

Flagstone - Smart homes



As technology continues to advance, so does the concept of home automation. Smart Homes have become the new standard for luxury in real estate, offering a seamless way to control and monitor devices in your home. Whether it's a multimillion-dollar property or a modest apartment, transforming your home into a Smart Home has become an accessible and affordable option. In this publication, we'll explore the world of Smart Homes, the range of devices available, and how they can add value to your property. Join us as we delve into the innovative world of Smart Homes and discover how they can make your life easier and more convenient.

Smart Home devices –

The world of Smart Home devices is vast and ever-expanding, with something to suit almost any household need. From smart power and light switches to air purifiers and robot vacuums, the range of devices available is immense. With the right tools and devices, transforming your home into a Smart Home doesn't have to break the bank. The premium paid on Smart Home devices is to run a cheaper, more efficient home and to improve quality of life. You can control devices like lights and air conditioners from another room or even before you get home to set the desired environment. The accompanying apps allow you to monitor each device or the whole house while you're away, giving you peace of mind that you haven't left anything running.

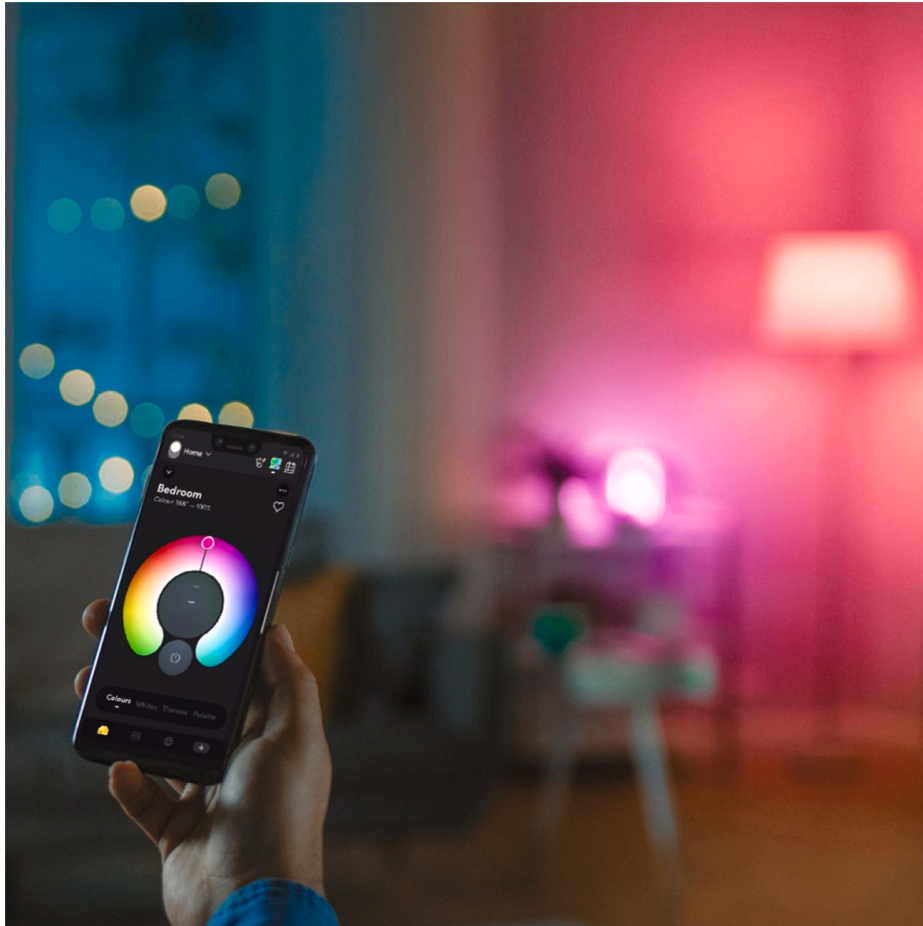
The three most common Smart Home devices in the range are smart lights, camera doorbells and smart hub displays.

Smart Lights



LIFX Colour A60 1000lm B22 Smart Bulb

Smart lights are a convenient and efficient way to control the lighting in your home, no matter where you are. One of the best examples of this technology is the LIFX Smart Light Bulbs, which can be controlled with popular smart hubs and scheduled for automated lighting. These light globes are also highly efficient, using just 9 watts of energy to produce the same amount of light as a 70-watt globe. Some LIFX models even offer a choice of over 1 billion colours, with adjustable dimming capabilities.



LIFX app, light globe colour screen

The cost of LIFX smart light bulbs can range from \$30 to \$100, depending on the features and functionality you require, as well as the retailer you choose. If you prefer to use standard light bulbs, you may opt for smart light switches instead, but these require professional installation and lack the adjustable settings for light that smart light globes provide.

Camera Doorbells



Eufy Dual Camera Doorbell

Security is a top priority for homeowners, and a doorbell camera can be a valuable addition to their security measures. According to Safewise, the Eufy Dual Camera Doorbell is the best overall doorbell camera for 2023. This device offers two cameras for enhanced security at the front door: one that faces forward for visitors, and one that faces the doorstep for deliveries. The Eufy has 16GB of local storage, allowing up to 180 days of footage to be stored without the need to broadcast it over the web. It can be installed temporarily using the built-in battery, or permanently through a wired power connection.



Eufy Dual Camera Doorbell app view

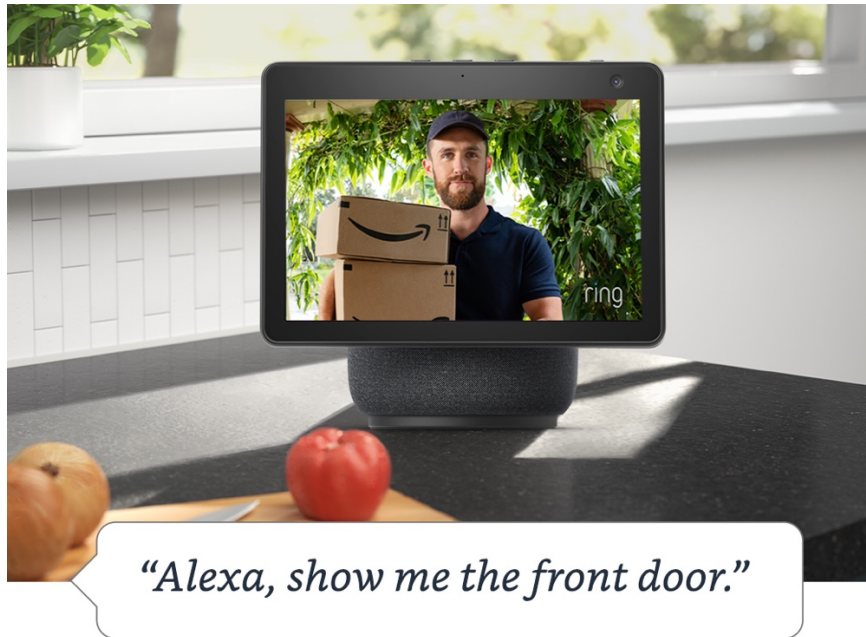
The Eufy's price will depend on the retailer, but it can be found online for as low as \$328 on Amazon. It can be connected to a smart hub or your mobile device from anywhere, as long as the Eufy is connected to Wi-Fi. Thanks to the cameras' 2K resolution, the Eufy is likely to remain competitive for years to come, as long as it doesn't sustain any damage that requires replacement.

Smart Hub Displays



Amazon Alexa Echo Show 10

The final item on our list is the Smart Home Hub. This innovative device is designed to connect all of your smart home devices in one easy-to-operate space. One of the best Smart Home Hubs showcased this year is the Amazon Alexa Echo Show 10. With the Echo Show 10, Amazon offers you the ability to create an ecosystem that controls all the smart devices in your home from one convenient touchscreen.



Voice activated operation

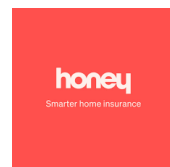
The Echo Show 10 is compatible with thousands of devices, including smart speakers, lights, and doorbell cameras. You can create routines based on a time schedule or add sensors to your home to create an autonomous environment that turns devices on or off as you enter or leave the room. At a price of approximately \$400, the Echo Show 10 is an excellent way to automate and connect all the smart devices in your home.

However, it's important to note that new Smart Home Hubs are released every year. As a result, updates and support for older devices are gradually reduced over time. While more expensive systems offer customer support and evolving technology that remains current for years, they require specialist installation and are priced in the thousands.

Does it add value to your home?

Smart homes are becoming more popular due to the integration of technology in our daily lives, with features that can increase the security of our homes. Smart security systems are increasing in popularity in Australia, leading insurance companies to assess their value. AGL and Honey Insurance are taking advantage of this trend by offering packages with smart

sensors, which monitor various aspects of the home, such as temperature, humidity, and water flow, and alert homeowners to potential issues or hazards. For example, a smart sensor could detect a plumbing leak, allowing homeowners to address the issue quickly and avoid costly damage.



Honey Insurance Smart Sensors

In conclusion, Smart Homes have revolutionized the way we control and monitor devices in our homes. With a vast range of devices available, homeowners can transform their living spaces into a Smart Home without breaking the bank. Smart lights, camera doorbells, and smart hub displays are just a few examples of the innovative devices that are available to help make our lives more convenient and efficient. While the cost of implementing these devices may seem like an investment, the benefits can outweigh the expense, including lower electricity bills, increased automation, and potential discounts on insurance premiums. As technology continues to advance, Smart Homes will continue to evolve and provide new and exciting ways to improve our quality of life.