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How to update android tv box to latest version

Updated March 2021Your Android TV box is managed by its firmware. This is the software that manages your hardware, such as your Wi-Fi and your Bluetooth.And just like software, firmware sometimes needs to be updated.But how exactly do you do that? Read on as I answer all your questions.What is firmware? Why is it important? Why do you need to update it? And how do you go about updating it? I will also answer some of the most frequent questions that I receive about Android TV box firmware.Spoiler Alert! Firmware makes your hardware work. So, to download new firmware and find instructions on how to install it, you will need to go to your TV box manufacturer’s website.At the bottom of this page, you will find a list of some of the major Android TV box manufacturers, complete with a list of all their models and a link to their latest firmware (and when it was released).This will help you find the files and information you need in order to update your TV box.Note: All files are hosted on the manufacturer’s sites or their sites or fleshares.What Is Firmware?Firmware is the software that makes hardware do what the manufacturer intended it to do. It is what tells your Wi-Fi, your Bluetooth, your video card, and the other hardware elements that make your software “tick” what to do.Firmware is different from the operating system. All Android TV boxes use the Android operating system, of which there are a variety of different versions that sometimes need updating.But the firmware is specific to the hardware.You could say it is the firmware that allows the hardware to speak to the operating system.Firmware is stored on the Read-Only Memory (ROM) of the device, which holds data permanently, even when the device is switched off.Why Do You Need To Update Firmware?To operate properly, and do all the latest things that your TV box should be able to do, you need the most up-to-date firmware.Updating your firmware may allow your TV box to do new things that the manufacturer has developed, without you actually having to update your hardware.Firmware updates will also usually improve the performance of your device, so you will get faster streaming and better image quality.It can also help alleviate problems that may have developed with the system as a result of other OS or software updates.Firmware updates also protect you from security vulnerabilities that may have been identified.Make sure your Android TV box (still don’t know what is an Android TV box?, visit this page) is fully protected by also installing appropriate antivirus software. If you want to know more about exactly why you need antivirus protection on your Android TV box, read my article about it.If you aren’t already using antivirus software for your TV box, I recommend:BitDefenderComes from a big-name antivirus company that offers a free version for Android that you can download from the Google PlayStore directly to your Android TV boxThis lightweight antivirus doesn’t run in the background, so it doesn’t eat up your speeds while you are streamingIt is back-compatible as far as Android 4.1, which is important as many TV boxes run older versions of AndroidMcAfeeProbably the best-known name in antivirus softwareThere is a free, ad-supported version and also a paid pro version If you can’t stand the ads or want additional featuresAs well as scanning apps on download, it regularly scans to see if any of your applications are leaking dataTrend Micro Both free and paid versions of the app available, so choose depending on your security needsThe pro version includes advanced anti-theft featuresFacebook privacy scanner comes as standardWorks with Android 5.0 or laterAvastHas both free and ad-supported versions that are optimized to work with Android TVIncludes advanced security features such as tracking and remote wiping of devicesWorks on Android 5.0 and aboveWhen Do You Need To Update Your TV Box Firmware?The answer to this question is surprisingly often You might need to update your firmware when you are setting up your Android TV Box If it does not come with the manufacturer’s latest firmware, This happens more often than you would think, especially if you buy the firmware through less than reputable dealers.But you will need to check to see if your existing Android TV box needs updates too, as firmware can become out of date very quickly. The faster technology evolves, the faster firmware updates are released.If you buy a reputable brand, you can register your device when you purchase it and the manufacturer will notify you when firmware updates are available.Otherwise, it is a case of visiting their website periodically to see if there is an update for your model.How Do You Update Your TV Box Firmware?How you update your Android TV box firmware is all about the type of TV box you have, as firmware is about the hardware and not the software. So, this is something you get from your manufacturer, and not from Android.To get the specific files and instructions you need to update your TV box, you will need to go to the manufacturer’s website. They will have a page where you can download firmware updates.But beware! You need to make sure the firmware you are installing is for the exact model of TV box you have. If the update you try to install is for a “similar-but-different” model of TV box by the same manufacturer, you can kill your TV box.If the newest firmware is not compatible with your device, this is probably because the manufacturer is no longer supporting your hardware.Some manufacturers are better than others when it comes to supporting older versions of their hardware.But, if the manufacturer has new firmware and it is not compatible with your older device, it is a sign that you will probably have to invest in a new TV box in the not-too-distant future.Not sure what TV box to choose? Check out our list of the 25 best TV boxes available in 2021. Spoiler alert, I recommend the following.For a premium TV box capable of delivering full 4K and delivering sophisticated gaming options:NVIDIA ShieldThis box has one of the most powerful chips on the market, which means there is basically nothing it can’t do!Watch all of your content in full 4K with Dolby Digital sound supportIt is also fully licensed to unlock 4K content on Netflix and Amazon Prime Video (many 4K capable Android TV boxes are not authorized to stream content from these services in 4K)Get access to the NVIDIA GeForce games platformUse intuitive voice control and integrate with both Amazon Alexa and Google smart home systemsFor an affordable Android TV box that is 4K capable but won’t break the bank:Tangula Android 9.0 TV BoxCombines a sophisticated Cortex CPU with the Android 9.0 operating system designed specifically to support Android TVSupport 8K ultra HD resolution and high-quality 3D - but note that it will not unlock Netflix and Prime Video in 4KLots of storage for your media library with 64GB of ROMFor the best streaming from the major streaming services:Fire TV Stick 4KYou don’t need the gaming power of the NVIDIA Shield but want to be able to watch Netflix and Prime Video in 4K at a quarter of the price?The Fire Stick 4K is only designed for streaming from the major services, but it does this well and lets you access everything in full 4KIt also has intuitive voice control, and integrates with the Amazon Alexa smart home systemHow exactly you install the update will again depend on the type of Android TV box you have, and instructions should be available on the manufacturer’s website.But, as a general step-by-step guide:Locate and download the firmware update.Transfer the update to your TV box via SD card, USB, or other means.Open your TV box in recovery mode. You may be able to do this through your settings menu or using the pinhole button on the back of your box. Consult your manual.When you reboot the system in recovery mode, you will be given an option to apply updates off the storage device you inserted into your box.Select the firmware file, allow it to run, and restart the system.But this is a very general and generic guide. Consult your manual and manufacturer’s website for detailed instructions.Android TV Box Firmware FAQsI get a lot of questions related to Android TV box firmware – more than any other subject on this site. So, I thought I’d post the most frequently asked questions here to help you.For more streaming device frequently asked questions, head on over to my main FAQ page.I HAVE _____ BOX, CAN YOU TELL ME WHO THE MANUFACTURER IS?Possibly, but it’s not as easy as it should be.When the first TV sticks (before TV boxes) came out a few years ago, some of the models became household names, but others died off.The tricky part is that different tech companies kept using the names that worked, bringing out new versions with different hardware. They may have nothing in common with the original, or they may not even be made by the same company.For example, you can have several different versions of the G-Box TV box – made popular by Matricom.Notice I said “made popular by” and not “made by.” If you bought a “G-Box TV box,” you may have a Matricom device or you may not.This is common with “MX” and “MXQ” boxes, too. The box may have the same components, but there’s a good chance it won’t. The best bet is to contact whomever you bought it from and ask them for an update.HOW DO I INSTALL FIRMWARE ON AN ANDROID TV BOX?The answer to this question depends on the type of TV box you have.This is because unlike the OS, which is universal across Android TV boxes and developed by Android, firmware is specific to the hardware.To get specific instructions on how to update the firmware on your TV box, you will need to visit the website of your TV box manufacturer.HOW DO I FACTORY RESET MY ANDROID TV BOX?Resetting your Android TV box will put it back to its original factory setting, wiping anything that you have installed on the box.One way is with the reset pinhole button on the back of your device. You will need to unplug your device and ensure all power is switched off. You should then insert a pin into the hole and hold it there for 10 seconds.When you turn the box back on, it should open in recovery mode, which gives you an option to factory reset, sometimes described as wipe data.WILL YOUR FIRMWARE WORK ON MY TV BOX?Uh-hh…no. Trust me: you don’t want me creating firmware for you. I’m an analyst, not a programmer. MY TV BOX LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THE BOXES ON THIS LIST. CAN I JUST USE THEIR FIRMWARE?Because the Android TV box market is so big, there are hundreds, if not thousands, of small sellers that are looking to make a quick sale. There’s nothing really wrong with that, mind you. That’s how every small business gets started.Since they buy their devices in bulk from manufacturers overseas, a lot of people can sell the same box. To upgrade the firmware, you may not want the manufacturer. You may actually want the seller. Here’s why:After someone buys a bulk shipment of TV boxes, they (may) add a custom Kodi build or hire a developer to make some custom software for it.Then they sell it – usually on eBay or Craigslist (see above) but maybe on their own website.If the software on the box is changed in any way, using a generic firmware upgrade may “brick” the device. “Bricking” is a term to describe when a piece of electronics (TV box, tablet, phone, etc.) won’t turn on or turn on to a black screen.Essentially, you’ve created a really expensive paperweight or brick.To be clear: if you try to put firmware on your device that wasn’t meant for it, you could ‘brick’ your TV box, making it useless.I BRICKED MY TV BOX. HOW DO I FIX IT?You may be able to fix it, and you may not. I’ll be perfectly honest, though. That’s not my forte. The best resource I can send you to is Freetab.com. They have a community of tweekers and firmware developers that may be able to help.DO YOU HAVE A CUSTOM FIRMWARE FOR MY TV BOX?Not on this list. Custom firmware is, by its nature, more quirky than a stock firmware. It depends on how it was created. Sometimes the firmware is designed to fix bugs and be more stable.Great! But sometimes, it’s built to test the performance limits of the device. That could cause issues down the road.As I mentioned above, Freetab.com is a great resource for custom firmware. If you’ve bought a TV box that is popular enough, it’s a chance that someone developed a custom firmware for it.I AM THINKING OF SELLING TV BOXES. CAN YOU RECOMMEND CUSTOM FIRMWARE DEVELOPERS FOR ME?Nope. I have no interest in selling TV boxes, or being involved in that side of the business. You’re on your own for that one. Sorry.Jump To Manufacturer Firmware:Android TV Box Firmware GuideNew Android TV boxes and new firmware updates are being released all the time, so, while we try to keep our list as up-to-date as possible, you may not find what you are looking for below.If your Android TV box model isn’t on the list below, you will need to go to the website of your TV box manufacturer to find information about their most up-to-date firmware and links for where you can download it.Firmware isn’t a sexy topic, so it is not always easy to find on manufacturer websites, which will be more concerned with selling you their latest new hardware. If you can’t find the information you are looking for, I suggest getting in touch with the manufacturer directly via their contacts page.ArmadaMach 8 Firmwarejynxbox M6 Firmwarejynxbox M3 FirmwareCheck the latest firmware for Armada hereCloudnetgoCR8 MiniPC FirmwareCR9/S MiniPC FirmwareCR10/S TV Box FirmwareCR11/S TV Box FirmwareCR13/S Ultra 4K Android TV Box FirmwareCR16/S Ultra 4K Android TV Box FirmwareCR-M200 Miracast Wi-Fi dongle FirmwareCR-M200S Miracast Wi-Fi dongle FirmwareCheck the latest firmware for CloudNetGo hereCompulabCheck the latest firmware for Compulab hereEnyboxEnybox EM8-M8C FirmwareEnybox EU2 FirmwareEnybox U2 FirmwareCheck the latest firmware for Enybox hereEweatEW902 RTD1195 4k Media Player FirmwareEW802 FirmwareMK903 FirmwareMK903iV FirmwareCheck the latest firmware for Eweat hereFirefly RK3288Check the latest firmware for Firefly hereiConsoleiCONSOLE MICRO FIRMWARENo firmware updatesIntel NUCCheck the latest firmware for Intel hereM8 TVCheck the latest firmware for M8 hereMagicBoxCheck the latest firmware for MagicBox hereMatricomG-BOX Q FIRMWAREFirmware Beta 1.2.2March 5, 2015G-BOX MX2 FIRMWAREFirmware 1.2August 1, 2014Check the latest firmware for Matricom hereMINIXFind out how to tell what MINIX firmware version is on your device!MINIX NEO X8-H Plus FirmwareMINIX NEO X8, X8-H and X8 Plus FirmwareHow to install MINIX Neo X8 FirmwareFOTA Update AvailableMINIX NEO Z64-Android FirmwareMINIX NEO Z64-Windows FirmwareUpdate through Windows UpdateMINIX NEO X7 (and X7 mini) FirmwareMINIX NEO X5 (and X5 mini) FirmwareCheck the latest firmware for MINIX hereMyGicaMyGica ATV1800EMyGica ATV582MyGica ATV380MyGica ATV1220T2MyGica ATV1200MyGica ATV520EMyGica ATV400MyGica ATV585MyGica ATV1900ACMyGica ATV586T2MyGica ATV586ATSCCheck the latest firmware for MyGica hereNagraceNagrace NT-N3 FirmwareNagrace NT-V5 FirmwareNagrace NT-V6 FirmwareNagrace NT-V3 FirmwareCheck the latest firmware for Nagrace hereProBox2Check the latest firmware for ProBox2 hereRippiNo download pageRiPPL TV BOXNo firmware updatesRikoMagic – RKM RKM V5 FirmwareRKM MK05 FirmwareRKM MK12 FirmwareRKM MK30FW FirmwareRKM MK602 FirmwareRKM MK302iH FirmwareRKM MK302iV FirmwareRKM MK302 FirmwareRKM MK902iH FirmwareCheck the latest firmware for RikoMagic (RKM) hereSkystreamXNo download pageSkyStreamX 2 FirmwareSkyStreamX 4 FirmwareSkyStreamX 5 FirmwareCheck the latest firmware for SkyStreamX hereSolid Run CuBox-iOPENLEC – KodiGeeXBox XBMCDebian LinuxCheck the latest firmware for Solid Run hereTronfyTronfy MX3 FirmwareTronfy MXQ FirmwareTronfy R89 FirmwareCheck the latest firmware for Tronfy hereTronsmartTronsmart Draco XN80 FirmwareTronsmart Orion R28 FirmwareTronsmart Vega S89 FirmwareHow to install Tronsmart Vega S89 firmwareTronsmart A928 FirmwareTronsmart MK908iH FirmwareTronsmart CX-919 FirmwareTronsmart NX FirmwareTronsmart T1000Tronsmart T2000Tronsmart Mars G01 DriversCheck the latest firmware for Tronsmart hereUgoosUgoos UT3 FirmwareUgoos UT3S FirmwareUgoos UM3 FirmwareUgoos UM2 FirmwareUgoos UT2 FirmwareUgoos UT1 FirmwareUG009 FirmwareM8C AMLS802 FirmwareCheck the latest firmware for Ugoos hereVidOn BoxVidOn AV100 FirmwareVidOn AV200 FirmwareCheck the latest firmware for VidOn Box hereVigicalnstructions for updating C60 and C70: Download HereDVB-S2 Vigica C60S FirmwareDVB-T2 Vigica C70T FirmwareCheck the latest firmware for Vigica hereZIDOOZIDOO X9S Smart TV Box FirmwareZIDOO X9 Smart TV Box FirmwareZIDOO D1 FirmwareZIDOO X1 FirmwareZIDOO X6 Pro FirmwareZIDOO X5 FirmwareCheck the latest firmware for ZIDOO hereFinal WordsWe often buy technology and expect it to “just work,” and very often it does. But for how long? If you want your devices to work in the long run, you need to keep them up to date and protected.With Android TV boxes, this means installing anti-virus software and a VPN, downloading the best software and applications for streaming, and keeping your operating system and firmware up to date.Firmware is the software that runs your hardware, so it is the base on which everything else sits. Out-of-date firmware can undermine your entire system.As firmware is about your hardware, you need to go to the manufacturer of your TV box for updates. Check their website when you set up your box and periodically to see if there is a firmware update available for your TV box hardware.Hopefully, my list of major TV box manufacturers and links to their downloads will help you with this.

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