

news +++ Light + Building
8 to 13 March 2026

light+building

Lighting trends for 2026/27: Inspiration for design and spatial effects

Frankfurt am Main, 29 01 2026. Whether visionary and sensual, unconventional and energetic, or timeless and iconic: with three inspiring themes, Light + Building Trends 2026/27 present the key directions in decorative lighting. The presentation by the bora.herke.palmisano style agency provides inspiration for innovative and versatile lighting concepts.

As the leading international innovation show for lighting trends, the Light + Building, from March 8 to 13, is the highlight of the 2026 calendar for designers, architects, and planners. In the lighting sector, represented by around 1,000 exhibiting companies, the spectrum ranges from functional lighting for work, education, industry and public spaces to design-oriented luminaires that shape rooms and create atmosphere.

What are the trends in decorative lighting for 2026/27? Answers to this question will be provided by the experienced trend scouts from the bora.herke.palmisano style agency in their trend presentation at Design Plaza in Hall 3.1. Annetta Palmisano summarizes: "The ambitious goal of many designers is to develop lighting designs that combine functionality, modern aesthetics, and sustainability. The results should have a long-life cycle and be highly adaptable to different usage requirements. This brings a curated, sculptural aesthetic into living spaces – as well as retro-modern aspects that tie in with reliable classics."

With these three inspiring themes, Light + Building Trends 2026_27 describes the current trends in decorative lighting.

Trend: Sensuous atmospheres



Restrained, elegant, and softly glowing shapes characterize the sensuous atmospheres trend. Source: Messe Frankfurt Exhibition.

Lightness and subtle design ideas are the defining motifs in “sensuous atmospheres” – for a sensual, enveloping sense of space as well as for an expansive, mysterious staging in outdoor areas. Subtle luminaire designs and gentle lighting effects create a soothing touch for the senses and create intimate, relaxing, enveloping lighting moods that have a positive influence on physical well-being. The designers are also inspired by the circadian rhythm and emphasize the importance of dynamic light that adapts in intensity and color nuances to reflect the course of the day. The color palette is inspired by nature. Textile materials delicately filter the light and create weightless volume with an ultra-light material effect. In the case of strong materials such as glass and metal, minimalist design solutions surprise with soft matte surfaces, transparent layering, and reflections inspired by sunlight.

Trend energetic gatherings



Contemporary designs exude an irresistible retro charm at the energetic gatherings trend. Source: Messe Frankfurt Exhibition

Selected lighting designs and unique pieces of furniture come together in unusual and invigorating combinations. The expressive, creative, and graceful lighting objects and furniture are individual pieces that together create varied, lively scenes. The artistic ideas

and skillful execution make the designs unmistakable, whether hand-formed or robot-carved, the designs always straddle the line between craftsmanship and technology. The range is idiosyncratic and diverse, with floral colors ranging from vibrant to soft, accompanied by neutral shades and darkened tones. Inspiring surfaces reflect a variety of techniques. Unconventional material ideas and unique noble waste creations impress. The designers play with vintage associations or experiment with materials: glass, ceramics, and lots of metal—especially brass and copper.

Trend considered concepts



Clear, graphic, balanced lines combined with the latest technology represent the trend of considered concepts. Source: Messe Frankfurt Exhibition.

Here, luminaires make a striking statement for material awareness, timeless aesthetics, and durable designs. The classic and innovative design concepts concisely combine decorative aspects with technological sophistication. They show how well-thought-out lighting objects can go beyond mere function and elegantly enhance rooms with versatile, functional, and atmospheric lighting. A striking number of designers are working with proven classics or choosing retro references for their new designs. They are breathing new life into classics, creating reinterpretations of earlier works, or producing new editions and redesigns from the manufacturers' archives. The color palette brings together colors with a striking presence, understated tones, and clear neutrals. Clear shapes and material-focused design draw the eye to strong, proven, and durable materials. Cool, clean metals and marble accompany the timeless style and are constantly being redefined for example, when recycled silver creates a refined lustre.

The trend scouts from the bora.herke.palmisano style agency focus on progressive product developments, materials, colors, inspiring ideas, and circular solutions in international design, which they track down on behalf of Messe Frankfurt at creative hotspots, workshops, artists' studios, and digital hubs. Their analyses and presentations represent the comprehensive process of discovering style-defining designs. During Light + Building, the experts will speak daily at the Design Plaza in Hall 3.1 B50 about important influences in lighting design and provide in-depth background information and design approaches.

All information on the Light + Building 2026 event programme can be found at:
www.light-building.com/events

Frankfurt: 2026 World Design Capital

For further information and details of events, visit: <https://wdc2026.org/en>

Light + Building – the world's leading trade fair for lighting and building services technology

Light + Building will take place in Frankfurt am Main from 8 to 13 March 2026.

www.light-building.com

Building. Technology. Solutions.

Industry knowledge 24/7 – one platform, all trends. Get new inspiration from the world of intelligent building technology. Relevant. Neutral. Customisable:

Building. Technology. Solutions.

+++ Accreditation for journalists +++

The online press accreditation for **Light + Building 2026** is now available:

www.light-building.com/accreditation

Please note the following information:

- If you already have a Messe Frankfurt login, please use this access data to register.
- We would like to ask you to update or complete your profile at this time.
- If you are registering online for the first time and do not yet have an account, simply go through the registration process step by step.

In case of any further question, please contact:

press.light-building@messefrankfurt.com

Press information and photographic material:

www.light-building.com/press

Links to websites:

www.light-building.com/facebook

www.light-building.com/youtube

www.light-building.com/linkedin

www.light-building.com/instagram

Building. Technology. Solutions. LinkedIn



Your contact:

Antje Schwickart

Phone: +49 69 75 75-6474

antje.schwickart@messefrankfurt.com

Messe Frankfurt Exhibition GmbH

Ludwig-Erhard-Anlage 1

60327 Frankfurt am Main

www.messefrankfurt.com

Background information on Messe Frankfurt

www.messefrankfurt.com/background-information

Sustainability at Messe Frankfurt

www.messefrankfurt.com/sustainability-information