

FACT SHEET

**REVISED COMMERCIAL TELEVISION INDUSTRY CODE OF PRACTICE
EXTENSION OF PARENTAL GUIDANCE (PG) TIME ZONES ON DIGITAL MULTI-CHANNELS**

Extended PG time zones as of 1 January 2010

The revised Commercial Television Industry Code of Practice extends the PG time zones on digital multi-channels so they now run all day on weekdays and weekends.

The areas shaded on the charts below show when programs with certain classifications can be aired on digital multi-channels. The time zones shaded blue are the new PG time zones.

Schooldays

	5am	6	8.30	12pm	3	4	5	7	8.30	9	9.30	5am
P&C												
G												
PG		new					new					
M												
MA												
AV												

School Holidays and Weekends

	5am	6	8.30	12pm	3	4	5	7	8.30	9	9.30	5am
P&C												
G												
PG		new					new (school holidays)					
M												
MA												
AV												

This Fact Sheet also explains the differences between G and PG classified material and includes information about the consumer advice requirement for PG films and PG programs.

Material classified General (G) is not necessarily intended for children and may not be of interest to children (e.g. weekend sporting round up, cooking programs, some documentaries) however it must be very mild in impact and must not contain any matter likely to be unsuitable for children to watch without supervision.



PG material is, by definition, suitable for children to watch with parental supervision. While material classified PG may contain careful representations of adult themes or concepts, it must be mild in impact and remain suitable for children to watch with supervision.

Example: Toy Story is classified G as it does not contain material necessarily requiring adult supervision while Shrek 2 is classified PG on the basis that it contains mature themes and children may require parental explanation.

Examples of PG programs which can now be broadcast all day on digital multi-channels

Examples of PG programs:

Masterchef, I Dream of Jeannie, Bewitched, Saddle Club, The Morning Show, Mornings with Kerrie-Anne, Domestic Blitz, Sunday Roast, Body and Brain Overhaul, Australian Idol, Are you Smarter than a 5th Grader, Surf Patrol, The Amazing Race, Tread BMX, BMX Road Fools, Surfing ASP Season and Men's Surfing Championship.

Examples of PG movies:

Ratatouille, Underdog, Fred Claus, Ice Age (Dawn of the Dinosaurs), Coraline, Race to Witch Mountain, Monsters versus Aliens, Nim's Island.

Consumer advice for viewers

The Multi-Channel Appendix confirms a new consumer advice requirement to assist viewers with their programming choices. It applies to:

- any PG classified programs containing material of a strength or intensity that parents or guardians of children may not expect, broadcast:
 - between 6am – 8.30am and 4pm and 7pm on weekdays; and
 - between 6am and 10am on weekends.

Consumer advice text



"Parental Guidance recommended for young viewers".

Consumer advice voice over

- "The following program [or film or movie] is classified PG. It contains [e.g. stylised violence]. [This channel] recommends parental guidance for young viewers".

Parental locks

Many digital set-top-boxes and integrated digital televisions allow parents to control their children's viewing via the use of a parental lock. Parental locks vary between devices, however most use a PIN system to allow parents to block programs of or above a particular classification. Some devices allow particular programs or entire channels to be blocked. The parental lock can be accessed through the MENU function on most devices. Free TV recommends that viewers go to the MENU button on their remote and scroll through to the parental lock function. We also recommend that viewers check their device's manual for more information on how to activate and operate the parental lock function. Free TV suggests that viewers contact their device's manufacturer with any further questions about their particular device.