



The first question you need to ask yourself when planning a smart home is which functions you need and which smart home system you want to rely on.

For automatic control of heating, shutters and lights, it is necessary that the devices are connected to each other via a central control unit. Technically, the data exchange can be realized in different ways: Wirelessly or through intelligent cabling in the building.

TECHNICAL REPORT

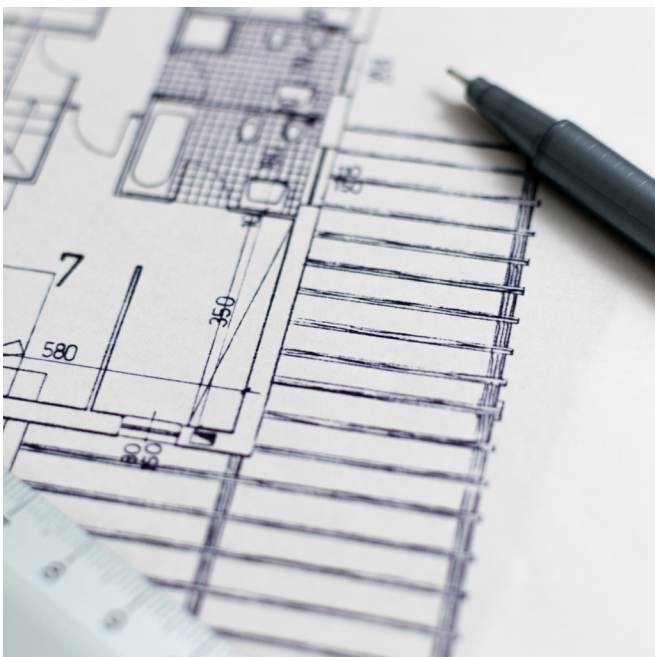
KNX OR WIRELESS SYSTEM FOR THE SMART HOME?

This article shows the advantages and disadvantages of the wired KNX standard compared to wireless solutions such as Zigbee or EnOcean.

New or existing building - Where should the smart home system be installed?

The most decisive question is in which property you want to install the Smart Home System.

The prerequisite for an intelligent KNX network is the installation of the green bus cable in the building. This is usually laid together with the power supply. Since the walls have to be opened to lay the cables in existing buildings, this variant is only

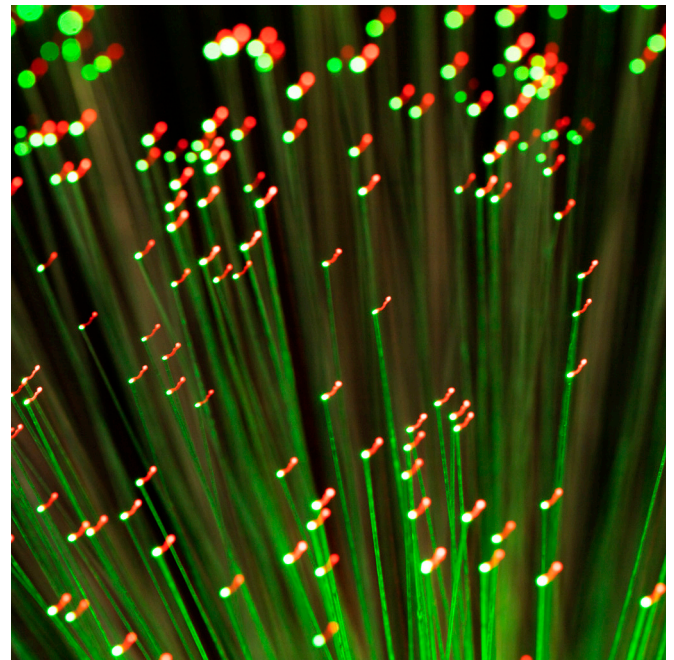


suitable for new buildings or when extensive renovations are planned.

The exception: an empty pipe system has been installed in advance, through which the cables can be pulled afterwards.

Wireless systems, on the other hand, can also be easily installed in existing buildings or rental properties. Wireless components can usually be attached without any drilling: smart heating thermostats, for example, can be attached directly to the heaters, and smart light bulbs are mounted directly in the lamps.

As easily as they are installed, they can also be re-



moved again and simply taken along, for example, when moving house.

Pros and cons of wireless solutions

Wireless standards for home automation must transmit data quickly, securely and with low energy consumption. WLAN requires a comparatively large amount of energy, so other wireless protocols such as ZigBee, Z-Wave or EnOcean have been developed as alternatives.

Manufacturers like Phillips Hue (smart lighting), Somfy (shutter control), Tado (heating thermostats) or Gosund (smart sockets) use these openly accessible radio protocols for their smart devices. They are usually controlled via the smartphone and the

manufacturer's own app.

In addition to such open wireless protocols, there are also those developed by individual companies, such as Homematic IP...



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