Subject: Roku
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 11 Jan 2010 17:13:33 GMT
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I've never really liked streaming video from the internet because it's so blotchy. But with all the communications companies pushing towards IP-everything, there have been some pretty good advances that make it at least tolerable, if not decent. In fact, video quality can be quite good, in some cases, and with the right connection, you can enjoy dropout-free video. That's a big deal to me, because one dropout seems to ruin the show. Picky maybe, but I just hate digital dropouts.

Anyway, I've setup my PC to stream video to the main TV on more than one occasion. Personally, I can wait for the Netflix disk to arrive, but sometimes Melissa can't. When she gets a certain series in her head, she'll watch them back to back and when a season is over, we have withdrawl symptoms on our hands. It's not pretty.

OK, yeah, I'm guilty of that too.

So we've decided to get a Roku box. It's capable of connecting to the WiFi and streaming video out through composite, component or HDMI outputs to a TV. There is even a model available that can pass through HD resolution streams. So this will keep me from having to donate my laptop as a video server. I'll let you know what I think of it, once I've installed and used it for a while.