



## Trinity Design Studio

# How to choose your designer lampshade

At Trinity Design Studio we believe choosing a lampshade should be easy and are happy to help you choose your designer shade.

We love light and colour; combining the two seems as natural as nature. We believe in statement designs; those capturing your imagination; colourful lampshades, which light up the room and do more than cover a bulb; statement lampshades, noticed for all the right reasons ~ creating beauty around you.

So, with this in mind we have made it easy...

The first thing your lampshade needs to do is to capture your imagination, something you like and love having around – easy! So, what else do you need to know? Not too much really, however, further things you may consider are...

### 1. Lampshade size

Lampshades for use with lamp bases:

- ✚ Make sure the size of your lampshade is in proportion with the size of the base
- ✚ The height of the shade should be roughly  $\frac{3}{4}$  the height of the base
- ✚ The width of the bottom of the shade should be about the same as the height of the lamp
- ✚ The shade should be around 1.5cm wider than the base
- ✚ If you are debating between two sizes – it is usually best to go for the larger one

Lampshades for pendant or ceiling use:

- ✚ Make sure the size of the shade is in proportion to the size of your room
- ✚ As a basic rule of thumb you can measure the size of your room to determine the size of shade the room will take. First, add the length and the width of your room together and divide this number by 12. The answer will be the width of the lampshade suitable for your room. Then, measure the height of your room and multiply this number by 3 and then divide this number by 12, thus giving you the height of the lampshade suitable for your room! Confused? – [contact us and we will help](#)
- ✚ It is also worth thinking about any doorways which may open onto your lampshade, thus the height of your lampshade may need to be reduced

Our bespoke service will tailor make your designer lampshade to any size.



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### 2. Lampshade shape

There are several different shapes of lampshades. The main ones being:

- ✚ Empire and straight – the classic round; a cone with the top lopped off
- ✚ Square – like the empire with a square or rectangular bottom
- ✚ Oval, cone and coolie – traditional shape
- ✚ Drum – a cylinder shape providing a contemporary look

We specialise in drum shades as these are the most popular, providing clean lines and a contemporary look. However, we can make any shape you like.

### 3. Lampshade material

Lampshades can be made with any material:

- ✚ Trinity Design Studio uses natural materials; silk, cotton, linen, velvet, hessian and more
- ✚ Bear in mind, velvet will allow less light through than cotton or silk and it will depend upon the thickness (as with all fabrics) of the linen as to how much light it will let through Hessian, with its textured nature, shows the fabric structure when lights are on
- ✚ Lampshade material can also be rolled (gathered) with a pleated effect for a traditional feel or un-gathered for a modern, contemporary look
- ✚ As well as offering a whole range beautiful waxed cotton lampshades, we hand paint silk lampshades and like the minimalistic look of un-gathered fabric for our shades

Using only natural fabrics, Trinity Design Studio create shades in contemporary colours for you to mix and match with your pendants and bases, or our vintage bases and see the effects!

### 4. Lampshade design and colours

- ✚ Often we choose a colour to blend in with the room. However, lampshades can be bold and offer the inspirational edge; creating something really beautiful to enhance the décor of your room. Changing your lampshades can be a quick and effective way to transform and enrich your room
- ✚ Lampshades are a great way of introducing colour to a room; allow them to make a statement in your room

Experiment and have fun with colour, you will be surprised what works; be bold and use your lampshade to help create beauty around you.



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### 5. Using lightbulbs with lampshades

It is also worth thinking about the type of lightbulb you are going to use with your lampshade as this will not only have an impact on the light level you will get but on the effect the lampshade will create. Lightbulbs have come a long way in recent years and now is a great time to take advantage of the technology created. There are a few things worth thinking about:

- ✚ The first thing to consider is usually the fitting the bulb will take; bayonet, screw or pins
- ✚ There are three main types of bulb; halogen (expensive to run and get very hot), LED (expensive to buy, cheap to run, last a long time and don't get hot) and compact fluorescent lamp (cheap to buy, last a long time, don't really get but don't offer much in the way of colour choice)
- ✚ Bulbs also come in different shape; candle, pear-shaped, spherical, golf ball and globe being the most commonly used with lampshades. It can be useful to have a smaller bulb in a smaller lampshade to prevent the bulb from showing
- ✚ The amount of light created from a bulb is measured in lumens and the greater the number of lumens the more light produced. As a guide, 400 lumens is more suitable for a bedside lamp, whereas 1500 lumens is great for reading
- ✚ Light colour emitted by the bulb is measured in degrees Kelvin. A daylight bulb (at the white end of the spectrum will emit 6500K, natural white 5000K, cool white 4000K, warm white 3500K, soft white (at the yellow end of the spectrum) 2700K. You may prefer a soft or warm white for a bedroom and a cool or natural white for reading. However, changing warm and cool light can also have wonderful effects on you lampshade!

Enjoy the effect different bulbs create with your lampshades; mix and match lumens, Kelvins and colour to see what you can achieve.

And, if after all this you are still unsure how to choose your designer lampshade, please do contact us...we are here to help!

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