

SMART HOMES

Nowadays, electronic and information technology influences many aspects of the home environment. Home automation is the use of computerized systems to control some of a homes' functions and features automatically. Automated homes are commonly called smart homes or intelligent environments.

Home automation systems may include energy management, home cinema, HVAC controls, lighting, pool and spa systems, telephone and security systems. Thanks to home automation some home functions can also be controlled remotely from anywhere using a computer connected to the Internet or a telephone.

A well-designed home automation system includes a control system hardware, programming and interfaces – such as multi-function switch plates or touch

screens – , cabling infrastructure, high-speed Internet connection and emergency backup power source for the control system.

In order to achieve good results, a home automation system should be designed and installed by an experienced home automation professional. Home automation designers identify the client's requirements, analyse the building plans and design detailed smart home solutions.

It takes a team of skilled designers and contractors to build a high quality smart home. During the cabling and infrastructure installation, the home automation designer supports the electrician, the architect, the plumber and the interior designer.

The electrician, in particular, should be expert in all areas of electrical requirements for home automation.

READING COMPREHENSION

● Answer the following questions.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ① What is home automation? | ④ How can home automation systems be controlled? |
| ② What are smart homes? | ⑤ Who should design and install a home automation system? |
| ③ What are the most common home automation systems? | |

ACTIVITIES



MATCHING

● Match a word in the first column with a word in the second one, then provide the Italian equivalents.

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------|-------|
| ① Computerized | Ⓐ Plates | |
| ② Energy | Ⓑ Quality | |
| ③ Switch | Ⓒ Connection | |
| ④ Internet | Ⓓ Source | |
| ⑤ Power | Ⓔ Plans | |
| ⑥ Building | Ⓕ Management | |
| ⑦ Skilled | Ⓖ Systems | |
| ⑧ High | Ⓗ Designers | |

TRANSLATION

● Translate the following sentences into Italian.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ① Nowadays, electronic and information technology influences many aspects of the home environment. | ③ In order to achieve good results, a home automation system should be designed and installed by an experienced home automation professional. |
| ② Thanks to home automation some home functions can also be controlled remotely from anywhere using a computer connected to the Internet or a telephone. | ④ It takes a team of skilled designers and contractors to build a high quality smart home. |
| | ⑤ The electrician, in particular, should be expert in all areas of electrical requirements for home automation. |