



Simple Steps to a High-Tech Home



Why shouldn't we have the same degree of technology around the house as we have in the car or on an iPad? Well now, with **COMFORT**, you can. Easy control of home facilities comes at the touch of a finger, with an intelligent home automation system. ▶

by Phyllis Oberman

The key to achieving this is for the basic wiring to be installed in the house, either when it is built or in an existing house as a retrofit. A basic home security system from COMFORT can be installed for around £2,500 for a typical 3-bedroom house (according to Comfort installer, Household Automation). Because the system is customised for each home - you can pick and choose the key features you want and then add others in the future.

A basic home technology package can combine an integrated intruder alarm with full home automation controlling lighting, heating and appliances, curtains, blinds, audio and video,

all working together in an intelligent way. The system can be controlled from a hand-held keypad at home or from a mobile or smartphone, a wall touchscreen, or remotely by computer, to check on security or any other feature and look around the house via CCTV. Timed set programmes can also operate the system automatically.

There is even an interactive voice menu that can remind you on the status of the lights and appliances and play back reminder messages. The voice menu can speak in nine languages.

All the smart home features of the Comfort system can now also be controlled and monitored



by an App for iPhone, iPod Touch and iPad and can be downloaded free from iTunes by searching for "Cytech". Turn up the heating or check security cameras remotely from the iPhone - or send the system a text.

The level of security that can be achieved with today's technology is so much more than just having a burglar alarm. If a visitor rings the doorbell when no-one is home and the security is set to Away Mode, the call goes to a mobile so you can speak to the visitor and open the gate or front door if you want to.

You can save energy with Comfort's daylight-

saving controls, occupancy sensors and more accurate control of the heating system. In NIGHT mode motion sensors can switch lights off automatically when movement is not detected for a period of time.

If the weather changes suddenly, adjust the heating system remotely by phone or computer and move the settings up, down or off.

Cytech's short video demonstrates the system - look for "Cytech Comfort" on YouTube, or see it at www.cytech.biz. A UK-wide network of Comfort installers can be found on www.cytech.biz under the heading: Where To Buy. ■

