This document describes how to integrate Simple Control with Amazon Echo.

Amazon Echo includes Alexa, a cloud-based voice service that can be used to give commands to Simple Control. Once you integrate Simple Control with Amazon Echo, you can control your Simple Control environment simply by speaking your commands.

**Required Components**

- **Simple Control app 4.0.7 or above.** You must pair with Simple Hub or Simple Sync and enable the Remote Access feature (Settings > Simple Sync > Allow Remote Access).
- **Simple Hub or Simple Sync 3.1 or above**
- **Simple Service.** The legacy Roomie Service does not support Amazon Echo integration. However, all Roomie Service subscriptions renewing prior to 11/1/2016 are considered equivalent to Simple Service.
- **Simple Control account.** You must pair the Alexa app with your Simple Control account and be logged in to the same Simple Control account in the Simple Control app. Note that your Simple Control account is not related to your Apple App Store account or to older Roomie Remote accounts.
- **Amazon Echo**
- **Amazon Alexa app**

**Pairing the Amazon Alexa App with your Simple Control Account**

You need to pair the Amazon Alexa app with your Simple Control account before you can give voice commands to Simple Control.

*Note:* This procedure assumes that your Simple Control environment and your Amazon Echo are configured, running, and meet the requirements listed in Required Components.

To pair the Amazon Alexa app with Simple Control:

1. Open the Alexa app, then tap menu icon (the three horizontal lines in the upper left corner).
2. Select Skills from the menu that appears.
3. Enter Simple Control in the Search Skills field.
4. When you find the Simple Control entry, tap Enable.
5. Log in to your Simple Control account on the screen that appears.
6. When prompted to allow Amazon Echo access to your account, tap Allow.
7. When you see the message saying that your Simple Control Skill has been linked to Amazon Echo, exit from the Alexa app.
Giving Voice Commands

To give a command to Simple Control, you need to start with the wake word, “Alexa,” and then tell Amazon Echo you want the command to apply to Simple Control by using the Simple Control invocation name, which is “Simple Control.”

Voice commands you want to pass to Simple Control start this way:

Alexa, tell Simple Control to ...

Which would be followed by the appropriate command phrase. The “to” is omitted in some cases.

For example, to start an activity called Listen to Sonos in a room named Office, you could say:

Alexa, tell Simple Control to Listen to Sonos in the Office

Keep the following in mind when structuring your command phrases:

- For a quick overview of how to give a command to Simple Control via Alexa, say: “Alexa, start Simple Control.”
  
  When Alexa asks “What would you like me to do?” at the end, you can either say a command phrase or say “Alexa, cancel.”

- The current generation of the Alexa voice service sometimes has difficulty with more obscure words and phrases; for example, Mede8er. We recommend using words and phrases that Alexa finds easier to understand. The more common and distinct the word or phrase, the higher the likelihood that Alexa will understand it.

  Suggested Room names: Bedroom, Kitchen, Office, Living room, Family room, Dining room, Parlor, Theater, Kid's room, Kid's bedroom, Baby's room, Baby's bedroom, Nursery, Guest room, Guest bedroom, Bath, Bathroom, Restroom, Basement, Great room, Drawing room, Gym, Garage, Library, Patio, Cellar, Hall.

  Recommended Activity suffixes (these would be preceded by the normal prefixes, like Watch, Listen to, Play, and so on): TV, Television, Roku, Dish, TiVo, Plex, Kodi, Sonos, Receiver, Music, Lights, Shades, Blu-ray, DirecTV, Fire TV, Fireplace TV, Kitchen TV, Apple TV, Mac, Camera, Power Off, System Off.

- In your Simple Control configuration, try to avoid using Room or Activity names that are similar. For example, “Watch TV 1” and “Watch TV 2” in the same room could confuse Amazon Echo.

  For the current generation of Alexa control, make sure to adhere to standard activity names as generated by Simple Control, such as “Watch TiVo” or “Listen to Sonos”’. Non-standard activity names have a high probability of not being correctly recognized.

- Simple Control supports a wide variety of command phrases, so if one phrasing of a command does not work, try something similar.

  For example, “Alexa, tell Simple Control to start Listen to Sonos in the Office” could also be “Alexa, tell Simple Control to turn on Listen to Sonos in the Office” or you could omit the verb entirely and just say “Alexa, tell Simple Control to Listen to Sonos in the Office.” Command phrases do not have to be grammatically correct.
• When referring to Rooms and Activities, use Rooms and Activities that are currently configured in Simple Control. If you refer to a Room or Activity that is not configured in Simple Control, your command will not work as you expect.

• Not all command phrases need to specify an Activity and a Room. Instead, if the context of the command phrase is clear, the additional information does not need to be included.

For example, if you give the command phrase:

**Alexa, tell Simple Control to set the current room to Office**

Simple Control would set the current Room to the Office. Then if you wanted to mute the current Activity in the Office, the next command phrase would only need to be:

**Alexa, tell Simple Control to mute**

The room context is clear, so it does not need to be part of the command phrase.

• If you are not certain of the context, however, put it in the command phrase. It may not be necessary, but if the context is not what you thought it was and you do not put it in, you may see unexpected results.

**COMMON COMMAND PHRASES**

Following are some examples of command phrase structure, with examples. Some examples do not follow the structure exactly, because variations of these command phrases also work.

Words in braces are placeholders for parts of your Simple Control environment (a Room or Activity, for example) or a desired value (Volume, for example).

**Setting the room:** Alexa, tell Simple Control to set the current room to {Room}
Alexa, tell Simple Control to set the current room to Office

**Starting an activity:** Alexa, tell Simple Control to turn on {Activity}
Alexa, tell Simple Control to turn on Listen to Sonos
Alexa, tell Simple Control to Listen to Sonos

**Powering off:** Alexa, tell Simple Control to power off {Room}
Alexa, tell Simple Control to power off the Living Room

**Muting:** Alexa, tell Simple Control to mute {Room}
Alexa, tell Simple Control to mute Home
Alexa, tell Simple Control to mute

**Unmuting:** Alexa, tell Simple Control to unmute {Room}
Alexa, tell Simple Control to unmute Kitchen

**Playing:** Alexa, tell Simple Control to play in {Room}
Alexa, tell Simple Control to play in Living Room

**Pausing:** Alexa, tell Simple Control to pause {Activity}
Alexa, tell Simple Control to pause Watch TiVo
Alexa, tell Simple Control to pause the Kitchen

**Next:** Alexa, tell Simple Control to skip to the next chapter in {Room}
Alexa, tell Simple Control to skip to the next chapter in Office
Previous: Alexa, tell Simple Control to go back a scene on {Activity}
Alexa, tell Simple Control to go back a scene on Listen to Sonos

Turning up the volume: Alexa, tell Simple Control to increase volume
Alexa, tell Simple Control to increase the volume to 20

Turning down the volume: Alexa, tell Simple Control to decrease {Activity} volume in {Room}
Alexa, tell Simple Control to decrease Watch TV volume in Office

Setting the volume: Alexa, tell Simple Control to set volume to {Volume}
Alexa, tell Simple Control to set volume to 25

If your device supports volume in decibels, you can use two additional values:

• {DBvolume}, which is a numeric value in decibels
• {sign}, which can be “minus”, “negative”, “plus”, or “positive” (minus or negative is required for a negative value, plus and positive are optional)

For example, you could say:

• Alexa, tell Simple Control to set volume to 20 decibels
• Alexa, tell Simple Control to set volume to minus 40
• Alexa, tell Simple Control to set volume to minus 10 DB