

Facebook pushes video onto TV screens with new apps

February 15 2017



Facebook announces new apps that will provide a more convenient way for users of the social network to view videos on a large screen

Facebook on Tuesday announced it was rolling out apps to allow people to view videos posted on the social network on connected televisions.

The new apps—for Apple TV, Amazon's Fire TV and Samsung Smart TV—will provide a more convenient way for users of the social network

to view videos on a large screen.

The move could be a small step toward what some reports say is a more ambitious video plan by Facebook to compete with Google-owned YouTube or even with streaming services such as Netflix.

For now, the apps will simply make it easier to view and share user-generated [video](#).

"Last year we rolled out the ability for you to stream videos from Facebook to your TV, and today's announcement expands this capability," said a blog post from product manager Dana Sittler and engineering manager Alex Li.

"With the app, you can watch videos shared by friends or pages you follow, top live videos from around the world, and recommended videos based on your interests."

Facebook said it expects the applications to roll out "soon" for users of Apple, Amazon and Samsung, with additional platforms likely to be added.

Facebook also said it was modifying [video playback](#) for users, with sound to play automatically unless users silence their devices.

© 2017 AFP

Citation: Facebook pushes video onto TV screens with new apps (2017, February 15) retrieved 2 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2017-02-facebook-video-tv-screens-apps.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--