



A music library with intelligent control...

Summary: Centralised digital music library with multi-source audio, TV & data network, CCTV access and lighting control

Location: Kent

Budget: £20,000 to £25,000

Mr. L contacted thinkingbricks about a new build house. It was in an exclusive location and he wanted to ensure he was considering the right systems for his potential buyer.

Mr L. had primary designs in place, but wanted to formalise and start the cabling for technology in line with the mains power cabling been run in by the electricians on site.

We reviewed the initial designs Mr. L had prepared in consultation with a reputable distributor. Next, we performed a site visit, to understand more about what Mr L. wanted to achieve.

The fee proposal based on the design was agreed in line with the smart home budget for the property. We decided on a single source music system, cabling for a home cinema in the lounge, as well as lighting control for 3 main rooms.

As we proceeded, the property was sold. We met with the new client, at the beginnings of the second fix stage on site, and it was evident that some changes to our design were necessary to the audio system .

The buyer wanted a central music server (hard drive), which could be accessed and controlled from keypads around the house. A work colleague had a system, called OPUS 500 which he was interested in.

Using our knowledge of the OPUS system, we produced an additional design for the necessary cabling, working with the colleague who was acting as a consultant for the buyer.

The design was approved, and the revised cabling run on site.

We completed the TV infrastructure (including providing a link for the alarm company CCTV system and Sky control available in every room), broadband and telephone systems and lighting control for the rooms required to second fix stage.

We moved into the audio system second fix phase, approximately 3 months later, as the buyer was moving into the property.



thinkingbricks limited

home cinema • multi-room audio & video • lighting control • networking & system integration



There were a total of 10 rooms of audio access required. To ensure we kept the system cost down, we specified 8 main zones and 2 sub zones (purely volume could be controlled in these zones, of whatever source was playing in the main zone).

We installed amplifiers and speakers in the ceilings in all the rooms. Downstairs, we placed the equipment for control, feedback to keypads and the audio server with the amplifiers in the hub room. We had specified powerful local amplification as the building was open plan, to fill the triple height space.

A key phase of the installation was the programming of the systems.

We provided a number of intelligent remote controls for the client, into which we "taught" all of his equipment's infrared commands. He could now use any of these remote controls in any room, for example to skip forward a chapter on a DVD, or pause audio. The on-screen display was also configured to copy the buttons from the original remote control.

Keypads allow the owner to select any music from his music library by artist, album, genre. With access for four audio streams from the server, the client can have 4 different albums playing in four different rooms, at the same time from the same box!

The in-built radio tuner will display the radio station at the keypad, and can be used as an alarm clock in selected rooms.

The equipment in the hub room was installed in a custom made cabinet, neatly sited under the TV, data, telephone and lighting control flush mounted enclosures to complete the installation.

Final cost of installation:

£ 15000 for 10 zones of multi-room audio, TV/satellite distribution integrated into CCTV, data / telephone network and 3 zones of lighting control

Including VAT and labour



thinkingbricks limited

home cinema • multi-room audio & video • lighting control • networking & system integration



The transformation from spaghetti junction to organised hub – 1 day!



Simple keypads for the intelligent lighting controls, stored away in the hub...





thinkingbricks limited

home cinema • multi-room audio & video • lighting control • networking & system integration



Installing the audio keypads...



with in-ceiling speakers and local amplifiers...

