

# HOMIE

WESTCHESTER

# THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Gardens, Backyards, Pools, and more...



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SUMMER 2019



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today media

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Flower arrangement photo by John O'Donnell  
Kitchen photo by Adam Kane Macchia

# Robert Sonneman

*Local lighting guru Robert Sonneman shares what inspires him, his design philosophy, and some of his best tips.*

## Who:

Executive Chairman and Chief Creative Officer, Sonneman — A Way of Light, Larchmont

## Design Philosophy:

A minimalist at my core, I am most inspired by the Bauhaus notion that art can result from utility or an industrial aesthetic as a basis for functional design. Less is more.

## Inspiration:

Travel — great design is everywhere — and simplicity.

## Hottest Trends:

- ▶ Technology — LED dominates — if it advances the usefulness of the object
- ▶ Integration in architecture and environmental management systems
- ▶ Electronic illumination and controls.

## Top Tips:

- ▶ Balance function with decoration while understanding that lighting is a universally essential element in any space.
- ▶ Consider the guidance of a professional lighting designer to assure the proper balance, color, brightness, direction, and control of lighting in an environment.
- ▶ The choice of sconces versus pendants is a choice between top versus side light. Use what you need functionally and then add to the primary lighting with the support of sconces to achieve ambient lighting.
- ▶ Don't try to solve all lighting needs with one or two sources. It is not a question of making light brighter but rather [distributing it] throughout a space to create levels and zones of illumination for utility, comfort, and perception.

