

## TV Answers Glossary of Terms

### Rescan/Rescanning

Rescanning is when your TV finds all of the available channels in your area.

### Rescan Day

The day a station moves frequencies or goes off the air, requiring over-the-air antenna viewers of the station to rescan their televisions or converter boxes to continue to receive programming. Stations may specify the time of day when rescanning becomes necessary, and viewers may rescan at or after the time specified.

### Plan to Rescan/#PlanToRescan

The phrase and hashtag signifying a Rescan Day is imminent or has occurred. The hashtag is recommended for all social media communications relating to one or more stations moving frequencies.

### Changing Frequencies vs. Changing Channels

The use of “changing channels” may cause confusion among viewers who associate “channels” with the channel number that they see on their TVs. Do not use the phrase “changing channels” unless a station’s public-facing channel is changing and that information is confirmed by a credible information source. Instead, use “changing frequencies” or “moving frequencies” to describe the change taking place.

### Channel Share

Channel sharing allows multiple stations to transmit from one signal. To most viewers, there will be no material difference post-channel sharing, other than a need to rescan. For some viewers, stations with a weaker signal may be more difficult to obtain and may require adjusting or moving an indoor antenna to receive a signal post-rescan. Viewers of a station moving frequencies as part of a channel share arrangement will also need to rescan again if and when the host station moves frequencies.

### Going Off the Air

This phrase should not be used in communications to viewers – unless the station is permanently ceasing operations. It should not be used to describe a station that is moving frequencies and will continue to provide programming.

### TV Answers/TVAnswers.org

TV Answers is an initiative of the National Association of Broadcasters to inform viewers, partner organizations, lawmakers and others about upcoming TV station frequency moves due to the Federal Communications Commission’s spectrum incentive auction and the rescanning required to continue to receive programming. TVAnswers.org is a viewer resource that provides rescanning instructions and a searchable database of which stations are moving and when. Viewers can also sign up for mobile and email alerts to stay up-to-date on TV station changes.