

PRODUCTS

FOR RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONALS

WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO KNOW ABOUT RECESSED LIGHTING?

By Sheila Kim



Modular Lighting Instruments

Conceived by Paris-based industrial designer Florent Coirier, these Qbini LED spotlights are the smallest—at a mere 2 square inches each—the company produces. It's offered in six shapes (round and square variations); one-to-four-lamp configurations; four white temperatures; and a grain-textured white, black, or gold finish on interior and optional trim. supermodular.com

Recessed lighting is one of the most versatile fixtures in a home, unobtrusive to the overall design and ideal in both modern and traditional interiors. But specifying and installing it takes planning and know-how.

Discussing recessed lighting early in the process is crucial. This sounds like common sense, but it's important to consider this when you're building your homes and remind clients why this is crucial.

"Structural framing and ductwork are two of the biggest limiting factors in existing ceilings. If these can't move, our designs need to change," says Gregg Mackell, principal and founder of [186 Lighting Design Group](http://186lighting.com). "If we have the ability to coordinate framing, sprinklers, ductwork... around lighting layouts prior to or during construction, we can minimize the contractor's need to redo anything." Though, he adds, there are now some downlight products that are extremely shallow to fit under ceiling components (More on this later).



USAI: One of the issues design professionals unanimously lament is trying to fit recessed lighting into an already crowded ceiling area. Fortunately, some manufacturers have been developing possible solutions. Expanding on USAI's already popular BeveLED family, for instance, Micro offers a remote driver option, resulting in a more compact housing that can fit shallow plenums. Specify downlights, wall washers, and adjustable spots for two-, four-, six-, eight-, and 12-lamp formats, all of which are only 1.25 inches wide. usailighting.com