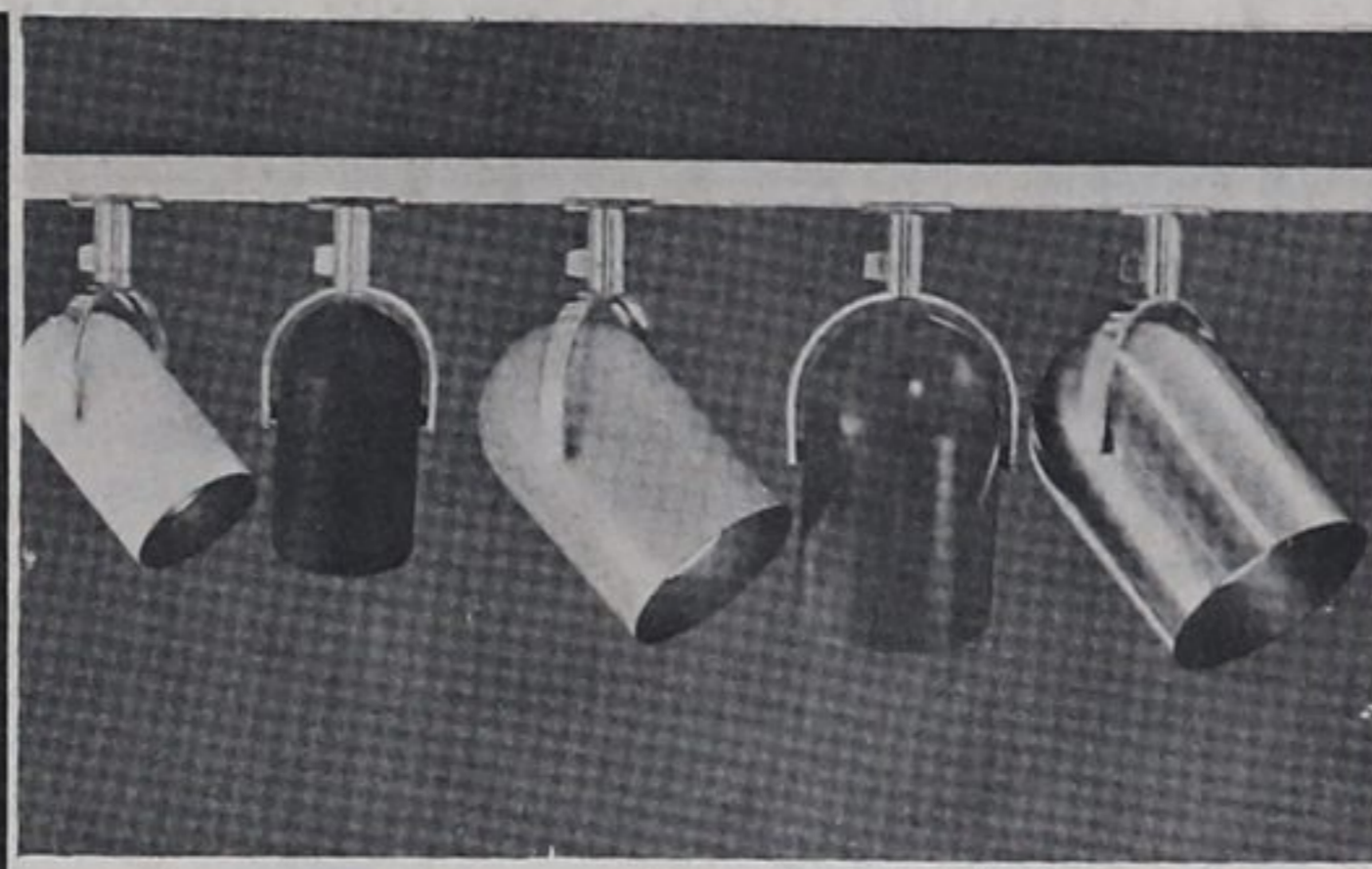


Real Estate and Classified **Marketplace**



Edison's invention has come a long way in design in the 20th century



Living the light fantastic a guide to modern lighting

by Stephanie Heacock
Lifestyle is reflected in lighting. You can bring entire rooms to life, or brighten dark corners dramatically with light you never really see. Those are spots before you eyes; spotlights — and downlights and track lights — are illuminating as never before what we look at in a room and how that room looks to us.

A floor lamp with the structural lines of a tulip, and tables and coffee tables emanating light from no apparent source of electric power, opaque silver bulbs standing on cylinders or grouped together as decorative wall treatments, kinetic light boxes casting changing patterns of light and shadow on any surface — these are the many imaginative shapes and styles to prove that light is radiating excitement.

Gone are the days when lamps stood up straight, care was taken to hide the ugly bulb, and lighting was merely to see by.

Instead, lighting is a decorative element in its own right, capable of creating moods and providing effects. The emphasis is on geometric and architectural designs. We have lighting fixtures that look like the moon, lighting fixtures that resemble atomic structures, lighting fixtures that can bend at an angle, stretch to chair level. Some fixtures have disposed of their shades and made the unadorned bulb an important element of design. These shadeless lamps are often set in arresting forms of

stainless steel, smoked glass and acrylic. Also unique are the see-through lamps that use glass and crystal bases in shapes to suit traditional and modern decor.

Size has taken on a new dimension on the new accent lighting. Not the principle source of focal glow, these accent fixtures are sometimes just several inches high. They may sit squarely on a table or hang surreptitiously to cast shadows in a corner. You can't expect much light from these miniature fixtures, but they work as interesting accessory pieces to enliven any room.

Innovative use of materials has added to lighting excitement, materials that range from enamel, acrylics and chrome for the latest in lighting design to the use of wood, copper, brass, pewter, glass and porcelain for traditional fixtures and portable lamps.

Analyzing lighting needs

Efficient and effective lighting requires careful planning. Whether you are planning lighting for a new house or updating an existing system, you must take a daytime and nighttime inventory of that room's lighting needs before you make changes. Using your furniture arrangement plan, first evaluate the amount of natural light in the room on a sunny day. Determine the minimum of daytime lighting you will need. Then define nighttime activities in the room and note what lighting you will require for visual comfort.

Finally, decide the mood you want to create in your room — one that is restful and serene, or dramatic and lively.

Choosing your lighting
Once you've determined your needs, you're ready to select the light source and fixtures that are best for your particular situation.

Incandescent lighting — is the most common for residential use. There are infinite shapes, wattages and colours of bulbs available, and new, more specialized bulbs are introduced regularly. Incandescent bulbs, which cast a yellowish tint, may weaken colours in the blue-violet range.

Fluorescent lighting — comes in tube form, with variations in wattage, and colour. It is less flexible than incandescent lighting because tubes of different wattage are not interchangeable in the same fixture.

The quality of fluorescent lighting is broadly diffused, with few sharp shadows. The tubes impart a generally bluish cast that reduces the vitality of warm colours and is unflattering to complexions. Special warmer colours are now available so it is wise to check the tone you are trying to achieve.

Lighting fixtures — of all types are available in styles compatible to your furnishings. The basic categories of fixtures are ceiling mounts, wall lights, and lamps.

Ceiling fixtures are mounted close to the ceiling, suspended from it, fitted above it behind translucent panels, or recessed into it, such as

with spotlights. Wall lights include wall lamps, cornice, valance, and bracket fixtures. Lamps include floor and table lamps that you can move easily.

Plan your lighting for economic efficiency. Adequate wiring, a sufficient number of circuits, and the right fixture are essential.

Hidden light hints
— Fluorescents in new warm colours provide three times the light, ten times the life of incandescents of the same wattage.

— Tuck miniature lamps on a bookshelf or etagere.

— Spotlight a plant grouping for faster growing and fascinating shadows.

— Objects d'art sparkle on glass shelves lit from above.

— Wash a wall or draperies with light from above.

— Hang track light vertically on a wall.

— Highlight sculpture or painting with spots.

— Pinpoint lighting intensifies small areas.

— Illuminate bed canopy from inside.

— Diffuse light by reflecting off ceiling.

— Put a lamp inside a plexiglass cube.

— Hang "fairy lights" on an indoor tree with Christmas wiring.

After you have gone to the work and expense involved to create a total lighting atmosphere — turn it off! Not only have hydro costs doubled, also, we must conserve energy. So treat the electric phenomenon with the respect that is due — you will probably enjoy it even more.

How does your garden grow?

by Agnes Millward

The weeks are rapidly flying by and we are faced with Christmas just around the corner! Flowers and plants always play an important part at Christmas time, either as gifts to dear friends and relatives or simply for your own home to be integrated into the festive season adding to the decor of your home during the holidays.

The beauty of plants is that they remain long after the tinsel and holly are removed.

Poinsetta are the most popular plants or most commonly seen plants at this time. They are available almost

anywhere you go and are generally attractively priced for your pocket. The poinsetta are available in varied shades of red through pink and white.

Two points of interest that readers should be made aware of: the coloured or red bracts are not the actual flower—the tiny yellow centre is the true bloom; also the poinsetta is a native of Mexico, found long ago, developed and hybridized over the years into what it is now.

If you have your poinsetta from last year, and you want it to bloom again, be sure it receives absolute darkness for 19

to 14 hours a day for a period of 28 to 30 days. Not even once can you allow artificial light to touch the plant during the dark hours or the cycle will be upset, jeopardizing the possibility of bloom.

Place the plant in as bright a location as you can find during the day once you bring it out. If you follow this routine your poinsetta will be sure to bloom.

Christmas Cactus
Christmas cactus is another big favorite for the holiday season, and when they are in bloom they are smashing. The Christmas cactus needs

with the same treatment

as the poinsetta in order for it to set bud. But the routine is slightly altered: you should withhold water from it in the fall when growth seems to have stopped, in either September or October.

So if you have one of these plants re-read what you've just read about poinsettias and you should have a bloom. It might be too late for a bloom at Christmas time but that doesn't mean that you wouldn't appreciate the bloom in January!

A word of warning—once the bud has set on the Christmas cactus, refrain from picking it up, and protect it from swift

temperature changes—the buds could just drop off. Mine is in bud right now and has a large "Do not disturb" sign hung over it.

If you want a conversation piece—a centre of attention—the amaryllis will fill the ticket for you. They are absolutely magnificent coming in colours red, pink coral and white, as well as pink and white, and red and white.

Amaryllis are bulbs which are huge and resemble large spanish onions. If you buy good quality bulbs and plant now, you can expect a bloom anytime from four to eight weeks. They are

extremely easy to grow and almost never fail. Plant them in a six inch pot in a light soil making sure that at least half or three-quarters of the bulb is above the soil line. Water the plant, place it in a bright spot, turning the pot frequently so that the stalk grows upright and won't lean towards the light.

The flower stalk usually appears first and the leaves follow later. After blooming cut off the flower stalk, allowing the leaves to remain to replenish the bulb for bloom for next year. If properly cared for the amaryllis bulbs will last a lifetime.

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HOME OF THE WEEK
Charming, practical three bedroom

Here's a compact and well-planned design which is perfectly suited to the narrow frontage lot. The charming brick veneer exterior conceals a surprising amount of intelligently-organized living area, making this a ideal home for the mid-sized family.

The deep weather-sheltered entrance leads into the compact foyer and up two steps to the main living area. The kitchen-nook combination, dining room and living room are on the lower level, while the three bedrooms, bath and linen storage are on the upper level.

The U-shaped kitchen and breakfast nook are logically laid out to provide the comfort and convenience of those casual family meals, while the dining room allows for more formal dining with family or friends. The dining room is separable from the kitchen via a sliding door and allows access to a possible rear deck or patio via sliding glass doors—a convenience feature for relaxed outdoor dining.

The spacious living room has good natural light and its location provides for disturbance-free entertaining.

The three second level bedrooms all have good natural light, generous closet space and easy access to the main bath and linen supply. The master bedroom has a three piece ensuite with shower.

A half basement provides the space required for future development. This area could be developed as a family room or recreation room, allowing the growing family additional living area.

Plans for design No. 76-1254 may be obtained at a cost of \$50. for the first set and \$9. for each additional set, plus \$4.00 for postage and handling.

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