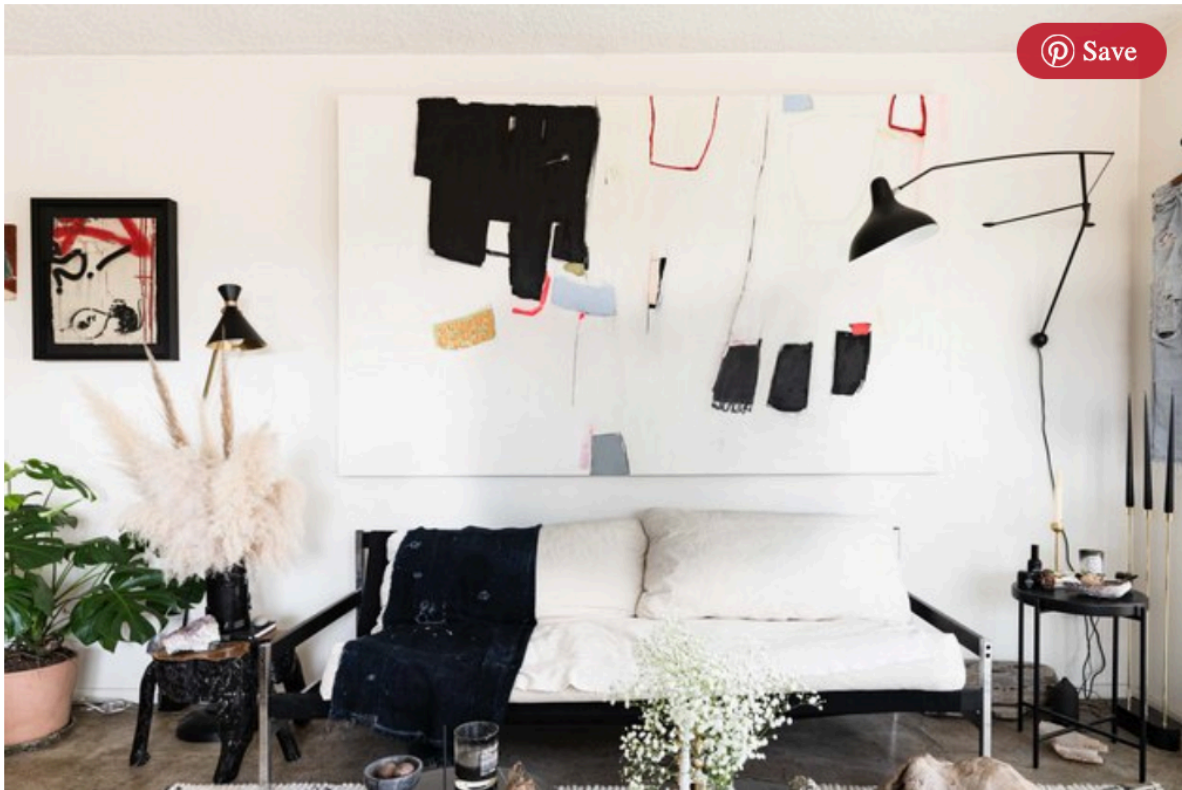


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6 Industrial Lighting Ideas for Literally Any Living Room

By [Laura Lambert](#) | September 3, 2019



credit: Stephen Paul

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No one would ever mistake [Bay Area interior designer Alison Pickart's](#) style for modern [industrial](#), but that doesn't mean she shies away from industrial lighting. "It has a place," she says. "You can be the fanciest of fancy and it still has a place. You can be the girliest of girly, and it has a place. It works with all styles."

The point, then, is to weave [industrial lighting](#) in judiciously.

"Know when to say when," Pickart says. When [industrial lighting](#) is used sparingly or as an accent, it can transform the personality of a room. "If you can weave your story throughout your house or apartment with a well-placed, sculptural piece, that's fantastic. When it gets to be everywhere, it looks like a homework project that went awry."

Here are six ways to go about adding a little industrial flavor to your [living room](#) – with [lighting](#).

1. Go Basic (but Not Boring) With a Humble Light Socket



credit: Peter Schweitzer

"Our basic best friend: the porcelain socket," Pickart says (seen here in [artist Buckley's home studio](#) in Portland). "It's the origin of illumination. And there are iterations of it now that are fantastic." You can get a basic socket at the hardware store for under \$5, and then options blossom from there. In particular, Pickart is a fan of the simple flush mount lights you can find at CB2. "With bulb shopping today, you have so many options. That can be your adornment."

2. Consider a High-End Reinterpretation



credit: Stephen Paul

The French lighting manufacturer DCW éditions specializes in reimagining classic shapes. A traditional industrial swing-arm lamp grows and becomes praying mantis-like in this statement piece for the living room.

3. Keep It Simple Stupid



credit: Tessa Neustadt for Emily Henderson Design

[Living room lighting](#) doesn't always have to make such a statement, though. This chic, industrial scone is both simple and modern.

4. Cool a Traditional Space With an Industrial Fan/Light



credit: Sara Tramp for Emily Henderson Design

Instead of a simple white fan that would disappear into the ceiling, this industrial LED fan makes a strong visual statement and acts as a beautiful contrast to the more traditional choices elsewhere in the room.

5. Try DIY



credit: Sanford Creative

Part of the charm of industrial lighting is that you can sometimes recreate it yourself with one trip to the hardware store. [Pete Panciera of the home goods brand Norden](#) hand built this sputnik-style industrial chandelier, which anchors his open living room-dining room, in about six hours. The brass continues to age and change.

6. Use It as a Counterpart to a Refined Space



credit: Design Within Reach

"In order to make industrial lighting feel good, it needs to have a counterpart," Pickart says. Trying bringing a midcentury piece with an industrial feel to an otherwise refined space, which brings in a lighter, more fun sensibility. "Spaces can start to take themselves too seriously if they're only fancy," she says.