



Internet of Things: Design your own smart product!

In 1990, John Romkey created the first “smart” product: a toaster that could be turned on and off via the internet.

Since that first “smart” toaster, people have continued to combine data and creativity to invent thousands of products which solve a particular problem or make our lives easier. There are smart speakers (e.g. Amazon Echo, Google Home), smart doorbells, smart lightbulbs... and even smart fridges!


What item do you think could be improved with the addition of connectivity, sensors, and data sharing?


Should your sofa automatically warm up for you when you're on your way home from school? What if your wardrobe knew the weather forecast and could pick you out the best outfit?

Think about:

- What sensors your device should have
- How you will control your device
- What might go wrong... and how you could prevent that

You can:

 Draw and label your design on paper; OR

 Create a poster or presentation on the computer

Glossary

Internet of Things: The extension of Internet connectivity and data sharing into physical devices and everyday objects.

Smart product: An electronic device which can connect to and share data with other devices or networks via wireless technology such as Wi-Fi and Bluetooth.

