



## Simplicity and Big Screen

**Summary:** Multi-room audio / TV & satellite / phone and broadband  
**Location:** County Durham  
**Budget:** £10,000 to £15,000

Mr. T contacted thinkingbricks about a new build house and the full home network system he was considering installing.

Mr T had an electrician ready to run first fix CAT5 cabling, CT100 for the TV distribution and speaker cabling. We completed an initial site visit, to assess the site and progress to date, to start the design process.

Whilst on-site, Mr T expressed an interest in a home cinema system in the lounge area, and asked us to investigate this on his behalf.

A fee proposal and recommendations for audio systems in line with his budget were prepared. A Russound A-BUS system was agreed as his preferred audio system, with the CAT5 infrastructure and TV distribution system providing for his other needs. We explained the home cinema system, and made initial proposals for the equipment.

On full agreement to proceed, we designed the infrastructure and forwarded these plans to the electrician.

We consulted with the electrician on-site to ensure that he was happy with the design, labelling conventions and the necessary guidelines for running Cat5, regards mains power co-location and general handling. All back boxes were checked for the dimensions of the Russound A-Bus system.

We ensured, via the design and our discussions with the electrician, that the appropriate cables for the provision of a 5.1 channel home cinema system in the lounge were laid at the same time (including a 5 core video cable for the proposed plasma TV the client was interested in).

We moved into the second fix phase, approximately 2 months later.

After assuring ourselves that the cabling was labelled correctly, we began the termination of the CAT5 cables in each room. This was followed by the installation of the Russound key pads and speakers for the A-Bus system.

We ensured that the in-ceiling speakers were installed with the customer's agreement, to ensure that they looked right with the lighting / room layout.



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In the hub room, the organisation and termination of the CAT5 and coaxial cables was undertaken into separate CRIS cabinets. The cabinets were designed to be separate for audio, TV, telephone and broadband to ensure the system was user-friendly and intuitive.

Once the cabling in the hub was fully in place, we finished with the termination of the TV/FM faceplates in each room. Whilst on site, the alarm company installed the CCTV cameras. We ensured our client could view these cameras on any TV screen, by simply selecting channel 9.

We tested all the CAT5 points and TV/FM outlets and the system was fully operational at first test. Next, we powered up the A-Bus system, and all the keypads and speakers were fully operational!

The home cinema:

The client expressed concerns over the safety of having a 50 inch plasma mounted on the wall, with young children in the house. We decided to look at other options, for the best performance, and to cover the safety concern.

We narrowed the customer's options to a 50 inch DLP rear projection TV, and advised on the options for speakers, AV receivers and the DVD player.

Our client purchased the TV himself, with our advice and we specified and installed a 5.1 channel home cinema, with in-ceiling speakers for the front, in walls for the rear, a free standing centre speaker and aesthetically pleasing KEF subwoofer.

The whole system was fully HD ready, with the Samsung DVD player able to increase the picture quality of the family DVD collection to High Definition, which was routed straight into the HD Ready TV.

"Finding Nemo" and "Toy Story 2" had never looked or sounded so good!. The children and Mrs T. agreed and we left them to enjoy their new networked home.

**Final cost of installation:**

**£ 9500 for multi-room audio, TV/satellite and data / telephone network**

**£ 3500 for home cinema excluding TV (client sourced)**

**Including VAT and labour**



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Day One – first fix cabling in place



Second fix - speakers in, CAT5 terminated, keypads connected



The Hub Room - TV and broadband on one side, audio and telephone on the other – neatly finished!



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Attention to detail...

