



HBO's legacy

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General facts what is HBO?

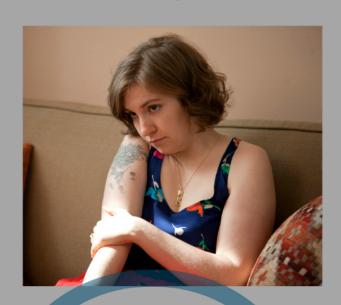
HBO (Home Box Office) is an American premium cable television network, owned by Time Warner, under the operating subsidiary Home Box Office Inc. As of September 2012, HBO's programming reaches approximately 30 million subscribers in the United States, making it the second largest premium network in the United States. In addition to its U.S. subscriber base, HBO also broadcasts in at least 151 countries worldwide.

HBO's programming consists primarily of theatrically released motion pictures and original series, along with made-for-cable movies and documentaries, boxing matches, and occasional stand-up comedy and concert specials.



History

some facts about cable TV in america



curiosities

- HBO was first called as "The Green Channel";
- The network had broadcast only for nine hours a day for its first nine years on air, from 3 p.m. to midnight;
- In 1986, HBO became a victim of broadcast signal intrusion by satelite during a movie exibition;
- Oz, The Sopranos e The Wire were its firsts one-hour dramatic narrative series, in the end of the 90's.

In 1965, Charles Dolan built a new cable system in Lower Manhattan. "Sterling Manhattan Cable" laid underground cable beneath the streets of Manhattan — because the multitude of tall buildings blocked television signals. In the same year Time-Life, Inc. purchased 20 percent of Dolan's company.

The company lost money because the company had only a small subscriber-base of 20,000 customers in Manhattan. Dolan's media partner, Time-Life, Inc., gained 80-percent control and decided to pull the plug on the Sterling Manhattan operation. Time-Life dropped the "Sterling" name and the company became "Manhattan Cable Television". Gerald Levin replaced Dolan as HBO's President and Chief Executive Officer.

Due to HBO's initial limited area of availability, HBO's future looked dim until the Time-Life board in 1974 approved plans for HBO to beginning transmitting via satellite.

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