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Inspirational pictures of a cozy modern living room with nice lamps and luminaires (and people)

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**Michigan’s source for modern lighting**

Lamps

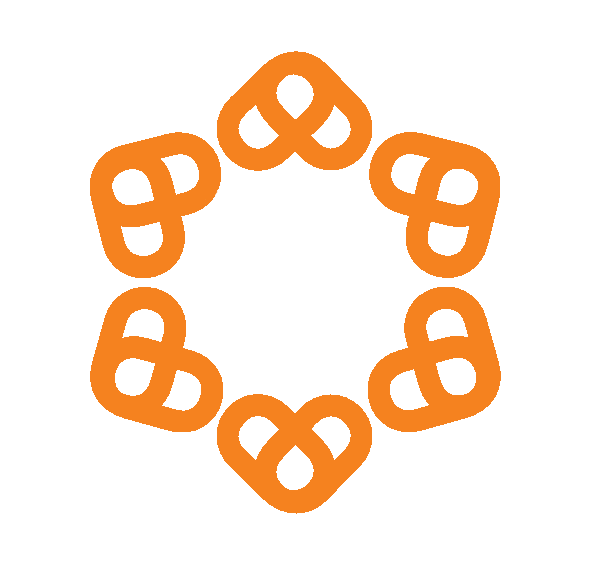
Lamps

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**Your guide to the perfect interior lighting**

The best light there is, is natural light. However with the winter in-sight and daytime light shrinking, we more and more depend on artificial lights and to light up our living spaces and make our homes sparkle in the dark, feel warmer, cozier and safer. If you contemplating new light fixtures for your house, here are few hints to help you choose the right luminaire:

1. ***Determine what your lighting goals are.***    
   Direct or task lighting is focused in the space you are trying to work. Ambient or indirect lighting is used for ambiance and for overall lighting of a space. Once chosen you can begin to choose lighting options.  Each room in your home should have a mood you want to set, as well as a function you want your lighting to serve. Choose the right amount of light for your room by using the calculation under.
2. ***Use multiple light sources for one space.***  
   This will help you to achieve a variety of functions and activities in one space and it will reduce shadows. Have a mix of light sources at different levels (recessed, suspension lamps, wall scones,…) to create a flattering ambience and add appropriate task lighting for whatever you do in that space. In the kitchen, under counter lights can provide great task lighting. While in a living room, opt for a floor lamp next to a couch or favorite reading chair
3. ***Choose your chandeliers wisely.***   
   Because of the central position in a space a chandelier determines largely the decorating value of it. Ask yourself if you want it to be an eye catcher or should it blend in? In any way and whichever is your décor choice, measure out the space, and ceiling height before ordering to ensure enough head room will be available below the hanging chandelier.
4. ***Highlight the room's highlights.***   
   Dramatize wall textures, accent artwork or light up the fireplace. Draw the attention within the space to the architecture and decorative highlights of it. You can do this with special adjustable spot lighting that is either recessed or on a track or use upwards lighting wall scones.
5. ***Go for green and save!***   
   85% of the cost of lighting are energy costs so it pays off rather fast to switch to energy saving alternatives like LED. A little bit more expensive at the registry but far cheaper on your next energy bill. Don’t like the white color? Look on the packaging for the color temperature; 2700K is perfect for ambiance, 3000k for task lighting.

**Calculate yourself how much light you really need**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| How big is the area? | Width (A) |  | Length (B) |  | Surface (A)x(B) | | (C) |
| What is the purpose of the area? | LED or CFLI lighting | | Total Lumen needed  (C) x (D) | Incandescent lighting | | | Total Watt needed  (C) x (E) |
| Relax, Watch TV, Talk | Lumen per Sq ft (D) | 20 |  | Watt per Sq ft (E) | | 1.5 |  |
| Have dinner, dress up | Lumen per Sq ft (D) | 30 |  | Watt per Sq ft (E) | | 2 |  |
| Cook, Work, Read, | Lumen per Sq ft (D) | 50 |  | Watt per Sq ft (E) | | 3.5 |  |
| Simple add up the wattage or Lumen of the light bulbs in the space to see if you meet the total light needed | | | | | | | |

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