

Your Homeland Security - Integrate Your Wireless Cameras

Want to add security cameras to your existing home network? It's really quite simple using current technologies. You can easily get a starter system going that will fully integrate with your home networking system that you can access anywhere in the world via the internet.

The first decision to make is whether to build your system using wired or wireless cameras. Wired cameras tend to cost less, and have the advantage of being powered by their cables. Wireless cameras operating at the 2.4GHz range can more easily be placed in any location. You then have the option to connect the remote camera to a nearby electrical outlet, or use batteries.

You may also want to integrate your cameras via one device to manage them. Otherwise you will have to go to either a separate IP address in your home network for each camera, and if you need to connect to your home system to monitor it remotely, then you will need to be able to also obtain a virtual private network connection. This can be a real hassle so I recommend getting a device that can control all your cameras and also act as a single point of access your remote monitoring.

Look for products like TCP/IP transmitter and receivers. This simplifies maintaining multiple cameras to keep an eye on your home or business. It is a smart and easy way to increase security without installing an expensive alarm system. Monitoring the surveillance feed isn't difficult, even if you're not right there on the premises. By connecting multiple video cameras to a TCP/IP Transmitter, you'll have access to the goings on at your home or business from any Internet-connected PC. Look for models that include software which most do. They can support a combination of wired or wireless cameras as well as PTZ (pan, tilt, zoom). PTZ cameras allow you to do just that, manipulate the camera position and zoom via controls on your web browser.

This type of configuration will work for indoor or outdoor cameras. If building a security system that will monitor the perimeter of your property, or is external to your home, then go for the wireless cameras so cabling is simpler. Optionally for external wireless cameras are small transmitter and receiver devices that can transform any wired camera into a wireless one.

To summarize: start with your existing cameras to leverage your current investment, or start small with purchasing one or two higher quality wireless cameras. Then decide on a transmitter/receiver centralized unit, this can easily be plugged into your existing wired or wireless router. Use the uplink port on your existing router if all your connections are being used. The advantages to be gained by this configuration are many. You can monitor your own home or business without paying monthly fees. So for not much more than you have already invested in your home networking, you can add piece of mind as well.

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About the Author

Arthur Kettelhut is the owner of a popular web site which reviews personal and home security products. He has over 10 years of security experience.