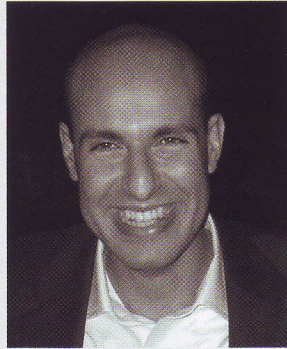


Case Study

“Current building regulations demand 75% energy efficiency across a project and, although many homeowners try to resist using LEDs due to the general widespread misunderstanding of LEDs, this is now a legal requirement which we have to adhere to,” explains Roberto Serra of Light IQ.

“Bedrooms are the rooms where clients are most fond of the original halogen fitting due to its perceived ‘warmth’ of colour and dimming capacity for mood lighting,” he continues. “Fortunately, LED technology is advancing more and more and, with extensive research, we now have a wide variety of fantastic fittings which a client would struggle to distinguish against a standard halogen and have excellent dimming capability.”



Designer: Roberto Serra, Light IQ

The Clients: A retired couple

Location: London

The Brief: To create an atmosphere of luxurious intimacy, which, coupled with the exceptional finishes and tasteful interior design, would result in a very soft, liveable space

In the spotlight

Roberto Serra of Light IQ reveals the secret to a beautifully lit bedroom:

In **dressing areas** it is important to choose a lamp that has good colour rendering – an index that takes into account how obvious the colours look under the lights. Fluorescents are surprisingly good in this respect, with excellent colour rendering, as are the LED downlights that we use, both of which can be positioned in a way to ensure good lighting in this area. It is also sometimes nice to incorporate some lighting into the wardrobe furniture itself, for example LED tape under the top shelf to wash light down onto the hanging rails, or hanging rails that incorporate lights themselves are also great alternatives.

Most beds now feature a multitude of luxurious fabrics and textures, all of which look fantastic when lit from above. We often suggest a downlight centred onto each pillow for this very purpose, especially if the clients have opted for a feature headboard. These downlights also double as task lighting for reading in bed, in addition to a decorative light on a bedside table, which often only throws out minimal light that can strain the eyes. We regularly put each downlight on a separate circuit in case one client wishes to read, but the other half wants to sleep.

Clients often choose sumptuous **curtain fabrics**, which cry out for some lighting. It will also serve to balance the room which would otherwise only feature lighting in areas where activity will happen; the window area is often neglected. We use either directional downlights, focused down the centre of each curtain or window, or linear LEDs into a curtain pelmet detail that give a wonderful indirect glow of light down the curtains.



“We used low-level lights in the dressing room for a pathway of light through to the bathroom in the evenings, and provided a high-specification ceiling fitting for a huge wash of light when required for dressing,” explains Roberto. “The fittings comprised both diffused fluorescents and directional halogen spotlights for

the perfect balance of general and task lighting. The low-level lights are LED fittings to ensure minimum maintenance and long life. Lights are controlled via a Creston lighting system which allow the clients to set the perfect lighting scenes to accommodate their needs.”

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