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INSTALLATION & USER GUIDE

Kids Room Control

Room-based parental controls for Control4 entertainment systems

Installer configuration • Composer Pro properties
Navigator user interface • Operation • Diagnostics

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Installer setup, reference settings, parent workflow and commissioning tests.

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Property Quick Reference

What Is Kids Room Control?

Kids Room Control is a room-based parental media management driver designed for Control4 systems. It gives families a practical way to establish, apply and adjust rules for children's use of television, streaming devices, music and other audio/video entertainment. Rather than attempting to manage each television or streaming device individually, the installer selects the Control4 rooms that should be supervised. The driver monitors the room's media activity, maintains usage counters and evaluates the configured parental rules.

The purpose is not simply to switch a television off after a fixed period. Kids Room Control combines **daily viewing allowances, permitted time windows, automatic room shutdown requests, extra bonus time and parent-facing controls** in one integrated solution. The configuration can accommodate different family routines, school days and weekends, as well as homes with more than one entertainment room.

Core Capabilities

- **Room-based monitoring:** Choose the rooms to supervise directly from the Control4 project. The same room can contain a television, streaming player, game console or audio source; no individual TV device IDs need to be entered by the installer.
- **Separate or Shared daily budgets:** Assign an independent time allowance to each room or let all monitored rooms draw from one common allowance. In Shared mode, simultaneous activity in two rooms consumes wall-clock time only once, rather than double-charging the shared budget.
- **Weekday and weekend rules:** Set different daily limits for school days and weekends, or apply one daily schedule throughout the week.
- **Permitted viewing hours:** Define start and end times for weekday and weekend use, such as after school or before bedtime. The schedule complements, rather than replaces, the daily time allowance.
- **Three outside-hours policies:** Choose **Blocked** to deny use outside the window, **Remaining** to permit use only while daily minutes are available (and count them), or **Always** to permit outside-window use regardless of remaining minutes without charging the budget.
- **Automatic enforcement:** When an active session violates a configured limit or blocked time window, the driver can request `ROOM_OFF` for that Control4 room when **Physical Shutdown** is enabled. Room state and endpoint feedback must be verified during commissioning.
- **Bonus minutes:** A parent can grant additional time for the current day without changing the normal daily allowance. Bonus minutes and consumed minutes are tracked separately.
- **Resets and usage information:** View used and remaining time, adjust consumed minutes, reset the appropriate counter, and review available status/history information. The daily rollover clears the day's usage and bonus; a manual counter reset clears usage but does not remove a bonus.
- **Integrated Control4 Navigator interface:** Parents access a dedicated WebView to review balances, change limits, adjust viewing windows, grant bonuses, reset counters and access advanced settings. The WebView is protected by a configurable login PIN and does not continuously rebuild editable forms.
- **Installer controls and diagnostics:** Composer Pro provides room selection, monitoring options, physical shutdown control, warnings and diagnostic information for testing the installation.

Everyday Problems It Helps Solve

Everyday challenge	How the driver helps
"Just five more minutes" becomes another hour.	Time is accumulated across viewing sessions instead of restarting whenever the room is turned off and back on. Once the configured budget is exhausted, the driver can request room shutdown.
Children switch to another room to continue watching.	A Shared budget applies across all monitored rooms so moving from the bedroom to the playroom does not create a new daily allowance.
TV or games are used during homework or near bedtime.	Separate weekday/weekend viewing windows and an outside-hours policy establish whether use is allowed at those times.
Different rooms need different rules.	Separate mode supports an individual budget for each room; the parent can edit the currently selected room without reconfiguring every endpoint.
A special occasion calls for extra time.	Bonus minutes extend today's budget without permanently increasing weekday or weekend limits.
Parents want control without opening Composer Pro.	From the PIN-gated Navigator interface, parents can read time balances and modify common settings, including limits, bonus time, reset actions and schedules.
Parents need visibility over actual use.	Consumed and remaining minutes provide an at-a-glance view of room activity as reported by Control4.

Practical Example: Two Rooms, One Allowance

Consider a home with a **Kids Bedroom** and a **Playroom**. The family sets a shared weekday allowance of **120 minutes** and a permitted window of **16:00–20:00**. A child watches 45 minutes in the bedroom and later plays for 30 minutes in the playroom: **75 minutes have been consumed and 45 remain**. Switching rooms has not reset the clock. When the allowance runs out, the driver requests room shutdown if enforcement is enabled and supported by the system.

On a weekend, the parents can use a longer allowance and wider viewing window. If an exception is needed, they can grant bonus minutes from Navigator instead of altering the permanent routine. In a household where each room should have its own allowance, the installer can choose Separate mode instead.

What Kids Room Control Does Not Do

Kids Room Control manages **Control4 room media sessions**. It does **not** identify which child is watching, filter content by age, block websites, regulate internet bandwidth, or physically lock a TV's built-in buttons and original remote control. Its ability to recognize activity and execute a shutdown depends on the Control4 room configuration, available feedback and compatible source drivers. A TV operated entirely outside Control4 may not be controllable. Every monitored room should be tested before relying on the restriction.

Next: Part A provides numbered Composer Pro installation steps. Part B explains the dedicated Navigator interface for parents.

Manufacturer: Smart Domo S.r.l.
Version: v0085 documentation edition
Audience: Control4 installers, system administrators and parents

> **Important:** Use this guide with an installation that has been tested on the actual Control4 controller. Room shutdown depends on supported room commands and source feedback. A Control4 room shutdown does not physically lock a television's own buttons or remote. The default PIN `1234` must be changed for normal use.

Part A — Installation in Composer Pro

Step 1 — Back up and install the driver

1. Open the customer's project in **Composer Pro**.
2. Create a **project backup** before installing or updating the driver.
3. Import the **Kids Room Control** `.c4z` into your driver library.
4. Add **Kids Room Control** to a suitable room in **System Design**.
5. Select the driver and open **Properties**.
6. Verify that the instance has loaded and the **Enabled**, **Web Login PIN** and **Add Room** properties appear.

Expected result: The driver appears in System Design and its Properties are available.

Step 2 — Set the parent login PIN

1. Find **Web Login PIN** in Properties.
2. Enter a numeric PIN of **4–8 digits**. New installs start with `1234`.
3. Use a unique PIN instead of `1234` for a normal installation.
4. Press **Set** or confirm the property edit in Composer.

Expected result: The WebView accepts the configured PIN when opened in Navigator. Existing installations may retain their previously saved PIN when updating the driver.

Security note: PIN handling in this driver is an access convenience, not a substitute for restricting physical and project administration access. The Composer property is not a secure secrets vault.

Step 3 — Select the rooms to supervise

1. In Properties, find **Add Room**.
2. Open its room selection menu.
3. Select the first room, for example **Kids Bedroom**.

4. Apply the selection using **Set**.
5. Repeat **Add Room** for each additional room, for example **Playroom**.
6. Check **Selected Rooms** to make sure the correct rooms appear.
7. To remove a room, select it using **Remove Room** and apply the change.

Expected result: All selected rooms appear under **Selected Rooms**. Do **not** enter device IDs or configure each television separately.

Step 4 — Choose Shared or Separate counters

1. Find **Counter Mode**.
2. Select **Separate** for an independent daily budget in each monitored room, or **Shared** for one daily budget across all selected rooms.
3. Apply the change.
4. Confirm that Composer displays only the budget settings relevant to the chosen mode.

Example — Separate: Kids Bedroom: 120 minutes; Playroom: 90 minutes. Each room has its own timer.
Example — Shared: Both rooms use a common 150-minute budget. If both rooms are active for the same 30 minutes, the Shared budget uses 30 minutes, not 60.

Important: Switching Counter Mode does not automatically erase the other mode's saved counters.

Step 5A — Set Separate room budgets

Use this step only when **Counter Mode = Separate**.

1. Select the desired room under **Configure Room**.
2. Set **Selected Weekday Minutes**, for example `120`.
3. Set **Selected Weekend Minutes**, for example `180`.
4. Review **Selected Room Used Minutes** and **Selected Room Remaining Minutes**.
5. Repeat for every supervised room.

Expected result: Each room has independent weekday/weekend limits and a separate consumed-time counter.

Step 5B — Set a Shared budget

Use this step only when **Counter Mode = Shared**.

1. Set **Shared Weekday Minutes**, for example `120`.
2. Set **Shared Weekend Minutes**, for example `180`.
3. Review **Shared Used Minutes** and **Shared Remaining Minutes**.

Expected result: A single daily allowance applies across the selected rooms.

Step 6 — Define weekdays and weekends

1. Find **Week Schedule**.
2. Select **Weekday Weekend** to use weekday limits Monday–Friday and weekend limits Saturday–Sunday.
3. Alternatively choose **Every Day** to use the weekday allowance for every day.
4. Apply the setting.

Expected result: The correct limit applies on the current day.

Step 7 — Configure permitted hours

1. Open **Kids Room Control** in Navigator and sign in with the parent PIN (details in Part B).
2. Choose the current room or Shared budget.
3. Find **Allowed Hours**.
4. Set the start and end times for **Weekdays** in 24-hour format, for example `16:00` to `20:00`.
5. Set the start and end times for **Weekend** separately, for example `09:00` to `21:00`.
6. Save the relevant time fields.
7. If the WebView has not yet been configured, **Allowed From** and **Allowed Until** in Composer provide default values.

Expected result: The saved time windows appear when the user logs in again. A window that passes midnight is supported; equal start and end values are treated as a full-day window in the current implementation.

Step 8 — Select the outside-hours policy

1. In Composer set **Advanced Settings = On**, then find **Outside Hours Access**.
2. Choose one of these values:
    - **Blocked** — media use is not permitted outside the scheduled hours.
    - **Remaining** — use is permitted outside scheduled hours only while time remains; the time is consumed.
    - **Always** — use is permitted outside scheduled hours even after the daily budget is exhausted; usage outside the window is not deducted.
3. Apply the selection.
4. Alternatively set the same policy in **Navigator → Advanced Settings → Outside Scheduled Hours**.

Example: With allowed hours `16:00–20:00` and a 120-minute daily limit, at 21:00 **Blocked** denies use, **Remaining** allows use only with time left, and **Always** allows use without counting outside-hours minutes.

Expected result: The rule is applied across all monitored rooms; per-room hours may differ in Separate mode.

Step 9 — Review shutdown and monitoring

1. Find **Physical Shutdown**. Set to **On** only after testing the room commands.

2. In **Advanced Settings**, review **Monitoring Mode**:
    - **Power And Source:** uses source selection and available power feedback, with fallback when the power feedback is missing.
    - **Source Only:** follows selected audio/video sources.
3. Keep **Warning Minutes** at `15,5,1`, or use your preferred comma-separated thresholds.
4. Read **Diagnostic Status** and **Engine Status** while activating a source in a monitored room.

Expected result: A source becomes active in diagnostics and its counter advances. If Control4 retains a source selection after the physical TV is off, verify the true behavior before enabling enforcement.

Step 10 — Make the interface available in Navigator

1. In Composer Pro, select the room containing the driver.
2. Open its **Navigator** configuration.
3. In the room's **Navigator** settings, locate **Kids Room Control** among the available UI devices.
4. **Explicitly set the device to Visible** in the desired menu: **Watch** (Guarda) or **Security** (Sicurezza), according to the Control4 project and the client's preference. If the driver is hidden in both categories, the parent will not see the user interface.
5. Apply the visibility change to any additional Navigator rooms or devices that should offer parental access, using **Apply To** where supported.
6. Run **Refresh Navigators**.
7. Open the Control4 app or touchscreen and look for the **Kids Room Control** icon.
8. Open the icon and check the PIN login screen.

Expected result: Kids Room Control appears in the chosen **Watch** or **Security** category, and its icon opens the PIN-protected dashboard. **Important:** installing the driver does not automatically make it visible in Navigator; the installer must enable visibility in the desired menu.

Part B — Parent User Guide (Control4 Navigator)

Step 11 — Sign in to the dashboard

1. Open **Control4** on your phone or touchscreen.
2. Open **Watch** or **Security** (whichever the installer configured), then select **Kids Room Control**.
3. Enter the PIN provided by your installer.
4. Select **Log In**.
5. Confirm the displayed room/budget matches the current configuration.

Expected result: The dashboard displays real values from Director. The page loads data at login and does not continually rebuild fields while you edit them.

Step 12 — Understand your daily budget

1. Locate the budget summary.
2. Read **Time Used** (minutes already consumed).
3. Read **Remaining Time** (how much viewing time is left).
4. Under **Separate**, select the relevant room.
5. Under **Shared**, the same allowance is used across all monitored rooms.

Remember: Time is based on media activity detected by Control4, not on every minute that the physical television is plugged in.

Step 13 — Change a weekday or weekend limit

1. Find **Weekday Limit** or **Weekend Limit**.
2. Enter a new number of minutes, for example `90`.
3. Press the **Save** button associated with that field.
4. Confirm the success message.
5. Log out and sign back in if you want a fresh snapshot of all values.

Expected result: The new limit is stored without resetting already consumed time.

Step 14 — Give bonus minutes

1. Find **Bonus (min)**.
2. Enter the desired extra allowance, for example `30`.
3. Press **Save**.
4. Check that the available budget increases accordingly.

Important: Bonus sets the current bonus amount; entering `30` does not add another 30 on top of a previous 30. Bonus expires at the daily rollover, usually midnight.

Step 15 — Adjust minutes already used

1. Find **Time Used (min)** for the selected room or Shared budget.
2. Enter the intended consumed-time value.
3. Press **Save**.
4. Check the resulting remaining time.

Example: Daily limit 120; Time Used changed from 100 to 60; remaining allowance increases by 40 minutes, without changing the daily limit.

Step 16 — Reset a counter

1. Ensure the correct room or Shared budget is selected.
2. Press **Reset Room Counter** or **Reset Shared Counter**.
3. Confirm the action if prompted.
4. Reopen the page or log out and back in to verify the fresh value.

Expected result: Time Used returns to zero. **Bonus** and schedule settings do not change. Set Bonus explicitly to `0` if you also want to remove it.

Step 17 — Change viewing hours

1. Find **Allowed Hours** for the selected room or Shared budget.
2. Change **Weekdays From / Until** using 24-hour time.
3. Change **Weekend From / Until** as desired.
4. Save each updated field.
5. Verify the displayed values after signing in again.

Expected result: The time windows determine when viewing is scheduled, while the outside-hours policy determines what happens when a session begins outside those windows.

Step 18 — Manage advanced settings

1. Open **Advanced Settings**.
2. To change how rooms share their daily budget, select **Counter Mode → Separate** or **Shared** and save the choice.
3. To control usage outside viewing hours, select **Outside Scheduled Hours → Blocked / Remaining / Always** and save.
4. At the bottom of **Advanced Settings**, use **Parental Control → Enable / Disable** as appropriate.

Important: Disabling Parental Control suspends enforcement but should not erase counters, bonus or schedules. Changing Counter Mode preserves each mode's previously stored counters.

Step 19 — Log out

1. Select **Log Out**.
2. Confirm that the **Parent Access** PIN page appears again.

The page intentionally does **not** refresh its form automatically while you edit settings. To obtain an entirely fresh copy of counters and settings, log out and log back in.

Part C — Verification and Troubleshooting

Step 20 — Test enforcement safely

1. Begin with **one** monitored room and a controllable TV or audio source.
2. Verify the counter increases while the room has an active media session.
3. Configure a short temporary limit that can be reached safely.
4. Keep **Physical Shutdown = On** only if the equipment and room behavior have been tested.
5. Wait for the limit to expire.
6. Confirm that the room actually turns off.
7. Grant a bonus and confirm that the driver no longer requests shutdown while additional permitted time remains.
8. Test outside-hours behaviors individually.
9. Restore normal allowances when the tests are complete.

Expected result: The log may show `ROOM_OFF SENT`, but you should visually verify the room actually turns off. Repeat shutdown requests may occur if Director still reports the room as active.

Step 21 — Troubleshoot common issues

Symptom	What to check
Driver not in Navigator	Verify the device is visible in **Watch** or **Security**, run **Refresh Navigators**, and reopen the app.
WebView does not open	Verify that the `.c4z` resources are installed correctly; reinstall the appropriate driver build if necessary.
Login rejected	Confirm **Web Login PIN** in Composer. Existing instances may retain their old PIN after updates.
Counters do not increase	Check **Selected Rooms**, **Monitoring Mode**, source selection and **Diagnostic Status**.
TV does not turn off	Verify **Enabled**, **Physical Shutdown**, the exhausted budget or blocked hours, and actual room command support.
UI does not show a recent change	Confirm Save succeeded; log out and back in for a fresh snapshot.
Bonus did not appear to add up	The bonus field sets a total, not an increment.
Reset did not remove bonus	Expected behavior: reset clears used time only. Set Bonus to zero separately.

Property Quick Reference

Composer Property	What to do
Enabled	Turn parental enforcement On or Off
Web Login PIN	Set parent access PIN
Add Room / Remove Room	Manage monitored room list
Selected Rooms	Verify current selection
Counter Mode	Select Separate or Shared
Configure Room	Pick a room to edit its individual settings
Shared Weekday / Weekend Minutes	Configure the Shared allowance
Selected Weekday / Weekend Minutes	Configure the selected room's allowance
Shared / Selected Used Minutes	Inspect current consumed time
Shared / Selected Bonus Minutes	Set the extra time allowance
Reset Shared / Selected Room Counter	Clear consumed minutes
Week Schedule	Separate weekday/weekend or same daily budget
Allowed From / Allowed Until	Set default permitted hours
Outside Hours Access	Blocked / Remaining / Always
Monitoring Mode	Choose session detection behavior
Warning Minutes	Set warning thresholds
Physical Shutdown	Enable/disable room-off commands
Advanced Settings	Show advanced configuration
Diagnostic Status / Engine Status	Read troubleshooting information

Smart Domo S.r.l. — Kids Room Control

Documentation note: The exact appearance of Composer and Navigator controls depends on the installed Control4 system version. Perform final validation on the target controller before relying on restrictions.

Contact Smart Domo

For technical assistance, product information, installation enquiries or further support with Kids Room Control, please contact our team.

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