Introduction

What Is SmartHome?

A **smart home** refers to a convenient **home** setup where appliances and devices can be automatically controlled remotely from anywhere with an internet connection using a mobile or other networked device.

**Benefits**

### Great Potential in Saving Energy and Money

Setting up a home automation system will keep you away from spending on wasted energy, it will eliminate the power consumption of unattended appliances and devices that are left behind. You can also [turn off all the lights](https://www.aihomes.co.uk/lightwaverf/dimmers/), electrical and heating devices when you’re away from home, so there will be no wasted electricity. Most of the home automation system allows you to monitor your electricity or energy consumption which is very useful. From the data you gather, you can make the necessary adjustments to lower the energy usage of your devices, which will lead reduced electricity bills and save money.

### Extreme Convenience

you can conveniently control or operate your [lighting](https://www.aihomes.co.uk/lightwaverf/dimmers/), [heating](https://www.aihomes.co.uk/lightwaverf/heating-controls/) and [electrical devices](https://www.aihomes.co.uk/lightwaverf/sockets/) using handheld remote controls. You can even manage all of your home functions from any part of the world, as long as you have internet access. Use your smartphone, iPhone, iPad, tablet or PC to operate your lighting, adjust the temperature of your heating devices and more. Home automation will provide you with a convenient daily life.

### Boost Your Home Security

An automated home system will allow you to have automated door locks that will fortify your home security. You can remotely control these door locks using a web-enabled device such as smartphone, tablets or PC. You can always make sure to lock your doors with only one tap of your finger.

This is an excellent feature for situations like forgetting to lock your doors when you leave the house Having electronic door locks also eliminates the risk of being locked out from your home. You can always secure your home from anywhere with web access.

### Home Security Awareness with Security Cameras

Furtherly improve your home security by installing security cameras in your area. Combined with an excellent home automation system, you can set up a security system where you can get live feeds on your smart gadgets such as iPhones, iPads, smartphones, tablets and other web-enabled devices.

With this great feature, you can monitor whatever it is happening around your house. It’s also a great feature if you want to keep track of the activities your kids is doing while you’re at the office.

### Safety on Your Appliances and Lighting System

A home automation system will give you added protection to your home and family. With a smart home technology you will have the full control of your lighting, heating and power, switch every light, heating device and electrical device on or off with a touch of your fingertip.

### It Can Help Save Precious Time

Since home automation allows you to run your home from anywhere fully, you won’t have to waste precious time to go home to open the door for your children. Home automation is also a very useful system for a person on the go, a busy person that has plenty of “to do” list at work. With a home automation system installed, you can focus on your work while running your home while you’re at the office or travelling.

### Contributes to the Economy

Having a home automation system installed in your house will surely boost our economy. Paying for the system itself is considered contributing to the economy, but making sure that you are using the necessary amount of energy and resources is also a way to contribute to the economy. Eliminating or reducing the wasted energy at home also contributes to the economy.

### Full Control When Your Out of Town

As mentioned earlier, home automation system will provide complete control on your home lighting, heating and power anywhere with web access. In case you have to be out of town for a meeting or any other circumstance, you will always have access to run and manage your home. You can check if all doors are locked during the night, turn off unused lights or devices and more.

### Keep An Eye on Your Kids

Same as integrating security cameras with your home automation system to provide you live feeds on your smartphone or other web-enabled devices. You can also make sure that your little ones are doing fine, especially if you have a baby in the house. You can put cameras in the kid’s room or nursery to keep an eye on the kids. You can also integrate baby monitors and alarms with the smart home system to make sure the baby is ok.

### Increases Promotes Peace of Mind

Living in a smart home will provide you peace mind, not only because it offers a more fortified home security, but it also gives you complete control on all of your home devices. You can make sure that all doors are locked before going to sleep, all devices are turned off, and it will also provide you with a better sense of security.

Having known some of the benefits a home automation system, we can say that having these advantages is enough to justify the price tag for having one. Not only that, home automation system is proven to be very beneficial in the long run. Moneywise, it offers great money saving potential.

**Google Home Voice Controller**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Type | Smart speaker |
| Release date | **November 4, 2016** |

**Tap into the power of Google with your Assistant**

Need answers to a problem? Ask questions, translate phrases, run simple maths calculations and look up the meaning of a word. Too busy to stay on top of the news? Ask and you shall receive the latest stories from sources such as Times of India, NDTV, Dainik Bhaskar, India Today, Aaj Tak and more. Need a helping hand in the kitchen? Find ingredient substitutes, pull up nutritional information and unit conversions without having to wash your atta-covered fingers.

**Google Home is truly ‘desi’**

With a distinctly Indian voice, your Assistant on Google Home speaks and understands your language. Ask it “Hey Google, how desi are you?”, put its cricket knowledge to the test with “Hey Google, what is a silly point?”, tell it to “Play songs from the movie Satte Pe Satta”, or even get step-by-step cooking instructions in the kitchen with, “Hey Google, give me a recipe for Dum Biryani”.

**Get personalised help for your everyday tasks**

The Google Assistant on Google Home has been designed to help you get more stuff done when you have your hands full. With your permission, it will help with things like your commute, your daily schedule and more. And the best part? Up to six people can connect their account to one Google Home, so if you ask your Assistant to tell you about your day, it can distinguish your voice from other people in your family, and give you personalised answers. Just ask “Hey Google, tell me about my day” or say, “Hey Google, how long will it take to get to work?” and you’ll get up to speed on everything you need to know. It can wake you up in the morning (or let you snooze), set a timer while you’re baking, and so more.

**Control your smart home**

Google Home can help you keep track of everything going on in your home--you can control your lights, switches and more, using compatible smart devices from brands like Philips Hue, D-Link and TP-Link. Just ask your Google Home, and your Assistant will turn off the kitchen light. If you have a Chromecast, you can also use voice commands to play Netflix, or YouTube on your TV and binge watch your favorite shows. Enjoy multi-room by grouping Google Home devices together (with Chromecast Audio, Chromecast built-in and Bluetooth speakers) to listen to the same song in every room.

**Kuri Mobile Robot**

With Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, a 1080p cam and sturdy wheels designed to traverse any interior flooring, Kuri has a lot going for it. What I first noticed, though, were the eyes. For better or for worse, every inch of Kuri looks to be designed with the goal of making this robot helper adorable.

At first, I thought Kuri would be a bit like an strapped to a set of wheels. In practice, Kuri doesn't have nearly the functionality of the Echo -- it's more of a roving security cam with a bluetooth speaker than an always-listening, multi-purpose assistant. Kuri's advantage is its personality. Its wordless chirps and nods remind me of a [Pixar character](http://vignette1.wikia.nocookie.net/disney/images/6/67/3625885-4897998087-Wall-.jpg/revision/latest?cb=20140429123418), and Kuri was clearly designed to please the younger members of your family while it helps you patrol the halls and keep an eye on your home.

**HD Camera:**Kuri’s camera is neatly located behind one of his eyes. It can capture 1080p HD pictures and videos in a wide range of lighting conditions. Livestream capabilities let Kuri be your eyes around the house when you’re not there.

# gestural mechanics

Thanks to intricate gestural mechanics, Kuri’s head and eye movements look fluid and natural. Her eyes blink, smile, and she can look up, down, and from side to side.

**microphones**

Kuri is equipped with four sensitive microphones that help him precisely locate sounds. That means Kuri can detect your voice and turn his head to face you when you're giving him a voice command.

# heart light

A soft, warm light helps Kuri convey a sense of mood. With colors representing different emotional states, you'll always know when Kuri is happy or if he's just thinking.

# speakers

Kuri’s two speakers deliver a rich sound experience, powerful enough to fill a room. So whether Kuri is playing music, podcasts, repeating what you say, or speaking robot, you’ll always hear every detail.

# drive system

A powerful, yet quiet, drive train that helps Kuri move effortlessly throughout your home. His wheels are big enough to handle a wide range of flooring and carpets - even thresholds.

# mapping sensors

Mapping sensors enable Kuri to navigate your house autonomously. A sensor array helps Kuri learn and remember where everything is located, and also stay away from cliffs and obstacles in his path.

# processor

You’ll quickly discover how smart Kuri is. His powerful processors handle everything from facial and speech detection, to mapping and entertaining.

# charging pad

The charging pad is Kuri’s own little spot in your house. It’s where Kuri automatically goes for a power nap between activities and tasks, or when energy is running low.

**Nest Smoke Alarm**

##### Voice Alerts

I have an automatic cringe response when I hear a fire alarm go off—and my dog’s response is even worse. Nest Protect uses a calm, friendly voice to tell you what’s up *before* you get a screaming siren in your ear. The Nest lets you know what it detects (smoke, CO2) and in which room. If it’s not an actual emergency (burned dinner, anyone?) you can turn off the alarm before it sounds. If you have more than one Nest Protect, each one will give the alert so that everyone in the house is warned.

Easy To setup

All you have to do to get Nest Protect up and working is download the app, scan the QR code on the back of the device, and follow the voice prompts. Be warned, though—those voice prompts start *immediately*. The first task is to push the button to set the language. Because I had just scanned the code, I was looking for a button on the back. Don’t do that—turn it over, use the big button, and start enjoying your Nest Protect immediately. It’s that simple.

##### Safety History

You can check the activity of your Nest Protect over the last ten days or month via two different ways. In the app, select your device and hit the “History” icon at the bottom of the screen. That will give you a report detailing what occurred over the past ten days. Each day will have a color bar and message indicating what happened. Red indicates a full-on alert, yellow a Heads-Up situation, and green means everything’s okay. Nest also emails a monthly home report that includes a summary of any action your Nest Protect saw, plus tips to help keep your home safe.

**FreeApp**

The good news is you can download the Nest app for free, and there are no extra fees for history reports or mobile alerts. You get real-time access to your Nest Protect’s status, plus up to ten days of history. One of the app’s best features is the ability to hush the alarm from no matter where you are. I liked that I could save my dog from the stress of an alarm all the way across town.

**Philips Hue Bulbs and Lighting System**

## Set a timer

Set timers so that a specific light or all the lights in a room turn on, switch to a specific color or even blink when a timer is done. It’s useful for situations like when you’re cooking something in the kitchen, but you have to do something in another room or when the baby is asleep, and you want to avoid using a regular audio alarm to let you know when the laundry is done. Setting these up on the Hue app is just as easy as scheduling a wake-up alarm. You just need to go to Routines and select Timers instead.

## Match your lighting to your daily routine

Did you know that you could also schedule the lights to turn on or switch to a specific color to set the vibe for your daily routines? You can do yoga in calming blush pink, work out in invigorating red and read in a warm yellow-orange light. Using the lights’ dimming capabilities, you can also set the light to a warmer, less bright yellow-orange for relaxing and turn it down all the way to 25% to wind down for bedtime. You can set all these up as you would a wake-up alarm in the Routines tab in the Hue app.

## 5. Set color scenes to match your mood

Even better than matching your daily routines is setting the lights to match your mood, so whether you’re happy or sad, fun and flirty or serious and hard at work, your home can feel like it complements what you’re feeling. Going beyond that, you can also use them to set the mood in different rooms for activities like a relaxing bubble bath, date night, movie hosting a dinner party or family game night.

## Match the weather

Whether it’s a bright sunny day with clear blue skies or fiery with the purple and orange hues of the sunset, Philips Hue lights can match the time of the day or the type of weather you are having. With the Hue app’s Picture Scenes feature, you can choose a photo, and the apps will try to match the colors. It’s kind of like having your very own Hogwarts Great Hall ceiling. Plus, thanks to the IFTTT app and weather-related services like Weather Underground, you can have your lights automatically change color or even mirror the weather condition in your area.

## 7. Sync with your music

There are several apps available that lets you sync your lights to your music so that they change colors and even blink and flicker to the beat. Our favorite is iLightShow (free for [iOS](https://itunes.apple.com/app/ilightshow/id1247273887) and [Android](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.nanjoran.ilightshow)) which offers a range of options to customize the experience without having to pay extra. Go with a preset – Auto, Chill or Party – or create a custom experience, where you control Brightness, Saturation, Energy and Color Changes.

**Ring Doorbell**

# What is the Ring Doorbell?

The [**Ring Doorbell**](http://ring.com/) is the latest way to help create your smart home. In a world of quickly advancing technology, there are so many ways that you can arm your home to protect yourself. You can turn on your heat on your way home from vacation, make sure your lights are off, and so much more. Now, you can see who is at your door…without needing to be there.

HD camera: The camera lets you view any visitor through the app so that you know who is visiting and why they are there. Equipped with night vision, you don’t need to worry about seeing a late-night visitor.

* Two-way audio: Ring’s slogan makes you feel safe and secure, “With Ring, you’re always home.” That wouldn’t be true without the audio capabilities. Not only can you see your visitors, but you can also speak with them using the Ring app.
* Motion detection: Your Ring Doorbell has built-in motion sensors to let you know if someone is meandering on your property.
* Mobile access: Simply download the app to your phone and you will be able to communicate with someone at your front door from anywhere.

**Arlo Ultra(Home Security Cameras)**

The [Arlo Ultra](https://in.pcmag.com/arlo-ultra/130572/arlo-ultra)raises the bar for all outdoor cameras. It's the first model we've seen that streams and records video in true 4K, or Ultra High Definition (UHD), and it's loaded with cool tech including automatic zooming, motion tracking, color night vision, an integrated spotlight and siren, one-click 911 connectivity, a 180-degree field of view, and more. It's also completely wireless and a snap to install. You'll have to sign up to one of Arlo's subscription plans to take advantage of all that the camera has to offer, but it still merits top honors for outdoor security cameras.