

Award Winning Wainscott Residence, Lighting Design by Robert Singer & Associates

Illumination design has become the most important trend in interior design, complimenting architecture and nature, creating visually pleasing spaces, and improving visibility. With new developments in technology, keeping up with the latest trends is essential.

In 2016, due to nationwide and federal code restrictions on use of incandescent light, the hottest movement is switching to all LED lights. The cost savings benefits and the eco-friendly benefits put this on the top of the list.

"LED lighting is 6-7 times more efficient than conventional lighting and can last up to 25 times longer." - US Department of Energy.

The benefits of using LED light and the growth of new technology make this revolutionary in lighting design. Designers are no longer constrained to traditional templates and can customize light to fit any application.

Companies, such as TBD LED SOLU-TIONS, are lighting the way with new LED technology. Customized LED light strips to fit any installation make it easy to convert all your lights to LED. LED Closet Lights with a seamless fit are helping us distinguish our navy blues from our blacks. Undercabinet and puck lights are lighting cabinets with no heat and without damaging our art and fabrics. Flexible LED strips are contouring around curves. Color changing LED light strips are adding zing to your entertainment areas. Outdoor rated LED lights are lighting driveways, patios, and gardens, expanding our living space.

High Color Rendering Index (CRI) LED lighting means more accurate optical color representation. Color temperature and CRI remain consistent during dimming, unlike incandescent, which change color temperature and effect true color of art, fabrics, walls, and floor finishes. You maintain the richness of color with LED lighting creating a more realistic, natural look, making this the perfect lighting choice.

The next frontier in lighting is the control system.

Dimming and sensors have been around for years, however, controlling these functions has improved tremendously with new technology. Advanced control systems can store personalized settings for multiple lights, allowing you to completely tailor the lighting scheme in any room. With such precise and powerful control, you can completely craft the look and feel for any space, as well as its functionality and efficiency.

Light technology is rapidly developing. Sophisticated devices communicate with each other allowing for one touch control systems to control more than your lights. Smart technology is opening up more opportunities for complete connectivity. Controlling your home's audio and security has never been easier with the simple installation of a light bulb. When all of your devices work together you can experience the magic of a smart home.

Light as art has become the final step in customizing your visual space.

Lighting is an inexpensive and simple way of adding flourish to any room, making light a design element. Lighting designers are trained to choose the best light spectrum for the space to achieve the best quality of light. Lighting must be carefully planned to suit the space it is illuminating. The inclusion of a couple of different schemes within one space can single-handedly change the perceived use of a space. Creating mood and atmosphere in a space using light is a powerful tool.

"When light becomes art, spaces become more enjoyable, life is more productive, and the soul is enriched."

The challenge to make healthier lighting by adjusting brightness and color of light is gradually getting easier and cheaper. Stay inspired and up to date with these hot trends to experience light in the new age.



By Robert Singer, IALD, IES, President RSA