

Figure 3.9 Illuminance ratio charts

positions of luminaires are marked onto the charts or a transparent overlay.

Acceptable ranges of illuminance ratios and vector/scalar ratios are shown as unshaded (safe) areas on the charts. These values are not sacrosanct, and there are reasons why a designer may wish to deviate from them. Bright walls can make a room seem larger and more spacious, whereas dark walls can make it seem small and possibly cramped, or intimate. Bright ceilings and dark walls may give the impression of formality and tension, whilst the reverse (bright walls and dark ceiling) may create an informal and relaxed or sociable atmosphere. These are not hard and fast rules, but are supported by experimentation. Figure 3.10 shows these tendencies mapped onto a typical IR chart.

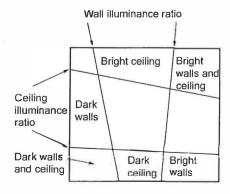


Figure 3.10 The effect of illuminance ratios on room appearance