

6 NEW Homes | EXPERT ADVICE



Linked Integration provides smart home solutions to Trendsetter Homes. Image: Linked Integration.

Clever inclusions to streamline lifestyle

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Smart home technology continues to evolve to meet the demands of our rapidly advancing lifestyles, improving ease, access and simplicity of our daily lives.

"Smart home technologies are based around the integration of access control, security, entertainment and lighting," Trendsetter Homes Managing Director Michael Agostino said.

"These vary between wired and wireless systems which, ultimately, will be dictated by the user's requirements."

According to Mr Agostino, the increasing capabilities of smart home technology have made it a desirable feature for homeowners.

"Automation can be as simple as having access to essential services within your home via your phone or tablet to having schedules set where multiple actions are performed from the trigger of a sensor or an event," he said.

"As one basic example, a user can program their home to turn on certain lights, air-conditioning and music, and turn off security – all triggered by the garage door being opened.

"This allows the user to enter without having to move around executing these actions.

"Another example is how lighting – both internal and external – can be automated via a phone or a tablet."

When deciding which technologies and inclusions are necessary, Mr Agostino said homeowners

should first understand how smart home features could enhance their specific lifestyle.

"If you work from home or travel a lot, you will generally have different requirements," he said. "Once this is understood, there is then cost consideration – it's essential to be able to understand an elemental breakdown of each component and what that specific component will cost.

"If we are referring to controlled lighting, this will have costs for the associated works. However, if you travel a lot and are barely home, this may not be as essential as access control and security.

"I always encourage our clients to understand every component and cost for a complete smart home, then scale back if required."

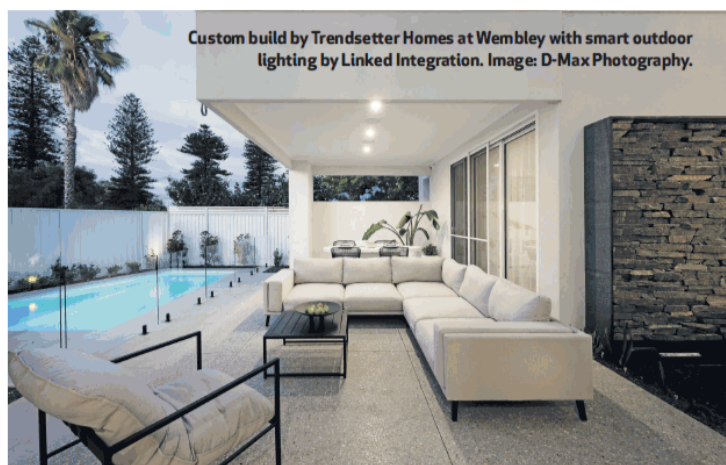
Mr Agostino advised homebuilders to prioritise the integration of smart technology in their discussions, as it could be difficult to install the systems in a completed build.

"Unless smart home technology is discussed and understood in detail, it becomes a missed opportunity because a wired system is not easy to install post-construction," he said.

"Wireless systems can be installed post-construction but, again, depending on the scope of inclusions for smart home technology, this may not be suitable or the best option."

CONTACT

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Custom build by Trendsetter Homes at Wembley with smart outdoor lighting by Linked Integration. Image: D-Max Photography.

Automation can be as simple as having access to essential services within your home via your phone or tablet.



Control panel for a smart home technology system. Image: Linked Integration.