

DVB Signal finder

Trouble-shooting Steps:

1. Consult <http://www.wolfbane.net/cgi-bin/tvd.exe?> and enter your postcode into the search box. This will tell you which transmitters serve your local area, which is likely to give you the best signal strength, what polarity it is and what its compass bearing is from your position.
2. Check the position, axial orientation (horizontal or vertical - relative to the polarity of your best transmitter) and orientation of your aerial relative to your preferred transmitter for greatest signal strength. If you have not used wolfbane to do this, then simply match direction and orientation to other aerials in the neighbourhood. The meter will do the rest to help you to fine tune directional orientation but won't tell you what transmitters are out there, which can be confusing if your aerial is picking up more than one signal.
3. Check your aerial type against those in the neighbourhood. If yours is considerably smaller than those around you, you will probably need to upgrade your aerial to get a strong enough signal.
4. Check the condition and age of the coaxial cable. If it is not screened with metal foil or is in poor condition (wear to insulators, any water ingress), replace with modern digital (screened) coax of good quality. Poor quality coax allows interference to your signal which creates signal noise. Coax is not expensive.
5. Check the connection on the coaxial cable is F type and is a good connection to the coaxial cable. Replace or refit the F-plug (according to the instructions given with the meter) if necessary. If the coaxial cable has an old-style RF (straight push connector) replace with an F-plug to connect to the meter.
6. Attach a short length of coax to the aerial as shown in the instructions. Attach the meter to the coax (if working directly on the roof). Rotate the aerial horizontally in a short arc observing the signal strength LEDs. Fix the aerial in the centre of the arc where signal is strongest.
7. Reconnect the coax to your TV or set top box.
8. Retune your TV and note the signal strength shown in your TV's manual set-up screen to confirm you have optimal direction.
9. Use UKFreeTV <https://ukfree.tv/maps/freeview> or similar website to confirm what channels are available from your selected transmitter and confirm you have those now. If not, then repeat the process above. If this does not give you all the channels available, you may need to upgrade your aerial and may also need a signal amplifier.
10. If the signal meter shows the same reading regardless of direction of the aerial, there is a fault. The fault may lie with the aerial (hard to check), it's connector (disassemble and reassemble), the coaxial cable or its connector or with the meter itself (check the battery, check the connections to the F-plug connectors).