Skylights

These windows, mounted in the roof, instantly flood a room with bright light. They are at their most useful when placed near the center of a house, to let in light where other windows can't. Consider skylights for areas such as hallways, bathrooms, home offices, stairwells and small bedrooms. Even a small 24-by-24-in. skylight makes a difference. Use operable skylights in areas that need ventilation, such as bathrooms or laundry rooms.

Tip from the Pros: To reduce glare, place skylights on the north side of the roof.