

TV LICENCE NOTICE

The key message is that if you are aged 75 or over and covered by a free TV licence expiring on 31 July 2020 [1], you do not have to do anything to stay properly licensed until we write to you. We will be sending letters from August. This General Notice applies in the UK only.

General notice

If you are aged 75 or over and have a free TV licence that expires on 31 July 2020, this Notice applies to your licence [2].

We will be sending letters from August which will ask you to confirm arrangements to -

- continue your free licence if you receive Pension Credit [3], or
- pay for your licence for the period starting on 1 August 2020

We will also explain what you need to do if you no longer need a licence because you never watch or record live TV programmes on any channel or any device, and never download or watch BBC programmes on iPlayer.

You do not have to do anything until we write to you. This Notice extends your TV licence so it will not expire until it is replaced by a new free or paid-for licence, or it is cancelled.

The other terms of your TV licence will remain as set out in the licence (as set out below for your convenience).

Anyone who is aged 75 or over and receives [4] Pension Credit will be entitled to a free TV licence from 1 August 2020

If you have already applied for a free licence, we are processing your application and you should receive your new free licence from the end of July. If you have not applied, you do not need to do anything now. Our letter will explain what you need to provide to get your free licence. In the meantime, your existing licence is automatically extended by this General Notice.

Anyone who does not receive Pension Credit will have to pay for their TV licence for the period starting on 1 August 2020, but you do not have to do or pay anything until we write to you.

If you are not receiving Pension Credit, you must pay the annual fee of £157.50. The licence fee can be paid in one go, or spread over a number of monthly, fortnightly, or weekly instalments at no extra cost. When you apply, we will send you a payment plan which will give exact details of your payments, but further information can be found below. We will be writing to you from August to ask you to confirm how you want to pay. You do not need to do anything, or pay anything, until you get our letter.

For those who live in Accommodation for Residential Care [5] your licences will remain free.

For those registered blind you will only need to pay half the fee.

If the licence holder has died

If the holder of an over-75 free TV licence expiring on 31 July 2020 [6] has died, anyone covered by the licence will stay licensed until we contact you. You do not need to take any action until then.

If you never watch or record live TV programmes or download or watch BBC programmes on iPlayer

If you no longer need a licence because you never watch or record live TV programmes on any channel or device, and never download or watch BBC programmes on iPlayer, you can contact us and we will cancel your licence [7]. You will not owe us anything.

If you do not reply to our letter

We will also cancel your licence if you do not reply to our letter within two months of receiving it. You will not owe us anything but if you contact us after your licence has been cancelled and ask for a licence we may backdate your licence to 1 August 2020 if you have been watching or recording live TV programmes on any channel or device, or downloading or watching BBC programmes on iPlayer, after that date [8].