Once you start seeing a better picture, keep switching channels to make sure it's a good spot. If it's still doesn't work on other channels, then try moving it to another spot.

In A Nutshell

Without a doubt, watching a clear picture without interference when watching TV is something we all deserve. For more information on reception, antenna's installation and more contact us at Smith & Fisher.