

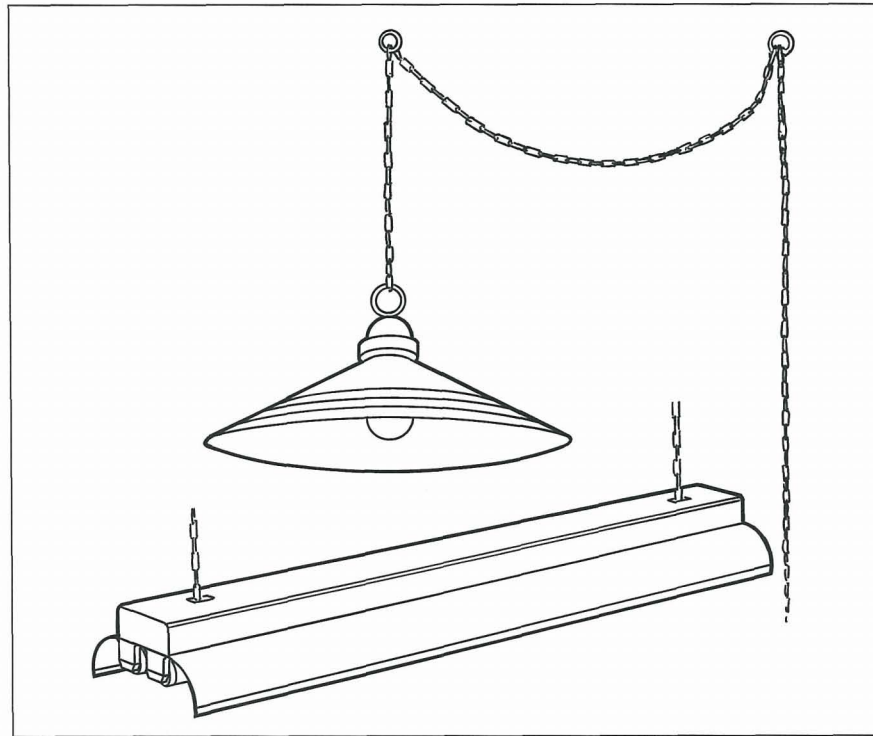
Suspended

A suspended luminaire hangs from the ceiling by a rod, cord, or chain. Suspended luminaires, also called pendants, include suspended downlights, uplights, diffusers or uplights/ downlights, ceiling fans, and the most decorative suspended luminaires, chandeliers. Suspended luminaires provide ambient lighting, indirect lighting, and lighting for tasks and special purposes. Style is an important consideration because these luminaires are more visible than recessed or ceiling-mounted luminaires. Suspended luminaires contain incandescent, compact fluorescent, or fluorescent lamps. Purchase these luminaires from lighting stores, electrical suppliers, and some building supply stores.

Installation

Suspended luminaires are a good choice for rooms with high ceilings. Lamps in suspended luminaires should be shielded to reduce glare, so carefully adjust the height of the luminaire. To give the residents some flexibility in locating the luminaires, choose ones that have retractable cords or chains that allow the luminaires to be repositioned.

Suspended: Downlights



Suspended downlights direct most of the light downward. The lighting distribution patterns vary with the size and shape of the luminaire. To shield the lamps from view, luminaires that are used for ambient lighting typically have a translucent shade and those used for table lighting have an opaque metal or fabric shade. In most cases, suspended downlights used for task lighting should be supplemented with other luminaires that provide ambient lighting.

Energy and Lamps

Use halogen or compact fluorescent lamps to replace incandescent A-lamps. Use globe compact fluorescent lamps to replace globe incandescent lamps.

Installation

For lighting a dining table, place luminaires above the eye level of a seated person, approximately 24 inches above the horizontal surface. The luminaire should be properly shielded to avoid direct glare. Luminaires with a retractable cord are good for lighting a table or desk, because they allow the resident to adjust the height for comfort and to vary the amount of light on the table surface. For visually demanding tasks, place the downlight luminaire below eye level, approximately 15 inches above the horizontal surface. Chain-mounted luminaires can be relocated over important tasks if a long chain is used and the ceiling hook can be repositioned.

Controls

Use dimmers to control luminaires that contain incandescent lamps. Separately switch luminaires used for lighting for tasks or special purposes.

For more information refer to

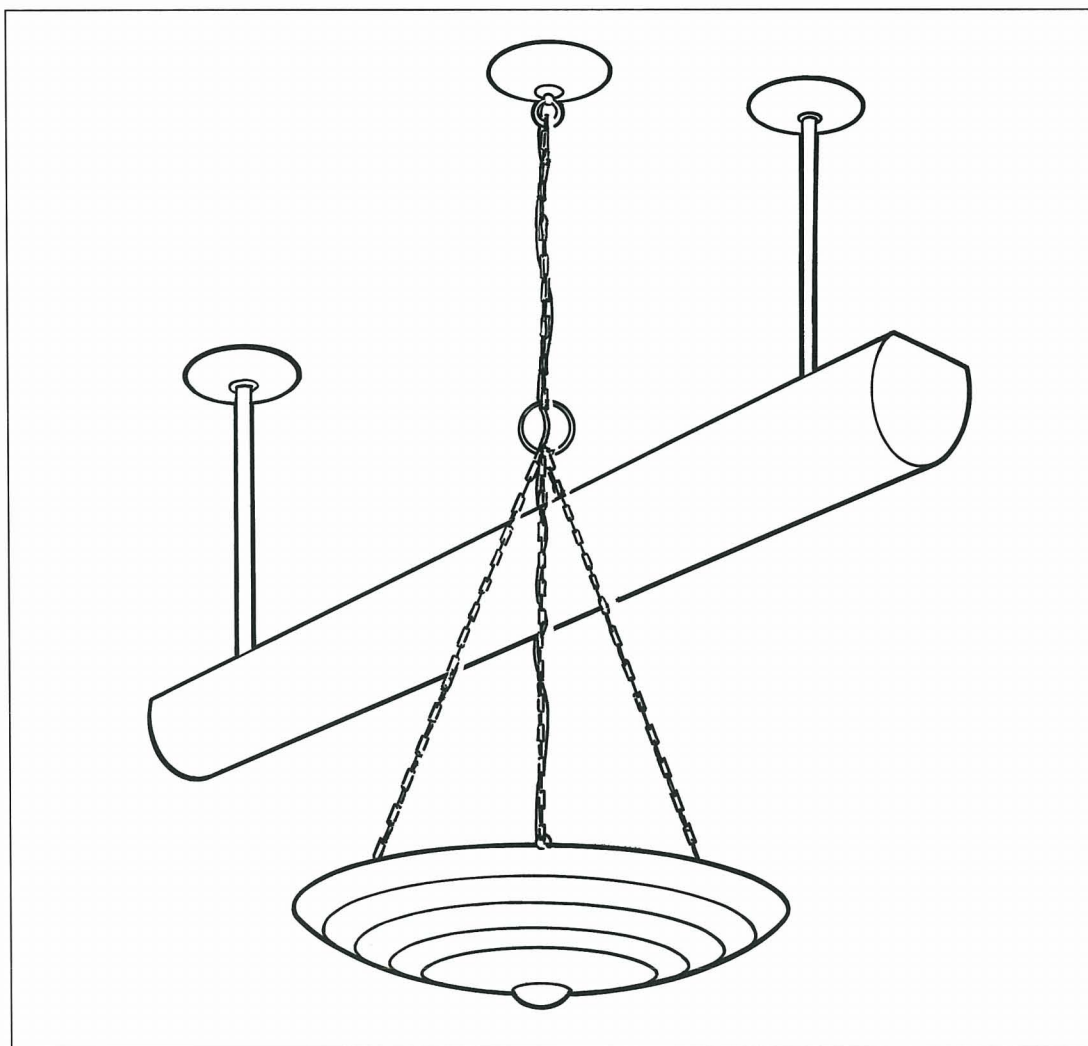
Techniques: Ambient, Accent, Task, Special Purposes

Lamps: Incandescent, Compact Fluorescent

Designs: Large Kitchen, Medium Dinette, Dining Room, Large Living Room 3

Other luminaires: Ceiling-Mounted Diffusers, Suspended Uplight/Downlights, Recessed, Soffits

Suspended: Uplights



Suspended uplights direct most of the light toward the ceiling and upper portion of the walls so that these surfaces serve as reflectors. Uplights can create a soft, shadowless light in a room. Consider introducing a downlighting element to the design by using suspended uplights made of translucent materials.

Energy and Lamps

Use fluorescent lamps wherever possible. Paint the ceiling white for best reflectance and efficiency.

Installation

These luminaires are best used in rooms with high ceilings. For balconies or stair landings, locate luminaires so that the lamp will not be visible when the luminaire is viewed from above. Suspend the luminaire at least 18 inches below the ceiling because a luminaire mounted closer to the ceiling could create a "hot spot," an area of extreme brightness.

Cautions

Uplights emphasize any imperfections on poorly finished walls and ceilings.

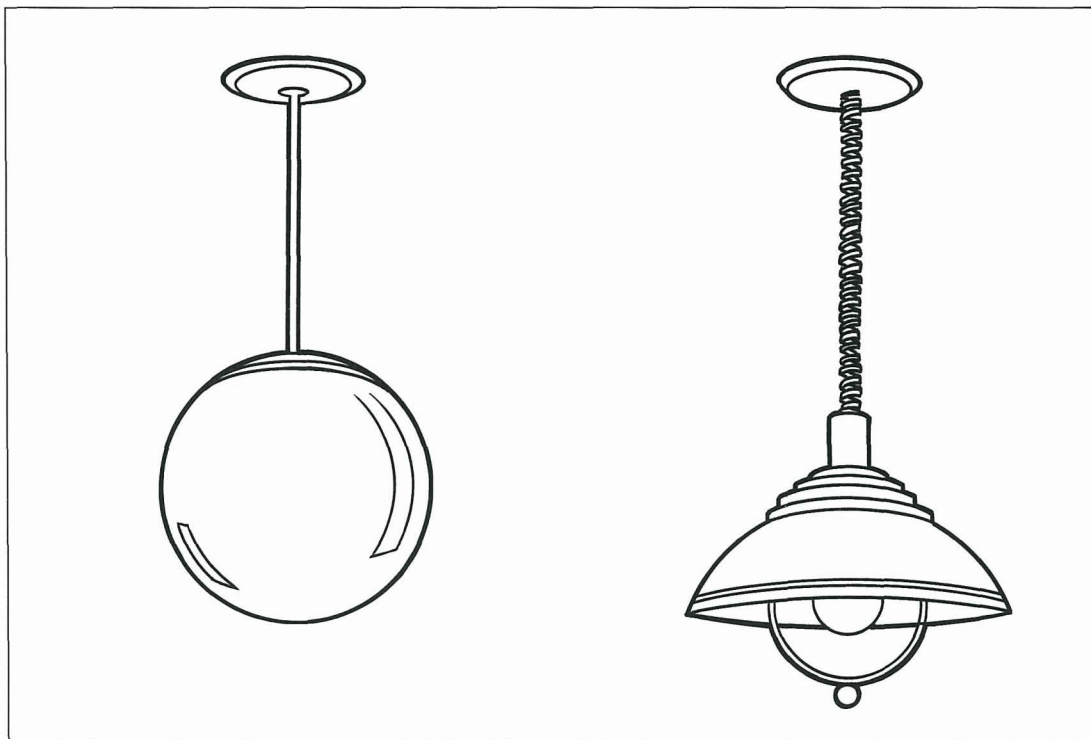
For more information refer to

Techniques: Ambient, Indirect

Lamps: Reflector, Tubular-Shaped Halogen, Linear Fluorescent, Long Twin-Tube Fluorescent, Compact and Circline Fluorescent

Other luminaires: Coves, Valances, Wall-Mounted Track or Adjustable Heads (see Ceiling-Mounted Track or Adjustable Heads)

Suspended: Uplight/Downlights



Suspended uplight/ downlight luminaires provide ambient lighting. Some are made from clear or frosted glass or plastics. They are available in various sizes and shapes. They typically house incandescent lamps, although some may accommodate compact fluorescent lamps. Suspended uplight/ downlight luminaires that house linear fluorescent lamps are common in commercial applications but also can be used attractively in homes.

Energy and Lamps

Consider using suspended luminaires that contain linear fluorescent lamps for best energy efficiency in rooms with high ceilings.

For ease in replacing lamps, choose luminaires with an opening in the bottom. Incandescent lamps can be replaced with compact fluorescent lamps in many luminaires, but check the lamp manufacturer's recommendations if you are installing a compact fluorescent lamp in an enclosed luminaire.

Installation

Suspended uplight/ downlights are best used in rooms with high ceilings. Place them in the corner of a room, over a table or plant, to add interest and bring soft diffuse light into the room from the side. To reduce uneven "hot spots" on the ceiling, avoid mounting close to the ceiling.

Cautions

Diffusers, especially those with high-wattage lamps, can be a source of glare. Balance background brightness by using light colors with high reflectance values because diffusers may cause more discomfort when viewed against dark backgrounds.

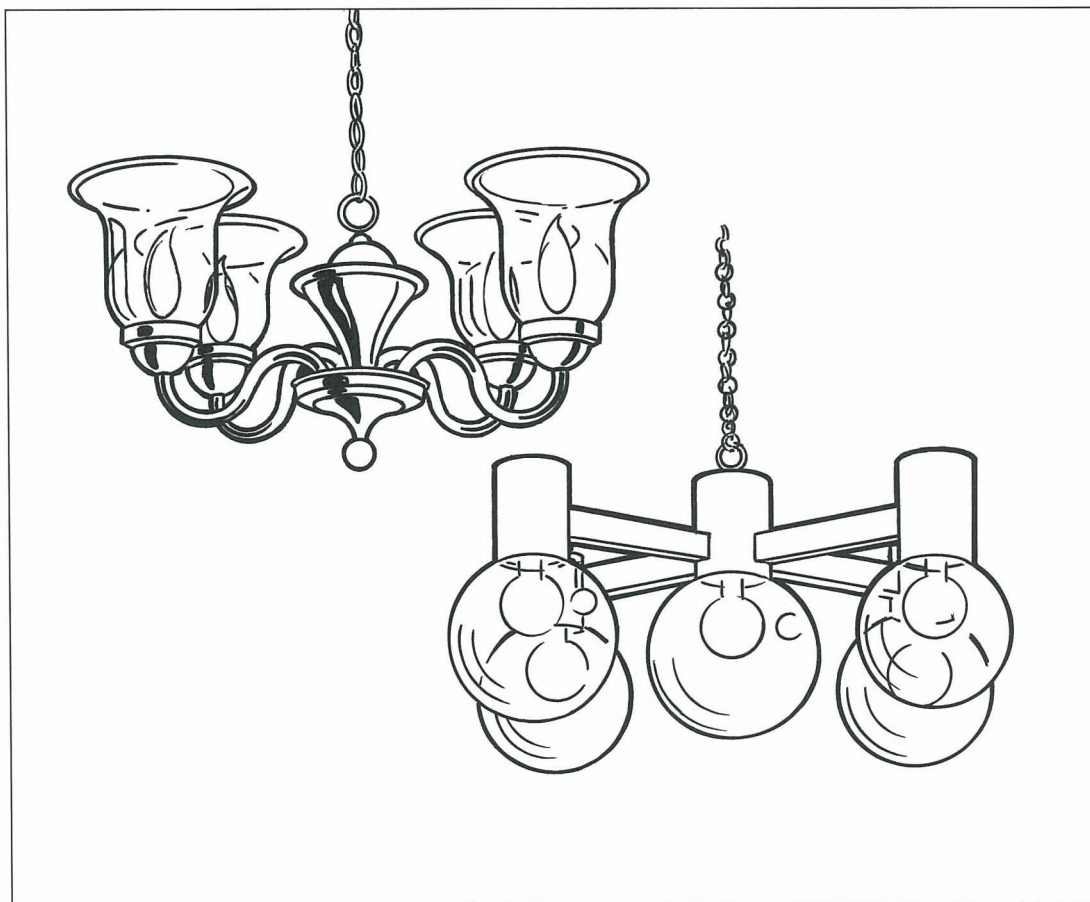
For more information refer to

Techniques: Ambient, Task

Lamps: Incandescent, Linear Fluorescent, Compact Fluorescent

Other luminaires: Ceiling-Mounted Diffusers, Suspended Downlights, Chandeliers, Valances, Wall-Mounted Sconces or Diffusers

Suspended: Chandeliers



A chandelier is a suspended luminaire that incorporates exposed lamps as a decorative element. Chandeliers usually contain many low-wattage incandescent lamps, including decorative bent-tip, candle, or small globe types. A chandelier adds sparkle and visual interest to a room.

Energy and Lamps

Chandeliers that have diffusers or that use globe lamps may accommodate compact fluorescent lamps. Use halogen lamps to replace common A-lamps. Decorative candle lamps cannot be replaced with energy-efficient alternatives, so use a dimmer to control the chandelier and save energy.

Installation

Select a chandelier that is in scale with the room. For use over tables, a chandelier should be 12 inches smaller in diameter than the smallest table dimension and mounted 2.5 feet above the table. For lighting a table surface, choose a chandelier that has a downlighting component and consider coordinating sconces or accent luminaires in the same room to enhance the overall effect.

Controls

Chandeliers frequently use dimmers to create various light levels and to save energy.

For more information refer to

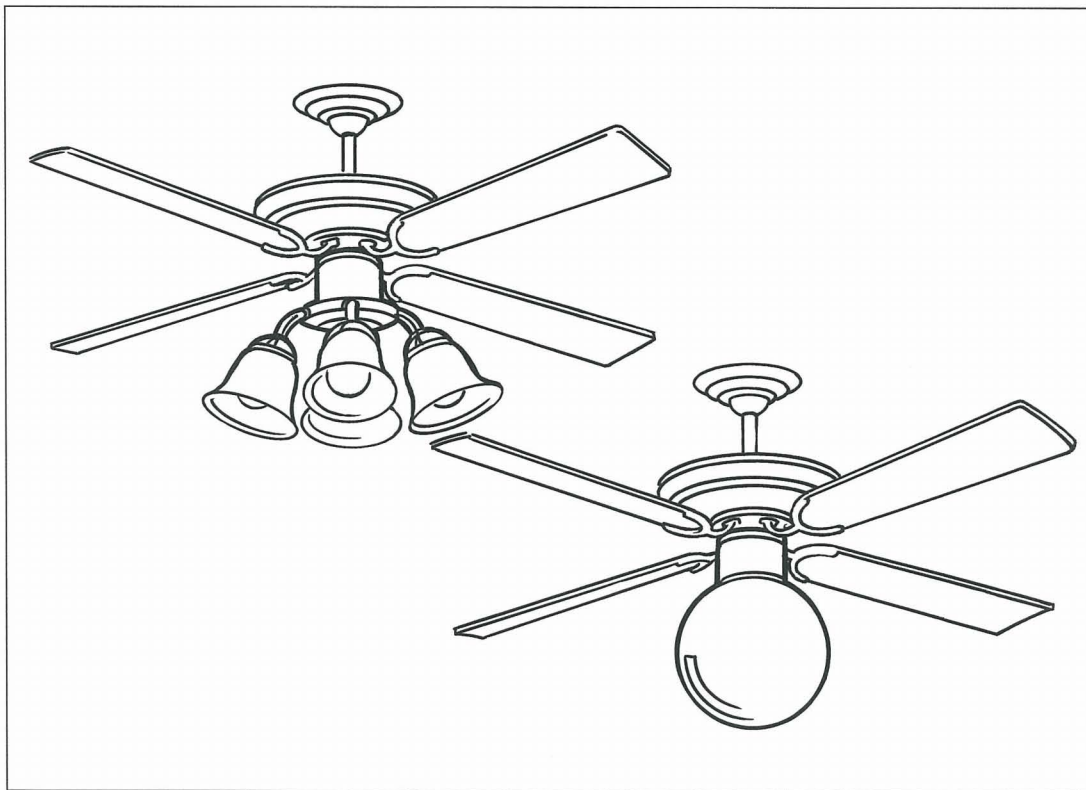
Techniques: Ambient, Task

Lamps: Incandescent

Designs: Dining Room, Foyer with Open Stair

Other luminaires: Ceiling-Mounted Diffusers, Other Suspended, Wall-Mounted Sconces or Diffusers

Suspended: Ceiling Fans



Ceiling paddle fans may include a luminaire. Many have a single globe or multiple decorative shades on arms located below the fan. Uplights are also offered with some fans. Some manufacturers offer a removable “light kit” option, which usually contains incandescent lamps.

Energy and Lamps

Replace common incandescent A-lamps with halogen A-lamps or compact fluorescent lamps if they fit in the luminaire.

Installation

Ceiling fans are best used in rooms with high ceilings.

Controls

Choose products that have the fan and luminaire switched separately, and that have a dimmer for the luminaire.

Cautions

Ceiling fan luminaires can be a source of glare. When using ceiling fans, avoid locating other luminaires in positions that would direct light through the blades because a stroboscopic effect may occur. This is a problem if a strong uplight, such as a torchiere or wall-mounted track head, is mounted below the fan or if a ceiling-mounted downlight is mounted above the fan.

For more information refer to

Techniques: Ambient, Indirect

Lamps: Halogen A, Tubular-Shaped Halogen, Compact Fluorescent

Designs: Medium Living Room 2, Large Living Room 3

Other luminaires: Ceiling-Mounted Diffusers, Other Suspended