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# Systems Idea Book

*A Guide To What Is Possible With Home Electronics*



Navigating options  
for home electronics  
and automation

Adding Comfort, Convenience, Security and Entertainment

Everyone has their own individual style, preferences and priorities.

The purpose of this document is to help you navigate the available options in home electronics to determine what makes sense for your home and your lifestyle. In other words, to help you



Consider this a brochure which highlights ideas to provide added:

*Comfort,  
Convenience  
Security  
And Entertainment*

Ideas covered in this document include:

1. Environmental Controls (lighting, shades, HVAC)
2. Centralized entertainment systems (music & video)
3. Access Control (door locks, driveway alert, gate control)
4. Surveillance Cameras
5. Communications (intercom, network, gate)
6. Integrated User Experience

**Think Simplicity:** All of the functionality you choose can be controlled from a single app on your mobile device, wall mounted keypads or customized control devices. We hope the following pages will help you “get your bearings” while you consider how electronics can enhance your new home.



## Lighting Control

*Why should I consider lighting control for my home?*

Today's lighting plans utilize a myriad of fixtures to highlight architectural features and to make a space warm and inviting. With so many fixtures to control, your wall can quickly become overrun with "mega-gangs" of switches and dimmers. Not only unattractive, this swath of wall acne can be cumbersome and frustrating to use. A lighting control system is a great way to unclutter your walls and take command of the light levels in your home.

With a single keypad, 6 or more ganged switches can be removed from the wall and an entire area can be set to the perfect light level with the press of a single button. In fact, we have developed and refined a technique whereby every room in the home operates with only four buttons. The result is a consistent and intuitive approach that is easy to understand.



Consider lighting control for the public spaces of your home where wall space is a premium, aesthetics are the priority, and there is a concentration of fixtures to orchestrate. Secondary bedrooms can retain conventional

switching or if a "house off" feature is important consider the use of "smart dimmers" that look and operate like traditional dimmers but can be remotely commanded.

*Lifetime Warranty on lighting systems | LED Compatibility  
Independent and redundant from other controls*

## Motorized Window Treatments

*What is the value of having motorized window treatments in my home?*

Although there is something about how a bank of shades moving together in complete silence can make you smile, the use of motorized window treatments in a home is a practical decision.

There are many practical reasons to choose motorized window treatments including the reduction of solar gain, heat loss, protection of floors and furnishings, and multiple levels of opacity for privacy and light diffusion. Other conveniences include adding treatments to windows that are out of reach and closing all of them when leaving the home for an extended trip. And like all window treatments, the beautiful fabric selections add a finishing touch to the aesthetics of every living space.



Motorized treatments can be automated to open and close on a preset schedule and adjusted on demand with your mobile app. The mounting options can accommodate most any curve and corner or even completely disappear into concealed ceiling pockets. Design options include drapes, shades, roman shades and skylights.



***Lifetime Warranty on shade motors!!***



## HVAC Control

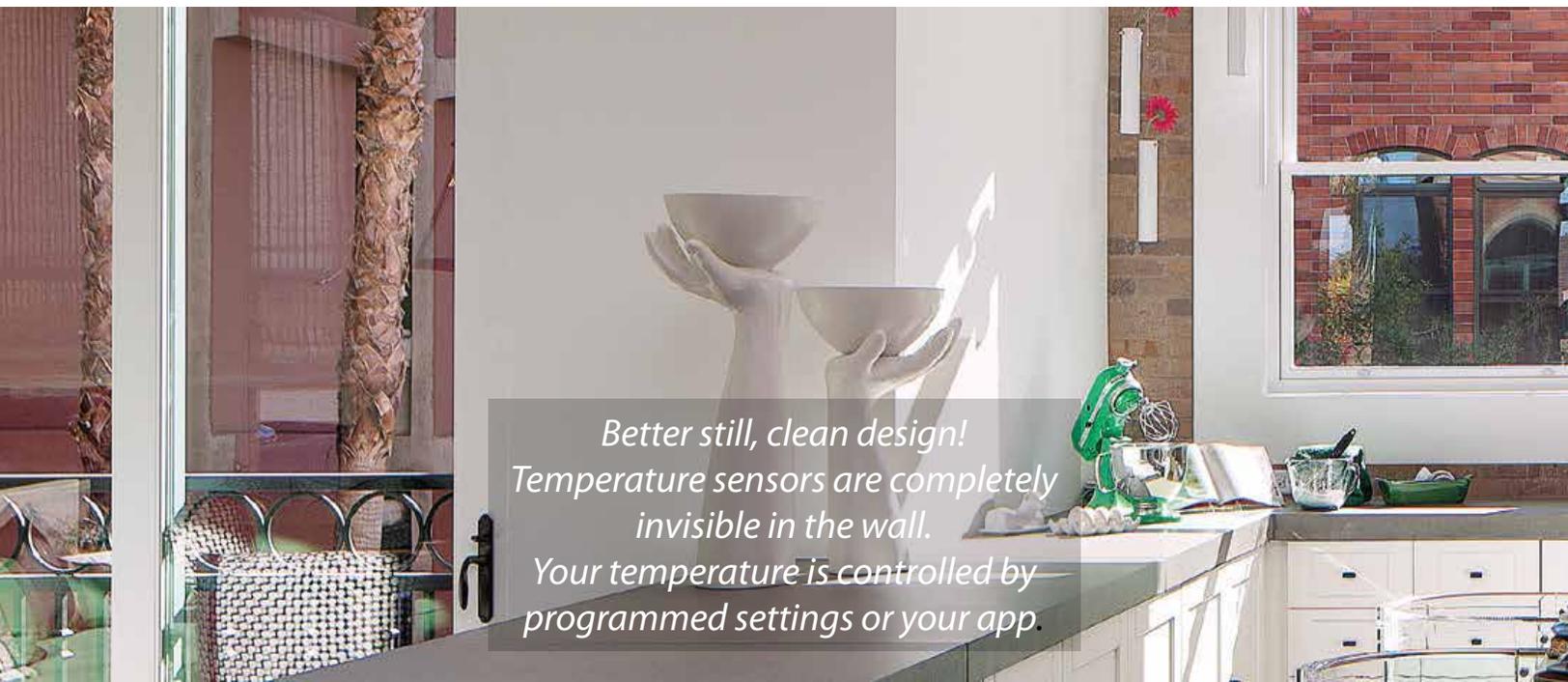
*Why would I want to automate my temperature control?*



Turn the heat up on your way home from the airport or check on temperatures and setpoints while on the road. Set the entire house back from a single button push or when arming the security system. Have a global view of temperatures and status in all rooms. Get rid of wall clutter and have thermostats tucked away.

These are some of the key benefits of having controllable thermostats that are part of a centralized control system. Like lighting control, we take great care to ensure this is redundant and operable even if the central system is down for some reason.

The wall mounted readout is like a regular thermostat but also becomes part of the central control “eco-system”.



*Better still, clean design!  
Temperature sensors are completely invisible in the wall.  
Your temperature is controlled by programmed settings or your app.*

## Music Systems

*No more stacks of gear and tangled wire?*



Centralized music systems have been popular for many years and for good reason. Why pepper a beautiful home with little independent stacks of stereo components and wires when the entire home can be served from one central system.

With a centralized music system, your favorite online streaming sources like Pandora, iTunes, and Spotify as well as your personal music collections are at the ready, throughout your entire home .



Think of the areas of your home where you would like to listen to music.



Flush mount ceiling speakers are a great place to start for delivering high quality music for background listening.

Then there are other areas , like a dedicated home theater, where really great sound amplifies your fun and enjoyment.

The overall cost of increasing sound quality in a room is small as a percentage of the entire system.





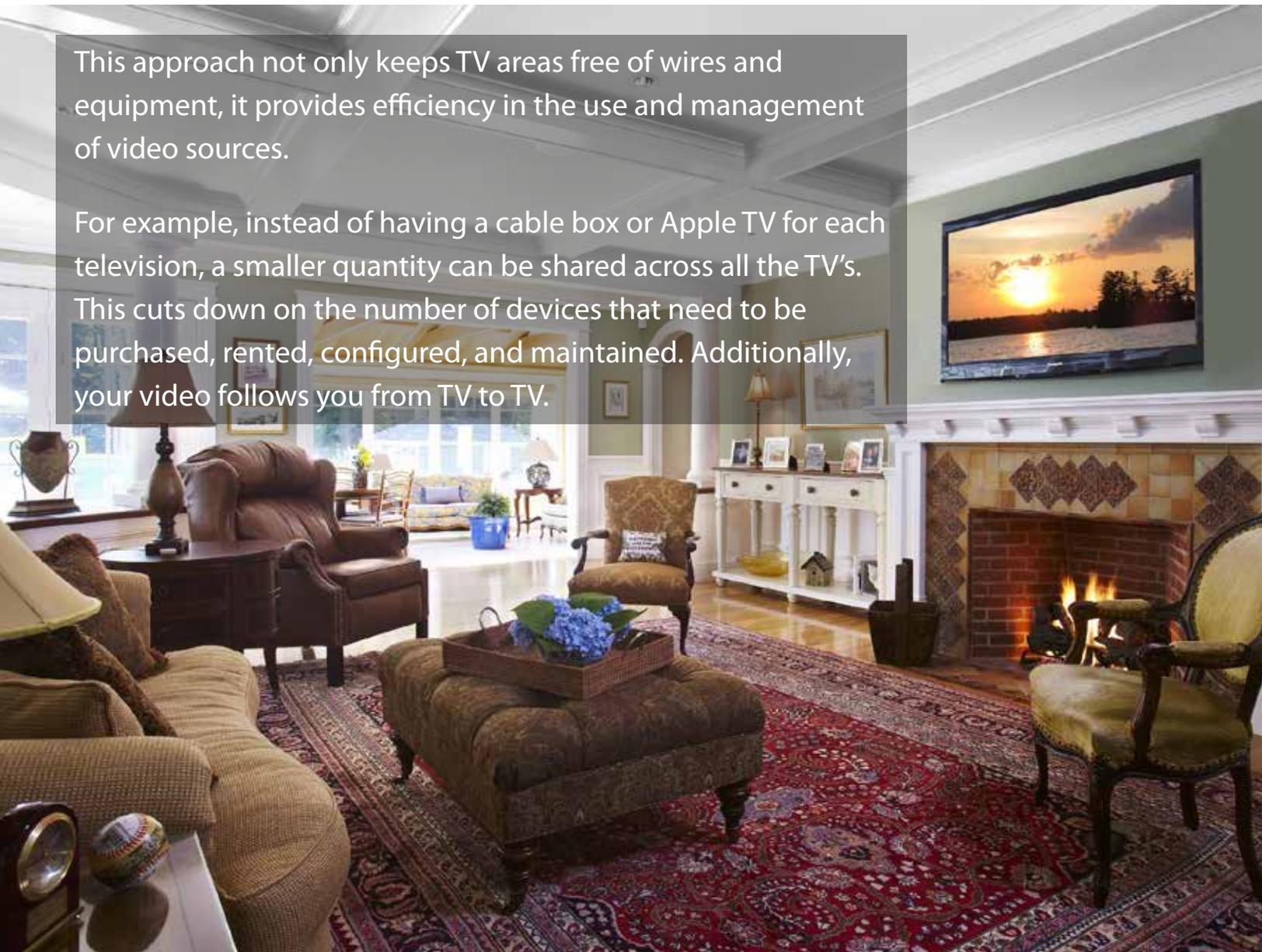
*Who wants to see cable boxes in every room?*

Like centralized music, it is now common to centralize your video systems. With this approach, we eliminate local equipment at each TV location.

In fact all equipment is wired and stored in an organized rack system in the basement. The audio and video is then distributed throughout the home with no visible wires.

This approach not only keeps TV areas free of wires and equipment, it provides efficiency in the use and management of video sources.

For example, instead of having a cable box or Apple TV for each television, a smaller quantity can be shared across all the TV's. This cuts down on the number of devices that need to be purchased, rented, configured, and maintained. Additionally, your video follows you from TV to TV.



## Door Locks and Intercom

### *How do automated door locks work?*

Electronic door locks make it quite convenient to enter your house without a key. You can also provide access to visitors remotely with your smart phone or tablet.

A simple schedule set to automatically lock the doors at night brings you additional security and peace of mind.

A communicating door lever lock or deadbolt can be used in place of standard hardware. Keypads can also be used to control electronic door strike plates.



Your touch panels or app can control your locks remotely and also be used for video intercom throughout your home.

Total home security is enhanced by integrating locks, intercom, and gate

access with surveillance cameras and alarm integration. All of these functionalities can then be automated and accessed remotely for visibility to your property from anywhere you may be.





### *Do I need a different company for my network installation?*

A robust and reliable network is a crucial element of your new home and the foundation of any home automation or wireless technologies.

We will build an enterprise grade network for your new home. A powerful router/gateway at the heart of your system will manage all of the internal and external network traffic and will provide us with advanced remote troubleshooting tools.

High grade centralized switches will provide wired connections for each TV location and for all wireless access points. We will provide the correct number of wireless access points per floor to provide seamless WiFi coverage inside your home. Ultimately the number of WAPs required depends on their placement and obstructions from construction materials including brick, concrete, and metal. Using software and your floor plans we will generate "heat map" of coverage that will serve as a guide for us to determine the best locations for the WAPs so you can count on consistent coverage and optimized streaming.



# 1 Simplified Control

*How many apps will I need to control my devices and technology*

One of the powerful things we can do with these systems is to provide an integrated experience of control whereby all your systems operate in a similar manner, using an identical user interface. Instead of having multiple app's we will provide a uniform and elegant solution that is accessible via purpose built touch panels, mobile devices and hand-held controls.



## TOUCH PANELS:

These elegant devices are used to provide integrated control of your home. Cue up your favorite music, turn up the heat, see who is at the gate, and adjust the lighting all from a single intuitive user interface. We recommend the placement of these panels in key locations like the master bedroom and kitchen. There are various sizes starting a 5" diagonal moving all the way to 20" diagonal. Larger panels are often used in the kitchen where they can also display TV and video.

## 1 Simplified Control

### HANDHELD REMOTES:

For convenient couch-side channel surfing nothing beats a simplified handheld remote control. These devices have the power of a sophisticated control system behind them, but are very simple to use, have AAA batteries and can withstand being dropped on the floor.

### SMARTPHONES & TABLETS:

Like the touch panels, your smartphones and tablets can be used as integrated control devices. Perfect for turning up the music while in the screen porch or turning up the heat when you're on your way home. It is also possible to use these for control within the home but there are some strengths/weakness to this approach that should be discussed.



### KEYPADS:

Not only are keypads a terrific way to reduce wall clutter to command your home's lighting, they can also be used to control shades and speaker volume.

