

ELLE DECOR

Special Issue

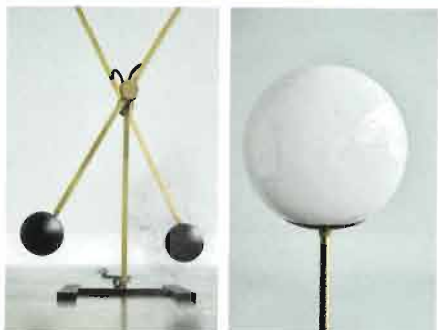


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THE TOP 10 FLOOR LAMPS

Designers Beth Webb and Frank de Biasi shed light on these stylish and sculptural pieces that brighten up a room, even when they're not turned on

We're living in an age of statement chandeliers, with ceiling fixtures that can be the size of a small car. But no matter how big or bright it may be, a hero light shouldn't go it alone. "A room lit solely by overhead fixtures can feel soulless," says Atlanta-based interior designer Beth Webb. "Layers of light give a space depth and warmth."

Lamps, and floor lamps in particular, can provide that perfect final touch. These tall, slender fixtures create a pocket of light—on a wall, on a ceiling, in

the middle of a room—without the need for a table. They add a graphic element to a space, anchoring a corner or the end of a sofa. When used in pairs, they add a pleasing element of symmetry. Frank de Biasi, a designer in New York, is especially fond of reading lamps. "A fully adjustable one with a focused beam makes a natural companion for an armchair," he says. "And if a floor lamp can hold a corner, illuminate a room, and be sculptural as well, you have a winning combination." ▶

THE EXPERTS

BETH WEBB

The Atlanta-based decorator is known for the clean, elegant, and livable interiors she has designed in the southeastern United States over the past 25 years. Her first book will be published by Rizzoli next fall. bethwebb.com

FRANK DE BIASI

De Biasi designs exquisitely composed, layered spaces that reflect his appreciation for antiques and craftsmanship. He is based in New York City. frankdebiasi.com

TEXT BY CATHERINE HONG / PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER CHURCHILL / PRODUCED BY LUCY BAMMAN



1 / CALA P165 FLOOR LAMP BY MARSET

BW: The details are spot-on, from the cloth-covered cord to the diffuser on the bottom of the shade, which means that you don't have to see the bulb or the shade's spokes when you're sitting beneath it. It's comfortable, casual chic.

FDB: It has the feel of a California beach house. The design is well thought out and solid, and I like the subtle texture of the lampshade.

65" h. x 16" w., \$1,639. masset.com



2 / DINO FLOOR LAMP BY FLAIR NEW YORK

BW: Flair does really great retro designs, and this masculine, *Mad Men*-like lamp is a perfect example, with its matte-black enamel shade and sculptural form. It's adjustable, too.

FDB: This is a take on a classic Serge Mouille design that would be at home in an urban bachelor pad. In fact, it's sturdier than a Mouille, so it's also ideal for someone with kids. 61" h. x 24" dia. (base), \$1,200. flairhomecollection.com



3 / STACKED LUCITE FLOOR LAMP BY HORCHOW

BW: The stacked acrylic looks well constructed. You could flank a sofa with a pair of these for a little whoop-de-do. It's a lot of look for the price.

FDB: It has a sort of Art Deco vibe—very 1930s, like Jean Harlow's boudoir—and lends a bit of sparkle. A pair of these could be quite glamorous, and acrylic is always easy to use since it takes on the color of whatever else is in the room. 66" h. x 11" sq., \$895.

horchow.com



4 / ALMERIA FLOOR LAMP BY MR. BROWN

BW: This is inspired by Giacometti's designs for Jean-Michel Frank. I love the look and texture of the matte gesso finish. You could use it in a city pied-à-terre as easily as in a Montecito villa, dressing it up or down with your own shade.

FDB: Yes, this is one where I'd switch the shade, or stencil or lacquer it with a quirky design. And all the interest is at the lamp's base, so you'd want a pretty floor or rug there.

72" h. x 16" dia. (base), \$1,800. homerdesign.com



5 / THIN FLOOR LAMP BY PETER BRISTOL FOR JUNIPER

BW: This is one of my favorite recent finds! It's just so sleek, elegant, and practical. The LED strip makes for perfect task lighting—it illuminates what you need and nothing else. It also comes in a desk version and three other finishes.

FDB: It's going to be a classic. You can use it in any space, even a traditional one, because it's so slender that it just sort of disappears. 59" h. x 52" w. x 10" dia. (base), \$850. juniper-design.com



6 / GLOBE FLOOR LAMP BY WEST ELM

FDB: A good one—I actually used this in my last apartment. I placed a large round paper shade over the globe to create a sort of 1970s Noguchi feeling. It's a wonderful way to add a warm, ambient glow to a room at a very affordable price.

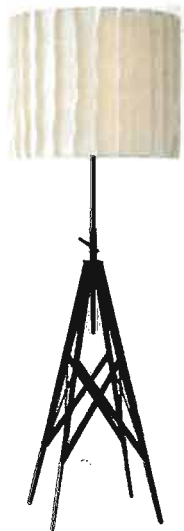
BW: It's fresh and kind of whimsical, and I love that idea of floating a paper shade, which would disguise the fact that the globe is acrylic, not glass. 62" h. x 11" dia. (base), \$199. westelm.com



7 / TANDEM COUNTERWEIGHT BY ROBERT SONNENMAN FOR RH MODERN

FDB: This is cool, and I like its adjustability. It's kinetic! But at 70 inches tall, it's not the easiest to place. You really need to have the space for it, like a loft.

BW: You can aim the light in any direction, to wash the walls. Put this lamp between two large, contemporary armchairs, with the arms splayed apart, and it becomes quite a commanding piece. 70" h. x 14.5" sq. (base), \$1,595. rhmodern.com



8 / PYLON BY DIESEL LIVING FOR FOSCARINI

BW: This lamp is impressive. The oversize pleated shade and architectural base set the tone for a modern, masculine interior. I see it in a loft next to a low, box-tufted sofa.

FDB: The base reminds me of those old surveyor's stands—very urban with the black steel, although the pleated shade makes it a bit more feminine. I'd use it to warm up a downtown industrial loft. 51" h. x 19" dia., \$2,541. foscarini.com



9 / MONTREUIL FLOOR LAMP BY AERIN

BW: I love the lighting that Aerin Lauder has been doing. Her designs are elegant and work beautifully in transitional spaces. With its four stems of different heights, this is a fresh twist on the traditional. I'd use it as a stand-alone in a foyer.

FDB: It's got an almost architectural presence, but the little details, like the round base that's a bit off the floor, keep it feeling light. I agree that this would make a statement in the foyer. It says, "Here we are!" 67" h. x 17" w., \$798. aerin.com

10 / MONTFAUCON TORCHIERE BY JONATHAN BROWNING STUDIOS

BW: It's expensive, and it looks expensive, from the hand-carved rosewood to the porcelain shade and the cloth cord that runs along the length. I'd love to see a pair of these flanking a low-slung bed in place of the usual table lamps. It's art.

FDB: The unglazed porcelain shade gives off a beautiful glow, and I love the drape of the twisted exposed cord. I just wish the light were adjustable. 60" h. x 37" w. x 12" dia. (base), \$4,080. jonathanbrowninginc.com

The opinions featured are those of ELLE DECOR's guest experts and do not necessarily represent those of the editors. All measurements and prices are approximate.