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ABOVE The shape and style of this made-to-measure design were created to align with the Georgian-inspired property. *Bespoke staircase, from £22,000, Bisca*

switches will also allow for low-level lighting in the evening, and brighter lighting on busy mornings. Remember to position switches at both ends of the hallway and near the stairs to eliminate the need to wander around looking for one in the dark.

Large pendants and chandeliers should provide a focal point in their own right, as well as putting an end to any dark shadows that make a hallway feel smaller. Bear in mind that all lighting designs should remain in proportion with the space, and that any table or wall lights, as well as providing soft, welcoming pools of light, can also be used to play with hallway proportions. "Smaller wall lights are best in narrower passageways," says Morrison. Wall sconces lend themselves to areas with lower ceilings, downlighters widen a narrow area and uplighters highlight architectural features and add interest.

Finally, do not neglect stairs which, due to the fact they are often built around awkward angles, will require individual, focused lighting to ensure safety. Long-drop pendants and wall lights are a staircase staple. Alternatively, consider setting spotlights into the floor or skirting along dark passageways or up stair treads, as these also wash floors with a decorative, enticing glow. ■

RIGHT An elegant arch through to a reception room allows more light to flow into the hallway of this London townhouse. Interior design by Stephenson Wright.

FEATURE PAULA WOODS **PHOTOGRAPHS** P97 (ROSELIND WILSON) © MEL YATES; (PAINT & PAPER LIBRARY) © PAUL RAESIDE; P99 (GUY GOODFELLOW) © ASTRID TEMPLIER; (EDWARD BULMER NATURAL PAINT) © RACHAEL SMITH; P100 (BISCA) © JAKE FITZJONES; (STEPHENSON WRIGHT) © TOM SULLAM

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