

transform

Because every house can be a beautiful home

Get glowing

This month, we reveal lighting solutions for every space, from statement pendants to practical wall lamps and everything in between.

Mimic this lighting scheme with Laura Ashley's black shade with gold inner, \$99.95, and drum in Raspberry, \$129. >

let there be light

Make your home shine with a smart and stunning illumination scheme

WORDS VANESSA KEYS

AS THE EXPERTS will attest, lighting can have the single greatest effect on the overall atmosphere of a room. "Too often people don't understand how important lighting is, and they over- or under-compensate on the level of light needed in a space," says Emilia La Forgia from Artemide. "As a result the space doesn't work, from both a personal and interior design perspective." To avoid a case of extravagant chandeliers crowding a small living area, or a dining room that's crying out for ambience, a well-planned scheme is key.

Find pendants that resemble birds' nests at Hermon & Hermon. For a bold drum lampshade, consider a custom creation from Shady Designs.



For similar, try the 'Seby' glass ball lamp base, \$299, Laura Ashley.



'Glamour' 8-light chandelier, \$1695, Domayne.



'Meyer' 6-light pendant, \$695, Beacon Lighting.



In-Ei Issey Miyake 'Katatsumuri' pendant, from \$730, Artemide.



Neil Poulton 'Talo' LED wall lamp, from \$530, Artemide.



the lowdown on LEDs

LEDs (light-emitting diodes) have been serving us for years through everyday appliances – think microwave displays and smart phones. Recently, they've taken the lighting world by storm.

Why are they so great? In short, they're incredibly energy efficient, generate little heat and emit minimum UV rays. "The recently released LED downlights work very similarly to common halogen downlights, but use 85 per cent less energy, last 25 times longer and operate at a much cooler temperature, making them a safer option," explains Denise.

What to look for? LEDs are available in a full spectrum of whites, from warm (lower colour temperature) to cool (higher colour temperature). If you're after standard halogen-style lighting for your home, look for a warm, welcoming tone with a colour temperature around 2700k. Cheaper LEDs often only come in higher colour temperatures, usually white/blue tones.

The next big thing? Organic LEDs, where a layer of organic film emits light, are under development. "OLEDs are expected to be far superior to conventional lighting systems in terms of efficiency and power," says Richard Shepherd of Philips Australia. >

where to begin

Determine if you need ambient, task or accent lighting – or all three!

AMBIENT or general lighting provides an area with overall illumination. A room with purely ambient lighting (particularly when it comes from one source) will often take on a dull, flat effect. Combat this by pairing your fitting, be it a ceiling-mounted bowl, track light or pendant, with a mix of task and accent lighting. "This layered approach ensures there are different levels of light within a space," says Emilia La Forgia. "Use a combination of pendant, wall, table or floor fixtures to create the different qualities of light that every room needs."

TASK LIGHTING is a bright light that illuminates a particular area where a visual activity, such as cooking or reading, takes place; it's particularly important in the kitchen. "In most cases, wall lamps, table and floor lamps will do the job very well," advises Beacon Lighting's Denise Hammond. "You could also experiment with hanging a pendant light quite low over a table, sideboard or bedsides – 70 centimetres is a good distance between surface and light for an on-trend look."

ACCENT or mood lighting helps to bring attention to a specific feature, such as a mantelpiece, bookshelf or kitchen benchtop. It also adds texture, focus and shape to your general lighting scheme. "You can use a mix of halogen spotlights, downlights, uplights, tracks and table lamps, or a stand alone lamp directed at the feature," says Denise. If you're using table lamps, choose opaque shades that direct light down and prevent it from spilling out.



'Vision' table lamp, \$49.95, Domayne. Stockists, page 223



For an industrial look like this, check out the selection of table lamps at Les Salles.

lamps

Table and floor lamps come in myriad styles, sizes, shapes and materials, meaning there's something to suit every decorating scheme. They're versatile (use them for task, ambient or accent lighting), moveable (switch them around to change the look and feel of your room), and adding new ones is a quick and relatively inexpensive style update.

Try a table lamp in a hallway to create a welcoming glow or pair a floor lamp with a comfy chair to define a reading corner in a living room or study. "Lighting in the bedroom tends to be more concerned with ambience, but don't forget to include a task-oriented option if you like to read in bed," advises Jon Holland from Space. Before you buy a bedside lamp, ensure it will cast enough light, and that it won't overcrowd a small side table. >



Tom Dixon 'Bell' floor lamp, \$1683, De De Ce.



'Clarity' table lamp in Teal, \$29.95, Freedom.



'Meyer' floor lamp in Ash, \$389, Beacon Lighting.

'Cafe' table lamp, \$120, Bunnings.



'Salut' desk lamp in Black, \$159, Domayne.



'Gavik' table lamp in Blue, \$29.95, Ikea.



Design House Stockholm 'Block' lamp, \$250, Top 3 By Design.

PHOTOGRAPHY (TOP LEFT) PHOTOSHOT/RED COVER/PAUL MASSEY (OPPOSITE) JOHN PAUL URIZAR

Tom Dixon 'Base' floor lamp, \$1551, De De Ce. Stockists, page 223



"Experiment with lamps by moving them around and adjusting the lighting levels until you discover what works best" - Jon Holland, Space

LED 'Net Line' suspension lamp, from \$2349, Artemide.

Patricia Urquiola for Foscarini ceiling lamp, \$1330, Space.

'Fink Droplet' pendant, \$440, Top 3 By Design.

Get this look with an 'Egg' metallic pendant, \$275, Interiors Online.

pendants

Use a beautiful pendant to define a zone in a large space, make a decorative scene-setter or double as an eye-catching artwork. "A pendant is a great option for over the dining table," says Emilia La Forgia of Artemide. "It becomes a decorative feature, as well as creating task and mood lighting." Hang your fittings low over the table for dramatic effect. A set of pendants over the kitchen bench will provide direct lighting as well as creating a focal point – try two rather than three for an on-trend look. One large fitting or a selection set at different heights can look amazing in a stairwell.

If you have low ceilings, opt for a handsome ceiling-mounted fitting instead. Slick adjustable spots on a track give good ambient light and can be positioned to highlight a standout feature or artwork.

'Gleam' pendant shade in Silver, \$129, Freedom.



'City' ceiling light, \$222, About Space.



'Farkost' 3-light ceiling track, \$79, Ikea.



'Comet' pendant in Copper, \$299, Domayne.



'Solkullen' LED pendant, \$49.99, Ikea.



"Dimmers are like a soft focus camera lens, they offer control over the quality of light" ~ interior designer Kathy Arnold, Arnold Lane

'Chic' pendant in
Antique White, \$99.95,
Beacon Lighting.



'Touch' aluminium cluster
pendant, \$2499, Ross Gardam.



'La Rein' chandelier,
\$299, Freedom.



'Madeleine' 5-light
chandelier, \$995,
Beacon Lighting.



'Araneae' chandelier,
\$899, Domayne.

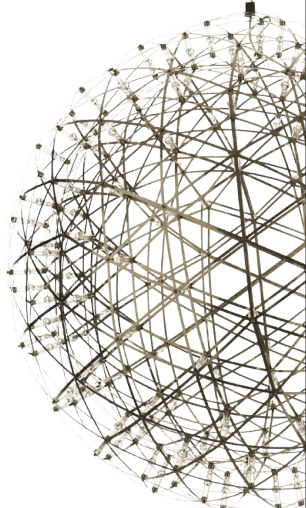


chandeliers

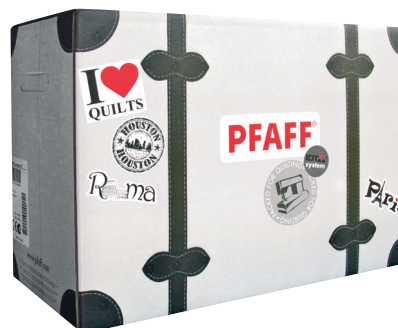
Like pendants, chandeliers can be used to make a statement and delineate a zone. However their make-up – a multitude of small lamps that cast light all around rather than in one direction – lends itself to ambient rather than task illumination. They make wonderful central features but require a high ceiling and large area to ensure they don't overwhelm the space.

Gorgeous in bedrooms, where their glamorous good looks can provide a boudoir-like feel, chandeliers have also become a popular choice in bathrooms and powder rooms, particularly those with a traditional flavour. Just be aware that they must be positioned well away from water sources and splashes, and mustn't be suspended over a bath. >

Moooi 'Raimond'
suspension lamp,
from \$2395, Space.
Stockists, page 223



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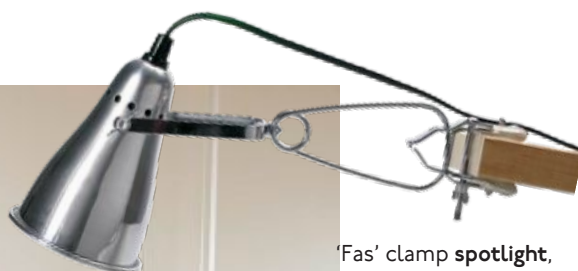
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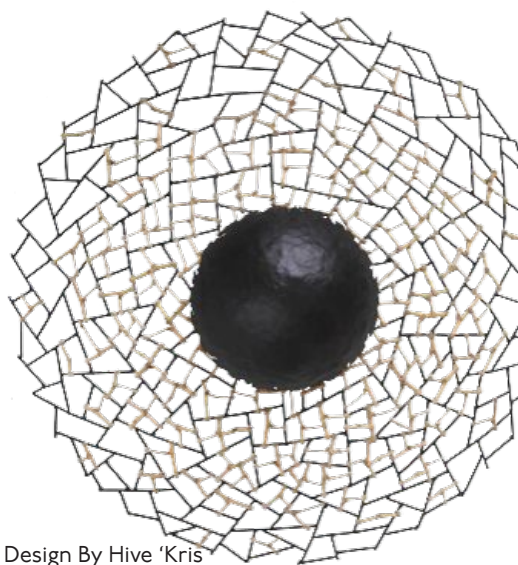
'Fas' clamp spotlight, \$16.99, Ikea.



'Porter' wall light, \$199, Laura Ashley.



Artecnic 'Surprise Surprise' wall lamp, \$245, De De Ce.



Design By Hive 'Kris Kros' wall lamp, from \$665, H&H Collection.



Tom Dixon 'Base' wall light, \$1023, De De Ce.



'Ledino' wall light, \$84.95, Philips Australia. Stockists, page 223



'Lab' pendants, from \$99.95 each, all Beacon Lighting.

DOs & DON'Ts

Beacon Lighting expert Denise Hammond's top tips

DO use a mix of task, ambient and accent lighting in every room.

DO coordinate dining room lighting with the dining room table shape and size; for a round table, go for round or circular lights; for a square table, choose an angular light.

DO consider coloured lampshades. In a neutral space, the brightly coloured lights will draw attention and become a feature in their own right.

DO take special care when planning bathroom lighting. There are important considerations that apply in the bathroom that don't apply elsewhere in the home. Ensure any electrical work is carried out by a fully qualified sparky.

DO use a combination of table lamps, floor lamps, sconces and overhead fixtures. You don't need to have them all in every room, but aim for at least two.

DON'T stick to the indoor/outdoor rules (unless it's a safety issue, of course). Used indoors, traditional outdoor lights can take on a unique or contemporary look.

DON'T limit yourself to pendants over the dining table: suspend a pendant low in a corner to create a cosy nook for reading or hang pendants either side of the bed instead of a bedside lamp, to remove the clutter.

DON'T be satisfied with just an overhead light. Even in small areas like entryways, it's a good idea to have another light source. Sconces or small table lamps are a must.

DON'T forget to add dimmers. Adjusting the light can add ambience and slightly dimmer lighting is more flattering. **hb**