



## Article Side

The birth of 3D TV and the technology behind it. by [Heather Protz](#)

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The television started its early beginnings as a humble mechanical device that produced an image the size of a business card. The images were produced on a neon tube and came with a reddish tinge. These images had absolutely low resolution, and sensitivity to light. Later on the mechanical TV was replaced by an all electronic cathode ray tube TV that wiped out the requirement of mechanical components. Until a few years ago CRT TVs had monopolized the TV market.

The earliest forms of television could only produce images that were for the most part stationary and not in color. During the 1930s the first outside broadcast in television history was made by the BBC where people could sit at home and watch. At that time TV broadcasts were limited to only a couple of hours. The resolution wasn't brilliant, but was named as high-definition in comparison to earlier mechanical model which had only 30 lines of resolution. The broadcasts during that time had a mere 240 line resolution and reached up to 800 lines which was the limit that described what later became the standard definition TV. Although, the first broadcasting services started in the early 1920s, the TV market did not achieve major success till the end of World War II.

The modern High definition TV (HDTV) has amazing resolution which is about five times that of the Standard Definition TV. The initial broadcasts in HD were after the world war. The first broadcast in the modern description of HD was by the French TV in 1949. During those times the broadcasts were made by analog signals. Because of the unavailability of bandwidths with greater potential, analog HDTV soon died out and led rise to usage of digital signals-the new HDTV. Since February 2009, there has been a huge boom in the Digital TV market. A lot of big players in the TV cable industry like ATT U-verse Cable (USA) have been providing HD digital TV to their customers since early 2007.

But as of late, the TV industry is looking pretty dull. Although LCD TV sales have gone up since the recession, people are looking for something new say Television manufacturers. And 3D T.V. is the next big thing. After stunning 3D movies like Avatar, haute TV manufacturers like Sony, LG etc., have taken home entertainment to a whole new level. There are three primary technologies that developers used to produce 3D T.V.

Most of the technology that manufacturers employ has the requirement of 3D glasses to view quality 3 D images. The trick behind these images is that, the TV has two different screens partially overlapping that produce two different images. The polarized glasses make us see the images separately, the view being different for the left and the right eye. But in our mind's eye, i.e. the brain perceives the images as one producing that 3 dimensional effect. This technology is known as the passive glass system.

One other technology known as the active glass system is pretty much similar to the passive glass system, but here it reduces the work of the TV. That is here the TV will not be producing two different images, but the glasses synchronizes with the refresh rate of the TV. It alternates the polarization of both the lenses enabling the viewer to perceive a 3D image. 3D technology developers like Samsung and Mitsubishi use this system. Although slightly expensive than the passive one, it offers a much better viewing experience.

For people, who have trouble wearing those ridiculous glasses, Philips has come up with a glassless 3D system. It's called as Lenticular viewing. Here the TV itself produces two different images one for each eye. Seeing a different image from the other eye will make the picture look solid. However, there can only be on spot in front of the TV where you can watch the image in 3D. If

not the image would appear fuzzy.

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Heather is a techno geek, who is interested in keeping herself updated with the latest technology. As a freelancer she likes to write about programming and recent improvements in the computer field. She enjoys watching TV connected to a [ATT U-verse Cable](#)

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