Video Doorbell Cheat Sheet

Companion to “5 Best Video Doorbells for New Homeowners (2026)” — vitaldwelling.com/best-video-doorbells/

The five picks, side by side

	Philips 7000 ■	eufy E340	Ring Battery Plus	Nest (Wired 2nd Gen)	Blink (2nd Gen)
Price	$229.99 list	~$160 class	Check product page	~$180 class	~$70 class
Video	2K HDR, dual-cam	2K + package cam	1536p HD+	HDR, 3:4 portrait	1440×1440 HD
Records w/o a plan	**Yes — 8 GB local**	**Yes — 8 GB local**	**No**	3 h history only	**No** (Core module)
Smart alerts, free	Person + package	Person + package + face	No (plan)	**Person/pkg/animal/vehicle**	No (plan)
Power	Battery or wired	Battery or wired	Battery / wired trickle	**Wired only**	3× AA / wired
Chime in the box	**Yes**	No	No	No (existing)	No
24/7 recording	No	No	No	**Yes (Aware Plus)**	No
Warranty	2 yr	Check listing	1 yr	Check listing	1 yr

What each one really costs over 3 years

	Doorbell	Plan to record, 36 months	3-year recording cost
Philips 7000	$229.99 list	None — records locally	**$0**
eufy E340	~$160 class	None — records locally	**$0**
Ring Battery Plus	Check product page	Ring Home Basic ~$4.99/mo	**~$180**
Nest (Wired)	~$180 class	$0 if free tier is enough	**$0+**
Blink (2nd Gen)	~$70 class	Blink plan for clips + person detection	**plan cost**

Pre-buy checklist — five minutes before you order

■ **Transformer label check** — find the grey box near your panel or chime: wired doorbells want **16–24 VAC** and enough VA (an old 10 VA unit is the classic silent failure).

■ **Battery vs wired decision** — battery = minutes to install, sleeps between events, recharge every few weeks-to-months at a busy door. Wired = always awake; only wired unlocks 24/7 recording.

■ **Chime plan** — what rings inside the house on a press? Only the Philips includes a chime; the others need your wired chime, a plug-in chime, or a smart speaker.

■ **At-the-door Wi-Fi test** — stand where the doorbell will sit and check your phone’s 2.4 GHz signal. Weak signal at the door is the #1 cause of “slow doorbell” returns.

■ **Recording question** — before checkout, ask of your pick specifically: “does it *record* without a plan?” Live view and alerts are free almost everywhere; history is where plans live.

Prices are street ranges checked in October 2026 and move with holiday promotions — confirm the current price on the product page. Full guide: vitaldwelling.com/best-video-doorbells/ · © Vital Dwelling