

Charlotte

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HOME

DESIGN & DECOR



TRAIL BLAZERS

By Kate Golden

High-Tech Additions You Need in Your Home

With technology getting more and more advanced each year, it only makes sense that this would expand to homes. Combining technology and everyday items makes it easier for us to live our daily lives and makes normal tasks go by even faster. In today's world, items that make our lives easier and save us time are the most valuable. Here is some of the newest technology available to make your home that much more "user-friendly."



KEEP IT *SHADY*

Control Lutron's Serena Shades™ from anywhere using your iPhone, iPad or iPod Touch. Using the Lutron app you can make sure your shades are just how you want from any location, whether you are home, in another state or abroad. The shades are customizable and come in a variety of styles and fabrics. www.serenashades.com



SPEAK UP

The Amazon Echo speaker can be controlled by your voice alone and can do a variety of tasks. You can play music from Spotify, Pandora and other music apps. The device can also be programmed to control lights, switches, thermostats, Philips Hue™, Samsung SmartThings, and much more. The best part is Echo is always updating and adding new ways to make your life easier. www.amazon.com



FREE *FOLDING*

Hardly anyone enjoys folding clothes, and now there is technology available that will fold them for you. Foldimate™ will be available for preorder in 2017. This device allows you to clip your clothes onto a machine that then folds and steams each item, saving you time and sparing you from a boring task. The machine can also perfume, soften, and treat your clothes while they are being folded. www.foldimate.com



FIND YOUR *HUE*

Philips Hue™ lights come in three different options: white, white ambiance, and white and color ambiance. Hue white allows easier control for more comfort, white ambiance allows users to create warm or cool light, and white and color ambiance is the complete package with color options. All of the options help create a more comfortable and energy efficient home. www.store.meethue.com



COOL & *CONNECTED*

The Family Hub™ Refrigerator by Samsung This refrigerator has a screen on the front with apps that allow you to coordinate schedules and keep up with the whole family. There is a calendar, a notes section, a photos section, and you can even stream shows and music. It comes in a variety of styles and depths to greater adapt to all your family's needs. Available at a variety of retailers.