

# Raspberry Pi reaches critical mass as XBMC hardware

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For years I've been dreaming of a streaming media device that could just be stuck to the back of a television. Since XBMC has been far and away my favorite set-top box software, I've closely monitored hardware developments that can run that package. Now I think it's time to declare that the Raspberry Pi has achieved the base specifications to be branded the XBMC device that rules them all.

There are a huge range of opinions on this topic, but please hear me out after the break to see what has brought me to this conclusion.

### Media playback and high-definition

When I first tried out XBMC on the Raspberry Pi, I was floored to learn that the board ships without MPEG-2 hardware decoding.

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