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## Quick Reference Guide

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### FIXTURE SIZING

Please note these are generalities for most cases. We have other resources on the site, such as the Lighting Essentials Guide and our blog, for specifics regarding situations such as placing sconces near a mantel or hanging a pendant low for stylized purposes. This is here to help serve at a glance.

#### Sconce

60" from floor and 6–8' apart

#### Chandelier

30–32" from the tabletop, no larger than  $\frac{3}{4}$  the table's width

#### Flush Mount

10' apart

#### Pendant

No lower than 7' from the floor. In kitchens, 30–32" from the counter top. When replacing portable lamps with pendants, hang at the same height where the lamp's lightsource stood.

#### Semi-Flush Mount

10' apart, with at least 7' of space between the floor and the base of fixture if foot traffic is expected.

#### Bath and Vanity

**Side-mounted sconces** should be at eye level, no less than 28" apart. Position shade openings of down-lights just below eye level; place openings of up-lights slightly above eye level.

**Top-mounted sconces** should be about 75% of the mirror's width and 75–80" from the floor. Consider using two smaller fixtures rather than one large one over wider mirrors. Think of a pyramid: the width of your fixture should be less than your mirror, which should be less than your vanity. Fixtures should never extend farther than the mirror's width.

#### Island Lights

No lower than 30" from the illuminated surface. Game tables require a greater area of lighted space—36" is sufficient.

#### Table Lamps

The lower rim of a shade sits best approximately 42" from the floor. Consider a lamp's size in proportion to the furniture on which it will reside.

### WATTAGE AND LAMPING

Quick measurements and math must be calculated to ascertain how much light needs to be projected from all three essential layers: ambient, task, and accent.

#### Ambient

Multiply the room's square width footage by 1.5 to determine the minimum number of watts needed from incandescent lighting. *Example:* A 15' x 15' room contains 225 square feet, which multiplied by 1.5 equals 338 watts needed for ambient lighting.

#### Task

Multiply the total square footage of the task area by 2.5. *Example:* If a kitchen island is 3' x 5', multiply 15 (the number of square feet) by 2.5. This gives you 38, so you need a minimum of 38 watts in incandescent lighting or its equivalent in other kinds.

#### Accent

This is less precise. Aim for the accent light to be three times as bright as the ambient light that reaches the space near it.

#### Lighting Measurement

We use some funny words in the lighting business, which we do not expect you to know. Additionally, things have changed recently in the way we measure electric light. Here's the skinny:

**Wattage** refers to the amount of electricity a bulb consumes.

**Lumens** is the word we use to designate the actual brightness any bulb exudes.

**Footcandles** means the total amount of light that reaches its target.

Also, we hate acronyms just as much as you, so CFL equals Compact Fluorescents and LED stands for Light Emitting Diode.

If not using incandescent bulbs, you can use the same methods for determining requisite wattage, above, and then translate it appropriately for the type of bulb you are using:

Incandescent Wattage	CFL Equivalent	Approximate Lumens
60 watt	13–15 watt CFL	800 lumens
40 watt	8–20 watt CFL	450 lumens