



# LUMINOUS LIGHTING

DÉCOR TRENDS INSPIRED BY THE PAST

STORY | PHYLLIS LUI & ALEEM KASSAM

**I**N THE ILLUMINATING WORLD OF DESIGN AND DECOR, history has a way of repeating itself. At least, the good things from the past seem to find their way back into the spotlight. Today's hottest interior lighting styles are taking a cue from days gone by – but these throwbacks are being revived with a cool, contemporary twist. Here are four lighting trends to keep your eye on in 2019 and beyond, inspired by the ages and back in all their glory!

## ART DECO: 1910s-1930s

Art Deco has come a long way from its artful origins in 1910s Paris. This decadent aesthetic is distinguished by geometric motifs, curved forms, defined silhouettes and the dominant desire to be "modern." Remnants of this distinctive style continue to inspire today's trendiest lighting designs. This bodes well with interior designers and homeowners who wish to incorporate a hint of adornment in an otherwise cool, contemporary abode. The avant-garde aesthetic is thoughtfully modernized with warm metals such as gold and copper, and trendy geometric forms. ▶

## OLD-HOLLYWOOD GLAMOUR: 1930s-1940s

VINTAGE ROMANCE IS THE PREVAILING theme of the equally inspired and inspiring Silver Screen starlet era. Those who seek to bring this luxurious look into the spotlight embrace a "more is more" mentality. Look for sparkle and shine, and overall softness that comes in the form of fabric shades and gentle silhouettes, such as a cascading crystal chandelier.

TIP: A chandelier lends the perfect touch of luxury that the Old Hollywood aesthetic demands. Traditionally featured in dining rooms and front foyers, a crystal chandelier also makes a dreamy addition to a bedroom or bathroom.



## MID-CENTURY MODERN: 1950s-1960s

THIS IMPORTANT STYLE MOVEMENT continues to affect interior design today. This simple and understated look is all about minimalism and integrating with nature. When it comes to lighting, this enduring aesthetic has never truly gone out of style. One of the most prevalent examples today is the Sputnik chandelier, which is well-loved for the simplicity of its clear glass globes and an unfussy, linear base, lending intriguing illumination with a chic, sculptural focal point.



## **FUTURE-FORWARD: TODAY, TOMORROW & BEYOND**

WHAT'S NEXT IN THE WORLD OF LIGHTING and design? The future looks bright, and as with all things these days, technology is the driver of the latest and greatest.

LEDs have created an endless world of possibilities for modern lighting designers, and they have become mainstream thanks to their efficiency, longevity, small sizing, wide range of colours and temperatures, and their unique applications. They also allow for a multitude of shapes, sizes and minimal aesthetic.

Don't forget about the technology options available, such as timers and sensors. A multi-sensory switch with a motion detector in a bathroom or closet will enhance your day-to-day in a subtle way. But once you have this, you'll wonder how to ever get along without it.

Then, for the smart-home owner, in the spirit of Google Home and Alexa, wireless and voice-activated lighting looks to be the next big thing.

Whether you're tempted by the throwbacks, fascinated by the future, or you find yourself somewhere in between, consider your lifestyle and consult with a professional, who can shed "light" on what is available and possible. ■

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