

KEY TRENDS OF SMART HOME DEVELOPMENT

In today's world technology is advancing with a fast pace, radically changing our lives. A lot of companies which produce various household appliances and gadgets implement some kind of artificial intelligence technologies in them. Moreover, these devices can be linked into a single network. This enables them to "communicate" with each other and with the host, thus forming a system of "smart house".

Of course, such systems are a far cry from real smart homes from science fiction shows, where systems of artificial intelligence behave like a human, fully in charge of the house and are able to create Virtual Reality. But this is only the beginning.

There's no doubt that technology advances faster than we can even keep up these days, and the smart home sector is one of the fastest-growing. At CES 2018, hundreds of companies showed off a variety of new smart home solutions and gadgets, from the useful and innovative to the repetitive and uneventful. Here we offer an outline of key technologies in the sphere, which are believed to shape the nearest trends of "smart home" further development.

1. Voice assistants in everything.

Smart home tech allows you to automate your home, from lighting and security to entertainment and cooking. More and more of these devices are starting to get voice-activated upgrades baked right into the hardware. Last year, we saw countless devices and gadgets that work with voice assistants, but you needed a dedicated smart speaker to take advantage.

Now, one can basically skip the speaker entirely. But if your home has already got an Echo or a Google Home, having more devices that respond to person's voice commands could lead to over-saturation and frustration. The breadth of options to come in 2018 will definitely create more ways to build the perfect smart home, but it will also require smarter planning on the part of the consumer.

2. Smart home security suites that suit all needs.

There are numerous smart home security devices available on the market: motion sensors, security cameras, smart locks, video doorbells, etc. However, if you are buying different devices from different brands, syncing them all up can prove difficult, and juggling multiple apps is a hassle.

Various smart home companies are launching security solutions that make it easy to keep an eye on things from one access point whether you want to stick with a single brand or mix and match. What is really compelling about all of the new tech is that it can be customized to individual homes and preferences for a completely DIY experience rather than an out of the box solution that won't always fit every home.

This year, they will finally be releasing the Ring Alarm Security Kit (originally the Ring Protect) as well as motion sensors, night-lights, outdoor lighting, smoke and water leak detectors, and new wireless, standing smart cameras for a holistic way to keep an eye on your home all in one app.

GlobalLogic, a proven design company, has a wealth of experience in automating smart home projects for diverse customers from around the world, from startups to technological giants. Our practice proves that while mobile app interfaces are a great tool, it's easier and more natural for a user to communicate at home through voice.

3. Conversation with a device that has artificial intelligence, understands a person and performs respective commands, brings a completely unusual impression. According to a study by Gartner, by the end of 2018, 30% of our technology interaction will take place in a conversation format with smart machines. Leaders in technology products and services must now invest in improved voice interfaces, which are still limited. The future comes in the form of a home personal assistant, and in the end, the language itself will become a versatile interface for home use.

An excellent example is Aleksa from Amazon: Among other things, Aleksa organizes the voice control with smart home appliances. Over the years of Siri's upgrade, Google Now and Cortana have also become technologically advanced personal assistants at the head of the smart home-ecosystems.

Voice-guided intellectual functions of the house develop gradually. So, Mark Zuckerberg created a system called Jarvis for his own home. The name of this device is similar to a computer with artificial intelligence belonging to Tony Stark in the movie "Iron Man": his name is J.A.R.V.I.S. stands for Just A Rather Very Intelligent System.

4. A wonderful time for progress ... But there are also difficulties.

Artificial intelligence is a key element of human interaction with a machine. However, the implementation of even simple functions, such as turning on and off the light, is a complicated task, since commands can be formulated very differently: "Turn off the lights in the bedroom" or "Keep the lamp in the baby".

Teaching home assistants to understand different linguistic senses is an important step towards positive user experience. Voice biometrics and intelligent decision-making will help you to come here. For the phrase "Play my favorite song," the home assistant must be able to distinguish the voice of a person and choose music according to their preferences.

To implement the potential of intelligent home systems, market leaders need to collaborate and form unexpected partnerships. This will ensure the emergence of high-quality new devices and services interconnected, which will make the life of the user even easier. Currently, the focus of the experts is the global benefits of smart homes, and for a long time such systems should move from the "bad mother" category to the "must have" category.

In the end, security and reliability are key parameters that should remain at the height of the evolution of technology for housing. For example, given the fact that the voice command can activate the security-related function, it is necessary to ensure the exact delimitation of a certain person's live voice and audio recordings in order not to hit the catchers. And soon we can all have Iron Man technology or a computer to manage our home, car, and home appliances.

Undoubtedly, artificial intelligence and systems of "smart house" are our future. And this is not only convenient, but it also preserves the planet's condition and saves our time.

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