

# As Amazon Ends Fire TV Sideloading, Cord-Cutters Turn to Downloader Codes

*With Fire TV moving to a closed OS and APKTime shut down, TROYPOINT's updated guide points users to Downloader codes and the free TROYPOINT Toolbox.*

NEWTON, IA, UNITED STATES, July 3, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The tools everyday cord-cutters rely on to set up their own streaming devices are quietly disappearing in 2026, and TROYPOINT has published updated guidance to help households navigate the shift. Two developments are driving the change: Amazon's decision to move all future Fire TV Sticks to a closed operating system, and the recent shutdown of APKTime, a third-party app store that operated for a decade.



TROYPOINT's updated 2026 guide highlights Downloader codes as a reliable way to install streaming apps on Fire TV and Android TV.

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As the sideloading ecosystem gets more restrictive, the average household needs a simple, current, and safe way to set up their streaming device.”

*The TROYPOINT Team*

In April 2026, Amazon confirmed through its developer documentation that beginning with the Fire TV Stick 4K Select, all future Fire TV Sticks will run on [Vega OS](#), a closed platform that only runs apps approved through the Amazon Appstore. In practical terms, newer devices will no longer allow users to install applications from outside Amazon's store, ending the sideloading flexibility that made Fire TV popular with cord-cutters. Only the last Android-based models, the Fire TV Stick 4K Plus and 4K Max, still support it.

The timing has been compounded by the closure of

APKTime, which shut down in June 2026 after ten years as a go-to repository for installing streaming apps. Its operators noted that the app landscape has become harder to keep up with as apps constantly shut down and change. For the average household, the result is the same: fewer familiar, reliable ways to get streaming apps onto a device.

Against that backdrop, TROYPOINT's refreshed [July 2026 guide](#) points readers to Downloader codes, short numeric shortcuts entered into the free Downloader app that install apps without typing long web addresses. Each code is tested on a recurring basis and marked with its current working status, so users are not left guessing whether a shortcut still functions.

The guide also highlights the free [TROYPOINT Toolbox](#), a curated hub of media players, IPTV players, launchers, and utilities that users can reach from a web browser or by scanning a QR code, with installation tutorials for each app.

About TROYPOINT: TROYPOINT is a leading resource for cord-cutting news, streaming tutorials, and device guides, helping users get more from their Fire TV, Android TV, and other streaming hardware.

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