LIGHTING CONTROL: SMART UPGRADES FOR TODAY’S CONNECTED HOME

- Smart lighting adds convenience, security, and style
- Personalized lighting control for any style, mood or activity
- Motorized shades and lighting control for smart living and energy savings
- Outdoor lighting for security and curb appeal
- Control lights from home or on-the-go
SMART LIGHTING

ADD CONVENIENCE, SECURITY AND STYLE TO YOUR HOME

SMART LIGHTING CONTROL, while not exactly a new technology, has grown to become one of the most important features in a home control system. Smart lighting solutions can enhance a home’s décor and security, while making management of the lights much easier. New lighting control systems truly are smart and a great way to add value to your home.

Here are a few application examples made possible by home control systems:

AMBIENCE AND DÉCOR: While your lighting devices (lamps, sconces, chandeliers) should look nice, the quality and color of the light they emit can be just as much a part of your home’s interior design as the artwork and furniture—and the best part is that you can change the look on the fly.
Something as simple as the color of your walls can change dramatically based on the light quality in the room. If you want to change the feel of the room, change the lighting level. You can do it yourself by installing a standard wall dimmer or for mobile control, try a smart dimmer and app. For additional functionality, have your installer design multiple-room scenes that will adjust the light at the press of one button. Such versatility is just as important and impressive for outdoor lights as for indoor. Some of the most common light scenes are party, morning, dinner and of course, goodnight. Many control systems also allow you to use a combination of lighting and music as part of your wake up routine. Who would want to start the day with the bedroom lights on full blast when you can have them slowly wake up along with you?

With new color changing light options, your lights can complement your lifestyle in new, colorful, ways. Let’s say you like the living room lights to dim low, but not off, when watching TV. Set up a "TV" light scene that turns the lights to a dim blue or green that can satisfy your need for a dark room while still keeping it lit up enough so you can find your remote. Plus...it also looks cool! Adding color options to lighting scenes can be done in several ways, both by professional integrators or with some basic do-it-yourself products.
EXTRA SENSORY PERCEPTION: Lots of fun things can be done using lights in combination with motion or contact sensors. For instance, an automation system with smart lighting can be programmed to turn on a pathway of lights based on motion sensors outside. Those can serve both as a security measure—turning on bright flood lights when an unexpected visitor approaches, or as a welcome routine when a car pulls into the driveway at night. The sensor will relay a message to the control system that tells it to turn on your entryway lights and any other lights you like as you walk in the house.

Another example is a home theater or media room in a basement. Have the stairway light linked to a contact sensor that automatically turns on when the door is opened. For added customization, you can have the stair light timed to go out after a reasonable time, say one minute, while the main theater lights stay on until you start a movie, then they can automatically dim down for movie viewing.

SECURITY: Whether away or at home, lighting control can be a valuable part of your home security system. When away, you can program your lights to automatically come on at set times, and even have them turn on/off at random times, to give the house a more lived-in look than simple timers can do. Another alternative is a motion sensor integrated with your lighting control system. Any intruders lurking around entryways will be sure to steer away if a bright light is shined on them.

WARNINGS: Aside from criminal activity, you can use your lighting system to provide warnings or notifications of other events. Maybe you have small children who get up in the middle of the night. A motion sensor can turn on a hall light so your child can see, and also turn on a small light in the master bedroom to alert you that your child is stirring.

NOTIFICATIONS AND ALERTS: Yes, your lights can be programmed to communicate things to you based on events or preferences. Let’s say you spend a lot of time listening to loud music or movies and know you can’t hear the doorbell (or driveway gate, depending on the size of your house). You can have a light in your media room programmed to flash once or twice when someone rings the doorbell. If your home automation programmer wants to make it even more customized, he or she can make sure the flash only happens when the media system is playing so the lights don’t flash unnecessarily.

If you stop thinking of lights as simply something to turn on and instead as part of a dynamic system that responds to your needs, the creative ideas are endless.
PERSONALIZED LIGHTING CONTROL
FOR ANY STYLE, MOOD OR ACTIVITY

IF YOU WERE TO SELECT A TECHNOLOGY IN YOUR HOME TO UPGRADE, a smart lighting control system offers one of the best opportunities to truly personalize each and every room to your liking, and you can change the look from day-to-day, or even throughout the day to fit you mood or activity. This goes for every other person in your family, too. If you like the living room bright and cheery, a lighting control system can be set up to suit this preference. Your spouse, meanwhile, can have the same lights adjust for a quieter, more subdued environment. The rest of your family can have it their way, too. And it all happens with just a touch of a button.
PERSONALIZED LIGHTING CONTROL

Just as the lights can be designed to suit your style, they can be arranged and programmed to complement the room décor and the various functions of the space. That same family room that looked bright and cheery for a family gathering can turn swank and sophisticated when you’re hosting an evening cocktail party—again, just a tap of a button on a keypad, smart phone or tablet and the transformation unfolds.

You can have automated lighting scenes designed to reflect the many personalities of your household, but why stop there. The design of the devices you use to activate those scenes can also reflect your personality and taste. Buttons on keypads can be custom engraved. Icons on smartphones, tablets and touchscreens can be labeled however you like. That common, nondescript button called "Welcome" packs more personality when you label it "Dad's Home," and complement it with others called "Mom's Kitchen" and "Kids Playroom". If you refer to your midnight trips to the kitchen as “cookie time," why not engrave the keypad button by your bedside with this creative description? Chose a favorite font, color, shape and style for the buttons and icons; or choose a theme. Controllers can be designed with a particular vibe in mind, be it nautical, neo-classical or sleek and modern.

From the way in which the light sources react to commands issued by controllers, to the design of the control devices themselves, a lighting control system lets you get creative with illumination in a way that uniquely expresses you personality and style. When working with a home systems integrator don’t be afraid to let your individuality show. Your system will feel like a natural extension of your house that’s easily relatable and provides real value and enjoyment.
MOTORIZED SHADES & LIGHTING CONTROL
FOR SMART LIVING AND ENERGY SAVINGS

MOTORIZED SHADES, BLINDS AND WINDOW TREATMENTS are some of the hottest products for the savvy smart home buyer. Alone, or when combined with a smart lighting system, these products can help maximize a home’s energy savings. The ability to control your shades and lights with a smart phone, or have them operate based on timers or pre-programmed conditions is not only a cool home feature, but it saves time and energy.
Motorized blinds and shades can be part of a complete custom home automation system, or they can be added one room at a time, as your budget or needs require. One of the nice things about automatic shades in a home automation system is that each room can be programmed to run its own scenes in its own way, along with integrated lights, depending on how the room is used. Here are a few great examples on how automated window treatments can enhance different rooms.

**Bedroom**
Some people have a lot of trouble waking up in the morning, especially when the bedroom blinds are keeping the room dark. Motorized blinds can be programmed to automatically open when your alarm goes off, or, if you don’t need to wake at a specific time, they can be synced with a smart home system that triggers the blind to open at sunrise (based on an astronomical clock). If you wake before the sun comes up, use your lighting control system to slowly bring the light level up to full brightness at a predetermined time.

Conversely, if you need the blinds closed when you’re getting dressed, you can program them to automatically give you privacy when you exit the shower. A professional integrator can come up with several ways to achieve this.

**Living room**
You can use the sun to warm your living room in the morning, and insulate it in the evening, by setting your shades to automatically open when the sun is shining on one side of the house, and close when
the sun has moved away. If you’re worried about furniture, rugs or art fading from sun exposure, automated shades can keep those damaging rays away without you having to be home to close anything. Have your system programmed to dim or turn off the lights when the sun is illuminating the room for you, so you don’t use energy when you don’t need it.

Dining room
The dining room is a great place for a smart window and light system. Few things ruin a pleasant evening meal than the setting sun blinding you while you’re trying to eat with your family. Set your dining room shades to close at dinner time, while the decorative wall scones adjust to your preferred level. Your window shades can open automatically an hour later if you like, or just stay closed for the night.

Media room
If you have a dedicated home theater or media room, you don’t want any sun washing out the picture on your projection screen or flat panel TV. Motorized shades can be programmed to close, and lights turn down, at the same time you press the play button to watch your favorite movie. If you’re not ready for that kind of integration yet, simple app or remote-controlled shades can make it easier for you to create the right atmosphere for movie time without costing a lot.

High-hallways, foyers and special windows
Many modern (and classic too) homes feature windows in high, out of the way places. These are nice design features, especially if they capture the morning sun. But they can also be impossible to manage with manual shades or blinds. In the absence of a ladder, motorized shades are not only the best, but are also the only way you can control the light from those high and out-of-the-way windows.

To learn more about motorized shades, view the following videos.
SMART LIGHTING, LED BULBS, WIRELESS LIGHT SWITCHES... those are all great things for inside the home, but can you do smart lighting outside the home? The answer is yes! In fact, outdoor lighting control is not much more complicated than indoor lighting control, and often uses exactly the same devices. You want to get just as creative with your outdoor lighting or landscape lighting as you can with your indoor lighting.

First off, if your current outdoor lighting situation only consists of a couple patio lights and maybe a flood light over the driveway, all controlled by light switches next to your door, then moving to smart outdoor lighting is very simple. All you need to do is swap out the switches that currently control your
outdoor lights with wireless smart switches and add a smart home hub, such as the Lutron Caseta Smart Bridge, and then you’re all set. Just add the switches or dimmers to the app, set up your scenes and timers, and your outdoor lights will then be part of your smart home system.

By the way, don’t forget that dimming can be just as useful for outdoor lighting as for indoor lighting. You don’t always need your patio lights on at full blast, so a dimmer, especially one you control from a smart phone app (so you don’t have to get up and go indoors to adjust the lights) is a perfect solution.

Outdoor motion detectors and timers can all be integrated into your outdoor or landscape lighting to add security and convenience.

Here are a few ideas to consider when automating your outdoor security lighting and decorative light fixtures:

**Safety & Security**
In addition to enhancing the outdoor ambiance, outdoor security lighting and automated exterior fixtures can provide valuable piece of mind. Those same landscape lights that looked so stunning during an evening cocktail party on the deck can also be used to deter intruders. Motion sensors, programmed to activate after midnight, can trigger certain lights, or you can ask your lighting installer to add a keypad by the nightstand where one button signals every light in the backyard to turn on.

**Pathway Lighting**
You may already have landscape lighting fixtures lining the walkway from the driveway to the front door; there may even be some lights that lead to the shed, a patio or a garden. For greater visual impact, trigger them with motion sensors planted strategically throughout the yard. This way, the lights will activate sequentially as a person strolls along the path rather than popping on all at once.

**Scenes**
Think about the activities that commonly take place outdoors. Maybe you entertain by the pool frequently or like to have dinner on the patio. Perhaps you like to relax on a lounger and stargaze. Outdoor lighting can be grouped into “scenes” that will create the ideal illumination for each occasion; for example, activating only the ground lights around the swimming pool when you tap a "POOL" button on a keypad, smartphone or tablet, or selecting "Deck" lighting for after dinner conversation and relaxation.

**Accentuate**
Just as indoor lighting can be set up to accentuate certain elements of a home’s design and architecture, outdoor lighting can be used to showcase parts of the yard, such as an elegant archway, a lush flower garden and the shimmering water of a goldfish pond. Outdoor LED lights can accentuate the textures of stonework or ornamental landscaping.
HOW TO CONTROL YOUR LIGHTS WITH SIRI® & CASÉTA® WIRELESS SYSTEM

YOU USE SIRI TO SEARCH FOR DIRECTIONS, to find nearby pizza shops and to send hands-free text messages, but wouldn’t it be nice to also USE SIRI TO CONTROL ALL THE LIGHTS in your home? Lutron’s new Caséta® Wireless, Smart Bridge and app, make it easy to control lights with Siri.

Recently announced, The Lutron Caséta Wireless starter kit, specifically the Smart Bridge was upgraded to be Apple® HomeKit™ compatible and is now available through Apple stores. The Caséta Wireless system is a simple-to-install smart home solution for integrating the control of your lights and motorized window shades into an app for smart
phones and tablets. Along with the HomeKit capability, is the ability to control the system with Apple's Siri voice feature. One of the new Caséta starter kits includes two plug-in lamp dimmers and two Pico® remotes, and a Smart Bridge (also available is a “Pro” version that includes a few more features).

The Smart Bridge communicates wirelessly to Lutron devices via Lutron’s own patented Clear Connect® RF technology. To get started, I simply connected the Smart Bridge via an Ethernet cable to my router or switch, then to an electrical outlet, and then followed the setup steps in the free Lutron app.

Once I downloaded the free Lutron app, the Smart Bridge did an automatic software update. After the update was completed, I only needed to follow a few short steps to complete the Smart Bridge set up process. The next step was to add the two lamp dimmers. Lutron’s lamp dimmers are better than any of the others I’ve seen because, first, they include inputs for two lamps, so you can operate two lamps off one module. Second, they have on/off and dimming controls directly on them, so you don’t necessarily have to go through the app to control the lamps.

Adding each lamp dimmer took about 30 seconds—just plug it in, press a button on the module so it can sync with the Smart Bridge, and then name it in the app. I called mine Tall Lamp and Two Small Lamps (two lamps on one module).

Next I added the Pico remotes. These are, as you can tell from the name, little remotes. The benefit of having the remote, particularly when using lamp modules, is that people are always going to be tempted to turn off the lamp with the lamp’s own switch. But when you do that, you can’t operate the lamp with the Lutron app or Siri. The remote acts as the local switch, and is handier than the original switch because it includes a dimming function.

In addition to the lamp dimmers and remotes, you can add compatible Lutron in-wall dimmers, switches and motorized window shades.

Once all the devices are added, you can create scenes which allow you to control groups of lights and shades together. Scenes can either be triggered manually in the Lutron app or scheduled to run automatically based on time of day or relative to sunrise/sunset. To create a scene, the process is
simple. Choose the type of scene you want (manual or scheduled), name the scene, select the devices to be included in the scene, and then program the settings of the devices (such as on/off, open or light level status).

The main screen on the Lutron app shows all your devices, so you can control them individually, or together by selecting one of the scenes you’ve created.

Setting up Siri is also simple. Once you’ve added all of your Caséta dimmers and switches, you can integrate them with Siri through the Lutron app. To make your Caséta system work with Siri, you go into the “Settings” section of the Lutron app, and select “Siri Integration.” There the app will allow you to group your lights into rooms (such as living room or bedroom) and also group your rooms into zones (such as upstairs or downstairs).

I created a room called “living room” and was immediately able to control all three lamps at once with the commands “Turn Living Room Lights Off” and “Turn Living Room Lights On.”

The entire setup process of adding all devices, creating scenes and setting up Siri took about 20 minutes.

Oh, and how well does the system let you control lights with Siri? Perfectly — I hold the home button to engage Siri, give my command, and within 2 seconds the lights go on or off and anywhere in between. The convenience is great! For example, when I’ve gone to bed and I know the kids forgot to turn the lights off, or when I’m comfortable in my sofa and want to dim the lights to watch a movie—I just tell Siri. It’s easier than unlocking the phone, finding and launching the app and then pressing the command to control the lights.

Want to see how Caséta Wireless works? Check out this video.

Contact your local dealer, electrician or A/V distributor for professional installation. For DIY installations, purchase Caséta Wireless online, at select retailers, through your local lighting showrooms, and the Apple Store.
Thank you for downloading Lighting Control: The Smartest Home Upgrade You Can Make. For more on smart lighting, shading and other ideas for your Electronic House check out these resources:

Lutron: All About Pleasance

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