









Staples, careful planning and research are the best way to create an artful and effectual lighting scheme. Finding the right fixture is also a critical part of the process. "Light fixtures are an important element to the overall design," he explains. "But you shouldn't rely on a fixture alone to light a room. You need to work with other lighting tools like recessed, cove, and under-counter lights. Layering lights will add dimension to the room."

Debbie Fogg, who with her husband, Sanford, owns Fogg Lighting in the Bayside neighborhood of Portland, finds working with clients to be the most fulfilling part of her job. "I love guiding people through the process of lighting their homes. It isn't easy, so if a client starts to feel overwhelmed, I encourage them to make one major lighting-fixture decision. The rest falls into to place once you have that 'keystone' piece." Fogg spends her days surrounded by beautiful fixtures, some of which she has incorporated into her own home's décor. When asked what kind of fixtures she finds the most versatile, she says, "I love

glass fixtures in all sizes and shapes. They can be warm and glowing like amber or sparkling and translucent like crystal."

In addition to a vast number of lighting manufacturers and resources, new lighting technologies and designs offer homeowners abundant lighting options for every style, every room, and every mood. Choosing among these many innovations is what makes David Richard's job exciting. A designer for South Portland's House of Lights, Richard is inspired by the latest trends. "It's often the unexpected that catches the eye and gives a room character," he says. "Anyone can use a traditional fixture that will be perfectly appropriate, but I like to encourage clients to be a little adventurous, to take a risk."

Good lighting can influence and heighten a mood, whether it's the soft glow of a reading light in a cozy den, multiple task lights in a spacious kitchen, or a dramatic chandelier in a soaring foyer. The best lighting is an often-imperceptible amalgam of warmth, radiance, and security that reveals and brightens the soul of a home.





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