



Basic Room Lighting

Layering the light is essential. Some recessed is necessary, but don't stop there. Recessed is not your warm light that will draw your family and friends into a room. It is a good idea to use table lamps, floor lamps and wall sconces, in addition to reading light to balance out the warmth and functionality of the room.

In a dining room the rule of thumb is to hang the chandelier 30" above the table. The diameter of the chandelier relates to the width of the table and the height of the ceiling. A standard width of a rectangular dining table is around 40" to 44". The chandelier diameter should be no more than approximately 30" to 32". If the ceiling is taller than 8 or 9 feet, then the chandelier could be larger.

If you have a long dining table, it is also possible to hang two chandeliers or lanterns over the table. This is a nice design element to balance out the length of the table.

Remember that the chandelier is only one aspect of lighting in the dining room. Sconces, console lamps, and recessed can also be part of the mix, done artfully.

The same rules apply for living rooms and bedrooms. The way to achieve maximum benefits from your lighting design is to layer the light, floor, ceiling, and task lighting.

There's not a room in the home that doesn't need at least one lamp! Lamps have a way of softening the light if your only source is an overhead fixture. Consider adding a lamp to the bathroom, kitchen, dining room, foyers, and children's rooms.

Nighttime is the best time to see how your lighting is working. The use of dimmers is a must! Dimmers create the mood in the room. You can change the mood by changing the level of light. We use them in every room of the house. Not only do they create different moods in the room, but they also save you money on your energy bill!

Torcheres can provide direct lighting when the room doesn't have enough. If there is a dark corner a torchere will brighten up that area of the room.

Mix chandeliers with sconces, recessed lighting with table and floor lamps. Combine uplights, downlights, and accent lights.

Remember, lighting brings the magic into the room!