



RESIDENTIAL & BUSINESS INTERIORS | FURNITURE DESIGN | COLOR & ART CONSULTING

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In our first visit with you we LISTEN to your needs and wants for the project. Only then, we propose ways to accomplish them. Please call or email, we will respond promptly.

Color, Finish & Material FAQ

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We welcome additional questions from our clients and site visitors and will provide answers that are relevant to a broad range of circumstances. For specific situations please **CONTACT** us directly via email or phone.

What are the effects of light on colors, finishes and materials?

Light affects how color appears to us depending on exposure to various intensities, types, the surfaces it hits and reflects from, the direction it is originated from and in the case of natural light, time of the day. High light intensity will make color appear lighter or "washed out" while low intensity will make it appear darker.

Understanding how natural and artificial lights effect our perception of a space is essential for successful selections of CFM.

How should natural light be considered in interior space design?

Many interior spaces enjoy natural light as the main source for lighting during the day. The direction from which the light enters a space, however, effects how color appears at different hours. For example, light flooding a space from the east in the morning hours adds a warm tone to surfaces and colors. Light flooding a space from the west in the afternoon hours adds more intense (contrast) tones. Light flooding a space from the north appears "colder" (bluish) and will tend to tone down colors in a space.

Knowing this and other characteristics of light, a trained interior professional would provide more accurate selections of colors for your desired style.

What is the impact of direct natural light on colors and certain materials?

Wood darken with exposure to light over time, so placing objects on wooden shelves for a long period of time may leave marks after their removal. Texture or finish of furniture made of beautiful, rich wood, present slightly different colors in different light conditions depending on the direction of the grains and the construction of the piece. Fabric colors, on the other hand, fade faster when exposed to natural light for a long period of time. So are art paintings, prints and photographs.

What are the differences between artificial light technologies available in the marketplace?

Most indoor environments are designed with exposure to daylight, yet nearly all require artificial light to enhance life or work conditions in them. Understanding the advantages of artificial light technologies and making informed selections are important component of space design.

The light most indoor fixtures produce is not similar to the natural light from the sun and has unique effects on CFM in a space. For example, most fluorescent light options add cold,

"greenish" tone to indoor surfaces. Incandescent or halogen light, on the other hand, effect colors by exposing them to warm (yellowish) tone.

A new light-emitting diodes (LED) technology developed in recent years, offers an option to replace current artificial light sources with long service life and high-energy efficiency light. This attractive light source accentuates CFM in ways not possible before. The cost to the consumer of implementing this technology is, however, higher than that of traditional light sources.

When used properly, light can enhance the quality and value of a space, helping to make it welcoming and attractive or reflect a particular style.
