

Cable Traps  
By error type eleven  
Equipment

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Socket wrenches to get inside the cable box.  
Wire cutters to get the weak little seal  
Wrenches to take off the traps  
Razor knife thing to cut the rubber seals off of the cable 'joints'

Motivation

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This is something I figured out, well not figured out, but learned on my own. You can't figure out something this simple. It's extremely easy and my cable company is stupid.

Exploring

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So I called the cable lady.  
error type eleven: Hi mam, um, I don't have MTV. I want it.  
Lady: Oh sir, do you have standard cable?  
ete: Yes.  
L: There is probably a trap on your line.  
ete: Huh?  
L: A trap to block the channel.  
ete: Oh, what is that?  
L: It's just a device they put on it to filter out the channel.  
ete: Oh, huh, on my cable line? Why would they do that? Were they in my house?!  
L: No sir, it's just in a box, either in your backyard or on the pole.  
ete: Oh, I see.  
L: Would you like to have a technician sent to remove it?  
ete: No, MTV is racy anyway. I was just curious.

It took me 5 minutes of socialing the cable lady to get all the info I needed. I went into my backyard, found the little green gray box, about 1 and a half feet tall. I cut the little plastic lock off, and opened it up. There it was. A big metal cylindrical thing. I cut the rubber seals off of the joints that join the line running into my house and the cylinder. Then I cut off the seals that covered the joint to the side running to the cable company. Then I unscrewed the cable trap cylinder thing and reconnected the line to my house and the line from the cable company.

Then I went into my house. Turned on the TV. WTF?!?! I have Showtime, HBO, MTV, and The Movie Channel. This is odd. At the moment I was jumping all over the room. It's pretty fun to beat a system protected by laws that easily. Note to doctors: Ritalin is ineffective on hackers, if you're taking it, stop, it screws you up.

I take a closer look at the trap. It's in 4 parts. So I take 3 off and put only one back in the line. Now I don't have HBO, but I still have the rest. So I learned that each one filters one channel. So I checked each one to see which it blocked out, and once I found the MTV one, I just left it off. I did put the premium channel traps back on though, because me and my neighbor share a box, and if theirs got checked for something, they'd see I was stealing. Then I programmed my VCR to skip MTV when scanning through channels. Now the cable company won't do anything about the MTV one, because my company doesn't keep records of that sort of thing.

That's basically all. Milwaukee's cable is very unsophisticated, so if you live somewhere else

and have digital cable, I don't know.