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Building Code of Australia's Amended Lighting Regulations Works Towards Creating Cost- and Energy-Efficient Homes

Building and renovating a home in certain parts of Australia need to abide by the amended lighting restrictions which became effective in mid-2011. With the strict implementation of these regulations, Australians can reduce their energy consumption and put some money back into their wallets when they build a new house or renovate their old homes.

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The amended regulations for lighting by the Building Code of Australia that affect Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and the Northern Territory took effect during the second half of the year 2011. However, many homeowners these days who are embarking on a major home renovation still don't know that they are required to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy to properly launch into the work they want done for their home to comply with the new regulations. Basically, the new restrictions state that homes will now only be allowed to use five watts per square metre for internal lighting instead of the former 25 watts per square metre. Homes will be assessed according to the lighting plan submitted to the building inspector or private certifier and those that fail to comply will not be granted the Certificate of Occupancy.

The new regulations are proving to be a bit of a challenge especially for those who want and are used to a lot of light in their homes. Hence, electrical companies in Sydney are taking the responsibility of helping homeowners come up with feasible solutions to be able to abide by the amended restrictions when they renovate their homes or have a new one built.



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They are taking it upon themselves to educate their clients about the different strategies to properly abide by the new regulations and at the same time further improve energy efficiency to reduce expenses in their clients' homes. From choosing building materials or home fixtures, to strategically creating a floor plan, to mapping out and installing electrical wiring – they cover them all.

Everest Electrical Services, one of Sydney's leading electrical companies, claims that when it comes to lighting, there are numerous ways to make it more efficient; all it takes is full commitment and careful planning. For example, location is always an important consideration; choosing the right placement for lighting features can instantly increase their illuminating ability. This strategy is especially helpful when using LED lights (the best energy-saving option for lighting as they usually also come with a dimmer switch and consume 80% to 90% less electricity than traditional incandescent lights) which sometimes tend to be a little cool. Also, making the best use of natural light through the strategic positioning of windows and skylights can reduce the need to turn on the lights. This will likewise comply with the five-watts-per-square-metre restriction.

With the implementation of these new regulations, Australians are provided the opportunity to take a more ecoresponsible approach to home construction and renovation and score big savings at the same time.

For more home lighting solutions that can help residents comply with BCA's new artificial lighting regulations, visit http://www.everestelectrical.com.au.

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