

# 10 TIPS FOR YOUR DIY DESIGNER SWITCHES & OUTLETS PROJECT

When it comes to elevating your space, there's no need to look any further than your walls. With the right switches and outlets, you can transform any room with style and advanced features.

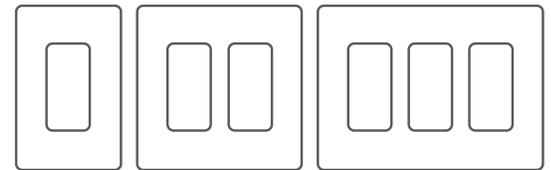
*Here are tips for picking out the perfect products for this easy DIY project:*



## TAKE STOCK & KNOW WHAT YOU NEED

- 1 Understand gang count for wall plates.**

Gang count refers to the width or number of openings in your electrical box or cover. A single switch or outlet requires a 1-gang wall plate. Two side-by-side switches or outlets require a 2-gang wall plate. You get the idea. Wall plates are available up to 6-gang.



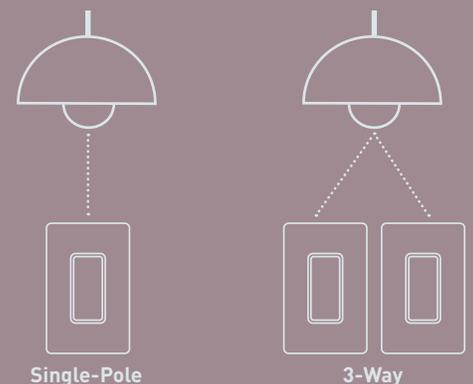
- 2 Always replace circuit protected devices with proper replacements.**

GFCI outlets are required by NEC code to protect your home from ground fault circuit interruptions, specifically in areas of the home where there is any chance of water or dampness, like kitchens, bathrooms, and laundry rooms. If you are updating outlets in those rooms, check with an electrician or reference the NEC code published by the National Fire Protection Association for proper protection. For additional protection against arc faults, choose GFCI/AFCI outlets.



- 3 Know the difference between a single-pole, 3-way & 4-way switch.**

Single pole switches are intended to control a single set of lights or a single fixture from one location. In larger rooms or areas, multiple switches can control a single light fixture. The difference between 3-way and 4-way switches is the number of locations (or switches) used to control one fixture. A 3-way switch is required to control one light fixture (or set of recessed lights) from 2 or more locations. Controlling a fixture from any more than two locations, requires a 4-way switch. [Click here for more information.](#)



# 4

## Outdoor spaces require weather-resistant outlets with a weatherproof cover.

Adding or updating the power on your patio or deck is a great idea – just make sure you are selecting one with proper safety features. Weather-resistant products are UL498 rated to protect against temperature changes and wet environments.



# 6

## Don't forget a wall plate.

Designer switches from the adorne and radiant Collections help you add personalized style with their broad selection of wall plates. Coordinate with your switches or outlets from the same Collection, and make sure to select a wall plate with the correct gang count.



# 8

## Set the scene with the right dimmer.

Dimmers help you fine tune your environment for your specific mood or activity. Many dimmer switches are created to dim specific bulb types, so if you are uncertain of your lamp or bulb type, we recommend you order the radiant or adorne Tru-Universal Dimmer. These were designed to work with virtually any dimmable bulb. However, you must have a neutral wire in your electrical box, which is typically white or neutral color.



# 10

## Mix regular switches with smart switches.

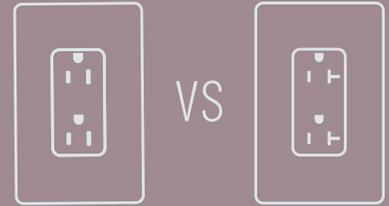
You can use various types of switches throughout a project, and even within the same bank of lights. Consider mixing smart and standard switches to customize your lighting control to your needs. Also, remember that smart switches always come with a single-gang wall plate!



# 5

## Know when 20A receptacles and outlets are required.

In certain regions, including Canada and Chicago, 20A switches and outlets may be required. Please check your local guidelines in these areas to guarantee you are code compliant for resale home inspections. Also, if you are powering certain appliances, like garbage disposals or dishwashers, with their own breaker, the outlet or switch should be 20A.



## CONSIDER UPGRADED FEATURES

# 7

## Update to safer tamper-resistant outlets.

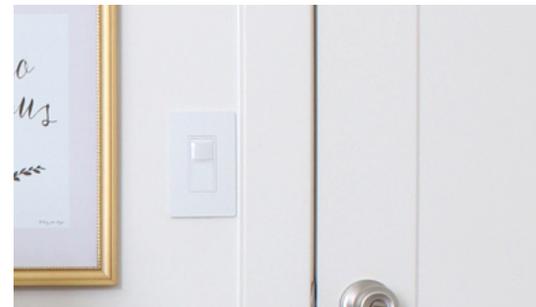
Tamper-resistance outlets feature a patented shutter system that protects children by preventing improper insertion of foreign objects. If your home was built before 2008, you might not have tamper-resistant outlets. Consider upgrading to eliminate unsightly outlet covers.



# 9

## Make it easier with vacancy and occupancy sensors.

Sensors mean never again having to worry if you left the light on. Occupancy sensors automatically turn the lights ON when someone enters the room, and OFF when they exit, while vacancy sensors only turn the lights OFF when the room is vacant.



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