



# Advice from the PROs

*Experts reveal how to best choose lighting for your home*



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**WHAT TYPES OF LIGHTING ARE ROOM-SPECIFIC?**

It is best to develop an overall plan based on the needs of your family and the activities that will take place in the area. For example, kitchen and baths will need task lighting for cooking, grooming and preparation. For a living room, you will want ambience as well as task lighting for reading and other activities. In each of these cases, it is best to have several types of lighting because there is more than one purpose for the room. In all cases, adding a dimmer or lighting system allows you the flexibility to choose.

**HOW SHOULD LIGHTING FIXTURES BE CHOSEN IN REGARD TO A ROOM'S DÉCOR?**

Lighting should be both decorative and functional. There are basically three types: ambient, task and accent. The best results are achieved when layering the lighting in a room. Developing a good lighting plan and working with a lighting designer will help you achieve the look you want.

**WHAT KINDS OF LIGHTING COMPLEMENT ALL STYLES OF DÉCOR?**

Again, working with a lighting designer is critical for a project. Determining the proper size, light output, placement and design can make or break a beautiful room. Color of the lamps (bulbs) is also critical to your design. With unlimited sizes, shapes, colors and styles, lighting provides the finishing touch to your interior design plan.



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**HOW SHOULD LIGHTING FIXTURES BE CHOSEN IN REGARD TO A ROOM'S DÉCOR?**

The first thing I ask a client is what overall feeling or style they want to achieve in the room. I'll ask about paint colors and for them to describe the furniture in the room and its placement. Beautiful lighting fixtures can make or break the entire feel of a room.

**WHAT TYPES OF LIGHTING ARE ROOM-SPECIFIC?**

You need task lighting for kitchens and bathrooms and more ambient lighting for living rooms, bedrooms and dining rooms. A small powder room may only need wall light near the mirror, which is achieved by side sconces. Kitchens need good general lighting, but most important is great task lighting over each work space—under-cabinet lighting and recessed lighting placed strategically will make all the difference.

**WHAT LIGHTING BEST COMPLEMENTS A VERY MODERN HOME?**

Modern homes generally call for very sleek lighting. There are lots of fun brands that make very cool, interesting pieces that can be treated as art.

**WHAT KINDS OF LIGHTING COMPLEMENT ALL STYLES OF DÉCOR?**

Simple lights with clean lines, especially authentic looking pieces that are classic designs, can fit in pretty much any décor. Classic lighting, like clothing, never really looks dated.

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