



# Electronic Trade-In Programs

These days everyone is getting into the technology craze! More and more folks are investing in smart phones, tablets, laptops, gaming systems and music players. But, what do you do with all the old devices after you buy your new ones? Why not make a little money back on them?!

While some people will dispose of their old devices or give them away, many others will just stick them in a closet or drawer and forget about them. But, nowadays there are even more options for getting rid of those old devices. Sure, you can always try to sell them on Craigslist, EBay or even in a garage sale, but did you know there are also online companies that will buy your used devices in exchange for cash, gift cards or online vouchers?



Here is a list of some of the more popular online trade-in programs:

- Best Buy offers an electronics trade-in program where you can get an in-store credit voucher or an E-Gift Card. Go to their website at <http://tradein.bestbuy.com/>.
- Walmart also offers a trade-in program for in-store and online credit at <http://walmart.cexchange.com/>. Their program is available for games, car stereos & GPS, and cameras in addition to the usual electronic devices.
- Gazelle will pay you by check, PayPal deposit or Amazon Gift Card. They take electronics only. Check out their website at <http://www.gazelle.com>.
- Staples also offers an electronics program for Staples ECash Cards. Go to <https://tradein.staples.com>.
- Target offers an electronics trade-in program in exchange for Target Gift Cards at <http://www.targettradeinprogram.com>.
- Amazon's trade-in program is a little more extensive by offering trade-in selections for electronics, books & text books, music, movies, video games, cameras and wearables in exchange for Amazon Gift Cards. Go to [www.amazon.com/Trade-In/b?ie=UTF8&node=9187220011](http://www.amazon.com/Trade-In/b?ie=UTF8&node=9187220011).

Remember, with any of these options, the amount of money you get paid will depend on the make/model of the device and its overall condition – the newer and higher tech the device, the more money you will get. And, the amount of money you can make varies quite a bit from company to company, so take some time and check out several websites BEFORE making your final decision.

We hope this information will assist you in making a little money when you decide to make your next big technology purchase! Good Luck!

## Favorite Channels

If you are an XIT IPTV cable customer ... did you know that you can set up your television onscreen guide so that you can find your favorite channels quickly and easily, any time you want them? By setting up the favorites list, you can select just the channels you are interested in viewing. It is easy to set up and quick to access! Give it a try!



**To set up the favorites list:** Go to *Menu>Settings>Preferences>Favorite Channels>* scroll through the available channels and highlight each channel you want to save by pressing the OK button each time. The saved channels will then show over on the right side of the TV screen.

**Note:** If you accidentally select a wrong channel, just arrow over and highlight the channel on the right side and press OK to remove it. Once you have selected all the channels you like and want to view, press Exit to get out of the menu options.

**To access the favorites list:** Press the Guide button twice on the remote control and Favorite Channels will appear at the top of the page. Now you can scroll through just the channels you want to see – it's just that easy!

# 2016 XIT Directory Photo Contest Going On Now!



If you love to take beautiful, unique or unusual photos, or have a great favorite photo you'd like to share ... then please read on! XIT is looking for colorful, fun or unique photos for our 2016 XIT Communications' Directory Photo Contest. The winning photograph will be published on the cover of XIT's 2016 telephone directory. Our directories are delivered to our local communities. The photographer will win \$100 in addition to being able to say "that is my photo on the cover"!

- The guidelines are simple, and there is absolutely no limit to the number of photographs you can enter. Photos can be taken anywhere and can be of people, places, wildlife, scenery or basically anything. We do ask that if the photograph has children in it, that you do not show the children's faces. Photos from the back, side or looking downward are acceptable.
- Photos should be taken in the highest resolution available and in portrait (vertical) layout. No black and white photos please.
- Make sure to include your name, address and a contact phone number to reach you, along with a brief description of each photo including who, what, when and where.
- All photos become the property of XIT Communications and may be used for advertising purposes, in addition to having it featured on the cover of the directory. The photo is also sometimes used for XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative's Annual Meeting Booklet and invitation.
- Digital photos can be submitted online by email to [xitcom@xit.net](mailto:xitcom@xit.net). Make sure to include all of your contact information in the email, along with a description of the photos.
- Photos can also be submitted by mail. Send photos at least 5" x 7" or larger in size to: XIT Communications, Attn: Photo Contest, P.O. Box 711, Dalhart, TX 79022. Or drop off your photos at any of our XIT office locations in Dalhart or Stratford.

**Photos must be received by Friday, December 11, 2015, to qualify for the 2016 directory contest. Any photos received after this date will be entered into the contest for the following year.**

Enter your photos today and good luck to photographers!



Shown here accepting a check from Darrell Dennis (right), XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. General Manager, for the 79th Annual XIT Rodeo Scoreboard Sponsorship is XIT Rodeo Director, John Bezner. Also shown is the reigning 2014 XIT Rodeo Queen, the 2015 XIT Rodeo Queen Candidates, the XIT Rodeo Directors and XIT employees Trena Howell (far left), Sales & Customer Relations Representative, and Kathy Duggan (2nd from left), XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. Assistant Manager.

## XIT Customer Survey

If you are new to the XIT Communications' family ... we would first like to thank you for choosing XIT for your communication needs! We appreciate your business, and we are here to serve you. Please do not hesitate to call us if you have a question or need additional assistance!

As a new customer, you should have received one of XIT's Customer Satisfaction Surveys in the mail. Please take the time to fill out the survey and drop it by any of our offices, or mail it in with your payment. This is one way that we rely on input from our customers to let us know what we are doing right, and what we need to improve on ... so please be honest!

If you did not get your survey in the mail and would like to receive one to tell us how we did, please call us at 806-384-3311 and one will be mailed to you directly! Thank you again for choosing XIT! We are happy to assist you!



# Tired of Telemarketing Calls?

Are you getting tired of telemarketing calls? At XIT, we know how frustrating it is when just as you sit down for dinner, the phone rings, and it's a dreaded telemarketer trying to sell you something. We have all been there!

But, there are a couple of things you can do to help reduce the number of calls you get from pesky telemarketers. In the state of Texas, you can register your name, address and telephone numbers with the Texas No-Call List. This prevents telephone solicitations to residential and wireless phone numbers, Texas telephone marketers, any Retail Electric Provider (REP), and all telemarketers calling on their behalf who operate in Texas. There is no charge to register online. However, if you register by phone or mail, there is a \$2.25 registration charge for each phone number you register.

There is also a No-Call List for registering any business phone numbers you wish to have on the No-Call List. If you register online, it is free. Otherwise, there is a registration charge of \$2.55 for each business number you include on the list by phone or mail. Here is the information on how to register for the Texas No-Call list:

- Online at [www.texasnocall.com](http://www.texasnocall.com) for immediate registration. This option is free-of-charge and the site can be reached anytime day or night.
- Call the automated toll-free phone line at 1-866-896-6225 to register. There is a fee of \$2.25 for each residential number put on the list, and \$2.55 for each business number you register.
- Send a written request for an application to Texas No Call, P.O. Box 313, E Walpole, MA, 02032. Again there will be a \$2.25 fee for each residential number put on the list, and \$2.55 for each business number you register.

Once you enter your number on the Texas No-Call List, it will remain on the list for 3 years, at which time you will need to re-register your numbers.

You can also put your numbers on the National No-Call List. The federal government has created this registry and once you have put your telephone numbers on the list, telemarketers must remove your numbers from their calling lists. You may register with the National Do Not Call Registry by telephone at 1-888-382-1222. You must call from the telephone number you are registering!

You may also register at [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov). The telemarketing phone calls should stop once your number has been on the Registry for 31 days. Your registration on the Registry will not expire and the Registry is a free service to consumers.

Keep in mind that placing your numbers on the registries will stop most telemarketing calls, but not all. There are some exemptions for companies that you have an existing business relationship, and calls on behalf of political organizations or charities.

NOTE: According to the National Do Not Call Website - Scammers have been making phone calls claiming to represent the National Do Not Call Registry. The calls claim to provide an opportunity to sign up for the Registry. These calls are NOT coming from the Registry or the Federal Trade Commission, and you should not respond to these calls if you are contacted!

## Premium Movie Channels



Do you love to watch movies ... lots of movies? Then XIT has just what you want! XIT offers a variety of premium movie channels that you can view right from the comfort of your own living room. You don't have to leave your home to enjoy top-notch movies ... and all at the click of a button on the remote control!

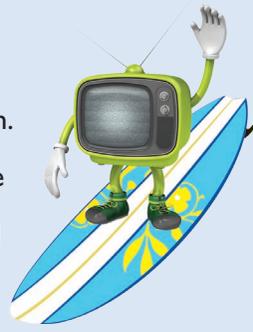
XIT offers great movie packages from HBO, Cinemax, Showtime/ The Movie Channel and Starz. And, the more premium movie channels you add, the more of a discount you can receive to save even more money! For the cost of going to the movies once, you can enjoy movie after movie while sitting in your comfy recliner. No lines to stand in, no having to travel any distance, and no waiting in a theater! It's a win-win solution!



With hits like True Blood and Game of Thrones on HBO, Banshee and The Knick on Cinemax, House of Lies and Homeland on Showtime, and Power and Outlander on Starz, it is easy to find a favorite new series that will keep you watching, again and again.

So, call or come by XIT today to see what movie packages are available in your area. And like the old saying goes ... try it! You'll like it!

# SMART SURFING...



**Dr. Ken** is a new series premiering on Friday, October 2nd, at 7:30 p.m. on ABC, Channel 7/507 in HD. Ken Jeong, a doctor who turned actor/comedian stars in this comedy series, and plays the role of Dr. Ken. The Dr. is a brilliant physician with no bedside manner, who is always trying to be a good doctor, as well as a good husband and dad to his wife and two kids. Luckily, his therapist wife, Allison, is just the right partner to keep his life half way sane. Check out this new comedy!

**Grandfathered** is another new comedy series premiering on Tuesday nights, at 7:00 p.m. this fall on Fox, Channel 14/514, in HD. The show follows a longtime bachelor named Jimmy, played by John Stamos, whose life is flipped upside-down when he learns he's not only a father, but a grandfather. Josh Peck stars as Jimmy's son, Gerald. Jimmy owns his own successful restaurant and lives the ultimate playboy lifestyle, until Gerald surprises him one day, and introduces him to his adorable granddaughter. After Gerald and his daughter come into Jimmy's life, things are never the same. If you watch the show's trailer, you will see the show has the makings of being a fan favorite!

**Crazy Ex-Girlfriend** is a comedy-drama series premiering on Monday nights, at 7:00 p.m., beginning on October 19th, on The CW, Channel 15. The show stars Rachel Bloom, who plays Rebecca Bunch. Rebecca is a single, successful lawyer in Manhattan, who decides on a whim to give up her partnership to follow her long-time soul mate Josh, (her ex who dumped her while they were dating in high school) to West Covina, CA. Rebecca hopes that this daring new start will also rekindle her relationship with Josh. The twists and turns of this show makes it an interesting series that might just take everyone by surprise.

**Best Time Ever With Neil Patrick Harris** premieres on Tuesday, September 15th, at 9:00 p.m. on NBC, Channel 4/514, in HD. The 10 episode series will feature comedy sketches, musical numbers, mini game shows, and hidden camera pranks on celebrities, along with appearances by A-list stars. Harris brings his multi-dimensional skills to the forefront of this new primetime, hour-long variety show as he pulls pranks, acts in skits and interacts with the audience. If you like to laugh, you will want to check this show out!

## Updated Reverse Directory Listings Now Available



Next time you find yourself needing a phone number but don't have a phone book handy, check out XIT's telephone directory listings on the web! The new 2015 directory updates have been completed, so the listings on the website are current and up-to-date. Just go to [www.xit.net](http://www.xit.net) and click on the Reverse Lookup Link. You can search for a phone number easily, just press 'Control + F' to get a search box. Enter the last name, then first name of the person you are looking for. Their listing will appear highlighted in blue if they have a local published telephone number.

Or, if you have a phone number but don't know who the number belongs to, we can help with that too! The listings on our website are in numerical order, so just scroll down to find the number. The name of the person it belongs to is right there!

It's simple, quick and easy! Just remember our website [www.xit.net](http://www.xit.net) or better yet, if you have a QR code reader on your wireless phone, scan the QR code above to take you to XIT's website page, and then you can bookmark our website for future reference!

### XIT'S REVERSE TELEPHONE NUMBER LOOKUP IS HERE!

Do you have a telephone number, but need a name?  
Want to know who a phone number belongs to?  
Then click on the link below and give XIT's Reverse Lookup a Try!  
It's Fast & Easy!

### REVERSE LOOKUP LINK

**XIT Payment Reminder ...Any payments received or made after 5:00 p.m. will not post until the following business day! Keep this in mind when making payments close to the due date or disconnect date to help save you from late or reconnect fees!**

# Roku News

If you are one of the many valued XIT customers who have purchased or received a FREE Roku Streaming Stick, then we think you will enjoy this new column! Each quarter we will feature tips and ways to make your Roku experience even more convenient and enjoyable. Be sure to check it out!

Did you know that you can now display photos on your TV from your wireless phone with the Roku App? The photos can be viewed from your phone gallery, FaceBook, Instagram, or other applications. It literally turns your TV into a slide show projector! Here are the easy setup instructions:



- First, turn on the Roku Streaming Stick so it is ready to use on your TV.
- Go to the App Store on your phone and find and install the Roku App. It is free to install and downloads quickly. The app allows you to control the Roku Streaming Stick from your wireless phone. It basically takes the place of the Roku remote control. You can also install it on tablets and laptops by going to [www.Roku.com](http://www.Roku.com) and clicking on the ISO app at the bottom of the page.
- Once you have installed the app on your phone, open the Roku App. It will ask you to accept the Roku Mobile App Terms of Use. Check the box and click OK.
- It will then automatically search for your wi-fi connection and if the Roku is turned on, it will bring up the Roku connected to that wi-fi router. It will say Select Device and click on the Roku Streaming Stick showing active to start the app.
- On the phone display, click on 'Play on Roku' in the menu options.
- Then select Photos.
- Click on the album you want to select the pictures from. You will be given album options such as camera, FaceBook, Instagram, downloads, etc.
- You can click on the first photo in the album and when the picture appears, click the Play arrow to start your slide show. You can view the whole album, or if you want just a couple of photos selected, you can click on each photo you want. Then, you will have to click on the back arrow in the upper left corner between each selection to get back to the album. You can also go back to the other album choices and choose photos from them too.
- Once you have all the photos chosen you want to display, click on the Play arrow to start the slide show. Note: If you click on the Settings Icon, you can adjust the speed and transition form for viewing your photos, and even choose if you want to repeat or shuffle the photos.

That is all there is to it! Enjoy the show!

## Trouble Reporting

Although XIT tries continually to keep all of our services working and in the best shape they can possibly be, unfortunately, there are still times or instances when issues arise. Please be assured that any time trouble issues are reported to us, we do our best to resolve them as quickly and smoothly as we possibly can!

If you experience trouble with any of your services, please report it to us immediately. We try to keep all of our customers happy and their services working properly, but, we can't fix problems, if we are not aware of them happening.

Our normal hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. We do realize that problems a lot of times don't occur during these 'business' hours. For this reason, if you are in urgent need of a service repair due to a medical, safety or other issue, we encourage you to call our repair line at **244-0811** for assistance. Please give us as much information as possible regarding the issue you are experiencing, what is occurring, and how long it has been happening. We will need your name, address and a contact number to reach you.

We appreciate your business, and we will continue to provide you the best in communication services that make your life easier! We are here to serve you, our loyal customers!



# Online Password Guidelines



Online security these days is almost frightening. With online identity theft reaching an all-time high, you can never be too careful when it comes to password use. Whether it be for home banking, credit cards, shopping sites or email accounts, passwords are a part of everyday life for most people. Although no one can be guaranteed you won't be hacked ... there are some measures you can take to minimize your risk. One way is to make sure you have secure passwords that are not easy to hack or figure out. There are 4 main ways hackers steal your passwords. We've listed them below:

1. The most common way is by looking over your shoulder when you type it, or finding the papers where you wrote it down.
2. Next is by guessing it. A large number of people use a password based on information that can be easily guessed. A lot of men use obscenities for their passwords, while women tend to use the names of their boyfriends, husbands or children.
3. A brute-force attack is next. This is where every possible combination of letters, numbers and symbols are used in an attempt to guess the password. With today's modern computer processors, this method is not as hard as one would think since programs can be generated to do this.
4. The last one is a dictionary-style attack. This is when combinations of words that are in the dictionary are used. Software tools can be used to try every word in the dictionary until your password is found.

But, there are ways you can protect yourself when creating your passwords. First thing to remember is never use the same password for more than one account. Computer techs recommend that each password be at least a minimum of 8 characters long. Use a random mixture of characters, upper and lower case, numbers, punctuation, spaces and symbols. Don't use words found in the dictionary, or just add a single digit to a word (puppy1). Another common mistake is just doubling up a word (puppypuppy) or even reversing the word (yppup). Make it unique, but one you can remember.

Once you think you have a good password, check the strength of it. There is a Microsoft website available to do just this. Log on to <https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/security/pc-security/password-checker.aspx>. Click on the link 'create stronger passwords.' You can then enter your password. It will tell you the strength based on security criteria. The great thing about this password checker is Microsoft does not retain the information entered. The password you put in is checked and validated on your computer, not sent over the Internet.

Finally, if you have to write down your passwords so that you can remember them, make sure to put the paper in a safe place where it cannot be easily found. Never leave the paper right by your computer. Put it in your wallet or purse, a safe, or somewhere one might not think to look for it.

By utilizing these suggestions and precautions, maybe we can keep the hackers away and not have to deal with an identity theft nightmare in the future!

## What's Cookin' at XIT

Hodge Podge by Denise Potter



- |  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1 ½ lbs. ground beef                       | 1 can of Ro-Tel Tomatoes     |
| 2 – 15 oz. cans of ranch-style beans       | 1 Tbsp. Worcestershire Sauce |
| 3 – 10 oz. cans Campbell's Minestrone Soup | 1 ½ tsp. chili powder        |
| 1 ¼ C chopped celery                       | 1 C water                    |
| 1 ¼ C chopped onion                        | Tabasco Sauce to taste       |

Sauté meat, onion and celery. Drain off fat. Add the rest of the ingredients and simmer in a Dutch oven for 25 minutes or less. Great when served with tortillas and cheese.

Find even more great recipes in the XIT Country Cookin' Cookbook available for sale at any of our XIT locations for just \$14.95 + tax. They make great birthday, wedding and anniversary gifts!



is a quarterly publication for  
**XIT Rural Telephone  
 Cooperative, Inc.** Members  
 and **XIT Communications**  
 Customers.

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[www.xit.net](http://www.xit.net)



## Do You Love Movies?

If you do, then check out XIT's IPTV Video on Demand this month! Watch all the new hit movies right from your living room chair ... and weeks before Red Box! Here are just a couple of the block buster hit movies premiering in August:

The Divergent Series: Insurgent on August 4  
 Hot Pursuit on August 11  
 Smosh The Movie on August 18

And watch for several huge hits in September like Furious 7, Cinderella and Pitch Perfect 2! And, with Video on Demand, there is no waiting in long lines, sitting in dirty theaters, and no high ticket and concession stand prices! Just fast, convenient and affordable movies anytime you want them!

**TO WATCH A MOVIE:** Using your IPTV remote control, set up a 4-digit numeric Purchase Pin: *Menu>Settings>Account>Purchase Pin*, then *Enter New Pin>Confirm New Pin>Password (Default 1234)>Apply*.

**TO RENT A MOVIE:** *Menu>VOD>Movies>Choose a Category>Select a Movie>Rent*

Then, sit back, relax and enjoy the show! You can check out all the latest movies available on XIT's Video on Demand on our website at [www.XIT.net](http://www.XIT.net).

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