

PERIMETER LIGHTING DESIGN

Principles, Proportions,
& Ceiling Integration

A practical guide to designing effective
wall slot perimeter lighting

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Current 

THE POWER *of* PERIMETER

Illuminate the architecture,
not the fixture

What Is Perimeter Lighting?

Perimeter lighting is a linear lighting strategy placed along the junction of wall and ceiling. Its primary role is to illuminate vertical surfaces rather than the horizontal work plane.

Unlike general overhead lighting, perimeter lighting works with the architecture itself—using surfaces to distribute light throughout a space.

Key Characteristics

- Installed parallel to walls, typically at the ceiling edge
- Produces vertical illumination, not direct downlight
- Effective when continuous and uninterrupted or as an accent

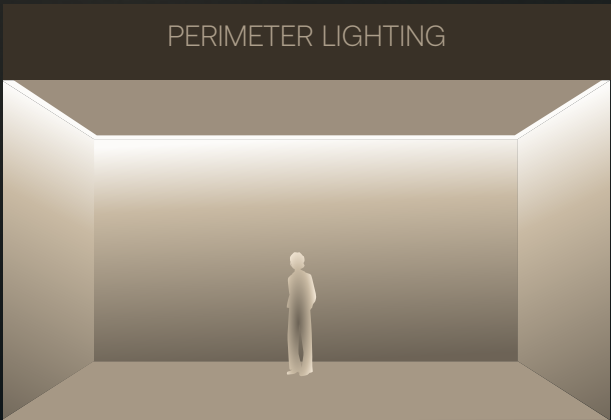
Common Forms

- Recessed wall slot perimeter lighting
- Surface-mounted wall grazers
- Cove lighting



Illuminates the work plane to provide consistent, functional light for tasks and overall space visibility.

VS



Illuminates vertical surfaces to enhance brightness perception, improve visual comfort, and highlight architectural features.



Visual Impact & Human Perception



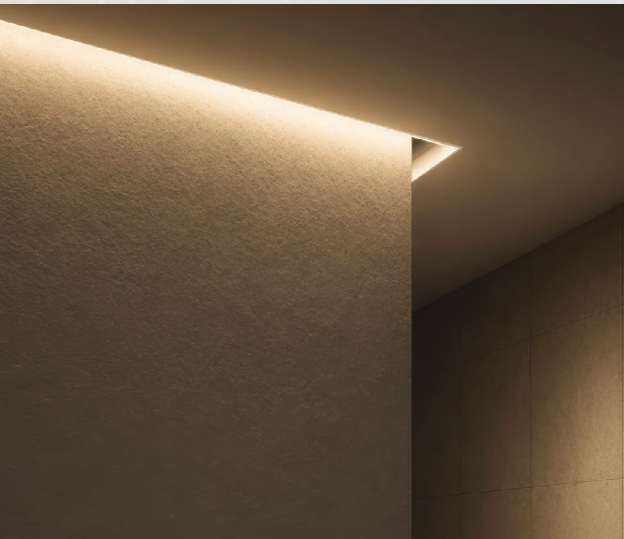
Lighting vertical surfaces has a powerful effect on how spaces feel because humans perceive brightness based largely on wall luminance rather than floor illumination.

Functional Benefits

- Reduces reliance on uniform overhead lighting
- Improves way-finding in corridors and public spaces
- Creates a calm, uncluttered ceiling plane
- Makes spaces feel brighter with less energy
- Improves visual comfort by reducing contrast
- Enhances architecture, materials, and texture

Architectural Value

Wall slot perimeter lighting reinforces the edge of the room, strengthening spatial definition while keeping the light source visually quiet.



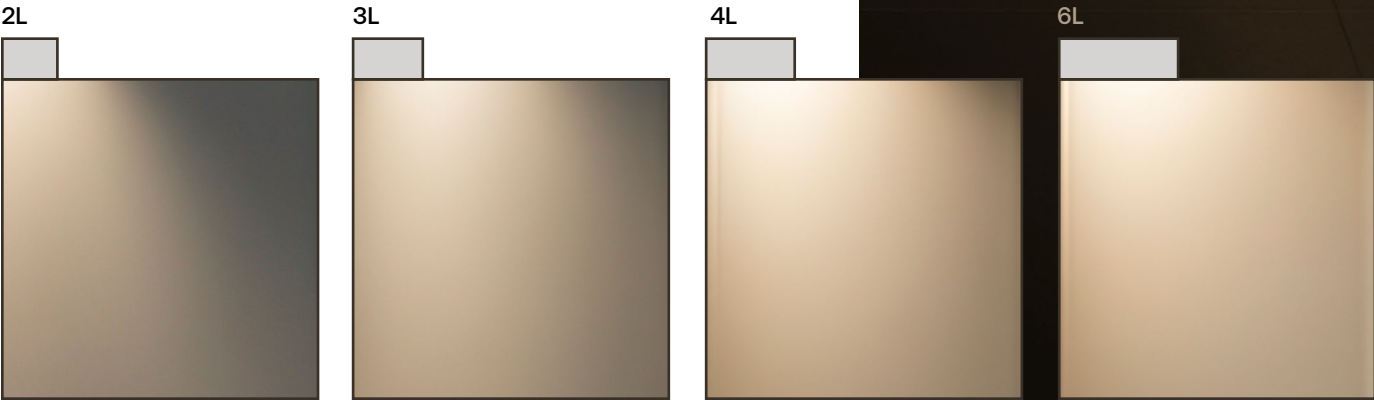
PROPORTION, DEPTH, PRESENCE

Understanding Aperture Size

The aperture is the visible opening of the lighting slot. Its width directly affects both aesthetic presence and light distribution.

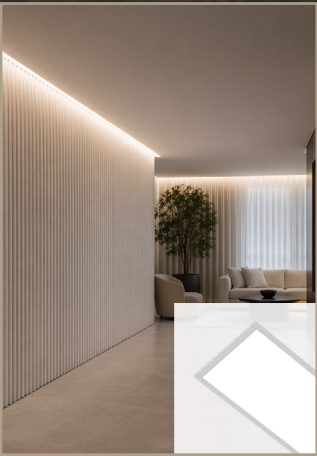
General Guidance

- Smaller apertures feel precise and architectural
- Larger apertures appear bolder and more luminous
- Aperture size must align with ceiling scale and height



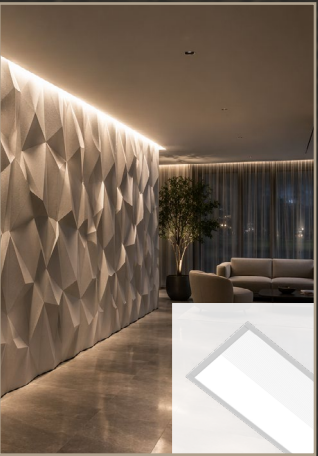
Tailored Light Control

A range of optical lens options allows you to customize light distribution based on application needs, including lambertian, narrow, and asymmetric outputs. A blade baffle option is also available to help reduce glare and enhance visual comfort.



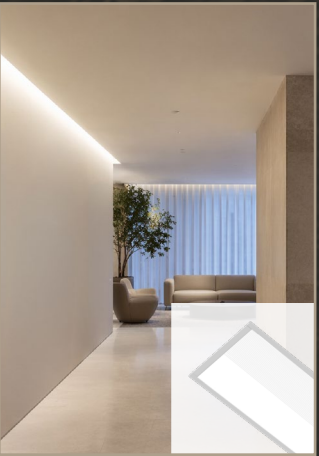
SOF - Soft Diffuse

Provides soft diffuse visual comfort in a lambertian distribution.



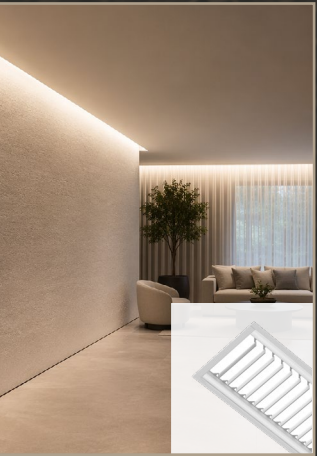
NRW - Narrow

Ideal for wall grazing applications to highlight texture or pattern on a wall.



ASYM - Asymmetric

Directs light away from the wall to fill the room. Ideal for consistent room illumination.



BWO - Baffle

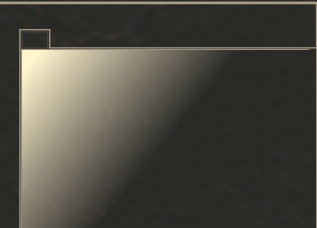
Ideal for glare reduction and primarily used in flush mount applications.

What Is Regression Depth?

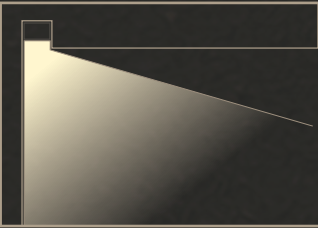
Regression depth refers to how far the light source is recessed above the ceiling plane.

Key Balance

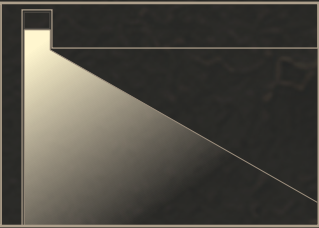
Effective wall slot design balances illumination, glare control, proportion and, spatial experience.



WS0 - Regress (Flush Mounted)



WS2 - 2" Regress



WS3 - 3" Regress



WS4 - 4" Regress

This dimension plays a critical role in:

- Visual comfort
- Concealment of the light source
- Perceived quality of the system

Shallow Regression

- Higher perceived brightness
- More visible light source

Deeper Regression

- Reduced glare
- Cleaner appearance at shallow viewing angles

Install it Your Way

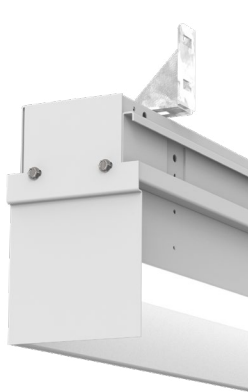
Designed for maximum flexibility, MODx W/S supports both pre and post-ceiling installation to adapt to your project timeline. With compatible options for drywall, trimless plaster finishes, grid, and screw slot ceilings, it seamlessly fits a wide range of applications.



Wall Rail (WR)
Pre-Ceiling
Installation Option



Threaded Rod (TR)
Pre-Ceiling OR Post-Ceiling
Installation Option



Wall Bracket (WB)
Pre-Ceiling OR Post-Ceiling
Installation Option

Contractor Conscious

Simplify installation from start to finish. With three flexible mounting methods, contractors can adapt seamlessly to site conditions. Resulting in a faster, more efficient install without compromising performance or design intent.

Perimeter Wall/ Slot Applications

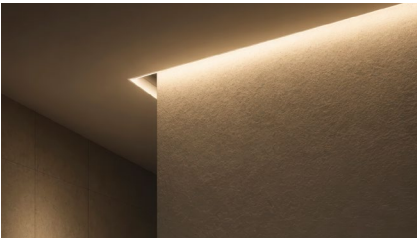
Shape your space by enhancing architectural definition, improving way-finding, and increasing visual comfort. Balance visual impact, performance, and budget across a range of applications.



Wall to Wall

This design can be used to highlight an accent wall, provide visual way-finding in hallways, and increase visual comfort.

Specify adjustable telescoping housing for best uniform illumination.



Patterns

Unique patterns that follow the footprint of a space help define corners and create visual transitions.

Use illuminated corners and adjustable sections for the most even illumination.



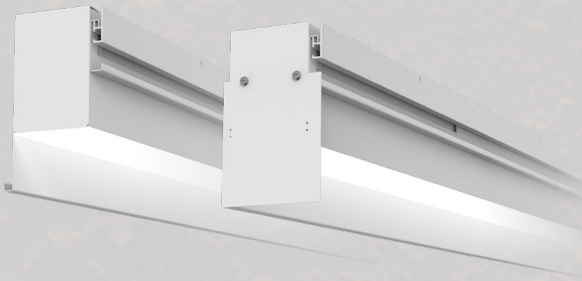
Square Pattern

Continuous perimeter light gives the room an architectural frame, even ambient light, and strong spacial definition.

MODx W/S options allow for in-field adjustability for ease of installation at any point in the design process.

Precision Fit Flexibility

The MODx Wall/Slot adjustable telescoping housing provides up to 12" of in-field flexibility for illuminated sections, ranging from 0–6" for 2' fixtures and 0–12" for 3' and 4', allowing precise alignment on site.



FEC **EC**

Visual End Detail

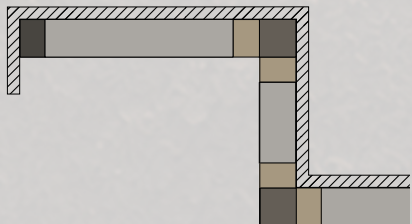
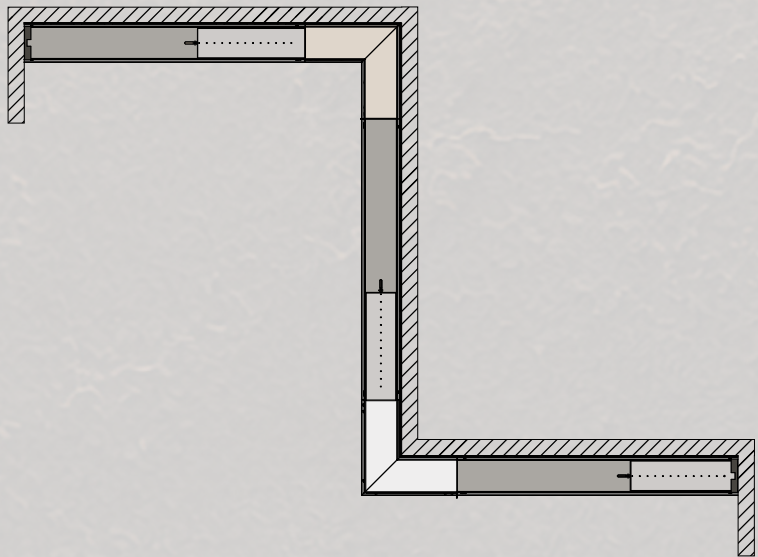
Flush End Cap (FEC): the fixture meets a finished wall surface, creating a clean and intentional architectural transition

End Cap (EC): the fixture extends into an unfinished wall condition where the end detail remains concealed

Pattern Transitions

Plan transitions with proper fixture placement and angles to maintain consistent illumination

	Illuminated Adjustable Wall/Slot (ADJ)
	Illuminated Inside Corner (IC90L)
	Illuminated Outside Corner (OC90L)
	Non-Illuminated Straight Extension (SE)
	Non-Illuminated Wall/Slot Corner (WSC)
	End Cap (EC) or Flush End Cap (FEC)
	Wall



For cost sensitive applications, non-illuminated straight extensions (SE) and non-illuminated corners (WSC) are available to lower the intensity of light on the wall.

Note: Straight Extensions (SE) may not be specified in Flush Mount (WS0) or Drywall (DW) ceiling type applications.

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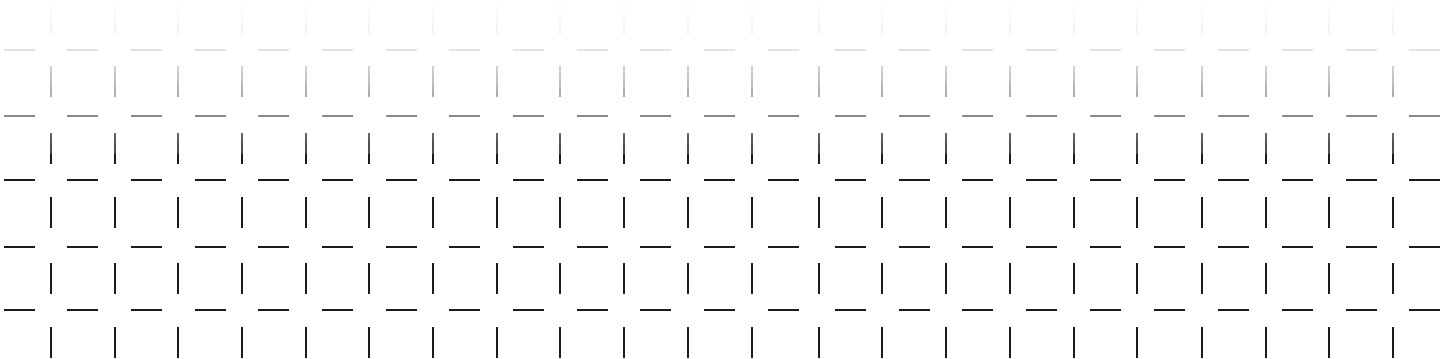
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(Rev 06/18/2026)

LC_Perimeter-Guide_Brochure_R01

Application images were developed with the assistance of AI.