

Smart Home Hub Setup Checklist

Name the radio first, then fix only that layer. Tick each box as you go.

BEFORE YOU START

- ☐ Read the logos on the box: Wi-Fi, Matter + Wi-Fi, Matter + Thread, Zigbee or Z-Wave
- ☐ Update the hub firmware and the app before adding any device
- ☐ Photograph every Matter QR code / setup number and Z-Wave S2 PIN
- ☐ Reserve the hub's IP address in your router (DHCP reservation)

WI-FI DEVICES

- ☐ Phone connected to a visible 2.4 GHz network (split names or pause 5 GHz for ten minutes)
- ☐ Router security set to WPA2/WPA3 mixed (transition) mode, not WPA3-only
- ☐ Client / AP isolation off; device not on the guest network
- ☐ Android: setup app allowed location access

MATTER

- ☐ Bluetooth on, phone within a metre or two of the device
- ☐ Phone on the same 2.4 GHz network the device will use
- ☐ Android: Settings > Google > Devices & sharing shows Matter devices
- ☐ Router multicast filtering / IGMP "optimization" off; no VLAN split
- ☐ Already in another app? Share it with a temporary code - do not reset

THREAD

- ☐ A Thread border router is on the network (HomePod mini, Apple TV 4K, Nest Hub 2nd gen, etc.)
- ☐ Commission in the ecosystem whose border router is closest
- ☐ Device near the border router for the first join; restart the phone if it stalls

ZIGBEE

- ☐ Device factory reset with the maker's button sequence
- ☐ Plugs and bulbs paired before battery sensors; sensor paired where it will live
- ☐ USB stick on a USB 2.0 extension cable, away from USB 3 ports and the router
- ☐ Wi-Fi channel fixed; fresh battery in the sensor

Z-WAVE

- ☐ Region matches: 908.42 MHz US/Canada, 868.42 MHz EU/UK, 921.42 MHz AU/NZ
- ☐ Exclusion run first, then inclusion; S2 PIN ready

FINISH

- ☐ Every device named the way you speak ("Hallway light")
- ☐ Hub configuration backed up
- ☐ Internet unplugged for five minutes: note what still works