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2 years ago

(<https://sensorberg.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/BH/pages/91917183/Companies+using+the+R+Pi+Compute+module>)

# FUTUREHOME: IOT SMART HOME BUILT ON COMPUTE MODULE

Norway-based FutureHome is selling home automation systems based on the Raspberry Pi

FutureHome makes smart home systems using Raspberry Pi Compute Module



([https://www.raspberrypi.org/magpi/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/FutureHome\\_house\\_iot.jpg](https://www.raspberrypi.org/magpi/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/FutureHome_house_iot.jpg))

Futurehome is a self-adjusting home automation kit with the Raspberry Pi Compute Module at its heart.

“Futurehome lets you control, automate and monitor your home from anywhere in the world,” says Odd Eivind Evensen, product development manager.

The company sells a **Smarthub** for NOK 2499 (£233/\$359) (<http://magpi.cc/2hRxxOL>). Following a successful Indiegogo campaign, Futurehome has started production. The units are reportedly selling in their thousands.

See also: **Compute Module 3 Out Now** (<http://magpi.cc/2jg4j9T>)

The Smarthub lets you control all aspects of your home. From the heating to the garage doors:

Open your garage door with your watch



## FutureHome: selling products with the Raspberry Pi Compute Module



It's a fantastic example of what entrepreneurial makers can create with a Raspberry Pi. "We were four friends who founded the company in 2013, while still in the university," says Odd. "We had some experience with old smart home systems and saw a great potential in the upcoming IoT technologies and really wanted to make something."

The Smarthub works like an internet router, but for smart devices. It "communicates through the open standards Z-Wave and EnOcean."

These open standards allow for hundreds of different types of gadgets to be controlled, covering everything from lighting to heating and motion sensors.

At the heart of the device is the Smarthub containing a Raspberry Pi Compute Module. Futurehome has also created an iPhone and Android app to control the system.

"We used Raspberry Pi's in the prototyping and development," explains Odd. So the Compute Module was a "natural choice".

"The small form factor and the power of the Raspberry Pi [Compute Module], not to mention the eMMC memory, all makes it the perfect server," says Odd.



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**RM199724** • 2 years ago

Why is everything so insanely expensive compared to Xiaomi smart hub?

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**Jeremy Clements** • 2 years ago

Good to see startups like this. I've never really bought into the whole "smart everything" approach, though. To me, a Raspberry Pi controlling several Arduino boards distributed around the house is a cleaner approach. Cost-per-i/o drops significantly if the end devices stay "dumb".

If your end device needs to be smart (TV, thermostat, robotic assistant), then make it smart. If it's simply an on/off device (light bulb, fan, outlet), then keep it dumb. Taking home automation into the prohibitively-expensive realm of smart-everything slows adoption.

I absolutely love the Pi compute module (PiCM) approach, though. I come from a PLC background, and would love to have an HMI with a PiCM add-on communicating to distributed arduinos as RTUs. I am working on this for my home, although I can't invest in developing the PiCM backplane. For the cost of a couple of Philips Hue light bulbs, I can get the RPi and a couple of Arduino Unos to control half my house.

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**Bobby** → **Jeremy Clements** • a year ago

Jeremy, I'm really interested in your RPi and Arduino smart home setup. I have the background to accomplish such things, but so far haven't been able to figure out the approach. Do you have a write up somewhere on this, or can you point me to one?

36 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

**Jeremy Clements** → **Bobby** • a year ago

First, the disclaimer - I have no intention of making this a commercial product. The use case is too narrow, and cutting into existing 120 VAC wiring introduces WAY too much liability and safety issues for a marketed system. Once I have the bugs worked out, I'll return it to the maker community, which has already done a majority of the work for me.

To use existing wall plate switches, I will cut the 120

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to use existing wall plate switches, I will cut the 12V common supply at the top of the wall (in the attic). This allows me to use it to whet the switches with 24VDC, using the switched return for my Arduino inputs (using relay ICs to isolate DC-DC voltages). Outputs will be driven by 24VDC mechanical relays powered by IC relays and Darlington transistors driven by the Arduino (3.3VDC) outputs, to switch the existing 120VACthat was cut at the top plate.

see more

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