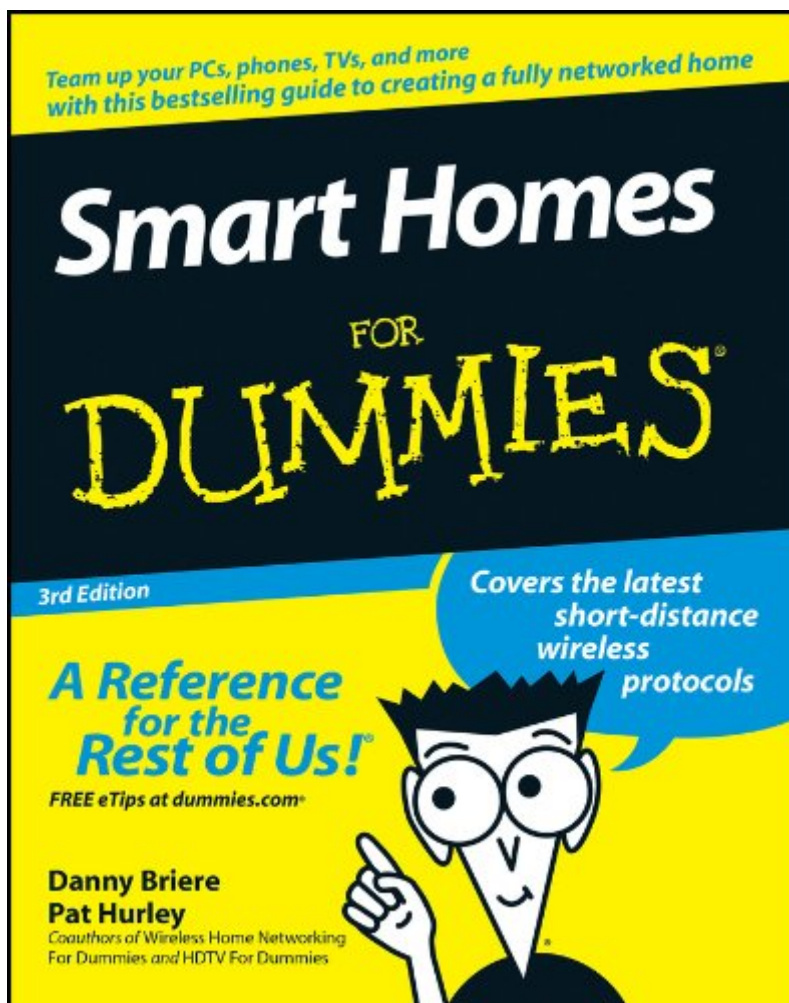


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# Smart Homes For Dummies™, 3rd Edition



## Synopsis

Do you long to listen to your favorite CD from anywhere in your house? To set up a wireless network so you can access the Internet in any room? To install an iron-clad security system? To fire up the coffee pot while you're still asleep and wake up with automated lighting? Smart home technology can help you do just that! *Smart Homes For Dummies, Third Edition*, shows you how easy it can be to create and live in a cutting-edge, fully connected home—without breaking your bank account. With this user-friendly guide, you'll discover all the latest trends and gadgets in home networking, automation, and control that will help you make life more enjoyable and comfortable for your entire family. We help you plan for things such as flat-screen TVs, intercom systems, whole-home audio systems, gaming consoles, and satellite systems. We talk about your wiring (and wireless) options and introduce you to the latest technologies, such as VoIP and Bluetooth. You'll see how to:

- Build your home network on a budget
- Turn your home into an entertainment center
- Access the Internet from any room
- Get VoIP on your phone network
- Boost in-home wireless and cell phone signals
- Connect your computer to your TV
- Secure your home and property
- Increase your home's resale value
- Avoid common networking pitfalls

And much, much more. Complete with a resource list for more information and neat toys of the future, *Smart Homes For Dummies* is your plain-English, twenty-first century guide to a fully wired home!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Some readers commented that there is not actually enough information on "how to actually do something" or "home automation". That's true. There could be more of this stuff, but if there were, the book would probably not be for "dummies", any more. Not meaning that stuff is too technical, but it would require a lot more pages, and the Dummies series probably doesn't allow this. There are whole courses on those subjects from CEDIA. Anyhow, I find that the book is a treasure for information on what is available today to ensure you are up to date with the latest technology (at the time of writing). It enabled me to update my home system in ways I did not think possible. I thought I was doing well, until I read the book. One really good thing I like about the book, too, is that it mentions companies and products that are available for the area of discussion. Something as seemingly simple as introducing me to baluns, is a point worth noting. I always thought I'd have to get really long line level cables for long runs. Also, I thought a "zone" was simply somewhere where I've run speaker wire from my receiver, where it would have to play the one source that was playing. I didn't know there were specially built multi-zone/multi-source amps out there and that Russound and Niles Audio were even companies. These are simple examples of how you can learn new stuff by reading the book. Of course, there are so many others. I have done so many upgrades since reading this book. e.g. my Roku Soundbridge (never knew it existed until reading the book), my D-Link DMA (which is now my most used piece of equipment, outside of the tv and receiver), my Russound whole home audio upgrade. That's just to name three. Bottom line, if you want to increase your home electronics/automation knowledge, you cannot go wrong with this book. You will not become a CEDIA ESC after reading, but you'll be on your way!

My husband and I are in the midst of a major remodel/expansion of our 1968 tract home so we have read pretty much every remodeling book we could find. This book offers a lot of information and food for thought on how to bring an outdated home into the technology age. Our budget is not unlimited and this book helped us decide which features were essential to add now and what could be added later (and how to add the foundation work while the walls were stripped to the studs for those future improvements to save us money in the long run). This book does not give reviews on

specific products, that is not its purpose. Technology is changing so fast, that any product reviews would have been obsolete by the time the book hit the shelves. I recommend you use this book to plan out the framework for your smart house and use magazines like THE PERFECT VISION, HOME THEATER, etc. to fill in the blanks. My husband subscribed to both magazines through (very inexpensively) for 2 years and did a lot of research on the Internet before making his preliminary choices. Since we aren't at the "fun stage" of our remodel yet, where we get to go buy all the equipment, those choices might still change because prices are dropping and items that were out of our price range 2 years ago are now more affordable. The bottom line is this book is the BEST for helping you plan your smart house because it is easy to understand by even those of us who are not tech savvy (like me) and it shows you options that you may have never even thought of before. And believe me, in a remodel the time for thought, planning and innovation is before you put the drywall back up!

great so far have not finished reading

Should have looked closer to the Copyright Year with this book. Didn't think to look at this detail until reading along, the author writes about TV being broadcast in analog. We have been digital for years! Also no mention of BlueRay Disks, instead writes about VCR tapes. Just shows how quickly the technology changes.

Good for basic instruction, but was hoping for some more specifics. The information is a bit out of date. However, I am sure that they will release a new one soon. Hard to keep up with the technology these days.

I'd like to give this book more stars but frankly it is out of date in several areas and if you don't know what areas then you could be in trouble. It needs an update. Many of the websites it refers to don't exist -- companies have been bought or gone out of business -- technologies it says are coming have come... and gone. If there is a better book, I have yet to find it, which is sad since there are technologies that should be incorporated into homes -- few builders seem to understand how to build a smart home -- if the owner doesn't drive the process it won't happen or it won't happen right.

Referred to this book while building my new home. I incorporated a lot of information from this book into my own Smarthouse

This book is sadly out of date...written when digital T.V.transmission was just a concept . Purchased kindle edition which is way over priced for value received.

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