Subject: Prime streaming, now with commercials
Posted by Leot55 on Mon, 11 Mar 2024 09:27:36 GMT
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Is anyone else seeing commercials while watching Prime Video? Amazon keeps telling me that I need to pay a few bucks each month to make them go away. Does that mean that Amazon cancelled my Prime subscription, or is this simply a new thing that Amazon is doing? Is there a way to make the ads disappear without paying a monthly fee? If you're wondering why I haven't asked their customer service department instead of asking here, it's because their chat agent button and customer service number are nowhere to be found. Amazon takes me to their FAQ page when I request help. It's an endless loop.

Subject: Re: Prime streaming, now with commercials
Posted by Rusty on Mon, 11 Mar 2024 12:13:44 GMT
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And that ought to tell you what you'll have to do. Pony up the extra cash and do their bidding. I get by without subscription streaming. What I've seen of it confirms me keeping that going.

Subject: Re: Prime streaming, now with commercials
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 11 Mar 2024 18:11:00 GMT
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Yeah, I remember when Amazon announced that. It's like three bucks a month or something. They also seem to have a lot more content that requires payment or an external subscription than they used to have. Death by a thousand cuts.

I guess it's like most everything else. A decade ago, "cable cutting" really saved some cash. You could cancel your cable TV and go streaming and save probably a hundred bucks a month. Lots of streaming content was free, and the paid services like Netflix were pretty cheap. The only catch was you needed to have a really good internet connection to get good video content, especially on multiple televisions throughout the house. So back then, your video streaming cost was mostly the cost of your internet connection, with maybe a little more for any subscription you might choose.

But now, I think we're drifting back to something similar to the old cable TV model, where you pay for every premium network as a streaming service. The costs are about the same too. It doesn't take long to add up - just a few networks and you're up to the cost of the old cable service you got away from a decade or so ago.

I kinda miss the old three-network rabbit-ear days.

Subject: Re: Prime streaming, now with commercials
Posted by Leot55 on Thu, 21 Mar 2024 08:19:59 GMT
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Well, I finally gave up and paid the monthly ransom, but I'm still seeing ads on some shows. So be forewarned that paying up might not make a difference. I wish Amazon had given me a warning about the change before I renewed my Prime subscription. How did you all hear about it?

Subject: Re: Prime streaming, now with commercials
Posted by Rusty on Thu, 21 Mar 2024 10:46:54 GMT
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You have been assimilated by the Amazon Borg. Resistance is futile. You'll either get the monkey off your back eventually or just keep paying more for less. That's the business plan.

Subject: Re: Prime streaming, now with commercials
Posted by gofar99 on Fri, 22 Mar 2024 03:00:34 GMT
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Hi, you knew it would happen. Cable is not cheap, but since it is also my internet, land line phone and video monitoring the budle is reasonable. To be sure content is getting funky as they try to get you to stream. No thanks I'll sit this one out.

Subject: Re: Prime streaming, now with commercials
Posted by Madison on Sun, 24 Mar 2024 14:32:02 GMT
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I think I read about it on Wired. Unfortunately, you'll still see commercials when you watch one of the Freevee shows, and it's hard to tell the difference between the two. Amazon owns both, of course. I won't be renewing my subscription when it's up again. It takes about a week to get my orders now, and they've seriously downgraded both the music and show options that are included with Prime.

Subject: Re: Prime streaming, now with commercials
Posted by Rusty on Sun, 24 Mar 2024 15:29:07 GMT
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It's the curse of finance capitalism. It engineers revenue streams. The rates for pay subscription TV has risen to what the monopolies can sustain people paying for. Content costs vs rate fee's are flat now. Thus, lack of new content. The writers and actors strike probably put a dent in their content costs also. Americans need the distraction of entertainment from all the bad global and domestic news and patterns of diminishment of the American dream floundering these days. But

don't expect it to be free to view or free of commercials you have to endure to watch.
Like the movie, The Big Lebowski. We want the money Lebowski!

Subject: Re: Prime streaming, now with commercials
Posted by AcousticJack on Fri, 05 Apr 2024 14:32:44 GMT
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Yes, I think they started with the ads around new year. I don't use Prime Video myself, but I have Alexa. Sometimes it's impossible to get her to stop trying to sell me new stuff. It's annoying.
