

Lighting The Way...





A bright, welcoming, and airy atmosphere is the key to a well-designed functional space. When natural light is limited, the proper light fixtures will function to illuminate the rooms while making an aesthetic statement. Rugs, fabrics, drapery, and furnishings need to be properly illuminated in order to bring out their beauty and create the desired ambiance in the room.

After working on countless episodes of HGTV's Income Property, many of which took place in basement apartments, I was always faced with the challenge of making the interior feel sunny and bright with the help of careful allocation of lighting. Introducing the right amount of fixtures and the proper combination of lighting sources allowed the spaces to shine both on and off camera. Creating lighting plans is vital to ensuring there is ample distribution of light in a space. At my design firm, we ensure that lighting becomes an essential component of the design package for every client, regardless of how small the budget is.

In order for artificial lighting to give your interior the perfect look, feel, and luminance, you must not rely on only one lighting source; it takes tactful orientation of fixtures to create the proper ambiance in multiple functional zones. There are three essential types of lighting: Ambient, Task and Accent.





Ambient lighting is the general light source; typically this is your pot lights or a basic overhead light. Task lighting functions to illuminate a specific area or zone. Whether it is a desk lamp or under-cabinet lighting, this light source is targeted to meet your specific needs. Accent lighting is meant to focus on a specific subject or area. If used properly, this type of lighting can even create an optical illusion. Often, this type of lighting is used to highlight architectural

features and artwork in the interior. Furthermore, it is predominantly used outdoors to create an ambiance among landscaping.

In addition to their function, we often use light fixtures to add drama to a space. The pendant or chandelier can become the "wow" factor which will leave a lasting impression for many rooms in your house.

Selecting the appropriate chandelier for your room takes careful consideration of scale and style. If you are stuck on where to go or what to choose, call in the experts! A few hours at the lighting store with a professional designer can shed a lot of light on your lighting dilemmas. A great go-to resource in Toronto

with ample selections and outstanding technical knowledge is Royal Lighting.

TIPS:

- 1. Look for LED fixtures; these will stay cool and last much longer than your traditional bulbs.
- Dimmers are a great way to control lighting to set the right ambiance. Install them on all major light sources and pot lights.

Lighting may appear simple but it takes the proper combination of fixtures to allow your spaces to shine. Explore your options and consider both functionality and aesthetics. Shed some beautiful light into your home!



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