

bright idea

With the flip of a switch, table lamps can change the mood of a room. More than just a light source, lamps reflect our personality and can even change how we feel about where we are. Want to feel relaxed? To create a warmth guests can sink into? Whatever vibe you're after, there's a lamp for that, and bright ideas abound when you have a lamp, shade, and bulb. Each element to experiment and play with offers numerous ways to set a certain tone. And don't sleep on the power of placement—styling lamps in unexpected nooks can shift our connection to our environment, helping us feel at home even in our most utilitarian spaces. However you want to amp up the atmosphere in your space, here's inspiration to light the way.

LAMPS INFUSE A ROOM WITH FEELING AND LET OUR INNER AESTHETIC SHINE THROUGH.

STORY BY **MICHELLE SASSA**
PHOTOGRAPH *(PULL CHAIN)* BY **ADOBE STOCK / UROS PETROVIC** PHOTOGRAPHS *(YELLOW LAMP, BLACK SHADE)* COURTESY OF **SCHOOLHOUSE**
PHOTOGRAPH *(SCALLOP SHADE)* BY **LINDSEY BROWN** / INTERIOR DESIGN BY **ANASTASIA CASEY** PHOTOGRAPH *(LIGHTBULB)* BY **ADOBE STOCK / ALEXANDR**
PHOTOGRAPH *(VINTAGE LAMP)* BY **LISA PETROLE** PHOTOGRAPH *(LAMP BASE)* COURTESY OF **POOKY** PHOTOGRAPH *(THREE LAMPS)* BY **DANIELLE JACKSON**

know your bulbs

Bulbs paint a room with light, but the mood changes with the color temperature of the bulb. At higher color temperatures (shown as a higher Kelvin number on labels), light's color gets cooler and whiter.

At lower color temperatures, bulbs cast a golden glow like a candle flame. Knowing which temperature to choose depends on where your lamp will go. For table lamps, we like warm, natural tones to make a space feel more inviting, and the following options do just that. ***Neutral warm light*** mimics a sunset's glow, creating a relaxing effect. Try this bulb in a kid's room (perfect for story time) or in a lamp on an entry table to give your family a warm welcome home. ***Soft white bulbs*** cast gentle, earthy tones in rooms where people like to unwind, like bedrooms, dens, and dining rooms. ***Daylight's energizing tones*** are great for active spaces that benefit from bright lighting. Think book nook, playroom, home office, or even less expected areas like kitchen counters.



Neutral Warm Light

Neutral Warm Light

Neutral Warm Light

Energetic Daylight

Comfortable Soft White

PHOTOGRAPHS (*THIS PHOTO AND OPPOSITE*) BY **HANNAH WRIGHT**
STYLED BY **ARIANNA JONES**

TOP IT OFF AND DRESS IT UP WITH A SHADE THAT FITS YOUR STYLE.



ways to shade

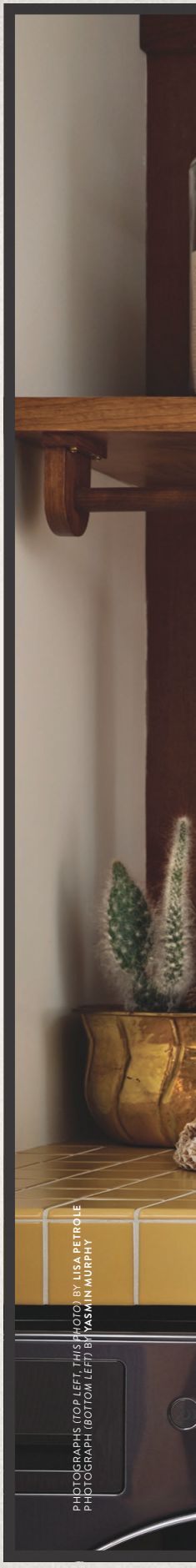
If you're customizing a lamp from base to shade, embrace the opportunity to really make it your own. Whichever catches your eye first, consider a few guidelines when pairing the two. First, we recommend a shade ***size*** that's two-thirds the height of the base and a width at least ½ inch wider on each side than the widest part of the base. You'll also want to consider ***shape,*** which is where style really comes into play. Whether you're drawn to a drum shape that leans more midcentury modern, a bell shape that has a Victorian feel, or something totally different, there's no wrong choice and lots of versions to choose from. For ***material,*** think about function. Dense materials and dark colors diffuse light to create an accent or task lighting effect. Translucent fabrics in neutral tones cast bright, ambient light. Lastly, don't forget to check what kind of ***fitter*** your base uses to hold the bulb and shade in place—be it a spider, uno, clip-on, or different type.

style with scale

In these spaces designed by Jo in *Fixer Upper*, table lamps add both style and warmth. Lighting helps give these bedrooms a cozy, relaxed feel (*right* and *below right*), and a tiny lamp becomes a bright spot in a hardworking space (*far right*).





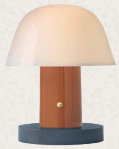


PHOTOGRAPHS (*TOP LEFT, THIS PHOTO*) BY **LISA PETROLE**
PHOTOGRAPH (*BOTTOM LEFT*) BY **YASMIN MURPHY**

While it has a place and purpose, overhead lighting can create a stark and uninviting effect if other warmer tones don't balance it out. For creating atmosphere, we like to lean on table lamps—a soft glow here, a stroke of light there. See what happens when you flick off the high hats and switch on a warm-bulb table lamp: Your space instantly feels softer and cozier. Any dark corner can benefit from a soft glow, be it in a bedroom, study, or family room. But we also love lamps in hardworking spaces. Try one on a shelf in your laundry room, on a kitchen counter, or even in a large closet, and watch how it elevates a workspace and makes those high-functioning rooms you use every day become places you want to stay. For light on the go, cordless, rechargeable lamps (usually smaller in size) make it possible to add a little warmth and mood to any space—no outlet required.


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Sourcebook on page 108

Tiny   lamps make me  so happy.  I want to   put one everywhere. 

—Jo