

EPG from the signal stream

Enigma2 can gather the EPG data directly from the signal stream for several providers. OpenTV EPG used by some providers like Sky UK/IT has been added to OpenViX/OpenPLI in August 2019. (Thanks to LraiZer)

This means that just by zapping, watching, viewing or “turning to” a channel, the EPG data will be added to your Enigma2 receiver. There is no need to use plugins, download from the internet, maintain a database of service references etc.

As the number of channels varies between providers, some providers limit amount of EPG on the normal frequencies. They keep the vast amount of data on a specific frequency. If we zap/select/view any channel on that frequency, the EPG data will be added/absorbed into the EPG cache on the system. This needs to be done regularly to maintain the data.

UK Freeview (Aerial): You can use any channel

Virgin UK (Cable): “PVR_EPG” or any service on the frequency.

Sky UK (28.2): “IEPG data 1” or any other service on 11778, V, 27500

Sky Italy (13e): “Nat Geo”

EPG Storage

The EPG data is stored in RAM and written to the storage device at shut down/restart. If you just operate the power switch, the data will not be saved.

OE-A images:

You can specify where the EPG is saved. **DO NOT USE** the internal flash memory. A mechanical HDD if you have one for recording is perfect. It is not accessed all the time, so don't worry about lag or excessive wear and tear. If you do not have a mechanical HDD, a USB flash drive will be fine. If you only have a USB device connected, it should be mounted as HDD. Leave it as it is, there is no need to change the mount points!

Just to repeat, if you only have a USB stick, it will be mounted as /media/hdd on OE-A images. This is fine!

OpenPLI Image:

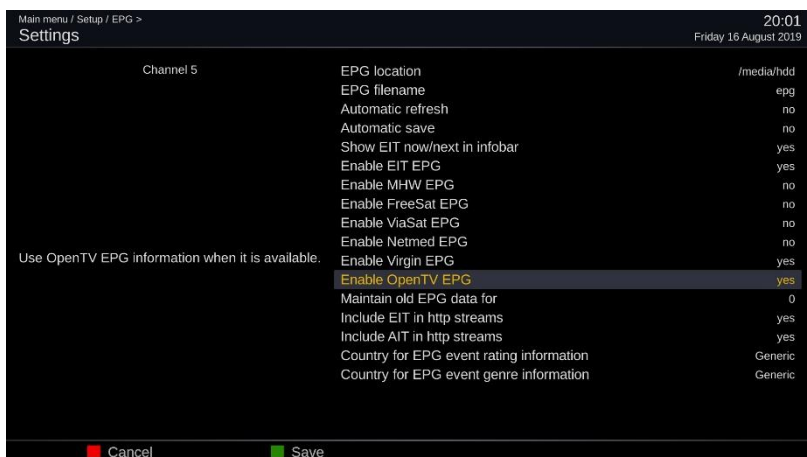
If you have a storage device connected, it will be used. You can also configure location.

Otherwise the EPG data will be written to the internal memory /etc/enigma2

Enabling/Check that the EPG reader is enabled

On some images the EPG readers are disabled. We can check/enable them by the following:

Menu > Setup > EPG > Settings >



If the reader you want is disabled, scroll down until it is highlighted. Use the left/right button to enable it and then save the change by pressing green for OK. You will now absorb the EPG data whenever you zap/view the channel.

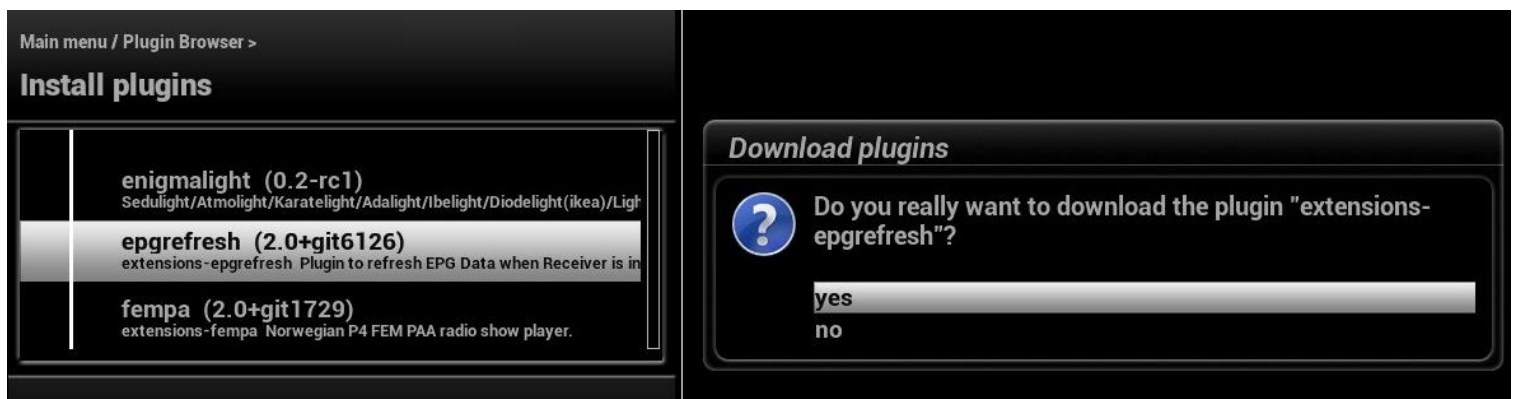
Making use of the EPGRefresh plugin

You have EPG working from the stream but you only have one day's EPG. You can't be bothered with manually selecting channels. You'd like to automate the process?

There is a plugin to help with this. It is called EPGRefresh. Just to clarify, it helps you with the zapping process. **It is not a requirement.** Using the EPGRefresh plugin when the EPG reader is not enabled/included in image will not do anything for you. Try it if you don't believe this statement.

Installing EPGRefresh

Press Menu > Plugins > Green (Download plugins) > scroll down to Extensions > Press OK to expand > Scroll down to epgrefresh > press OK to install > confirm the installation.



Starting the plugin

Press Menu > Plugins > scroll down to EPGRefresh > Press OK



(On the first run, you will be shown the help page. You can close the screen using the red button.)

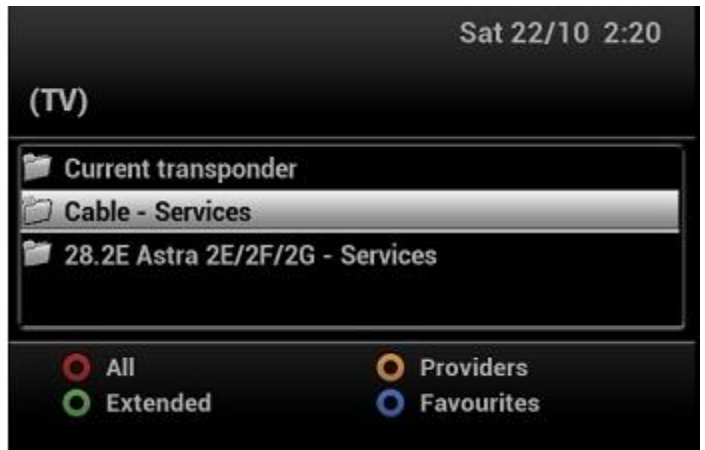
Configuring EPGRefresh

Add the services you want to use

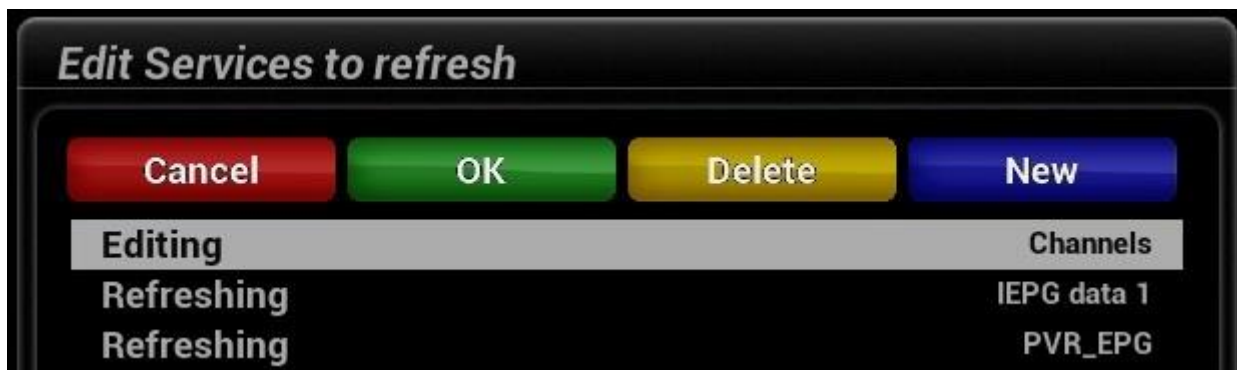
We have to add services that will be used.



- 2a. Press the blue button to edit the services.
- 2b. Press the blue button to add a New service



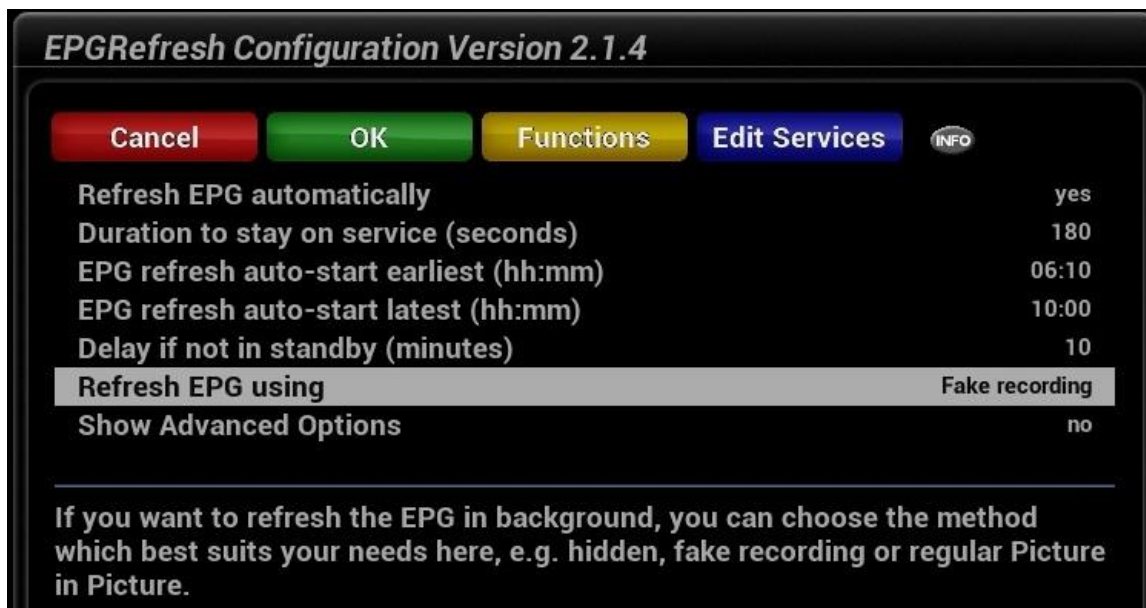
- 2c. You will open up in bouquets. Press Green for satellites.
(I'm ignoring bouquets for this guide, this is because not all services are in bouquets. Carry on if you want to!)
- 2d. Highlight and select cable services.
- 2e. Scroll down and select the channel you want to use. Or use numeric keys to jump to letter, 4 = GHI, 7 = PQRS
For Sky UK, use **"IEPG data 1"**. Some plugins alter the name, compensate for this.
For Virgin UK, **"PVR_EPG"** or any other service on the same frequency. Use only 1 service per provider



Press OK twice to confirm and close.

Automate the process

We want to automate things. Change Refresh EPG automatically option to Yes. Change the option to suit your needs. 180 seconds is fine.



The 04:00 trend is an urban myth. Pick whatever time range suits you.

If you recall, EPG refresh is essentially a channel zapper. There are several methods you can zap to the channels. Not all receivers support Picture in Picture. If you want to change the channel while it does its thing, select main picture. I prefer Fake recording. It tunes to the channel in the background and does not interfere with viewing.

You can enable the advanced options. The readme file will come in handy.

Manual execution

Once you have setup the service to use, you can manually run the process. This should not be necessary.

TV mode:

Press the Blue button, this opens the extensions. Select **EPG-refresh_Refresh now**

With the plugin open:

Press yellow then select **refresh now**.

The above guide was specific to one provider. There are other providers on other satellites. You will need to add the correct channel for the provider. You can have several services in the list. EPG refresh will zap to them sequentially.