

## Infrared (IR) vs. App-Based Interfaces

**Product:** App-Based Interfaces in Lighting Controls      **Article ID:** 090523-AA-01

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**Summary:** This technical article compares App-based interfaces versus Infrared (IR) remotes

App-based interfaces for lighting controls offer many advantages over traditional IR remote controls including convenience and efficiency.

One of the primary advantages of using an app-based interface with lighting controls is convenience. Users can commission fixtures and lighting controls from a smartphone or tablet instead of a remote that can be easily lost. App-based interfaces offer more features and configuration options, and users can connect to the device anytime to check the status. They also allow users to add an extra layer of security with password protection.

The next advantage is flexibility. Users can customize the lighting and controls according to their preferences. If applicable, choose the color, brightness, and lighting patterns to ensure that the lighting in the room is always perfect, whether it is for work, relaxation, or entertainment.

App-based controls also offer better energy efficiency compared to IR remote controls. With app-based interfaces, users can set timers, schedules, and even motion sensors to control the lighting. This means the lights are on only when needed, reducing energy consumption, and lowering electricity bills. They are also more intuitive and user-friendly compared to traditional IR remote controls. They come with easy-to-use interfaces that are easy to navigate, making it easier for users to control the lighting fixtures.

And finally, app-based interfaces in lighting fixtures are future-proof. With technological advancement, app-based interfaces are more likely to be compatible with future upgrades, unlike IR remote controls, which become obsolete over time, assuring users of the longevity of their lighting fixtures, and making app-based interfaces a more cost-effective option in the long run.

IR remote controls have served everyone well over the years, the advantages of app-based interfaces in lighting fixtures cannot be ignored. They offer convenience, flexibility, energy efficiency, ease of use, and future-oriented features that make them a better option for lighting control. As technology advances, app-based interfaces will likely become even more prevalent in lighting fixtures.

For professional smart lighting and app-based control, Leviton offers the Smart Wallbox Sensor, Solo Sensors, and Integrated Fixture Mount Sensors.

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