

# Glossary

## **Bulb:**

A colloquial term for a lamp. In the lighting industry, the term, bulb, refers only to the glass envelope of the lamp. Some lighting professionals contemptuously refer to "bulbs" as those things that are planted in the ground.

## **Chandelier:**

A chandelier is often the focal point of the dining room. As such it should be hung approximately 30 inches above the table top and should be at least 6 inches narrower than the table on each side.

## **Cut-Off Angle:**

The position at which a viewer can no longer see the lamp in a fixture. The cut-off angle is measured from the base of the fixture to the point at which the lamp cannot be viewed. An angle of 45 degrees or less is considered "sharp", meaning the lamp is quickly hidden as one moves away from a fixture. The cut-off angle is important when considering glare.

## **Dimmer:**

A device in an electrical circuit used for varying the brightness of light bulbs in a lighting installation.

## **Glare:**

Direct glare is caused by light coming directly to the eye from a light source. Indirect glare is light reflected from a surface in the direction of the eye. Both can harm vision and cause visual discomfort or disability.

## **Occupancy Sensor:**

An electrical device that detects the presence of humans and turns a light fixture on. Occupancy sensors can use infrared, ultrasonic, and/or audio technology to detect the presence of people in an area.