

Google Home Hub vs. Amazon vs. Facebook: How the video devices compare

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In the coming battle of the talking video speakers, Google is selling YouTube, Amazon looks to Prime Video and with Facebook, it's about the social network.

Google and Facebook have joined Amazon in offering the next wave of home speakers, Alexa with a twist, with a [video](#) display. Facebook came out on Monday with its video portal. On Tuesday, Google introduced Google Home Hub, an update to its popular Google Home speaker, a new device with a video screen that's all about Google.

Amazon will be first to stores, with the revamped and larger Echo unit available Thursday, while Google's Home Hub, an extension of the Home speaker line, will be released on October 22nd. The Facebook Portal and Portal+ products will be available in November.

How the units compare:

Amazon Echo Show (second generation)

You'll say: "Alexa"

Price: \$229

Release date: October 11th

Screen size: 10 inches (up from last year's 7 inches)

Video content: Mostly Amazon Prime Video's collection of movies and TV shows. The Amazon Silk browser offers access to Google's YouTube, which was removed from the original Show, due to a corporate spat between Amazon and Google.

Photos: Can stream photos that have been uploaded to the Amazon Prime library and be used as a photo frame.

Live TV: Many network and cable TV shows can be viewed via a \$39.99 subscription to Hulu Live TV.

Video calls: To other users of the Echo Show and, coming later this year, members of the Skype network.

Microphones: 8

Other goodies: See lyrics and album art via Amazon Music and visualize weather reports. See who's at the front door via the Ring video doorbell, an Amazon-owned product.

Google Home Hub

You'll say: "Hey, Google" or "OK, Google"

Price: \$149

Release date: October 22nd

Screen size: 7 inches

Video content: Google-owned YouTube for recipes, tutorials and

entertainment programming.

Photos: Stream photos and videos from the Google Photos app, and use as a photo frame.

Live TV: Many network and cable TV shows via YouTube TV, the \$40 monthly cable alternative.

Video calls: No camera is offered on the Home Hub.

Microphones: 2

Other goodies: All popular Google services, like Maps for visual commute, calendar for appointments and operation of smart home accessories. See who's at the door on the screen via the Nest video doorbell, a Google-owned product.

Facebook Portal and Portal+

You'll say: "Hey, Portal"

Price: \$199 and \$349

Release date: November

Screen size: 10.1 inches and the larger version is 15.6 inches

Photos: Stream photos and videos from your personal collection on Facebook

Live TV: No network and cable TV live content, but Facebook offers videos from its original productions on Facebook Watch as well as Newsy and the Food Network

Video calls: Make and receive calls from friends and family via Facebook and Messenger. Up to six people can be on the call.

Microphones: 4

Other goodies: Facebook offers tools to disable the camera and microphones with a camera lock.

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