

Disability Campaign.org

5 Smart Home Gadgets for People with Disabilities

1. Amazon Echo

- “Amazon Echo is a hands-free speaker you control with your voice. Echo connects to the Alexa Voice Service to play music, provide information, news, sports scores, weather, and more — instantly. All you have to do is ask. Echo has seven microphones and beam forming technology, so it can hear you from across the room — even while music is playing. Echo is also an expertly tuned speaker that can fill any room with 360° immersive sound. When you want to use Echo, just say the wake word "Alexa" and Echo responds instantly.”—Amazon
- The Amazon Echo serves as the control center for your “smart home.” You can hook it up with other smart home devices, such as Philips Hue Lights or the Ecobee, so that with your verbal command the Amazon Echo turns on your lights, closes your garage, adjusts your thermostat, locks your door, etc.
- Amazon Echo works great if you have difficulty using your hands, but it may not work for you if you are hard of hearing or have a speech disability.
- To learn more, visit [Amazon's website](#).



Image: Amazon.com

2. Ecobee

- “Ecobee works with wireless remote sensors to make you more comfortable in your home while saving you money.”—Ecobee



- How it works:
 - Sensors are set up in different rooms of your home (bedroom, living room, etc.).
 - The sensors detect if you are in that room or not.
 - The sensors then address hot and cold spots, adjust the temperature accordingly, and keep you comfortable.
 - You can adjust your Ecobee from your mobile app and web portal.
- The Ecobee doesn't require any physical work, such as pushing buttons or voice commands, so it works great with people of various abilities. Do be aware that it does require setup; however, some customers may be able to obtain free delivery and set-up.
- To learn more, visit [Ecobee's website](#).

3. Nubryte Console

- “The NuBryte console lets you make your home smarter on your own terms. This touch-screen panel replaces your wall switch, and, using a small built-in camera, will automatically turn the lights on when you enter a room. It can also be used as a security camera.”



Image: SmarthomeGuru.ca

- NuBryte
- NuBryte’s light control system can be managed from your smartphone or you can enable the motion-sensing mode to have your lights turn on/off automatically. This custom, touch-free control lighting can be adjusted to allow for different light schemes including a soft night-light, a morning light that gradually brightens, and a bedtime light that gradually darkens to help you sleep better.
- The NuBryte also includes security features, such as a built-in camera, which sends you live video alerts, and a vacation lighting scheme that turns on lights to make it look like you’re home. What’s more, there are no monthly-subscription fees.
- Other features include a calendar that can help make your family aware of any medical appointments or other important dates, and weather alerts to help you plan for the day accordingly.
- To learn more, visit [Nubryte’s website](#).

4. Belkin WeMo® Insight Switch



- “The Wi-Fi enabled WeMo Insight Switch connects your home appliances and electronic devices to your Wi-Fi network, allowing you to turn devices on or off, program customized notifications and change your device status — from anywhere. WeMo Insight Switch can monitor your electronics and will send information about the device’s energy usage directly to your smartphone or tablet. Perfect to pair with space heaters, wall A/C units, TVs, washers, dryers, fans, lights and more.”—Belkin
- The WeMo Insight Switch works with Amazon Echo and other accessible smart home devices.
- If you accidentally leave something on, you can turn it off even if you’re away from home; this can be a great safety feature.
- Because you can set timers to your WeMo Insight Switch, this gadget can be very practical when it comes to ensuring your mobility device is charged every evening, such as a power wheelchair or scooter.
- If you wish, the WeMo Insight Switch can provide you with notifications on your smartphone, such as if your dryer is done drying or if your microwave has finished heating up your food. This option can be especially useful to those who are hard of hearing and cannot hear the buzz of a dryer or the ding of a microwave.
- So long as your smartphone or tablet’s settings have been adjusted to make it more accessible for your needs, the WeMo Insight switch is also accessible.
- To learn more, [visit Belkin’s website](#).

5. Crock-Pot® 6-Quart. Smart Slow Cooker with WeMo®



Image: CrockPot.com

- “Prepare your ingredients, then program your cook settings. Simply choose your temperature and cook time, and you're done!” — Crock-Pot
- You can adjust the Crock-Pot’s settings from anywhere, receive reminders, change the cook time, adjust the cooking temperature, or check the status of your dish.
- This smart cooker can be useful to people with disabilities who want to eat a homemade meal, but may not be able to follow complex cooking recipes or cannot cook meals that require extensive use of their hands.
- To learn more, visit [Crock-Pot’s Website](#).

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