A sample Plan

See what a whole-house Plan looks like, written for an invented house.

Sample. The house, the people and every number are invented. Product names are covered, because a real plan is written for one real house. This is a shortened version; the real document is longer and covers your whole job.

Prepared for: an invented couple, 5,400 square feet, west-facing glass, mid-renovation

1. Your goals, in your order

1. Stop the afternoon glare without living in the dark.
2. One simple way to run the lights that guests understand.
3. Music outside that the neighbors don't hear.
4. Nothing that stops working when the internet does.

2. What you have

Today	Decision	Why
Old keypad system	Remove	Nobody has the programming file
Thermostats	Keep	They work locally and you like them
Mesh Wi-Fi	Replace	Walls are open now, so wire it
Ceiling speakers	Keep 4 of 10	The other six play to nobody

3. Room by room

Room	What matters	Recommendation	Leave out
Great room	Glare, then light	Motorized shades on the west glass, three lighting moods at the door	A wall touchscreen
Kitchen	Light that fits the hour	Dimmers that work on their own, one evening button	Colored lighting
Main bedroom	A quiet night	In-bed sensing, shades, separate climate for each side	A voice speaker
Media room	One-button film	Light, shades and sound together, one remote	A rack in the room
Patio	Sound that stays home	Several small speakers, warm low light	A television
Guest room	Nothing to learn	Switches. That's all	Everything else

One room, worked through: the great room

What you said: "By four o'clock we move to the kitchen." The west glass is twenty-two feet wide. The television is on the north wall, and you'd like to keep the view.

Option	Good	Why not	Decision
Window film	Nothing moves	Dims the view all day, every day	Rejected
Battery shades	No wiring	Five tall windows to charge, and the walls are open now	Alternative

Option	Good	Why not	Decision
Wired shades on all five	One quiet movement	Needs power at the glass, so an electrician	Recommended
Wired shades on the two worst	Half the cost	A patchwork look you said you'd mind	Alternative

What it should do: close in stages as the sun reaches the glass, leave the middle window until last for the view, stay open on gray days, and stop helping for the evening when someone moves one by hand.

For quotes: five shades, one fabric, matched hem heights, hard-wired, quiet enough for conversation at ten feet, manual control at the door that works without the controller, and a written statement of who owns the programming.

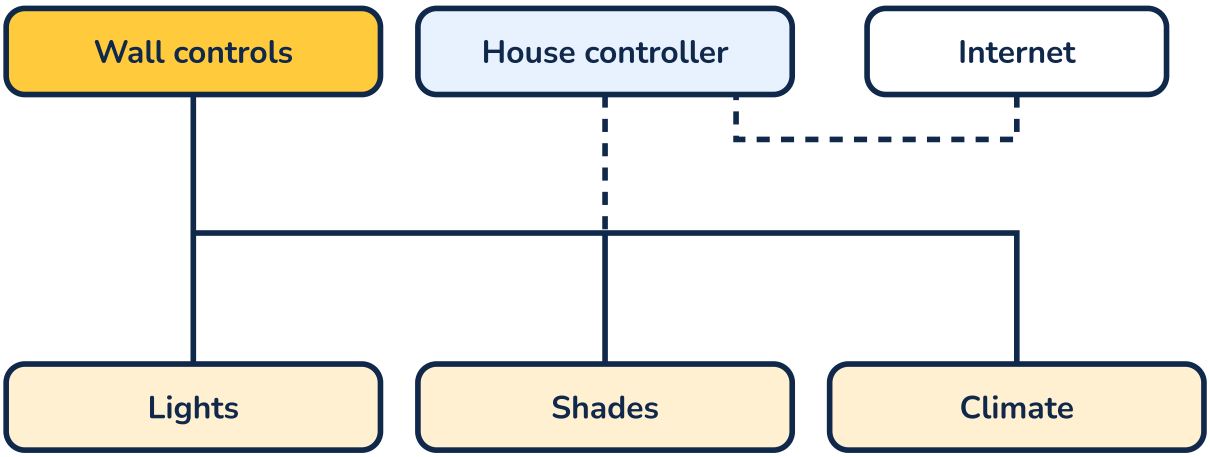
How you'll know it works:

- At 4 p.m. on a clear day, nobody on the sofa squints.
- With the controller unplugged, the wall control still moves all five.
- Move one by hand. It's still there an hour later.
- On a cloudy day, they stay up.
- Five hems line up to the eye.

Ask a licensed electrician: power at each window, and the load. **Ask the shade firm:** sizes, weight, and how the pocket is built.

4. How it fits together

Every room works alone first. A controller in the house adds the moods and the timing. Nothing important needs a company's servers. Each device family has its own place on the network.



Solid lines work alone. Dashed lines add convenience.

5. Buying list

An excerpt. Prices and dates here are invented. The full list has every item, where it goes, and the date each fact was checked.

Item	Qty	Product	Why	Alternative	Price seen	Sold by
Shades, west glass	5	[redacted]	Solves your first goal	Same shade, battery motor	$2,150 each, Mar 3	Dealers only
Dimmers	22	[redacted]	Work if everything else is down	Second maker, same boxes	$89 each, Mar 3	Anyone
House controller	1	[redacted]	Runs at home, replaceable	A dealer-installed system	$640, Mar 4	Anyone

Item	Qty	Product	Why	Alternative	Price seen	Sold by
Wired access points	5	[redacted]	Everything depends on this	Four, with a weaker patio	$179 each, Mar 4	Anyone
Presence sensors	3	[redacted]	Office, bath, reading chair only	None, use switches	$95 each, Mar 4	Maker direct

6. Who does what

- **Licensed electrician:** dimmers, shade power, anything in a panel.
- **Licensed low-voltage contractor:** network and speaker cable.
- **Certified alarm company:** security, outside this plan.
- **You:** choose, hire, direct and buy.

7. Order and budget

Network, shades, lighting, climate, sound, sensing. Live with each stage before the next.

Stage	Invented low	Invented high
Network and cable	$9,000	$14,000
Shades	$16,000	$27,000
Lighting control	$18,000	$31,000
Climate sensing	$2,000	$5,000
Sound	$8,000	$19,000

Stage	Invented low	Invented high
Presence and setup	$6,000	$12,000
Total	**$59,000**	**$108,000**

Made-up figures to show the format. Assumes open walls on one floor, existing panels with room, and no patching. Don't use them to budget.

8. When things fail

If	Still works	Doesn't
Internet goes out	Lights, shades and climate should carry on; test at handover	Streaming and voice stop
Controller dies	Switches, shades and thermostats should work by hand; test at handover	Schedules and moods stop
Power fails	Battery devices only; keep flashlights here	Lights, shades, network and controller, unless on backup power
A maker closes	Local functions should continue	Updates, app and cloud features may stop

After an outage the house should return to normal without help. That's tested on handover day.

9. Handover checklist

- Every account in your name
- Programming files and a backup in your hands

- Each room tested against this plan, with you there
- A manual another professional can follow
- Final payment after the above

10. Limits

This is advice. It isn't engineering, code review, construction supervision or a security design. Check flagged jobs with licensed professionals and follow makers' instructions.