



The GRAND showstopper

Who said chandeliers are only for ballrooms and mansions? No matter the size of your home, here's why you should consider a showstopping chandelier.

BY AMY LEHNER

Chandeliers, with their multiple branches and various lightbulbs, have long been a symbol of opulence and elegance, but they may seem outdated with the current trend towards natural

textures and minimalist designs. This piece of decor is about more than just crystals or candelabras, though. If you're keen to spruce up your lighting and enhance your home, you're sure to find a modern take that speaks to you.



NATURE'S ELEMENTS

Continuing the design world's obsession with all things rattan, macramé and handmade, light fittings created from natural materials are in high demand this year. This is a good option if you love the statement power of a chandelier but sparkle isn't your thing. Choose from simple woven or reed shades, locally inspired beading and carved designs, or elaborate confections fashioned from unusual materials such as eggshells or leather. This trend is not just about the materials, but the general aesthetic too. Look out for delicate organic pieces designed to look like leaves or feathers. Bolder, more abstract shapes are also in, so no straight lines allowed.





SHOW ME THE SHINE

After several years where rose gold and brass in matte finishes ruled supreme in the design world, the new look for metals can be considered as silver, chrome and highly reflective. This kind of chandelier can work equally well with a clean, minimalist aesthetic or with something a little more intricate. Look for architecturally-inspired, geometric pieces such as concentric rings or a more modern take on the classic candelabra. If you have fairly muted tones in your decor, be mindful of your space looking a little more clinical. You want to channel a beautiful home, not the doctor's waiting room.

ECLECTIC EFFECT

Whether you're all about vintage finds, country charm or bohemian bling, the chandelier can be your best friend. Spice up an otherwise neutral room with a bright and

bold light fitting, or continue the theme of your furniture and decor with something equally as quirky. This look can include pieces made from milk glass (old-school translucent or opaque white glass) for a retro style, colourful stained glass or Murano glass for a vintage feel. Intricately wrought iron can also work, as the design and feel is up to you. It's also the perfect excuse to include a traditional chandelier design with the distinctive tiers of crystals or a metal candelabra.



SCAN HERE

TO SHOP A GLASS AND SHELL CHANDELIER

BOLD BRILLIANCE

Lighting shouldn't just be utilitarian, but an integral part of the design of any room. Smaller spaces are generally better suited to more subtle light fittings, such as single pendants or recessed lights. However, the living or dining room (or even an opulent bedroom) is the ideal place for something special.

Any chandelier is sure to catch the eye, but big and bold sculptural pieces that function as statement objects are quite trendy. This continues the tendency for natural materials and forms, but with an updated edge. The preference is for organic shapes mimicking the flow of water, growing plants or rolling hills. This can be made from organic materials, metal, glass or even ceramics; just think of it as a piece of art that just happens to be displayed on the ceiling.