

The Design Guy's Lighting Tips & Hints



LIGHTING TIPS & HINTS

THERE ARE THREE TYPES OF LIGHTING USED:

- 1. AMBIENT.** Sometimes called overall lighting, this type of lighting can be achieved by natural light, by overhead can lighting or even in commercial spaces, florescent lighting.
- 2. TASK.** Just what it says, task lighting helps you work. Doing the dishes, working on a hobby, and reading would

be examples. Pendant lighting and floor lamps are examples.

- 3. ACCENT.** Do you want to make notice of that painting over the fireplace or a vase on a pedestal? That is where accent lighting comes in play. Even when we want overall lighting say at night, accent lighting can help make a mood in a room or highlight a prized item. Spots or special art lights can be used.

QUICK TIPS FOR USING LIGHTING IN ROOM SETTINGS:

- 1. DIMMERS.** Using a simple dimmer can double the life of a halogen light bulb just by dimming it by 10%. They are also great to add light when you need it, decrease it when you don't. Dimmers can also produce a romantic mood.
- 2. PLAN AHEAD.** We need more lighting for when we get older. If you're planning on staying in your house a long time and you're replacing lighting, think ahead to future needs.

- 3. READ THE LABEL.** Lamps that have a maximum of 80W mean just that. Don't try to place a 100W in there. The lamp isn't safe otherwise.
- 4. CHANGE THE SHADE.** Don't get trapped buying a lamp and keeping its shade. It's not always correct, a lot of lamp manufacturers cheap-out on the shade to keep the price low. Changing a shade from a solid black opaque shade to one that is white and translucent, will give you another lighting effect.