

Residential Lighting FAQs

What are the main types of residential lighting (ambient, task, accent) and where should each be used?

Ambient lighting provides overall illumination that creates a warm, comfortable foundation for any room. It typically comes from chandeliers, ceiling fixtures, and larger pendants placed in living rooms, dining rooms, kitchens, and bedrooms. Task lighting offers bright, focused light for specific activities, such as cooking, reading, or grooming. Accent lighting highlights artwork, architectural details, plants, and decorative features, adding depth and style to any space.

How many light fixtures do I need to properly light a typical living room, kitchen, or bedroom?

The measurement of the total amount of visible light emitted by a source is called **lumens**. While we used to buy light bulbs based on **watts** (which measures energy consumption), lumens tell you how **bright** the bulb actually is. According to the experts at Artcraft Lighting, the number of lumens required depends on the size of the room and what you are doing in it. For well-lit living rooms and bedrooms, aim for approximately 10 to 20 lumens per square foot to create balanced ambient lighting. Kitchens benefit from 30 to 40 lumens per square foot, ensuring clarity for everyday tasks. Focused task areas, such as kitchen counters, typically require 70 to 80 lumens per square foot. Here are some general rules of thumb for home lighting:

- **Kitchen (Task Lighting):** 7,000 to 8,000 lumens total
- **Living Room:** 1,000 to 2,000 lumens total
- **Bathroom:** 4,000 to 8,000 lumens total
- **Reading Lamp:** 400 to 500 lumens

What is the difference between watts and lumens, and which should I pay attention to?

Watts measure energy consumption, while lumens measure brightness. Because modern LEDs produce far more light per watt than older bulbs, lumens are now the most accurate indicator of brightness. A typical LED using approximately 8 watts can match the 800 lumens produced by a traditional 60-watt incandescent bulb.

What color temperature is best for different rooms?

It is important to remember that lumens only measure **brightness**, not the **color** of the light. You can have two bulbs that both emit 800 lumens, but one might be "Warm White" (yellowish, like a candle) and the other "Daylight" (bluish-white)

While lumens measure the brightness of a light source, the measurement for **color temperature** is **Kelvin (K)**.

On a Kelvin scale, the numbers represent the "warmth" or "coolness" of the light. It's a bit counterintuitive: lower numbers represent "warmer" (more yellow/orange) light, while higher numbers represent "cooler" (more blue/white) light.

Warm color temperatures, 2500K to 3000K, create inviting, comfortable environments suited for bedrooms and living rooms. Cooler lighting around 4000K delivers bright, clear visibility for bathrooms and task-oriented areas. Crystal fixtures often look best with cooler color temperatures that enhance sparkle and brilliance.



Are LED bulbs more efficient than incandescent or halogen bulbs?

Yes, LED bulbs are significantly more efficient. A 60-watt equivalent LED typically consumes only about 8 watts while producing the same brightness. This dramatically reduces energy costs and heat output compared to incandescent and halogen lighting.

How long do LED bulbs typically last?

LED bulbs are designed to gradually dim over time instead of failing suddenly. Most are rated to last between 35,000 and 50,000 hours, reaching end of life when brightness falls to 70 percent of the original output.

What is the difference between integrated LED fixtures and fixtures with replaceable bulbs?

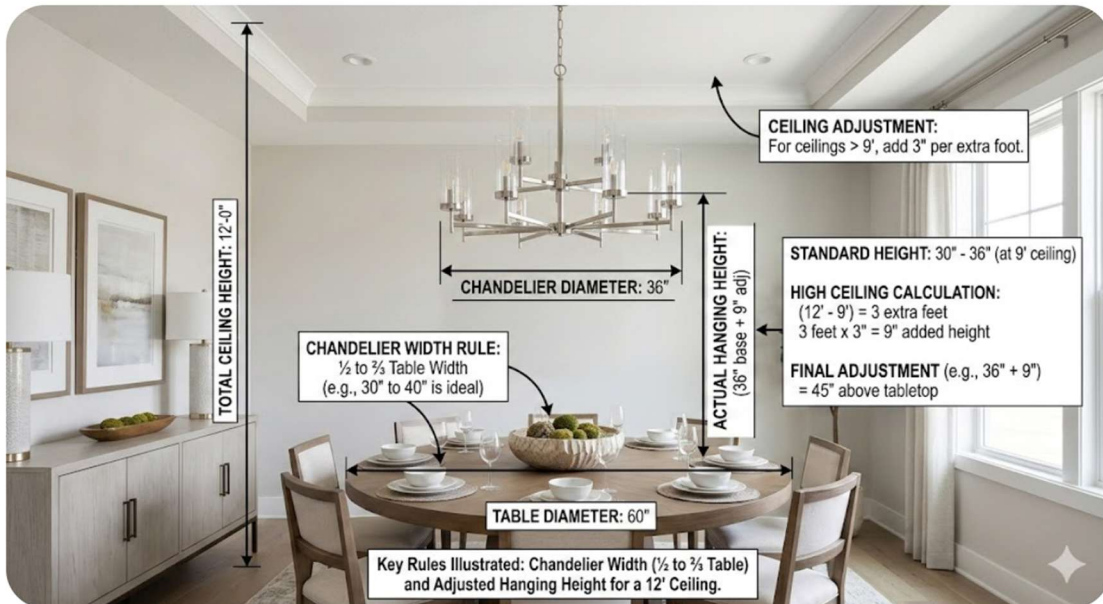
Fixtures with replaceable bulbs allow easy swapping when a bulb fails, while integrated LED fixtures include built in LED modules for streamlined designs and improved efficiency. Integrated fixtures are typically less customizable and more difficult to repair.

How do I choose the right size chandelier or pendant for my space?

Here are some general guidelines to help you select the right chandelier size for your space:

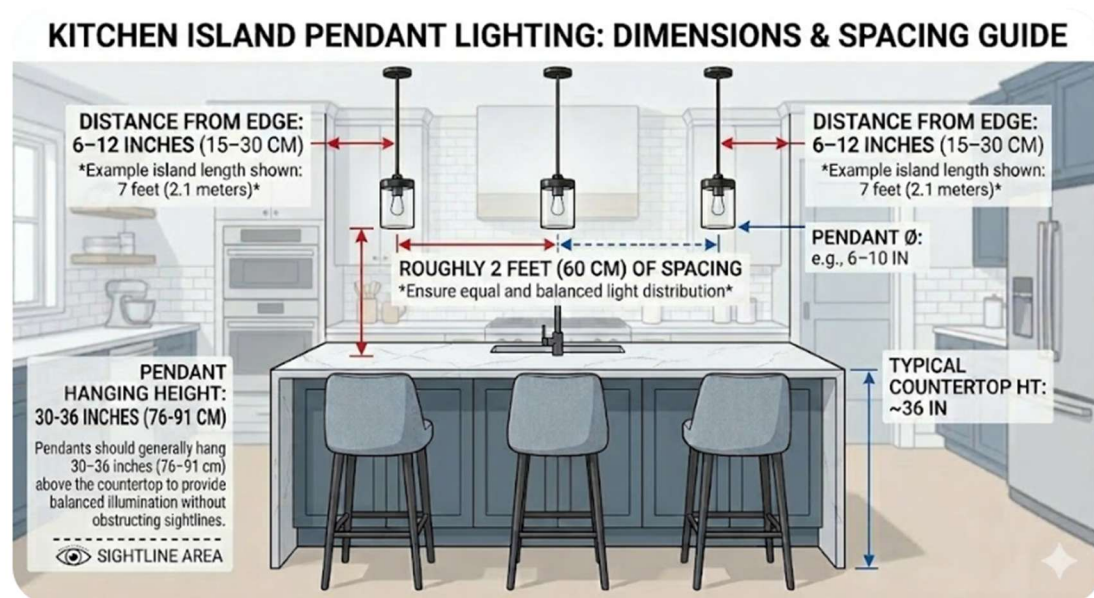
Dining Rooms

Choose a chandelier that measures approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ the width of the dining table. It should typically hang 30–36 inches above the tabletop. For ceilings higher than 9 feet, add an additional 3 inches of hanging height for every extra foot of ceiling height.



Kitchen Islands

For pendants over an island, aim for roughly 2 feet of spacing between each pendant, and keep them 6–12 inches from the edges of the island. Pendants should generally hang 30–36 inches above the countertop to provide balanced illumination without obstructing sightlines.



Foyers

To estimate the appropriate diameter of a foyer chandelier, add together the length and width of the room (in feet); the resulting number gives you the recommended chandelier diameter in inches.

For example: A 14 ft × 16 ft foyer suggests a chandelier around 30 inches in diameter. The height of the chandelier depends on the ceiling height. In two-story foyers, the fixture should fill about $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the vertical space. For foyers with 9–10 ft ceilings, a chandelier roughly 20–24 inches tall is typically appropriate.

Do I need an electrician to install new fixtures?

Professional installation is strongly recommended. Incorrect wiring can damage the fixture or pose safety hazards. Many manufacturers require professional installation to maintain warranty coverage.

What dimmers work best with LED bulbs and LED fixtures?

Use dimmers specifically rated for LED compatibility. Always match the wattage range of the dimmer to the fixture to prevent flickering or dimming issues. Many manufacturers provide recommended dimmer models for their products.

How can I add smart lighting without rewiring my home?

Smart bulbs, wireless dimmers, and app-controlled switches allow convenient smart upgrades without modifying existing wiring. These enable voice control, scheduling, and scene setting with minimal effort.

What kind of lighting is suitable for outdoor or wet environments.

IP rating stands for **Ingress Protection** (or International Protection). It is an international standard (IEC 60529) used to define how well an electrical enclosure or device is sealed against dirt, dust, and moisture.

Instead of vague marketing terms like "waterproof" or "dust-resistant," an IP rating gives you exact, tested specifications for what a device can withstand.

Manufacturers usually specify the intended installation locations for their fixtures in product literature, but there are some general guidelines to keep in mind. For **bathrooms**, look for fixtures rated for **damp locations**, as they are designed to handle moisture without direct water exposure. For **outdoor lighting**, especially in areas not protected by an overhang, choose fixtures with a **wet rating** or a dedicated **outdoor rating** to ensure safe performance in rain and severe weather.

In **coastal environments**, where salt, humidity, and wind can be especially harsh on materials, select outdoor fixtures engineered with **enhanced weather-resistant finishes** and corrosion-resistant construction.

Below is a simple breakdown of common IP ratings you can expect to see:

Rating	Protection Level

IP20	Indoor use only; dry environments
IP44	Suitable for damp locations or moderate outdoor exposure
IP65	Designed for harsh outdoor conditions, including direct water contact

How can I reduce energy consumption without making my home feel dim?

LEDs already reduce energy use drastically compared to incandescent bulbs. Choosing efficient bulbs, adding dimmers, and using smart controls allow you to fine tune brightness while further reducing energy consumption.

How should I maintain and clean light fixtures safely?

Use a soft cloth and mild soap with warm water. Avoid abrasive pads and chemical cleaners that may damage finishes or protective coatings. Dry fixtures thoroughly after cleaning to maintain appearance and performance.

Why do some fixtures show slight color differences between bulbs, and how can I ensure consistency?

LED bulbs vary by color temperature, so mixing different temperatures in the same room may cause visible inconsistency. Keep all bulbs in a space set to the same color temperature for a uniform appearance.

Artcraft Lighting FAQs

Who is Artcraft Lighting, and how long has the company been designing residential lighting?

Artcraft Lighting has been designing and manufacturing high-quality residential and commercial lighting solutions since 1955. As a third-generation, family-owned company, Artcraft blends heritage craftsmanship with thoughtful innovation, offering design perspectives that balance form, function, and long-term value. The Artcraft Lighting Design Team draws on decades of industry experience to share insights that help homeowners, designers, and architects create well lit, purposeful spaces.

Where is Artcraft based?

Artcraft operates from key locations across Canada, including offices in Toronto and Montreal. (do we need to put this?)

What types of residential fixtures do Artcraft specialize in?

Artcraft offers chandeliers, pendants, bathroom lighting, outdoor fixtures, LED designs, and traditional socketed options suitable for a wide range of home styles.



What warranties do Artcraft provide?

Best in the business?

Artcraft's excellent warranty coverage is detailed here:

INDOOR LIGHTING FIXTURES

Electrical Components	Lifetime
Finish	5 Years against premature wear or peeling
LED components	5 Years

OUTDOOR LIGHTING FIXTURES

Casting & Body	25 Years
Electric Wiring & Sockets	25 Years
LED components	5 Years
Coastal Elements Finish	5 Years limited warranty against premature wear or peeling
Finish	5 Years limited warranty against premature wear or peeling

Complete warranty details can be found in the following link:

<https://www.artcraftlighting.com/en/warranty/>

How do I obtain warranty service or replacement parts?

Artcraft's customer service team provides support by phone or email for warranty processing, replacement parts, and general product assistance.

Phone

Montreal Office – (514) 353-7200

Toronto Office - (905) 791-1551

Email - Customerservice@artcraftlighting.com

How can customers, designers, or distributors contact Artcraft?

Artcraft support teams can be reached by phone or email for product inquiries, technical questions, and order assistance.

Phone

Montreal Office – (514) 353-7200

Toronto Office - (905) 791-1551

Email - Customerservice@artcraftlighting.com