

PRINTABLE GUIDE

Control a lamp with a smart plug

A smart plug turns the power to an appliance on or off using an app, schedule or compatible voice assistant. It does not make an ordinary appliance fully smart. A lamp with a physical on/off switch is a useful first example.

Smart plug and phone | 2 min read | 5 steps

Before you start

- ☐ Read the plug's instructions and maximum load rating.
- ☐ Have its official app, a compatible Wi-Fi network and a suitable indoor lamp.

1. Check the appliance is suitable

Use a lamp that resumes lighting when power returns. Do not use this practice exercise for heaters, cooking equipment, medical devices or anything unsafe to start unattended.

- ☐ Done this step

2. Connect the plug

Insert the smart plug into a suitable wall socket. Connect the lamp and leave the lamp's own switch on. Keep within the ratings in both manuals.

- ☐ Done this step

3. Add it in the official app

Install the manufacturer's app from your phone's app store. Choose Add device and follow pairing instructions. Many plugs require 2.4 GHz Wi-Fi; check your model rather than guessing.

- ☐ Done this step

4. Name and test it

Give it a clear name such as 'Reading lamp.' Tap its on/off control and confirm the lamp responds. Learn the physical button so you can operate it without the app.

☐ Done this step

5. Try one schedule

Set a short test schedule while you are present. Check the time zone and what happens after a power cut before relying on an everyday routine.

☐ Done this step

Try it for yourself

Switch a reading lamp on and off once in the app.

☐ I tried the task.

My notes

Does every smart plug measure electricity use?

No. Energy monitoring, local control and power protection vary by model. Check the exact product specifications before buying or relying on those features.

Official help and the online guide

TP-Link Kasa plug setup - <https://www.tp-link.com/us/support/faq/946/>

TP-Link plug protection features - <https://www.tp-link.com/uk/support/faq/2306/>

Read online: <https://plaintechguides.com/guides/control-a-lamp-with-a-smart-plug/>