Smart Home Before-You-Buy Checklist

Check these before you buy any smart device, so it actually works with what you have.

Compatibility

- ☐ Works with my assistant (Alexa, Google Home, Apple Home)
- ☐ Works with my app or the hub I already have
- ☐ Supports my Wi-Fi band (many devices need 2.4 GHz)
- ☐ Needs a separate hub or bridge? (cost included in budget)
- ☐ Matter or Thread support, if I want future flexibility

Costs and privacy

- ☐ Key features work without a paid subscription (or I've budgeted for it)
- ☐ Checked what data the device and app collect
- ☐ Two-factor sign-in available for the account
- ☐ Return window long enough to test it at home

Install

- ☐ Plug-in or battery, or needs wiring?
- ☐ If wired: turn power off at the breaker and follow the instructions, or hire an electrician
- ☐ Good Wi-Fi signal where it'll go

Tip: Start with one room and one app before buying more devices.

Want the full version? The Smart Home Starter Planner ($5) at **nestfoundrylab.com/shop**