

Does your community group need a TV Licence?

If you plan to watch live TV or watch or download BBC programmes on BBC iPlayer, even if it's just for a short period of time, you need to make sure you're covered by a TV Licence.



When you need a TV Licence

- You need to be covered by a TV Licence if you're plugged into the mains to watch or record programmes as they're being shown on TV or live on an online TV service, or to download or watch BBC programmes on demand, including catch up TV, on BBC iPlayer. This applies to any device you use.



When you DON'T need a TV Licence

- You don't need a licence if you and your members only use devices, such as laptops, tablets or mobile phones, that are not plugged into the mains, and you each have a TV Licence for your home address. You also don't need one if your devices are only used to view CCTV, DVDs/Blu-rays or videos.

A standard TV Licence costs £159.00. You can pay it all in one go or choose to spread the cost.

Your questions answered.



Can we buy a short-term licence to watch a one-off event?

Unfortunately not. If you only need a licence for a short time, you can buy one and then apply for a part refund once you no longer need it. Alternatively, you can spread the cost of a licence to keep payments as low as possible.



Who is responsible for paying the licence fee?

You can avoid the risk of breaking the law by making sure the premises are covered by a licence. If you or your group manage the property, it's your or your group's responsibility to make sure you're licensed.



What happens if I don't have a licence?

It is a criminal offence to watch or record live TV programmes on any channel or device, or to download or watch BBC programmes on iPlayer, without being covered by a licence. If you break the law, you risk prosecution and a fine. The maximum penalty is a £1,000* fine plus any legal costs and/or compensation you may be ordered to pay.



Do you grant discounts for charity or not-for-profit groups?

No, sorry. Concessions are set by the government and there are no discounts available for these groups.



Do I need more than one licence?

Usually, one TV Licence will cover a club or community group, if the same TV can be used by the different clubs and groups who use the licensed address. However, if part of a community centre is solely occupied by a club or group, and a TV or other device is reserved for their use only, a separate TV Licence may be needed.

*The maximum fine is £2,000 in Guernsey.

Find out more at tvlicensing.co.uk/businessinfo or call **0300 790 6112**