

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

~ Structured Wiring

**COMING NEXT MONTH:**

~ DVD Drives

# ReadyNetGo ... News

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## TIP OF THE MONTH

If you are planning on adding structured wiring to your home, follow this simple plan of jack placement and you'll be happy for years to come.

**Family room** - 2 multimedia outlets, 1 dedicated to the entertainment center

**Kitchen** - 2 multimedia outlets (refrigerators and other appliances will have computer controls in them in the next few years. You'll be able to pre-heat your oven or ensure that you have enough ice for the party tonight).

**Study/Home Office** - 2 multimedia outlets

**Bedrooms** - 1 multimedia outlet in each room

**Attic & Basement** - you might want to place multimedia outlets in both of these areas since many people use these areas for other than just storage.

If you feel adventurous, you may want to wire your master bath as well. TVs and radios are becoming commonplace in bathrooms now, so while the walls are open, you just might want to put in the wires and enjoy the extra luxury.

## Structured Wiring: The Wave of the Future

How would you like to have a fully connected home – one where you can access the internet from any room of the house, watch the same movie in two different rooms at the same time, and monitor any room or your yard on your PC? Well you can – this technology may seem advanced but more and more people are choosing to add **structured wiring** to their new homes and remodeling projects to take advantage of these very cool features.

Special bundled cables, which include audio, video, phone and networking cables, are installed throughout the home allowing data and voice transmissions to travel quickly and efficiently wherever you might need them. With the desire for high speed internet access and advanced audio & video features, structured wiring is becoming essential in homes not only for the convenience and security but for the added resale value as well.

Although high speed wires can be added to an existing home, the costs are much higher and it is much less convenient. Older homes, especially, may have difficulties with installing wires around existing plumbing and/or electrical systems. Even the framing of older homes may incur enough obstacles to make the project cost prohibitive. So if you are thinking about building a new home, remodeling, thinking about a new room addition to your existing home, or just want to keep up on the latest technologies, this newsletter will hopefully provide you with the information you need.

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### WWW (Websites Worth Watching)

1. [www.news.google.com](http://www.news.google.com) - News from around the world.
2. [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com) - track weather anywhere in the world.
3. [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) - Tax time is right around the corner ...
4. [www.epinions.com](http://www.epinions.com) - If you need to buy something, go to this site first and read reviews from consumers who have taken the plunge already.

## Benefits of Structured Wiring

- Installing cables before walls are enclosed is the quickest and cheapest way to connect your home.
- Set up a home office with phone, fax and DSL or cable modem. Network your computers anywhere in your home.
- Wired networks are faster, more secure, and more reliable than wireless connections.
- Adds value to your home in both resale value and in opportunities for your family's enjoyment.
- Multiple outlets can be located in each room giving you the flexibility and convenience to rearrange furniture or create a new use for the entire room.

## Features of Structured Wiring

There are too many features to mention here but some of the more creative applications are:

- If you have multiple computers, you can setup your own LAN (Local Area Network) or you can move your equipment freely and access files in any room of the house with a reliable, fast, and secure connection.
- Maximize your entertainment with Digital TV in multiple rooms.
- Watch the same video on multiple computers around your home – never miss a moment even if you get a snack attack.
- Turn your TV or PC into a security monitor. Watch your baby sleeping or monitor the front and back doors.
- Remotely monitor your heating, cooling, and lighting systems.
- If you have multiple phone lines, answer any phone from any receiver with digital quality sound.
- Pop your favorite CD into your stereo and listen no matter what room you're in – even if you are at the other end of the house.

## Additional features

- Lighting
- Central-vacuum systems

Structured wiring is one component of bringing your home into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In addition to audio, video, networking and security features, homes can be outfitted with advanced lighting controls and a central vacuum system. Lighting can be pre-programmed in every room of the house to turn on when you enter and turn off when you leave; you'll never have to flip a switch again. When you travel, lights can be programmed throughout the home from one location rather than manually attaching timers to one or two lights. Before the sheetrock goes up, it's a breeze to add a central vacuum system – a series of outlets and tubes positioned in the walls which are connected to a central container. If you've never seen one, think of a canister vacuum with an agitator brush and an extremely long hose that is moved from room to room. The canister is conveniently located out of sight in your basement or garage.

## What is a Multimedia Outlet?

One multimedia outlet typically consists of 6 jacks; 2 RJ-45 jacks connected to CAT 5e cable for network connections and digital phones, 2 F-connectors (one incoming and one outgoing) terminate to RG6 coax cable for video, and a jack for speaker cable can be added for sound. Fiber optic cable is also suggested to be installed but is left unterminated allowing for future device capability.