

your phone, you'll need to use the splitter included. After the machine is hooked up to your phone line, call Divx Customer Service and give them your name, address and credit card information. This will sign you up as a registered member of Divx. But don't disconnect the phone cord hooked up to your Divx machine. It has to stay connected so Divx can regularly download your viewing history and know how much to bill you. Now, go buy a disc from the electronics store where you bought the machine (you can't rent them at most video stores). You're almost ready to watch now, but remember that the disc you just bought for \$4.49 is only good for 48 hours once you start to watch the movie. The next time you view it, you'll have to pay an additional \$3.25. But after you watch once for \$4.49, you do have the option to pay an extra \$14.99-19.99 and have it upgraded to an unlimited viewing option called "Silver." But that means unlimited only on your machine. If you loan the disc to a friend or want to watch it at your boyfriend/girlfriend's home, they'll be charged a \$3.25 per-view fee. So now, you're ready to enjoy Divx!

Divx Issues

[Click here for a side-by-side comparison of DVD and Divx.](#)

- Divx discs will not work on DVD players.
- Divx players cost roughly \$100 more than DVD players of equivalent quality.
- Some reviewers have reported the picture quality of DVDs suffer when played on a Divx player.
- You must hook up your Divx player to a phone line and keep it connected, or you won't be able to view many of your discs.
- You must call Divx to register your player and provide credit card information.
- The pricing and viewing procedures for Divx discs are more complicated than for DVD.
- The Divx system could prove confusing for some users to set up.
- There are only about 300 movies available on Divx. Many Hollywood studios are still refusing to support Divx.
- Video stores are refusing to rent Divx discs and players.
- No matter the title, you've only got 48 hours to watch Divx's pay-per-view discs.
- Most Divx discs don't offer the extras available on DVD, like director's comments or "making of" documentaries.
- Most Divx discs offer only "pan and scan" viewing, which eliminates around 40% of the original movie theater picture.
- Many Divx discs do not come with the Silver unlimited viewing option.
- Divx discs will not work in a computer's DVD-ROM drive.
- A limited number of electronics retailers are selling