

**WHAT THE PROS KNOW: CHANDELIERS****Hanging around**

The chandelier is lighting the way from dining room to kitchen to bed and bathroom – with innovative designs to match

BY BARBARA BALLINGER

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The chandelier is not just for dining rooms these days. You'll find it gracing the ceilings of bathrooms, bedrooms, hallways, even kitchens and dens. And though heavy lead-crystal chandeliers are still prized (if you inherit one, put it to use), new interpretations of this lighting fixture swing so many ways that we asked a few designers to share their favorites.

**Hilary Sopata**

**Interior designer, Interior Visions Designs Inc., Park Ridge. ([interiorvisionsdesigns.com](http://interiorvisionsdesigns.com)), 847-825-0450.**

The Da Vinci chandelier by Schonbek consists of a sphere of Swarovski crystals floating above your dining table casting an even, soft halogen glow on you and your guests. In LED mode, the bulbs change colors, creating an intriguing light show. Besides being sparkly, glitzy and glamorous, it's practical and can be disassembled and parts placed in a dishwasher for cleaning. It comes in two diameters-3 feet and 5 feet.

**Andrew Wagner**

**Editor-in-chief, American Craft Magazine, New York, N.Y. ([craftcouncil.org](http://craftcouncil.org)), 212-274-0630.**

The GRA chandelier by Terzani is a beautifully crafted piece manufactured by a family-owned operation. (Available at Lightology, Chicago.)

**Chris Berry**

**President, brooksBerry & Associates Ltd., Frontenac, Mo. ([brooksberry.com](http://brooksberry.com)), 314-872-7720.**

The Soleil lantern pendant, K-0054, by Jiun Ho for the Kentfield Collection is a perfect kitchen "chandelier" over a kitchen island or table. Its large scale is terrific when three or four are used. The inside shade kills glare while allowing adequate down light. It comes in five terrific finishes. There's also a petite version, K-0053, for tight spaces.

**Melissa Uslan**

**Designer, Interior Visions Designs Inc., Park Ridge. ([interiorvisionsdesigns.com](http://interiorvisionsdesigns.com)), 847-825-0450.**

The Syro chandelier, LK 123 from Baker's Laura Kirar Collection, features a Murano glass sphere with gold-accented disks. I love it because it's not too fussy or formal, proving that you can be very sophisticated but still have fun. This chandelier would liven up a formal space or add elegance to a more casual space. It comes 32" high, 18" in diameter, or as a pendant that's 13" high, 11" in diameter.

**Thom Filicia**

**Founder, chief creative officer, Thom Filicia Inc., New York, N.Y. ([thomfilicia.com](http://thomfilicia.com)), 212-736-6454, Style Network host of "Dress My Nest," formerly on "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy."**

This custom light from my company is reminiscent of a traditional lantern-clean, simple, linear. It uses historical restoration glass and a simple steel frame with darkened steel and wax finishes. My idea was that the lantern represents a combination of traditional and modern ideas in its shape and style, has a drama about it, yet it's classic and modern.

**Robin Wilson**

**CEO, Robin Wilson Home, New York, N.Y. ([robinwilsonhome.com](http://robinwilsonhome.com)), 866-885-6584.**

The Pillar Candle rectangular chandelier from Restoration Hardware has a hand-rubbed bronze finish that adds warmth to the metal. All the wiring is hidden within the chandelier frame so the faux candles with a flicker bulb look "real." We like the energy efficiency because the bulbs are 50 watts maximum and can be placed on a dimmer for less energy usage. Also, metal chandeliers can be recycled at the end of their life cycle and low-voltage halogen or dimmers can limit energy usage. (Available at Restoration Hardware)

**Kelly Schandel**

**Principal, Thinkpure Inc., Santa Monica, Calif. ([thinkpure.com](http://thinkpure.com)), 310-828-1112.**

Ochre's rectangular Light Drizzle chandelier is one of my favorites because it evokes an understated elegance and is a unique take on crystal chandeliers that tend to be overused these days. The elongated teardrop shape of the crystals gives the modern frame an old-world feeling. It's available in either a nickel frame with clear glass drops or a black frame with black glass drops. For a recent project, we had a custom rectangular frame made for us in a dark, oil-rubbed bronze finish with clear crystals. We hung it over a 10-foot walnut table by Jerome Abel.