

## Here are some handy tips that might just help with your project.

I want the finished rooms and the grounds to look their best.

Make enquiries about planning a creative and practical lighting scheme well in advance. Avoid having very basic rows of direct-firing down lights in the rooms and old fashioned rotary dimmers as these won't save electricity and tend to buzz. Plan preset scenes and effects to suit the function of the room and your lifestyle.

You could highlight art or paintings and consider floor lights for plants or stairways. Seek alternatives to high powered security floodlights facing the garden and drive, lighting trees and paths instead.

The electrician starts soon, which cables do I tell him to put in?

Allow plenty of time to decide on your network, audio and video requirements and plan carefully where services such as broadband, telephone and TV will come into the property. There's nothing worse than having to run forgotten cables after the decorating is finished. We recommend starting your enquiries at least three months in advance.

Can I rely on wireless technology for my home?

The technology is improving all the time but other wireless signals as well as modern building materials can distort and block your connection. Along with installing a powerful secure wireless system, we recommend planning for a structured reliable wired network throughout the property as so many electronic items rely on a good connection for updates and bonus services.

I only want a TV and background music in two rooms.

Cable the property with consideration for future additions in rooms that may be used by children or teenagers for example. Also consider future owners and the value that your comprehensive wiring system will add.

I'm considering having a movie room with projection, which space do i use? Try to pick a room where it's easy to cut out ambient light, so that the projected image gives better contrast. If you're planning to have a wooden floor- cosy cinema-like acoustics can be created with soft furnishings, curtains and rugs. It's worth noting that hard surfaces reflect sound whilst soft surfaces tend to absorb; a nice balance will give best results.

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