

# #ThankfulForTechnology

## Home Gadgets We are Grateful For

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Can you imagine your home without technology? Scan through every room and consider how different things will be. A kitchen without a refrigerator, a living room without a television set, a bedroom without an air conditioner. It's hard to do so, right? Well, some may consider these everyday appliances as simpler forms of technology – unsung heroes of innovation that give us comfort and convenience.

Now, imagine your home without Wi-Fi or going on vacation without being able to check on your house anytime through security camera (with the footage streamed on your phone or tablet in real time). These thoughts can easily make us anxious as we heavily depend on technology in almost everything we do at home. Whether we are eating, washing clothes, or enjoying downtime, some sort of technology is involved. Can you name your top three favorite innovations at home? We list down some we really appreciate having.

### • Remote controls.

Don't you just love being able to make things happen without moving? This is probably why the first television remote control was called "Lazy Bones" when it was invented by Zenith Radio Corporation in 1950. The device was still connected to a television set through a wire and it was not until five years later that a wireless remote control was invented by Zenith Electronics engineer Eugene Polley. We love these devices that allow us to operate devices from a distance. And no matter how many remote controls we need to operate a television set, sound system, and a streaming device to watch a show, we will gladly enjoy having them as long as we do not have to stand up from the couch!

### • Streaming devices.

And while we are on the subject of staying put, let us not forget to thank the heavens for our streaming devices! Through them, we get access to movies, television shows, documentaries, sports events, and more. Many homeowners have invested in streaming boxes or sticks to enjoy marathons of small- and big-screen offerings. Gamers also enjoy access to hundreds of games through these devices.

### • Surveillance cameras.

Closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras are known to be mostly used to monitor the security of homes. Residents can check the surroundings anytime, even if they are abroad. If they want to see what their kids are up to after school, they can do so. New parents can check on their babies real-time as well. The advanced features of CCTVs that include motion and sound detection have truly changed the way homeowners protect their homes. Some models also have motion-tracking features that follows an individual as he or she goes around a room.

### • Computers.

Laptops and tablets benefit people in many ways. Students are able to do research, write papers, and even communicate with their classmates even while at home. Professionals can continue working (if they wish) and even exchange drafts of presentations with co-workers via e-mail. Computers have also allowed many employees to avail of flexible working arrangements, erasing any need to commute to work multiple times a week. Access to information and platforms like selling sites have as well benefited residents who are entrepreneurs. They are able to create products and manage business transactions without stepping out their door.

### • Coffee makers.

Caffeine enthusiasts can enjoy preparing a cup of any type of coffee they want through more coffee advanced coffee makers. Now, anyone can prepare an espresso at home; grind their own coffee beans, and steam milk. No need to go out to get a decent dose of caffeine. Having the equipment to be a barista at home also enables you to avoid single-use cups, stirrers, or straws. Plus, access to caffeine is never ending. You can settle for a cup of decaf café latte if you want to sleep on time at night.

### • Health devices.

Anyone can monitor their blood pressure, temperature, and sugar level anytime through portable monitors. These devices are useful to have at home. In some cases, these have helped detect health anomalies in advance – for checking by medical professionals, of course.

