



2026 / BUYER'S GUIDE

AI in the Luxury Home

*What luxury homeowners need to know
before their next project.*

From the team that builds AI-ready homes
across NJ, CT and NY.

RESTREPOINNOVATIONS.COM
201.405.2022

01 THE REAL DEFINITION

What "AI in the home" actually means in 2026.

Most of what gets called AI in a home is marketing language layered on top of basic automation. The version that actually changes how your house behaves looks like three things working together.

01

VOICE THAT WORKS

Not Alexa-tier voice. We mean voice that understands context. You say 'movie time' and the room dims, the shades drop, the right source comes up on the right display, and the HVAC adjusts for occupancy. It works because the systems underneath it are designed to talk to each other in the first place.

02

SECURITY THAT KNOWS THE DIFFERENCE

A camera that fires an alert every time a leaf blows across the lawn is worse than no camera at all. AI-driven recognition tells the difference between your dog, a delivery driver, and someone who shouldn't be there. False alarms drop. Real ones get attention.

03

AUTOMATION THAT RUNS AHEAD OF YOU

Lighting that anticipates sunset. HVAC that pre-conditions zones before you walk in the door. A garage that closes itself when you leave the property. The house behaves like it knows the household, because over time, it does.

02 THE FOUNDATION

Four systems have to be right before AI works.

AI sits on top. It does not replace the layers underneath. If any one of these is wrong, the whole thing feels broken.

AI / AUTOMATION LAYER		<i>sits on top</i>
01	NETWORK	Ubiquiti UISP / Pro fiber + WiFi backbone
02	AUDIO / VIDEO DISTRIBUTION	Crestron control and matrixed signal routing
03	LIGHTING & SHADING CONTROL	Scene-driven control with daylight harvesting
04	SECURITY & CAMERAS	Onboard intelligence, recognition, retention

The stack: the four layers below carry the load. The AI layer is only as smart as what it sits on top of.

We see homes every month where someone bolted a smart speaker and an off-the-shelf camera onto a builder-grade router. They call it smart. It is not smart. It is fragile.

03 WHERE IT EARNS ITS KEEP

What AI is genuinely good at, right now.

PATTERN RECOGNITION

Security false-alarm reduction.

Modern cameras with onboard AI tell people from animals from vehicles. Alerts you actually pay attention to, instead of training yourself to ignore them.

VOICE WITH CONTEXT

Real commands, not novelty.

Voice control that understands rooms, scenes, and time of day. Tied into a properly designed control system, it works. Bolted on to a consumer hub, it does not.

PREDICTIVE LIGHTING & HVAC

The house adjusts before you ask.

Patterns build over weeks. Lights warm up before you wake. Zones precondition for the room you are about to enter. Quiet, correct, and almost invisible.

ENERGY OPTIMIZATION

Lower bills, less guesswork.

Load balancing across HVAC, EV charging, pool equipment, and battery storage. The savings show up. So does the resilience during a grid event.

04 WHAT THE BROCHURES LEAVE OUT

What AI is not good at, and what salespeople will not tell you.

— REPLACING A REAL DESIGNER

An algorithm cannot tell you how a room should feel at 7 p.m. in November. It cannot read a client. It cannot push back when the architect drew the wrong sconce location. That is human work, and it stays human work.

— WORKING WITHOUT A PROPER NETWORK

Every AI feature needs bandwidth, latency, and uptime. A weak network turns a \$200K system into a frustration. The fanciest voice assistant cannot save a house running on consumer-grade WiFi.

— 'SET AND FORGET' CLAIMS

There is no such thing. Firmware updates, new device generations, household changes, and seasonal patterns all need attention. The homes that stay great five years in are the ones with a real service plan behind them.

— PRIVACY WITH CLOUD-ONLY SYSTEMS

If everything runs through someone else's server, you are renting intelligence and giving up data. Local processing, on-prem storage, and clear policy on where recordings live are not optional in a luxury home.

05 BEFORE YOU SIGN

Five questions to ask any integrator before you sign.

01 What certifications do you actually hold?

Look for Elite Pro Crestron, HTA Luxury Certification, OSHA. Anyone can put logos on a website. Ask which ones are current and active, and ask to see them.

02 Can you give me three references in my town?

Not in the region. In your town, or in a comparable nearby neighborhood. Local references mean local crews, local job sites, and local accountability.

03 Who owns my data?

If the cameras, voice, and automation route through a cloud service, get the answer in writing. Where do recordings live? Who can access them? What happens if you switch providers?

04 What is your post-install support model?

A great install fails if no one picks up the phone six months later. Ask for response time SLAs, after-hours coverage, and whether support is a person or a ticket queue.

05 What does the warranty and service plan look like?

Manufacturer warranties are not enough. Ask about the labor warranty, the annual service plan, software updates, and what is covered when a device fails three years in.

06 HOW WE WORK

Restrepo's approach.

Built around the way these projects actually go, not the way they look on a brochure.

HOME TECHNOLOGY INSPECTION

We start with an on-site assessment of your existing systems. Network, control, audio, video, security, gaps, weak points. It is a flat fee, and the cost is credited back if you move forward with us.

DESIGN-FIRST, NOT BOX-FIRST

We do not lead with a brand or a product. We lead with how the house should behave, then choose the gear that gets you there. Sometimes that is Crestron. Sometimes it is something simpler.

WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION

Every project ships with a system map, device list, network diagram, and credentials package. If we ever stop being your integrator, the next one can pick up where we left off.

CONCIERGE SERVICE PLAN

After install, you are on a real plan. Defined response times, scheduled health checks, firmware management, and a single phone number that gets a real person who knows your house.

"We build homes that work in five years, not just on launch day. That is the whole job."

MIKE RESTREPO / FOUNDER

07 NEXT STEP

Book a 30-minute consult.

No pitch. No deck. We listen, we ask the right questions, and we tell you what we would actually do in your house.

CALL

201.405.2022

Direct line

EMAIL

hello@restrepoinnovations.com

We respond same day

SCHEDULE

restrepoinnovations.com/consult

Pick a time online

SERVICE AREA

NEW JERSEY / Bergen, Essex, Morris, Passaic, Hudson. Alpine, Saddle River, Franklin Lakes, Short Hills, Tenafly.

CONNECTICUT / Fairfield, Litchfield. Greenwich, Darien, New Canaan, Westport, Stamford, Ridgefield.

NEW YORK / Westchester, Manhattan, the Hamptons.

CREDENTIALS

Elite Pro Crestron Dealer / HTA Luxury Certified / OSHA Certified / Ubiquiti UISP & Pro Partner

Restrepo Innovations / 599 Franklin Ave / Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417

restrepoinnovations.com / 201.405.2022