

# 12 Linux-Based Home Automation Systems for Under \$300

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Home automation hubs have emerged as the tech startup product of choice in 2014, and most run on embedded Linux. The category has been re-energized with the dropping costs of wireless radios and embedded processors, as well as the ubiquity of readymade touchscreen interfaces in the form of Android and iOS devices. This slide show presentation covers 10 Linux-based and two Android-based home automation systems starting at under \$300.

Home automation systems have been around for more than a decade, but were usually affordable only to a few. Early Linux-based products include the circa-2002 CorAccess Companion, as well as later tuxified products from Control4, such as the Control4 Home Controller HC-500. While the HC-500's \$1,500 was a price breakthrough back in 2008, Control4's entry level system is now an HC-250 model selling for under \$500 plus licensing. You'll find most of the systems listed here starting at under \$200, with some hubs selling for as little as \$49. Of course, you'll likely spend much more than that on compatible smart devices, and equipping a large home could easily push you over the \$1,000 mark.

[2]

[Linux](#)

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**Links:**

[1] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/63>

[2] <http://www.linux.com/news/embedded-mobile/mobile-linux/783897-12-linux-based-home-automation-systems-for-under-300/>