

A Switch for the Smart Era

Written by Marco Attard
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Software developer Goldee steps into the hardware arena with the Goldee Light Controller-- a minimalist black square promising to be the switch for the gesture-controlled smart lighting era.



Inside the controller are multiple sensors (proximity, ambient, sound volume, motion), an AMOLED display and a processor turning information from the sensors into Nest-style "smart functions that respond to your lighting needs." In other words, it can turn the light off when the room is empty and turns them back on when the room's occupants return.

It also offers various lighting presets such as a Sunrise Alarm (simulates sunrise to make waking up easier) a Sleep Timer (naturally fades light to encourage sleep) and a Night Mode (turns on dim lights if one wakes up in the middle of the night).

Control is entirely gesture-based, with waves turning lights on and off.

Goldee say each controller handles a single room and is compatible with regular lighting-- but smart features demand the use of smart LEDs such as the Philips Hue or LIFX.

Currently the company is going through the preorder/crowdfunding route, with a campaign aiming to raise \$100000 by end December 2013. Should the campaign be successful the controller hits the market sometime during Q3 2014.

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