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# THE MIGHT OF LIGHT

LIGHTING IS AN INTEGRAL ASPECT OF DÉCOR THAT ELEVATES A SPACE BY ACCENTUATING ITS TEXTURES AND HIGHLIGHTING KEY ELEMENTS.

BY BINDU GOPAL RAO

**L**ighting is as fundamental as every unique detail of a given space. Great lighting installations change and transform a space; lights can make a room feel comfortable, welcoming, intense or sharp, while the shadows can accentuate the textures and draw attention to small but key spots.

**SPOT ON**

Lighting is perhaps one of the most pivotal design elements across all spaces. It helps in creating an inviting, cozy and productive environment. "Some types of lights that can be used to elevate your spaces include accent lighting that

add drama by creating a visual interest; ambient lighting that sets the mood of a space, task lighting that helps you perform specific tasks such as reading and working, and decorative lighting, like an interesting chandelier, in the double height space to add grandeur to your home," says Rishad Khergamwala, Director, Developments, MAIA Estates. Pritika Singh, Founder, MOHH adds, "Lighting in home décor is equivalent to a masterstroke; the right placement can create an impact, add dimension and depth, highlight the most stunning corners, and give a sense of warmth. A strategic choice of lighting can make any room a visual treat by adding a bit of drama with accent lighting or

1. Bold statement pieces are used as a design focal point accentuating a given space and corners courtesy MAIA Estates

2. Rishad Khergamwala, Director, Developments, MAIA Estates

creating a cozy, relaxing space with classic lights."

**BALANCING ACT**

With lighting, the interplay of natural and artificial lighting is very important. Rajiv Goyal Architect & Design Consultant, Artlivings Pvt. Ltd. says, "There is nothing like natural light. Today, we must plan intelligently to conserve energy which can easily be done by LED systems. Often, designers overuse sources of artificial lighting in any given space." Pranjal Agrawal, Founder, Hèrmosa Design Studio, adds, "The use of lighting can add to or subtract from the overall colours of a room, hence it's imperative that we manage the colour. Decorative lighting is frequently used to highlight the beauty of the chosen design elements."

**FESTIVE MUSINGS**

As India enters the much-awaited festive season, lighting will take centerstage once again. Vikas Gandhi, President and Business Head, Lighting Tisva, Premium Fans, and Water Solutions Business, Usha International, says that the living

room can be lit up using a classic chandelier, which when switched on, casts beautiful abstract patterns on the walls around it. "On the other hand, a minimalist pendant placed in the dining area will make it look exceptional while also filling the room with enough light to highlight the food. Sleek, decorative lamps can be used for a variety of lighting needs,



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3. Task light lamp by MOHH

4. Light fixtures elevate the texture of interiors or add a design feature to the room by Artlivings

5. The use of lighting can add to or subtract from the overall colours of a room courtesy Hèrmosa Design Studio

6. Lighting solutions are increasingly gaining ground as being one of the most critical parts of home décor, courtesy Tisva

7. Pritika Singh, Founder, MOHH

8. Pranjal Agrawal, Founder, Hèrmosa Design Studio

9. Vikas Gandhi, President and Business Head, Lighting, Tisva



from the bedroom to the staircases, and nooks and corners in a home, and one can choose from ambient-lighting or task-lighting for the same," he adds.

Mayur Panbude, Director, Valueco Innovations LLP, Pune adds, "Light, and the colour of the light, is an element without which no interior design / décor can be complete. Same as a bride without makeup. Lighting can elevate the ambience and perception along with the energy levels of the space."

#### GOING GREEN

As an element of décor that consumes energy, there is a lot of time and effort that is now going into making lighting sustainable. "We are the first lighting design company that makes banana fibre lights. We deal mainly in cork lighting, faux concrete lighting and paper lights," says Jenny Pinto, Designer, Oorjaa. Sustainability in lighting is the need of the hour. Not only does it help the planet to practice green lighting solutions, it is also economical and beneficial for users in the long run. "Endorsing energy efficiency and avoiding wasteful expenditure is a consciousness brought about by the advent and progression of the pandemic. Of all the options available today, LED's have proved time and again to be the



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most economical and effective means of light," says Vinayak Diwan, Design Director, Lightbook, New Delhi/ London.

#### SUSTAINABILITY MATTERS

Materials such as optical fibre embedded concrete panels, concrete lights, solar lights, LEDs, biodegradable materials such as jute, fabric, bamboo, paper, wood, metal, and rattan are key when it comes to sustainable lights. Ruchi Mishra, Business Head Design & Interiors, New Modern Buildwell Private Limited, says, "While designing wall washers, dimmers, lamps, task lights are used to optimise and prioritise areas where required illumination is achieved. Placements of lights are also essential in optimising energy consumption." Basic design principles need to be followed to maximise the potential of a space and match its functionality. "Create coves at ceiling level to let the light reflect off the ceiling and even out the dissipation of light. It makes the space feel larger. An up light or an up-and-down light also helps with the even dissipation of light. Versatile LED strips that can be used for task lighting underneath cabinets to enhance the mirror are also great," says Shibanee Sagar, Principal Shibanee + Kamal Design.

#### DÉCOR MANTRA

The true flavour of any design or space comes alive only with the right focus of light that creates the required drama, transforming it into a seamless combination of functionality and style. "The essence of light, in terms of its luminance, colour, sharpness, position, and focal point are the key features that govern the design aesthetics of any place and the intended mood, which is very critical. Just as the application of daylight is very crucial in designing a space from an architectural perspective, similarly the application of artificial lighting is equally critical when it comes to interior design and decor of that space," says Giulia Baima Bollone, Business Head, Embassy Interiors Pvt. Ltd. Vishal Kaul, Vice President, Lighting, Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Ltd., adds, "Lighting helps to add another dimension to your décor and transform your space. Great lighting gives a choice to modify

11. Jenny Pinto, Designer, Oorjaa

12. Vinayak Diwan, Design Director, Lightbook

13. Ruchi Mishra, Business Head Design & Interiors, New Modern Buildwell

14. Oorjaa makes lights from scratch and all the lights are handmade, making each of them unique

15. Todd Residence at Gurgaon has lights from Lightbook



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the tonality of the lighting as per the need and mood. Smartly placed lighting throughout your home can also be used to effectively highlight an artwork on the wall or light up dark spaces within the room."

#### SMART LIGHTS

Internet of Things (IoT) based Smart Lighting that offers comfort and convenience is also slowly gaining momentum in home lighting solutions. Sawan Kapoor, CEO, Kapoor Lamps, opines, "Lighting control applications and systems are now fully integrated with the IoT world. Lighting fixtures can now communicate with their human users and the possibilities this has created are endless. From being able to change lighting form, intensity, light colour and control the dispersal of light, one can even control the negatives, such as glare and the human relationship with artificial light." Lighting and IoT are changing the way we think about design and the implementation of today's decor. Ripu Daman Sharma, Sr. Country Manager-India Subcon, Lutron Electronics, agrees, "New age solutions, integrated with IoT, have totally changed the way lighting is used in décor in modern spaces - from a simple dimmer for one lamp control, to a preset lighting control system for a single room and a smart lighting control system for an apartment, and ultimately a total home control



16. Create coves at ceiling level to let the light reflect off the ceiling and even out the dissipation of light, courtesy Shibanee + Kamal Design

17. When thinking about the flow, ambience, and atmosphere of your space, lighting can be one of the most fundamental elements that work magic, courtesy Embassy

18. Starlord Circle light courtesy Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Ltd

19. Shibanee Sagar, Principal Shibanee + Kamal Design

20. Vishal Kaul, Vice President, Lighting, Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals

21. Sawan Kapoor, CEO, Kapoor Lamps



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system for a luxury villa, the options are endless."

#### TREND CHECK

Connected Lighting Systems (CLS) comprises an emerging class of lighting infrastructure that is used beyond light spaces. "By incorporating distributed intelligence, network interfaces, and sensors, they are more like data collection platforms that enable a wider range of valuable new capabilities as well as greater energy savings in residential buildings and cities," says Raja Mukherjee, Business Unit Head, Lighting, Panasonic Life Solutions India Pvt. Ltd. Trends in lighting are constantly evolving. Jiří Křišica, Head of Design, Sans Souci avers, "Now, we are working with blue light, for example. At night, we aim to eliminate it as much as



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22. Ripu Daman Sharma, Sr. Country Manager-India Subcon, Lutron Electronics

23. Jiri Krišica, Head of Design, Sans Souci

24. Shalini Joshi, Assistant Product Manager, Lighting, Hafele

25. IOT lighting control applications and systems by Kapoor Lamps as seen in the lobby of ITC Maurya, Delhi

26. Automated shades by Lutron Electricals half open for daylight harvesting and glare control

27. Desk Lamp with Holder from Panasonic Life Solutions India

28. Rajapushpa Villa, Hyderabad has lights from Sans Souci

29. Asymmetric and glare-free lighting are the new and upcoming trend in lighting courtesy Hafele



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possible as it influences melatonin levels and its production in our bodies. During the day, on the contrary, it can have positive effects, as it increases productivity and attention. Also, every day we come up with new possibilities about how to work with modern technologies and special effects. The light can react to music, temperature in the room, or even to movement."

### NEW VISTAS

Innovative lighting solutions are transforming the lighting industry. Keeping in mind the utmost comfort and technologically advanced products, Smart Mirrors, dimmable lighting for different light needs, light scheduling and light smart control are in trend. Shalini Joshi, Assistant Product Manager, Lighting, Hafele India, says, "In furniture lighting, where we deal with lighting embedded in furniture, the quality of lights plays a very important role from a



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serviceability and sustainability point of view. Light planning should be integrated from inception in designing any interior, and a major focus should be on quality lighting solutions." All we can say is, 'Let there be light!'

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MOHH [www.mohh.com](http://www.mohh.com)

Artlivings [www.artlivings.com](http://www.artlivings.com)

Hermosa Studio [www.hermosastudio.in](http://www.hermosastudio.in)

Tisva [www.lightsbytisva.com](http://www.lightsbytisva.com)

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