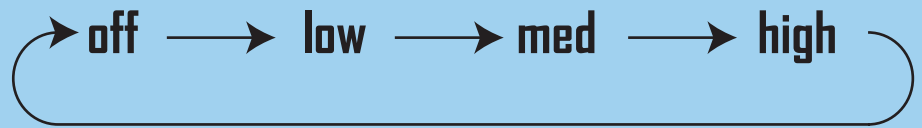
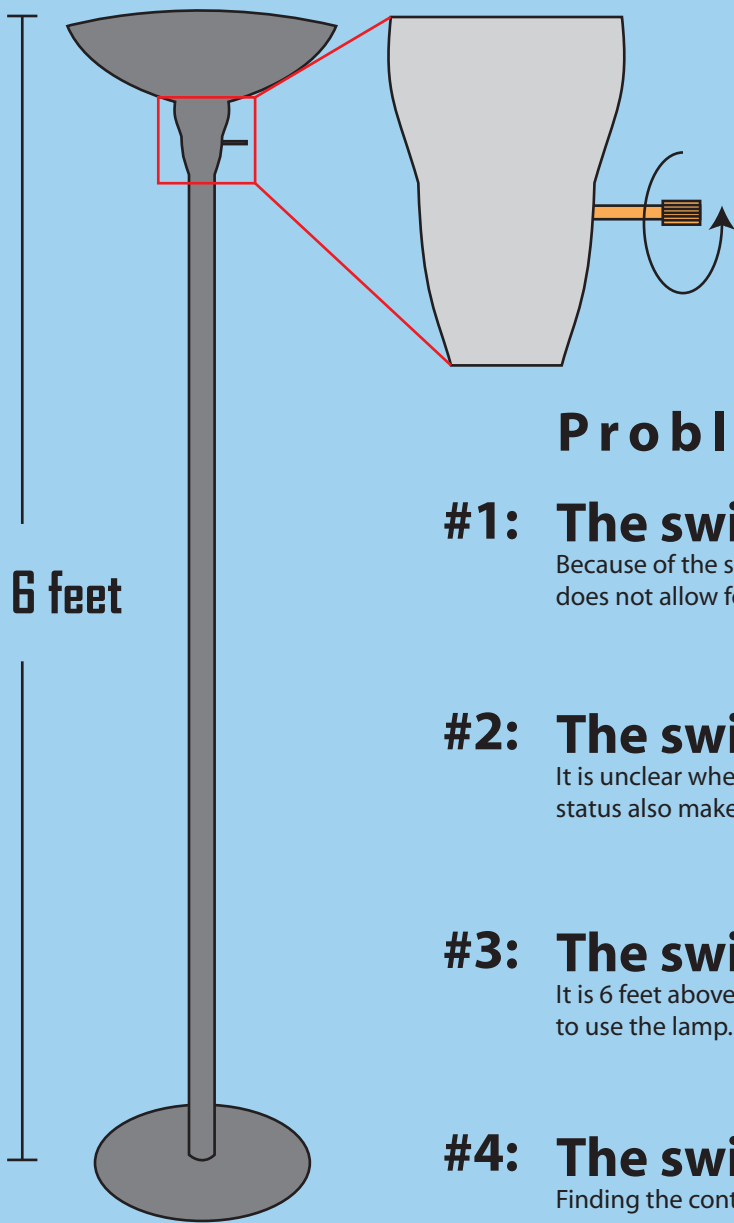


Light Switch

Ben Koh

redesign



The user turns the 4-state rotary dial stick clockwise to cycle through the various states that the lamp supports.

Problems

#1: The switch is difficult to turn

Because of the switch's slim form factor, turning it requires a firm grip, is sometimes painful, and does not allow for precise control. Rotating the switch is done optimally from a certain angle

#2: The switch does not indicate its current state

It is unclear whether rotating the switch will result in turning off the lamp. Lack of visible status also makes it unclear if the lamp is turned off or if its bulbs are malfunctioning.

#3: The switch is not conveniently positioned

It is 6 feet above the ground, making it difficult for short adults and children to use the lamp.

#4: The switch is difficult to locate in the dark

Finding the control in the dark can be problematic.

original



improved

Solutions

#1: Rotating Section of Post - Wider

The switch is a rotating section of the lamp post, and can now be turned optimally from any angle around the lamp. It is also easier to grasp because it is 2 inches in diameter.

#2: Selected State Shown

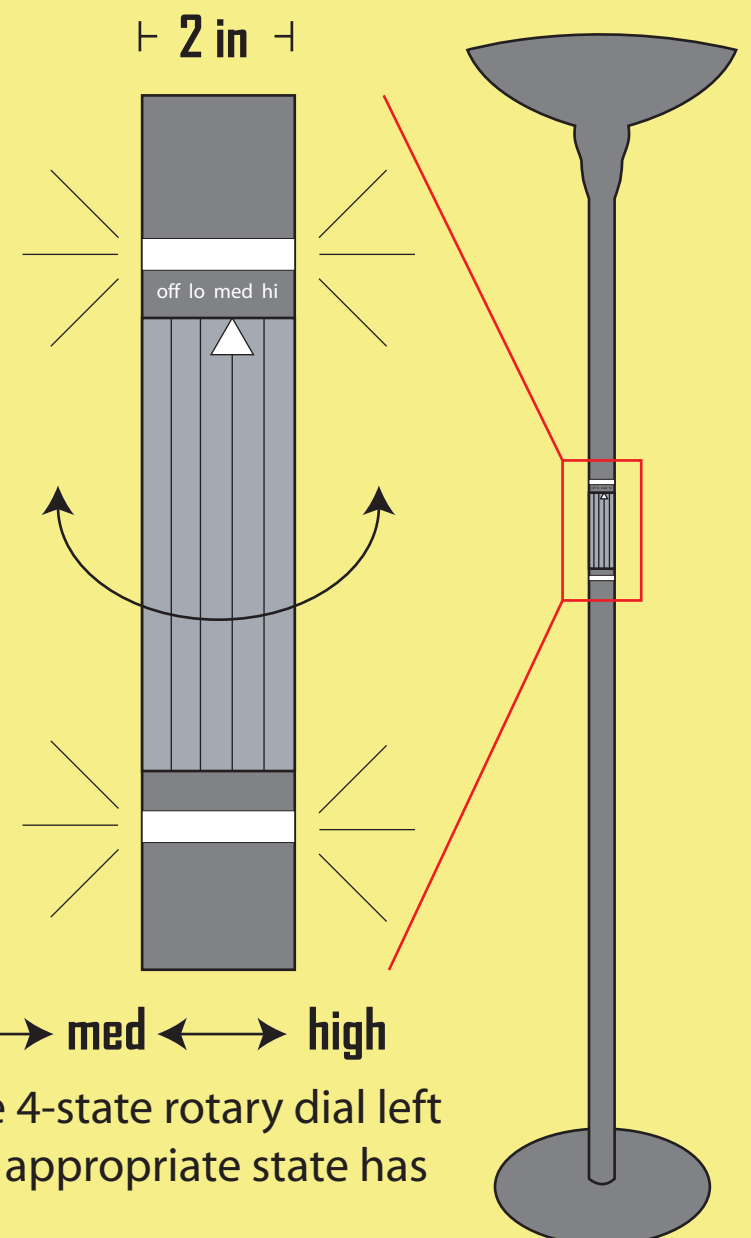
The four states of the lamp are shown, and the switch points to the selected state. The switch no longer cycles all the way around, but stops at the off and hi positions.

#3: Moved Lower

The switch is lower, allowing short adults and children to access the control.

#4: Light Emitting "Bands"

Light emitting "bands" above and below the switch reveal the control's location in the dark.



Similar Widgets

- Automobile wiper control stalk
- Fan speed control dial
- Automatic gear box shifter

off ↔ low ↔ med ↔ high

The user twists the 4-state rotary dial left and right until the appropriate state has been selected