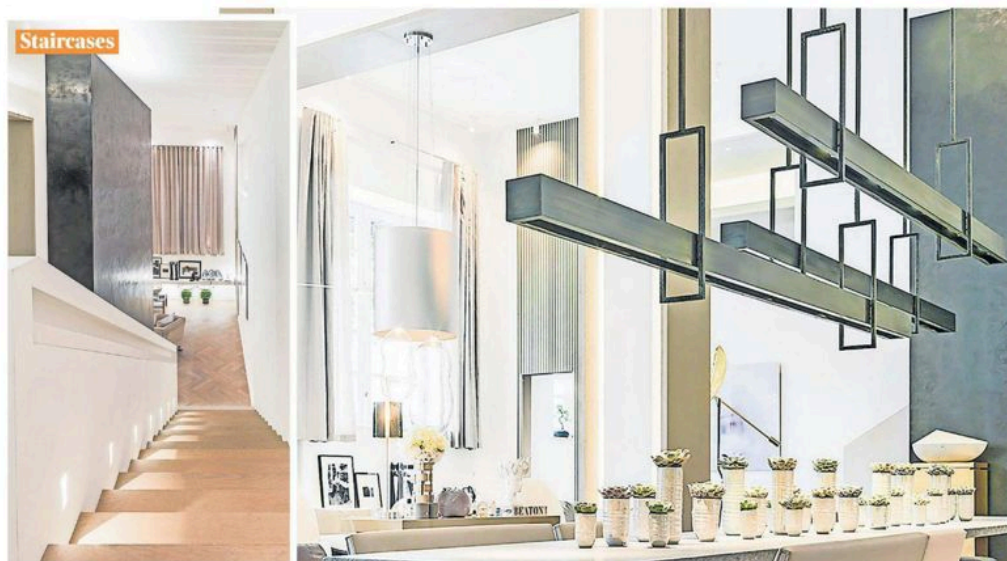


Bricks&Mortar

Interiors

Staircases



Hoppen's lighting designs include floor washers on staircases, statement pendants in living areas, a spa-like ambience in the bathroom and layered lights for a cosy bedroom

Lighting is everything. Without it, even the most beautifully designed space feels flat and uninspired. And even a modestly furnished room can become sophisticated with the addition of the right lighting choices.

The key is layering. A combination of task lighting for functionality and mood lighting for atmosphere creates a dynamic and adaptable space. The best lighting schemes allow flexibility, giving you the ability to shift the ambience to suit different occasions. Statement lighting is a powerful tool that can add drama and character to a room. Sometimes a striking light fixture doesn't even need to be illuminated to make an impact — it can be highlighted using concealed spotlights to create a sculptural effect.

Planning your lighting is crucial. I always map out lighting on floor plans, ensuring the right balance between illumination and shadow. Here is my room-by-room guide.

Entrance

This is the first thing people see and will set the tone instantly, making the space feel warm and inviting. I always suggest a strong focal point with a statement lighting fixture, catching the eye as you walk in.

Think about how the entrance connects to the rest of the home. The lighting should flow naturally, creating a seamless transition between spaces. Floor-level lighting can subtly guide guests, while a well-placed pendant or wall sconce adds character.

Articles



Living areas

Kelly Hoppen's guide to lighting up your home

The interior designer has tips on how to create the perfect ambience in your bathroom, bedroom and kitchen

Living areas

With an open-plan living area, lighting plays a key role in defining different zones. It will help to delineate areas for lounging, dining and entertaining, creating a seamless flow while maintaining a sense of intimacy.

Living rooms, like the one I just created with Visual Comfort at WOW! house, demand adaptable lighting to suit a range of moods and activities. A blend of ambient, task and accent lighting works best. Wall sconces such as Visual Comfort's Coveit Tall Clip Solitaire Flush Mount, and table lamps (the Mina table

lamp I've used in this scheme allows three-way dimming for customisable ambience) create warmth, while downlights or floor washers can define different zones within an open-plan space.

Statement lighting, whether it's a chandelier such as the Canto Grande Four Arm Chandelier, a sculptural pendant or a cluster of glass globes, acts as a central design feature, lit or unlit.

For dining areas, pendant lights should be positioned carefully to cast flattering, comfortable light without obstructing the view across the table. Dimmer

switches are essential, allowing you to create an intimate glow for a dinner party or bright light for practical use. The secret to successful lighting in these spaces is balance. Low-level lighting — such as LED strips under shelves or shadow-gap lighting — adds depth, while accent lights highlight artwork and architectural details.

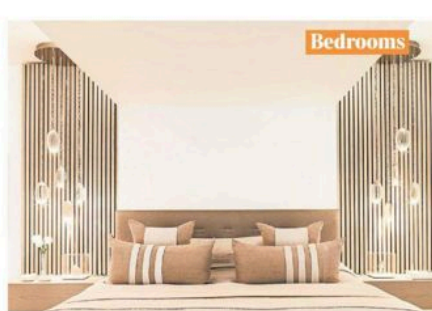
Kitchen

Here, lighting needs to be practical and atmospheric. Task lighting, like downlights under wall cabinets, keeps work surfaces bright, while low-level



Kelly Hoppen

Bathrooms



Bedrooms



general, task and accent lighting let you switch between bright functionality and a more relaxed atmosphere with ease.

Home study

A well-lit home office needs a balance between functionality and comfort. Task lighting — such as a desk lamp with directional illumination — is essential for focused work, while ambient lighting prevents harsh contrasts that can strain the eyes.

Bespoke joinery can incorporate LED strip lighting within shelving, adding a contemporary touch and improving

lighting at the base of units creates a sleek, floating effect.

Over a kitchen island or dining area lighting should be carefully placed. A row of pendants or a statement fixture adds function and style, making sure the space is well lit without feeling harsh. LED strips along cabinetry or under shelves bring subtle depth and dimension, enhancing the design.

Flexibility is key — dimmer switches let you easily shift from bright and functional for cooking to soft and inviting for entertaining.

Bedrooms

Bedrooms should be peaceful sanctuaries, achieved through layered lighting. Soft ambient lighting, bedside table lamps and statement pendant fixtures all contribute to a calm and inviting space. Dimmer switches allow for seamless transitions from bright morning light to a cosy evening glow.

For dressing rooms, task lighting is essential. Well-lit mirrors and LED strips integrated into wardrobes and shelving make choosing outfits effortless while adding an elegant touch. Subtle perimeter lighting enhances the ambience without overpowering the space.

Bathrooms

Bathrooms need a balance of practical and mood lighting. Bright but flattering task lighting round the mirror is a must — architectural lighting built into mirrors creates a sleek, modern look. For a softer, spa-like feel, ambient lighting like LED strips under vanity units or recessed ceiling lights work beautifully.

Layering is key. Separate circuits for

Dimmer switches are essential, allowing you to create an intimate glow or a bright, practical light

visibility. A combination of ceiling lights and strategically placed wall scones ensures the space is inviting and inspiring rather than clinical.

Staircases

This is a great place to make a statement with lighting. Safety comes first, but the right lighting can also highlight architectural features and add drama. Shadow-gap lighting along the treads, low-level wall lights or floor washers keep stairs safe while creating atmosphere.

Lighting can completely transform a space, making it functional and beautiful. Whether it's precise task lighting, a bold statement piece or subtle low-level accents, the right lighting plan brings a home to life. Layering different light sources and using dimmable controls lets you adjust the mood effortlessly, creating a space that's warm, elegant and versatile.

Lighting isn't just an extra detail — it's what gives a space its soul. For more lighting ideas, visit the Visual Comfort Sitting Room by Kelly Hoppen, at WOW!house, at the Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour, from June 3 to July 3, dcch.co.uk

Bricks&Mortar



Get the Justin Bieber sofa look (without the £20k price tag)

The pop star's coveted model is pricey and elusive, but there are alternatives out there, says Nicky Rampley-Clarke

After something of a social-media hiatus, Justin Bieber has treated fans to a flurry of Instagram posts. It's not life with his new baby, Jack Blues, that has caught our attention, though, it's his interiors

— and, more specifically, the Dune Ensemble by the French sculptor turned designer Pierre Paulin. Modular configurations and structural formations are all the rage right now, but this sofa was way ahead of its time when it was launched in 1970, although it was never put into mass production. It's enormous — more than 10ft wide and deep in certain layouts — with backrests and tables that nestle inside to make it look more like an undulating landscape or otherworldly floor than a piece of furniture.

Now, thanks to Bieber — as well as other celebrity fans such as Frank Ocean and Travis Scott — we all want to be enveloped in its warm, cocooning embrace. Against a backdrop of political unrest, war and financial crisis, can you blame us? The problem is that they're so few and far between, like the furniture equivalent of a Birkin bag, with sofas going for upwards of £20,000 and modules for about £5,000.

If you want something similar but more readily available, Togo by Ligne Roset is another classic sofa with modular units, in crumpled, colourful fabric. From the complete corner sofa to medium, small and large settees, corner seats and footstools, you can build your own configuration from Ikea's, starting from £1,985 for the fireside chair. Also from the furniture stalwart are the Aurelie and Morven, starting from £2,499 and £1,999 respectively, both of which can be assembled to suit your taste and space.

The American maximalist Jonathan Adler has created the Futura system, with armless pieces and corner units for endless possibilities (£1,750 for the slipper chair). The 102H High Back Sofa from the Australian brand King Living is the stuff viral Instagram content is made of, with curves,



Top: the Malvern from Oak Furnitureland. Justin Bieber on his Dune Ensemble, above



The Tolco range from Andrew Martin, above. Below: King Living's 1978 High Back Sofa

sweeping lines and a high backrest. Not only can the modules be mixed and matched, but the armrests can be removed too. Prices range from £729 for the sofa chair to £1,029 for the two-seater, although you can snap up a set of three units from £2,690.

And you don't have to fork out a fortune to follow in Bieber's footsteps. Dune dupes have cropped up, such as the Contour Sofa (£3,800) from Category Is and the Dune Sofa Replica (£5,490) by Sohne. Or you could plump for a structural, modular sofa that isn't an outright dupe. Andrew Martin's Tolco is £895 for an armless section and £995 for a corner unit. Pieces can be easily slotted together, meaning you can refresh your room at the drop of a Bieber-style bucket hat. The Malvern from Oak Furnitureland (£780 for the two-seater) offers a selection of modules and is arguably more functional when you're not installed in a minimalist LA mansion. Elena Mellows, the head of buying at the retailer,

says: "We've seen customers recreating the 'Bieber look' on social media by pushing all the units together to create an oversized daybed or 'nest'."

So, when it comes to a structural, modular sofa with as much swagger as a pop star, are you a Bieberer?