



Automation solutions

Inspiration for the home

Practical ideas and inspiration for your home automation



With WebBrick® systems there are so many ways in which technology can make your home a better place to live. Here are examples of the most popular – and unusual – ways of making home automation work for you.

Making time to live your life

Whether the pace of your life is determined by children, career or both, there are undoubtedly times when you could do with a little extra help.

Home automation can look after all the little details while you are rushing to get out of the house in the morning. It can help your home adapt better to the uncertainties of your demanding work life. And it can keep things running efficiently when your travel plans are keeping you guessing.

Keeping everyone entertained

Gone are the days of DVDs missing from their cases, radios with poor reception, and limited entertainment in most rooms of the house.

Home automation technology can provide everyone their choice of music and video in any part of the home, including outbuildings. There are options for every budget ranging from simple stereos for a bedroom to systems for enthusiasts that deliver pure, unadulterated sound.

Reducing your environmental footprint

As the price of domestic fuel is increasing to better reflect its true environmental cost, householders need to find more efficient ways of heating their homes.

WebBrick Systems home automation solutions can deliver dramatic savings by delivering heating exactly where and when you need it; by adapting to changes in your routine; and by providing smarter ventilation that keeps air fresh with minimal heat loss.

Creating a better home

When you build, decorate and furnish your dream home, it is so often the small details that add up to the greatest impact.

Every day, in a whole host of different ways, home automation makes your home a more enjoyable place to relax and a more productive place to work.

As open systems make home automation more affordable and standards-compliant infrastructure makes it future-proof, ever more home owners and builders are choosing to invest in home automation from WebBrick Systems.

A typical WebBrick Systems home automation solution

Open, flexible home automation systems from WebBrick Systems offer so many ways for homeowners to make their lives more comfortable, ecological and secure. Here are just a few of the more common applications in use today.

For more inspiration, ideas and practical advice, talk to one of our accredited installers.

Keeping you warm without wasting energy

A warm and welcoming home needn't result in uncomfortably high fuel bills.

Through an intuitive interface that runs in a web browser, on a touch-screen or even your TV, you can tell your WebBrick system exactly which rooms you want warm at which times.

To make even more savings, tap the keypad by the door as you leave, to tell the house how long to go into energy-saver mode before bringing temperatures back up for your return.

Out of sight; not out of mind

It's a cold, rainy night and you've just got ready for bed when you remember that you left the lights on and the door unlocked in the garage.

If only you could avoid getting wet and chilled by switching the lights off and locking up with just a push of a button...

How does your garden grow?

WebBrick systems extends the benefits of automation and monitoring into your garden to keep it at its best.

To save water and save you time, the system can use sensors in the soil to determine when plants need watering.

If you have valuable livestock or fish, the system can alert you to dangerous drops in temperature and even monitor the area to help deter predators.

Remote access – setting your mind at rest

WebBrick systems can even help you enjoy your time away from home. If you are concerned that you might have left a door unlocked or lights switched on, it takes just a few moments to check on your home using your smart phone or even a PC in an internet café.

Also exceptionally strong security technology is implemented – so you can rest assured that the WebBrick system is the least vulnerable part of your home.

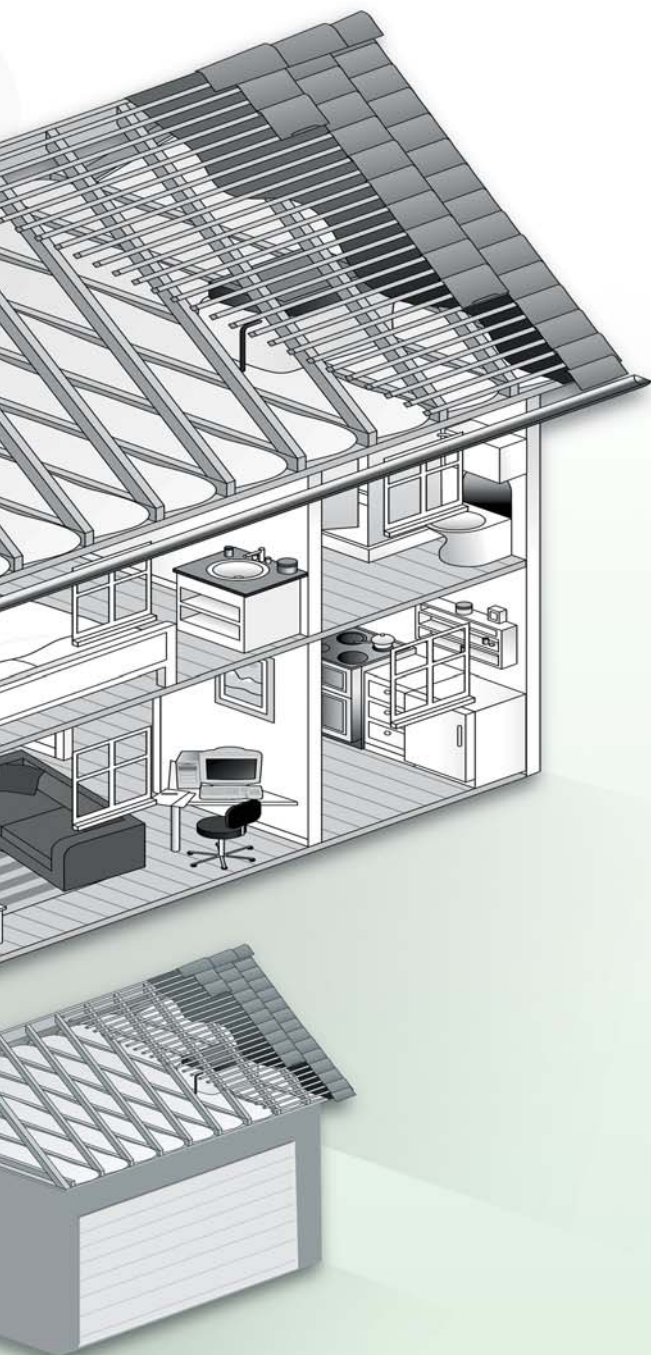


Making the house look lived-in

Whether you are gone for a few hours or a couple of weeks, there are tremendous security advantages in making the house look occupied.

A home automation system from WebBrick Systems knows when night falls and can close curtains and switch on lights to confuse and deter would-be burglars.

The system is smart enough to know whether you are in or not, and will not disturb you by switching lights on or off when you are already at home.



Lighting the way to the bathroom at night

When you press a simple button by the bed, your WebBrick system will recognise that the house is asleep and provide just enough light for you to see your way to the bathroom. Press the same button again to return everything to how it was.

Fresh air without wasting energy

You need to keep air moving, to prevent build-up of harmful gases and humidity in the house. With a WebBrick system controlling ventilation in your home, you can make sure that each room has enough fresh air, whilst minimising heat loss.

In bathrooms, humidity sensors and even detectors linked to the toilet flush can help the system decide when and for how long to operate the fan.

Lighting your way to a versatile kitchen

What do you want to happen in the kitchen when you flick the light switch?

Many people want a simple push to provide normal light levels. But with repeated clicks their kitchen lighting moves to predefined 'scenes', such as full illumination for food preparation or subdued, ambient lighting for eating.

Whistle while you work?

Just because you are working in the kitchen – or in the bathroom, study or garage for that matter – does not mean that you have to make do with limited or second-rate entertainment.

The same standards-compliant network that underpins WebBrick Systems home automation can also stream high quality audio and video from a regular media server to any room in the house.

Whether you choose a cheap network-ready player or the finest audio equipment receiving unmodified media streams, WebBrick systems can provide you with different TV, music, radio, podcasts or audiobooks in every room.

Who goes there?

You may be concerned about your family's security. Or you may just want to be ready for your guests before they ring the door bell.

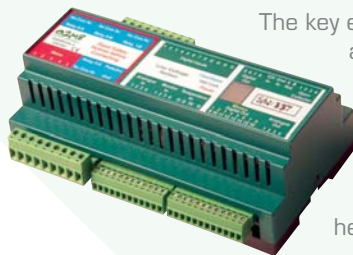
With security cameras connected to your WebBrick system you can see who is approaching on any of the wall-mounted touch-screens, TVs or even a Playstation.

Outside lights can also be controlled intelligently, to put unwelcome visitors in the spotlight and so that you and your guests don't stumble in the dark.

Home automation components

With WebBrick systems your home automation system is built upon robust, future-proof and open technologies. Here are some of the key elements and noteworthy add-ons.

Reliable, open controllers



The key elements in your home automation system are WebBricks®. These robust, reliable devices continuously monitor sensors and switches in your home and act in predefined ways to control your heating, lighting, security and more.

You can configure them in almost any way, to respond differently at different times and in different parts of the house.

Their open interfaces allow them to monitor almost any type of sensor. They can also act on inputs from practically any switch, dial or touch-screen.

You can use a WebBrick to control mains or low voltage devices. They can be used for basic on/off switching, pulsing and dimming.

WebBricks keep operating no matter what is happening around them. Even if sensors fail, cables are damaged or parts of your home automation system lose power, the WebBricks can continue uninterrupted.

Standard, low-cost cabling

WebBrick Systems home automation solutions use standards-compliant cabling and connectors throughout.

The CAT5 standard is used in millions of homes and workplaces and is understood by tens of thousands of professionals. The cable, connectors and associated tools are widely available at commodity prices.

Over twenty years or more, the standard has evolved to allow more signals and richer media to be carried over the same cables.

So you can be confident that with WebBrick systems, you are installing flexible, future-proof cabling that will serve you well for the foreseeable future.



Central co-ordination and access management

The WebBrick Gateway Appliance provides access and control for all the different parts of your home automation solution.



It oversees the various WebBricks which run your home so that, for example, with a single push of a button you can put the entire house into sleep mode.

Through the WebBrick Gateway Appliance you can configure almost any aspect of your home automation yourself. This is in stark contrast to competing products which lock homeowners out of the programming and tie them to the original installer for all but the most trivial changes.

Endless options for interacting with your home

However you want to control your home, WebBrick systems can connect to your choice of standards-compliant device to make it happen.

The options are practically endless:

- The Nokia N800 is a wireless, handheld browser which gives quick and convenient control of just about every aspect of your home automation system.
- The latest Playstation and Xbox consoles also have standards-compliant browsers and network connections, giving you another way to control and manage your home.
- The fun, friendly Nabaztag interprets your verbal instructions, speaks to you when you need information or updates and can even play music from a media server.
- Standard light switches are low cost and easy to use. Yet even they can provide a surprisingly wide range of control functions.



Nabaztag

To explore the reality of affordable, future-proof home automation call us on:
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