

A LIVING NORTH PROMOTION

Let there be light

With a unique blend of independent advice and excellent customer service
it's not hard to see why the new Cotterell Light Centre is set for success.

Nikki Bruce goes in search of some inspiration...

Cotterell
LIGHT CENTRES



With branches in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Leeds, it should come as no surprise that customers flocked to the grand opening of the Newcastle branch, last month. Situated on the North Tyne Industrial Estate, just off the A191, Cotterell Light Centre is perfectly placed for a visit.

The 10,000 square foot showroom is packed with lighting for every occasion and style. Divided into different areas of the home, from the garden to the bathroom, and with specially created lifestyle sets, you don't need to look far for inspiration.

There's also a huge range of eclectic accessories and furniture. So alongside the very latest in lighting you'll find everything from batik wall hangings from Thailand and fair trade gifts from South Africa, to cutting edge glassware, unique clocks, mirrors and artwork.

We know how essential lighting is to the home yet many still see it as the finishing touch. Ideally it should be considered

at the start of a project along with paint and fabrics, advises managing partner, Lorraine Cotterell:

"Lighting is crucial to a room. It needs to create the right atmosphere as well as being practical. So whether a customer is at the beginning of a project or looking to revamp one room, we are on hand to guide them."

For this reason, Lorraine believes everything should be available in store so customers can assess all options. And with 3000 items available, you're guaranteed to find something to suit every taste and budget.

Lovers of cutting edge design can choose from Philip Stark table lamps, stunning Flos chandeliers and arco lights as well as many ranges unique to the north east. Look out for the amazing collection of coloured fused glass panels created by French designer Clarrise Dutraive. Operating from her Parisian studio, Clarisse sets the panels into a variety of table lamps and wall lights and autographs every piece.



Traditionalists can opt for the extensive Tiffany collection or the hand-blown Murano glass pendants right through to Czechoslovakian crystal chandeliers. Or why not follow the trend for mixing styles? Modern chandeliers make a fantastic design statement when placed in a classic setting and vice versa. Even children are catered for with a unique range of fun lighting from animal shaped lamps to hanging rockets for the ceiling.

However, choosing the right lighting can be daunting, which is why the experienced staff are on hand with friendly advice, especially when it comes to tricky areas such as the kitchen and bathroom. A home consultancy service is also available and a team of experts will come to your home to discuss and plan your lighting needs.

Because of their superb range of specialist products, this service is also available to commercial developments. Cotterell regularly undertake projects such as libraries, hotels, restaurants, bars and offices and are committed to offering cost saving advice no matter how large or small the project.



Or if it's only one room, simply bring in a sketch of socket and furniture locations and staff will be happy to give you the best solution. Even if you want to update an existing lamp, just bring along the base and they'll search for the best match.

And with new developments in technology the possibilities really are endless. Look out for LED systems and fibre optics which now mean you can have lights everywhere from your garden patio, to your bath and shower.

BRIGHT IDEAS

- Lighting is NOT the finishing touch. Thought should be given at the earliest stage of decorating to allow for the correct wiring to be put in place from wall lights, picture lights, floor and skirting lighting, recessed downlights etc.
- Lighting can enhance features you love in your home and detract from the one's you don't, so think carefully about a scheme that will flatter.
- Lowering the wattage of bulbs is a cheap and effective way of changing the mood and reducing glare.
- Most rooms are used for a number of functions so keep this in mind when choosing lighting. Be as flexible as possible.
- The colour of such things as room paint and soft furnishings affect the lighting levels. For example, darker colours will soak up light. Also, bear in mind ceiling height as this will affect what styles are available.
- Watch out as certain regulations apply when lighting the kitchen and bathroom. Be prepared to seek advice.



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For an update on what's new in the world of lighting or some independent design advice call: **0191 266 8883** or visit: www.cotterell-lightcentres.co.uk

Cotterell Light Centre
North Tyne Industrial Estate, Whitley Road, Benton, Newcastle NE12 9TG

Open 7 days a week:
Monday to Friday, 9am - 5.30pm
Saturday 9am - 5pm, Sunday 11am - 4pm