



Module: Project Management

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Student ID: 2244846

Student Name: Iuliana Luminita Nica

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Introduction

The Design & Development of a Smart Home Device project aims to deliver a cost-effective and user-friendly solution that observes the growing demand for seamless home automation. The project aims to develop a single device that manages various domestic services like lighting, temperature settings and security through one unified interface. The gadget integrates sophisticated technologies including Internet of Things (IoT) and artificial intelligence (AI) automation systems to deliver customer-friendly performance and operational efficiency (Luitel, 2013). The development plan for the smart home device offers an extensive framework to guide its creation while ensuring adherence to top project management practices. Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) and Responsibility Matrices enable this plan to divide the project into distinct stages which begin with the initial idea and conclude with final delivery. The plan includes cost analysis and resource distribution while setting deadlines to ensure deliverables meet time constraints and budget requirements. The described systematic strategy both guarantees project completion and demonstrates practical application of theoretical project management principles (DURRETT, et. al., 2002). This strategic approach helps project teams meet stakeholder expectations by delivering a top-quality product to market according to the scheduled timeline.

Project Aim, Objectives, and Scope

Aim: The project requests to create a smart home device which provides unified control of lighting, temperature management and security monitoring while remaining affordable and user-friendly. The device targets modern households with its user-friendly operation capabilities and energy-saving features while providing enhanced safety measures and maintaining compliance with industry standards.

Objectives:

- ❖ Execute an extensive market analysis to identify user needs.
- ❖ Build a prototype which contains critical elements such as security features, illumination capabilities and energy-saving functionality.
- ❖ Ensure the product meets industry standards to serve market needs effectively.

Overview:

This project encompasses the following stages:

- ❖ **Concept Development:** This stage involves developing innovative concepts for the gadget while assessing its practical functionality.
- ❖ **Design and Development:** Developers create CAD models followed by the construction of prototypes and completion of functionality evaluations.
- ❖ **Creating and sharing:** The project involves working with suppliers and producers to manufacture products in large quantities and developing an efficient items delivery strategy.
- ❖ **Exclusions:** The project excludes maintenance support post-launch as well as third-party integration customizations and extended warranty offerings.

The project needs a team of engineers and designers and project managers from diverse specialties together with money distribution for materials labor and marketing activities. The meticulous approach taken guarantees that every project component is handled effectively which leads to superior product quality that succeeds user requirements (*Sisavath & Yu, 2021*).

Deliverables and Outputs

Key Deliverables

The project will generate several concrete results that will confirm its successful completion.

- ❖ **Fully Operational Smart Home Device:** The smart home device operates flawlessly while providing essential functions such as lighting control and temperature regulation together with security monitoring.
- ❖ **The working prototype functions to assess and confirm both the design and its features.**
- ❖ **Design Documentation:** The project will deliver technical specifications which contain CAD drawings and component lists essential for production and additional product iterations (*Sisavath & Yu, 2021*).
- ❖ **User Manual:** This manual serves as a complete user guide to explain equipment installation procedures as well as usage instructions and troubleshooting steps.
- ❖ **Project Reports:** The project produces regular progress reports and a final document for stakeholders that explains the development process including obstacles and results.
- ❖ **Marketing Plan:** This document details the product introduction strategy while identifying both the target audience and applicable marketing approaches (*Chen, et. al., 2010*).

Outputs

Various stages of the project reveal direct and quantifiable results that represent its outcomes:

- ❖ Design Specifications: The document covers hardware layouts alongside software architecture and integrates IoT strategies.
- ❖ Prototype Testing Insights: The final product benefits from input assessments that evaluate quality standards.
- ❖ Manufacturing Blueprint: This manual explains how to manufacture products in large batches easily.
- ❖ Distribution Plan: The distribution plan integrates a strategic approach to both logistics and sales which makes sure the product reaches market in a smooth and effective manner (*Vasileteanu & Bernovici, 2018*).

The outputs and deliverables secure smooth progression through each project stage while supplying clear milestones and concrete results for both the project team and stakeholders. The results will enable progress verification and confirm that the project remains aligned with its defined goals and objectives. This systematic method ensures that products reach the market by fulfilling user requirements while maintaining quality standards.

Work Breakdown Structure (WBS)

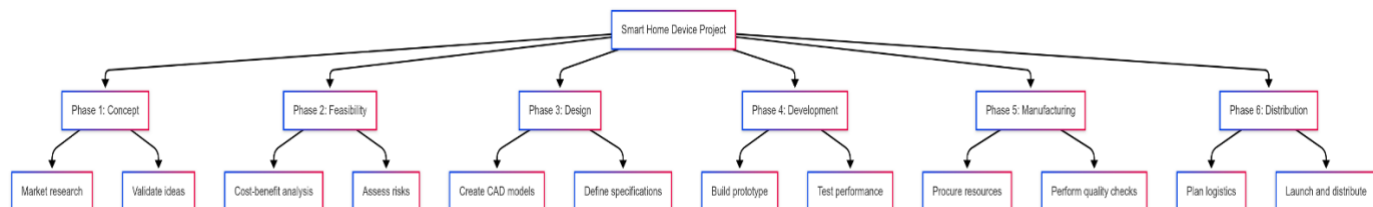


Fig. 1: WBS) Smart Home Device Project (Created by the student).

The Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) serves as an organized framework that outlines the project's stages and tasks necessary to justify its objectives. The project decomposition into manageable portions helps maintain clear execution focus and direction (*GREEN, 2023*).

There are six main stages in the project's Level 1: Conceptualisation, Feasibility, Design, Development, Manufacturing, and Distribution. Level 2 tasks focus on essential actions needed for successful completion and serve to break down each phase further. During the Design Phase teams work on creating CAD models and defining technical requirements while designing user interfaces. The Development Phase involves creating prototypes along with iterative testing and adding Internet of Things (IoT) features (*GREEN, 2023*).

The third level tasks known as Subtasks break down larger tasks to manage specific actions including material selection and software debugging. The subtasks function to track project progress and efficiently allocate responsibilities. The Work Breakdown Structure highlights how each stage of the project connects with other stages. Prototype testing needs to be completed in the Development Phase before the Manufacturing Phase starts.

By organising the project into structured layers using the WBS the team can accurately forecast the time requirements and resource allocation costs (*Ulhaq, Latief, & Machfudiyanto, 2020*). The WBS serves as a monitoring instrument that helps teams detect potential threats and delays at an early stage. The structured approach maintains orderly project progression toward milestones while ensuring alignment with both project goals and scope.

Level 1: Project Title

Phase 1: Concept

- ❖ Conduct market research to understand user needs.
- ❖ Develop initial ideas and assess their feasibility.

Phase 2: Assessing the feasibility

- ❖ Perform an evaluation of costs and benefits.
- ❖ Evaluate both the potential technological risks and the ways to solve them.

Phase 3: Creation

- ❖ Develop CAD models for both product and system components.
- ❖ Establish the technical requirements for the product's hardware and software components.

Phase 4: Growth

- ❖ Develop a working prototype with the chosen materials and components.
- ❖ Perform different evaluations to determine quality and performance outcomes.

Phase 5: Production

- ❖ Collect necessary materials before initiating the production stage.
- ❖ Complete the assembly process and then execute quality inspections.

Phase 6: Sharing

- ❖ Develop a plan for logistics and delivery.
- ❖ Begin the product launch process and distribute it to the market.

Resource Application and Responsibility Matrix

The Smart Home Device project will achieve success through its detailed responsibility matrix and resource utilization efficiency. This section details both the human and material resources required to implement the project. This aspect ensures all tasks complete on schedule without budget overruns and through efficient processes. Also, the system provides a responsibility matrix that outlines responsibilities for both individual team members and teams together to minimize misunderstandings while boosting accountability (*Rodriguez-Garcia, et. al., 2023*).

Resource Utilization Human Resources:

- ❖ Project Manager: The project manager leads the entire project while coordinating team efforts and managing both schedule and budget to guarantee milestone completion. The project manager manages stakeholder engagement and resolves project issues.
- ❖ Designers: Designers should focus on creating products that stand out visually and provide seamless usability. Designers produce user interfaces and product aesthetics which serve as branding materials to support marketing efforts (*Chana, et. al., 2008*).
- ❖ Engineers: Engineers develop the essential components of the smart home device by combining hardware integration with firmware programming and IoT software development.
- ❖ Quality Assurance Specialists: Quality Assurance Specialists perform comprehensive testing to ensure that prototypes and final products meet all required quality, safety, and functional standards. This involves testing for durability and usefulness.
- ❖ Marketing specialists create the product introduction strategy and implement it through their marketing tasks. This includes arranging promotional campaigns and distribution.

Material Resources:

- ❖ Electronic components consist of sensors and microcontrollers along with circuit boards and power sources including batteries. Electronic components make up the essential parts of the smart home gadget (*Rodriguez-Garcia, et. al., 2023*).
- ❖ Prototyping Tools: The creation of a functional prototype requires specific tools which include 3D printers as well as soldering tools together with other assembly devices.

- ❖ Tools: Designers use CAD tools to create products while project management software helps organize plans and testing platforms verify performance and quality standards.

Responsibility Matrix

Task	Jeremie	Mathias	Vincent	Project Manager
Concept Development	P	S	S	S
Feasibility Study	S	P	S	P
Design Specifications	P	S	S	
Internal Structure Development	S	P		
Rear Moldings	S		P	
Prototype Testing	S	P	S	P
Manufacturing Coordination			P	P
Marketing and Launch	S	S	S	P

Table 1: Responsibility Matrix for Smart Home Device Project (Created by the student).

The responsibility matrix clearly shows which team members take major and support responsibilities. Design requirements fall under Jeremie's responsibility, while Mathias develops the interior structure and conducts feasibility studies. Vincent handles rear mouldings creation and oversees the manufacture coordination process. The Project Manager needs to manage team activities while ensuring deadlines are met and addressing any arising risks or problems. Through this structured system resources get used effectively while preventing unnecessary repetition of work and enabling team members to concentrate on their own tasks (*Smirnov, Kashevnik & Ponomarev, 2015*). The project achieves peak efficiency and produces superior deliverables within the set time frame through precise task definitions and smart resource allocation.

Cost Estimation and Analysis

Accurate cost estimation plays a crucial role in the planning stage of any project. This process ensures the Design and Development of a Smart Home Device project meets completion goals without exceeding financial limits. This section provides a complete breakdown of anticipated project expenses which covers labor charges along with material costs and additional fees. A

systematic cost accounting strategy enables efficient resource allocation while preventing budget overruns. (BAJOLLE & DEMONGEOT, 2002).

Expenses Related to Labour

The project requires multiple specialists whose pricing depends on their hourly rates and estimated work hours.

- ❖ Project Manager: £60/hour × 100 hours = £6,000
- ❖ Engineers: £50/hour × 200 hours = £10,000
- ❖ Designers: £40/hour × 150 hours = £6,000
- ❖ Quality Assurance Specialists: £30/hour × 120 hours = £3,600
- ❖ Marketing specialists: £35/hour × 80 hours = £2,800

The total cost of labour is £28,400.

Costs of Materials

The cost of materials includes all the necessary components and tools for both prototyping and manufacturing processes.

- ❖ Electronic components: £8,000
- ❖ Prototyping Tools: £2,000
- ❖ Testing Equipment: £1,000

The total cost of materials is £11,000.

Various Expenses Marketing and distribution expenses are among the extra expenditures:

- ❖ Distribution and Logistics: £1,000
- ❖ Marketing Campaigns: £3,000

The overall miscellaneous costs equal to £4,000.

Total Estimated Cost

The total expense of the project is ascertained in the following manner:

Total Cost = Labour Costs + Material Costs + Miscellaneous Costs = £28,400 + £11,000 + £4,000 = £43,400

Category	Details	Hours	Rate (£/hour)	Sub-Total (£)
Labor	Project Manager	100	60	6,000
	Engineers	200	50	10,000
	Designers	150	40	6,000
	Quality Assurance Specialists	120	30	3,600
	Marketing Specialists	80	35	2,800
Materials	Electronic Components	-	-	8,000
	Prototyping Tools	-	-	2,000
	Testing Equipment	-	-	1,000
Miscellaneous	Marketing Campaigns	-	-	3,000
	Distribution & Logistics	-	-	1,000
Total Estimated Cost				£43,400

Table no.2: Cost Table (Created by the student).

Detailed Analysis:

Labour Cost:

- ❖ The Project Manager oversees the execution of every stage of the project to keep it on schedule and within budget while contributing 100 hours of work at a premium rate.
- ❖ Engineers occupy a pivotal role by dedicating 200 hours on hardware and software development to ensure the device possesses modern features including IoT connectivity and energy efficiency.
- ❖ Designers dedicate 150 hours to create both visually attractive and user-friendly interfaces which ensure the device's market readiness.
- ❖ Quality Assurance Specialists perform evaluations of prototypes to ensure they function correctly and meet safety and compliance standards while spending 120 hours on this task (BAJOLLE & DEMONGEOT, 2002).

- ❖ The Marketing Team develops launch strategies and promotional plans while dedicating 80 hours to connecting with the target audience.

Material Costs:

- ❖ The device relies on electronic components like sensors, circuit boards and batteries which require a financial investment of £8,000.
- ❖ The prototype is developed and enhanced through the use of 3D printers and assembly gear which demands an expenditure of £2,000.
- ❖ The budget allocates £1,000 for supplementary testing equipment which ensures product quality and durability.

Various Expenses:

- ❖ For successful product introduction we spend £3,000 on social media marketing and internet advertisements with public relations efforts.
- ❖ Distribution and logistics costs together with packing and shipping expenses are fixed at £1,000.

Significance of Cost Management

The management team needs to control expenses through careful supervision to avoid spending more than planned. Regular financial updates will be delivered to stakeholders to maintain transparency during the entire project duration. The cost calculation maintains financial sustainability and demonstrates responsible adherence to stakeholder requirements. The project delivers an exceptional product and maintains cost-effective operations when it adheres to this budget.

Timeline and Milestones

The Smart Home Device Design and Development project structure ensures all stages and milestones reach completion in a 24-week time frame. The initial stage of the project is conceptualisation before it advances through feasibility study, design, development phases and ends with manufacturing followed by distribution and launch. The initial phase of the process involves conceptualisation which focuses on identifying and refining user requirements (*Capitanelli, et. al., 2014*). The project proceeds through feasibility analysis together with design development and manufacturing leading into distribution and launch phases.

The project timeline includes distinct milestones including the feasibility study, prototype validation and product launch to provide clear focus and emphasis. Monitoring progress at regular intervals can prevent delays and optimize resource utilization. The structured plan ensures the delivery of a market-ready quality product within budget and time constraints while meeting stakeholder expectations (*Capitanelli, et. al., 2014*). Also, the project structure ensures effective resource utilization while maintaining quality and conducting thorough testing.

Key Phases and Milestones

Conceptualisation (Weeks 1–2):

- ❖ Through market research and brainstorming activities, we identify user requirements.
- ❖ Deliverable: A paper offers thorough details about the subject matter.

Feasibility Analysis (Weeks 3 - 5):

- ❖ Perform both cost-benefit analysis and risk assessment.
- ❖ Deliverable: Report on feasibility.

Design Phase (Weeks 6–10):

- ❖ Create technical specs and CAD models.
- ❖ Deliverable: Design documentation that is complete.

Development Phase (Weeks 11–15):

- ❖ Develop a functional prototype and perform iterative tests to refine it.
- ❖ Deliverable: The deliverable is a functioning prototype ready for the quality assurance phase.

Manufacturing (Weeks 16-20):

- ❖ Prepare the manufacturing process and secure the necessary supplies before you can start assembling everything together.
- ❖ Deliverable: Production of the initial batch of the gadget is complete.

Distribution and Launch (Weeks 21–24):

- ❖ Establish marketing strategies and execute logistical plans.
- ❖ Deliverable: Launch of the product.

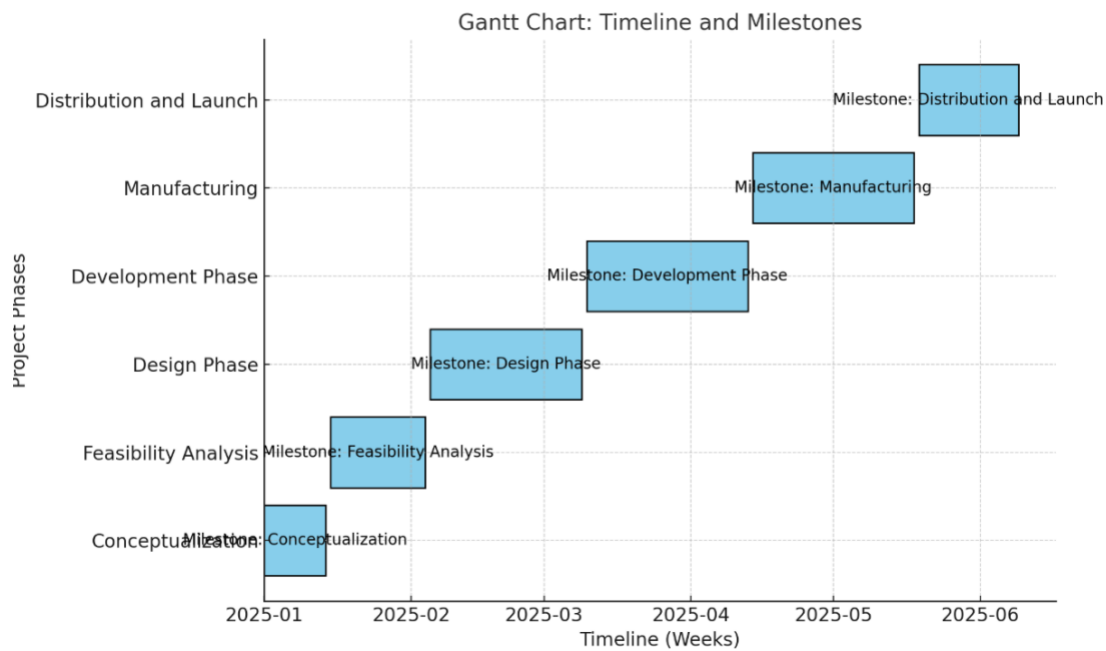


Fig. No. 2: Gantt Chart: Timeline And Milestones (Created by the student).

Phase	Start Date	End Date	Key Milestone
Conceptualization	Week 1	Week 2	Approval of the concept document
Feasibility Analysis	Week 3	Week 5	Completion of feasibility report
Design Phase	Week 6	Week 10	Submission of CAD models and specifications
Development Phase	Week 11	Week 15	Testing and validation of prototype
Manufacturing	Week 16	Week 20	Assembly of the first production batch
Distribution and Launch	Week 21	Week 24	Product launch and distribution

Conclusion and Recommendations

The project plan provides a comprehensive approach to manage the design process and development of a smart home device. The plan methodically handles essential project management components such as the Work Breakdown Structure (WBS), cost analysis, resource allocation, and scheduling to ensure the project goals are achieved through efficient

and effective execution. Each phase of the project features specific deliverables and milestones that support the main goal of delivering a top-quality product ready for consumer use. The practical application of academic project management principles demonstrates itself through techniques like cost estimating and responsibility matrices to solve real-world problems. Task division ensures accountability and teamwork while strict time and cost schedules support transparency and enable early risk control. The combined operation of all project elements guarantees successful completion while staying within defined boundaries.

Recommendations:

- ❖ Complete the work on time by performing regular checks on the progress and milestone evaluations.
- ❖ Maintaining open communication between team members and stakeholders helps to resolve problems swiftly.
- ❖ Prepare contingency measures for likely risks including supply chain delays and cost overruns.
- ❖ Perform a final evaluation to ensure the product meets quality standards and market requirements before launching (*Wolniak, 2022*).

By applying this structured approach and these recommendations the project team can achieve its objective to produce a smart home device that stands out for its creativity while being user friendly and economically priced.

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