



thinkingbricks limited

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



Project L – Family of the future...

Summary: Integrated AV distribution systems, lighting control, telephone / data, TV and satellite network, simple control
Location: North London
Budget: £35,000

Mr. and Mrs. L were clients building an extensive family home and thinkingbricks were recommended as the AV / technology specialist by the M&E firm consulting on the project. Both clients wanted a smart home that they could use easily, but that would be upgradeable in the future.

A key part of the brief was the specification of the data and entertainment networking as the husband was a senior executive in a telecommunication firm, and the high specification family cinema room.

After taking the brief from the client, the system design came together with close liaison with the building contractors, electricians and the clients themselves, to make sure that every element they wanted to account for was considered.

On sign off of the system design, the electricians were briefed on the system design and works commenced to get the cabling in place.

As there were a number of build constraints, the controls for the lighting system were placed in the garage area, the main AV hub cables were run to the second floor and the data and TV system cabling finished in the loft area. Systems integration across 3 floors!

As second fix commenced, it became clear that the lighting would be a priority, as the install was taking place over the winter months and the site needed lighting to continue working to a hectic schedule.

The preparation of the lighting control hub was started off site, and then taken to be installed and connected and making the best use of time, on site.

With the lighting in place and commissioned to a basic level, the AV systems and networking could commence second fix. Working on the two floors, and around the house to install the hubs, speakers and terminate the cabling for the systems in the rooms, the team had the infrastructure ready for commissioning on schedule and basic systems available for the Christmas of that year.



thinkingbricks limited

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



After the break, the full commissioning and connection of the systems could commence alongside the family cinema room. The main AV sources (DVD, music server, SKY TV and the first BT Vision internet TV set top box) were situated in the family cinema area.

The AV sources feed the 65 inch plasma and 5.1ch surround sound system, as well as across the rest of the house through the Systemline AV system.

Control was achieved through a series of Pronto remote controls and the IR system built into the Systemline speakers in the rooms. Bespoke programming allowed the clients to select the room they were in and control sources specifically within that room.

The pool and gym area have their own access to the entertainment system, as well as waterproof speakers for poolside listening.

The lighting control system controls all the lighting across the house, and the lights can be turned on from the driveway using the system remote – specified by the client for that “welcome home” effect!

Further upgrades currently planned are the use of the lighting control system to turn lights on and off when unoccupied for security, and to control lighting at different times of the day and year to maximise the efficiency of the lighting...and limit the carbon footprint of the family.

A door entry phone was installed, and this uses the telephone system to answer the door from anywhere in the house.

Wired and wireless connectivity is secured and available reliably across the whole house via wireless access points. Easy access for homework and reliable for working from home.

With a teenage family, the cinema provides a great place to all get together and enjoy a movie. The High Definition screen and speaker systems are recessed perfectly into the wall, and the main AV rack is disguised under the screen, easily controlled by the universal remote control – even with the doors closed.

With cabling in place for future upgrades, both for the entertainment and broadband / telephone networks, this really is a home for the family of the future.

Final cost of installation: £33000 including labour and VAT.