



The Sun-Herald
Home
on Sunday

July 29, 2007

AMATEUR HOUR
DIY renovating
made easy

ART OF GOLD
Inside the home
of Hetti Perkins

BE DAZZLED!
Journey into the light age

AFR INVESTOR INSIDE

Andrea D’Cruz
CO-DIRECTOR
RUTH LEVINE DESIGN

The current trend is for very dramatic lighting. That was on show in Milan this year and is taking hold in the Australian residential market. Chandeliers are still popular, but it’s more about large-shaded lights and also the chandelier within a shade (see bottom left), which makes it less formal and more of a sculptural element.

If you’re dealing with a small space, uplighting is a good choice because it throws light on the ceiling, making it look higher than it actually is. At the other extreme, if your room is large or tall, lighting can make it more intimate.

The idea of good lighting is to ensure a hierarchy within the space; you don’t want a Christmas tree effect. Consider functionality (is there easy access to the bulb?) and placement, so the guts of the fitting are not exposed if you’re standing or sitting.

trendalert



KNAPPA KLOVER FLOOR LAMP, \$139, FROM IKEA.



HAPPY DAYS (46) FLOOR LAMPS IN CRUSHED SILK, \$3149 EACH, FROM ECC LIGHTING.



CUBETTO WALL LIGHT, \$995, FROM FABBIAN.



PARIS FLOOR LAMPS IN BLACK OR WHITE, \$495 EACH, FROM BEACON LIGHTING.



TOM DIXON FELT SHADES, \$372 EACH, FROM DEDECE.

Shimmer and shine

More than merely functional, lighting is an art form in itself.

THESE days, there is simply no excuse for naked bulbs and flickering fluorescents, no matter what your budget. Visit any lighting shop or department store and you’ll see that the options are dazzling.

Room by room

Successful lighting schemes typically feature a mix of lighting styles within each room, such as table and floor lamps, uplights and downlights, pendants and chandeliers. In a kitchen, for instance, it’s important to choose lighting that will aid in food preparation. Downlights and under-counter options that provide a wash of light are preferable to overhead lights that may cast shadows on work surfaces. Pendants are also a popular option for illuminating island benches and dining tables.

Wash of light

Bathrooms require lighting that is focused on the face to provide optimum illumination for personal grooming. For a home office or study, look for desk lamps that target lighting on the task at hand. And in the bedroom consider whether reading in bed is a priority. If so, look for downlights placed above the bed or table lamps that direct light onto the page rather than diffuse light up or down.

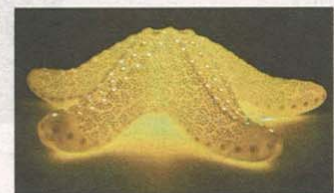
In living rooms, you can feature styles that work as sculptural elements within the room, highlight specific features such as artworks, in addition to atmospheric options that suit activities from parties to general relaxation. And in hallways and staircases make sure the placement of lighting doesn’t cast confusing shadows. Finally, dimmers can be applied to most lights, providing more flexibility when you need to change the mood.

CYNDI TEBBEL

ALEXANDRIA FLOOR LIGHT BASE, \$199, AND WAINSCOTT LINEN SHADE, \$59.95, FROM FREEDOM.



JAZZ CRYSTAL WALL LIGHT \$595, FROM FABBIAN.



BONE CHINA STARFISH LAMP, \$75, FROM HAVE YOU MET MISS JONES.