



BILLAG

Provisions valid
for 2017 and 2018




IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE RADIO AND TELEVISION FEES IN SWITZERLAND

FOR RADIO AND TELEVISION THROUGHOUT SWITZERLAND


For both local radio and TV-stations
as for the SRG SSR

Your contribution enables the broadcasting of a large range of programmes in German, French, Italian and Romansh.


OBLIGATION TO REGISTER AND PAY THE FEES

 Anyone who owns a device with which they can listen to radio or watch television is obliged to register and pay the radio and television fees. This applies regardless of how often the device is used and regardless of what kind of device or distribution channel is used (cable, telephone network, satellite). There is no limit to the number of people in a household who can watch and listen to radio and television shows. A household also includes a possible holiday home. If however you rent out your holiday home you'll have to register separately.

LEGAL BASIS

 Regarding the collection of radio and television fees, art. 109b, para. 2 of the federal act on radio and television (RTVA) refers to the former law (oRTVA, oRTVO). Art. 68 to 70 and art. 101 aRTVA and art. 57 to 67 and art. 82 oRTVO govern the collection of radio and television fees.
For the precise wording of each article, please visit our website [billag.ch](https://www.billag.ch).

COMPANIES

 All companies that have the possibility to receive television and radio programmes are required to pay radio and television fees. Companies are obliged to pay for either professional or commercial reception. Billag collects furthermore **copyright royalties** on behalf of the SUISA.

At any time it is easy and fast for companies to register via our website [billag.ch](https://www.billag.ch), where you can also change your payment method, consult your invoices or update your business data. Our website will also procure you with more information on the radio and television fees.

WHAT ARE THE RADIO AND TELEVISION FEES FOR?



By paying the radio and television fees, you contribute significantly to the funding of radio and television broadcasting in Switzerland.

The fees enable the SRG SSR to offer equivalent programmes in the German, French and Italian-speaking areas of Switzerland as well as shows in Romansh. The SRG SSR's mandate includes information, shaping of opinion, culture and entertainment.

Local radio and television broadcasters in all the linguistic areas also receive a portion of the fees for their regional programme services.

RECEIVING DEVICES



The following, in particular, are considered as receiving devices:

- radio (including car radio), mobile phone with radio reception, computer (including tablet) with Internet access, television or TV-box with integrated radio receiver
- television, mobile phone with television reception, computer (including tablet) with Internet access, if you have an account (including a free account) with an Internet television provider

EXEMPTION FOR RECEIVING SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFITS



If you receive supplementary benefits (SB) from the Swiss government in addition to old age and survivors' insurance (AHV) or invalidity insurance (IV) benefits, you do not have to pay the radio and television fees. You need to apply in writing to be granted exemption. We recommend sending us your application when you apply with the executing authority for supplementary benefits.

If you already receive supplementary benefits, please send us a current confirmation from your SB executing authority.

EXEMPTION FOR RECEIVING NURSING CARE



Residents of nursing homes who receive nursing care of 81 minutes or more per day do not have to pay the radio and television fees. We require confirmation from your nursing home, specifying the relevant care received and the date on which this care was first provided.

PLACE OF RESIDENCE ABROAD



If your place of residence is abroad and you stay for no more than three months within one calendar year in Switzerland, you do not need to register and you do not have to pay the radio and television fees.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY



Every person and company is responsible for registering, notifying a change of address or deregistering. It is important to do this in a timely manner. According to the law, arrears of radio and television fees are payable for a period of up to five years. Fines can go as high as CHF 5,000.

OVERVIEW OF RADIO AND TELEVISION FEES



The Federal Council determines the amount of the fees, taking the financial requirements of broadcasters into account. Following amounts apply to private households:

	QUARTER	ANNUAL
RADIO RECEPTION	CHF 41.25	CHF 165.00
TELEVISION RECEPTION	CHF 71.50	CHF 286.10
RADIO + TELEVISION RECEPTION	CHF 112.75	CHF 451.10

Fees rounded with standard commercial practice

INVOICING



We invoice you for radio and television fees once a year. For a supplement of CHF 2 per invoice, you can pay every three months. This supplement is not charged if you pay by e-bill or direct debit (through your bank or Post-Finance). You can change your payment method at any time by simply accessing the «My Billag» section on our website [billag.ch](https://www.billag.ch).

SEPARATE COSTS FOR DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS



Radio and television can be accessed via different distribution channels – for example, through a cable network, telephone network or satellite. You either have a subscription with an appropriate local service provider or this service is included in your ancillary costs. These costs are independent of the radio and television fees and are charged by your provider or your landlord.

REGISTRATION OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

At any time, it is easy and fast to register online by visiting our website billag.ch.



WHO IS BILLAG?



Billag AG is a private company (100% subsidiary of Swisscom) founded in 1997 with headquarters in Fribourg.

On behalf of the Swiss government, we perform two main functions:

- inform the public about the radio and television fees
- collect the radio and television fees (including reminders and debt collection)

We transfer the collected radio and television fees to the SRG SSR and respectively to the Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM), which is responsible for distributing the fees to local radio and television broadcasters.

Mandated by the Swiss government, Billag acts as an enforcement authority and has therefore no influence on the amount of the fees or the legal basis governing its activities.

ONLINE SERVICES



By accessing the «My Billag» section on our website **billag.ch** you can at any time choose your payment method, consult your invoices or update your personal data. Our website will also provide you with more information on the radio and television fees.

We will also be happy to inform you by phone

Infoline 0844 834 834

Monday - Friday

7:30 am to 5:30 pm



AT ANY TIME, EASY, FAST: **billag.ch**