This is going to be different for every person. Perhaps the hardest part of deciding what to buy is going to be figuring out how many channels you will need. Remember, that each board can hold a maximum of 40 amps. Thus, if you were add up the load of all your lights, and they came in under 40, you would only need one 16 channel board. Of course, if you have more than 16 things to plug in, you will want more than one board.