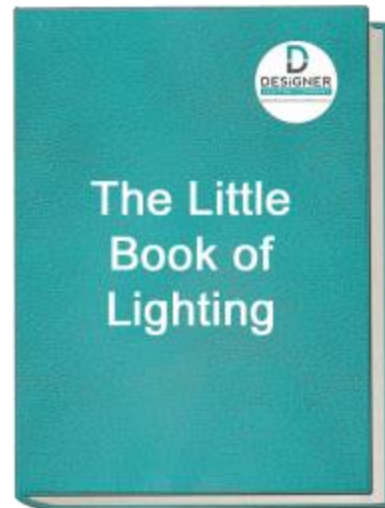


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Light is an essential energy that all life thrives and depends upon. We notice this in expressions such as, shining your light, being bright and the enlightenment, which all nod to the importance of light in our world.

Light governs our circadian rhythms and emotions. It can make you feel relaxed, or alert. Influencing our feelings and mood. Light in interior design is an important consideration because it affects our perception of colour and texture. Choosing the right lighting is key to successful interior design. Lighting is so much more than something which allows you to see. It sets the tone and atmosphere of a room. We've all been somewhere that hasn't got the lighting right for the setting, it feels uncomfortable and awkward. Don't worry this little book of lighting is here to help.

Evolution of Light Bulbs

Before electric light, there was only fire or light from the sun. This was followed by animal fat and wax, then gas lamps later in the Victorian era.

The Victorians adored decoration with their own distinctive style of chandelier they called "gasoliers", though they often blackened the walls and ceilings. The invention of the electric incandescent light bulb was such a good idea, we now call good ideas, light bulb moments.

Edison's light bulb moment

Edison's invention (1878) of the commercial, incandescent light bulb has transformed our day to day lives. Lighting is still evolving. Legislation means, now, we should all be using LED light bulbs, due to their efficiency, where no energy is lost as heat. There are many advantages that make sense for your pocket and planet.

Since the first type of LED was made. LED lights now come in a variety of colour temperatures. So, what is a lumen? colour temperatures? and colour rendering index?

Lumens

Lumens sometimes seen as (lm), tells you how bright a light is. This is a better indication of how bright LED lights are as watts measure the energy, while lumens measure the brightness. The amount of brightness needed in a room does largely depend on which room you are lighting, kitchen's and studies will require more for example than bedrooms, or hallways.

Lumens measure something called luminous flux, which is essentially the light cast in all directions. A lux on the other hand is how well light reflects from a surface. This will be of importance when lighting an office space. We suggest here you use a lighting consultant

who can help with this, so you meet regulations. They will measure the lux with a lux meter. Which measures how the light falls and reflects from a surface.

You may have seen foot candles being mentioned on your search for lighting. Hang on, what's a foot candle when it's at home? Well, this is a word that lighting professionals use, mostly for lighting large outdoor spaces and businesses. This looks at the light intensity and how far the light travels, one square foot from the light source itself.

But for now, we will look at room, a liveable kind of light for your home and roughly how many lumens is recommended. This is of course a general guide. There are lots of factors at play. A black painted room for example will absorb a lot more light than a white room. While reflective materials, such as chrome, mirrored and polished finishes, such as high shine floor will bounce the light back. Antique brass and matt surfaces will dapple light with a mottled glow.

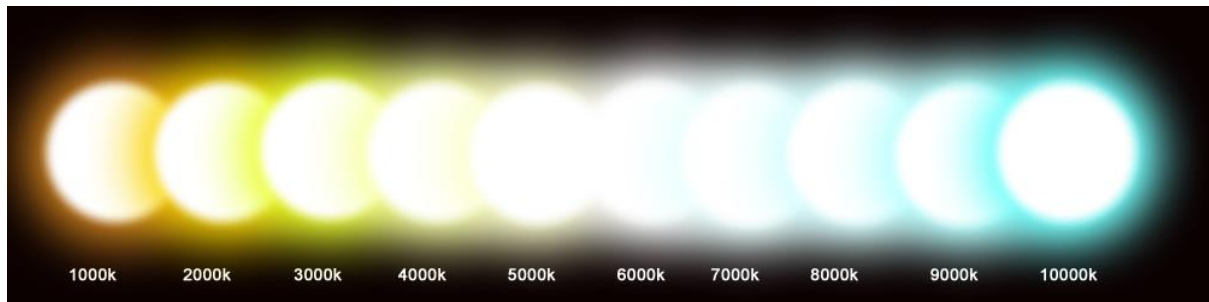
Room Area	Lumens/ Square Meter
Kitchen	300-400
(Task) Kitchen	700-800
Living Room	400-500
Hall	300
Bedrooms	300-400
(Task) Bedroom	700-800
Bathroom	500-600
(Task) Bathroom	700-800
Reading nook	400

Colour Rendering Index

A colour rendering index (CRI) tells you how well the light shows true colours of objects. The light from the sun is highest, so 100. The range is from 1-100. 1 being the lowest and 100 being the highest.

Colour Temperature

This is the colour of the light bulb itself. Colour temperature describes how warm or cool the appearance of a light bulb is. This is measured in Kelvins (K). For example, warm white or cool.



The kelvin scale here ranges from 1000 kelvin, yellow very warm to 10000K very cool.

There are plenty of LED light bulbs that give off a warm light. Very warm and warm light bulbs compliment warmer paint colours such as reds and oranges, whereas blue paint colours will appear darker. Cool light and daylight (5000k) enhance blues and flattens reds. In fact light bulbs are now a style in their own right and we have a beautiful creative, colourful and vintage filament choices in our accessories section.

What are the different layers of lighting?

General Lighting

The first layer is general light. This is commonly referred to as the “main light”, usually in the centre of a room, because that was the most effective point to light a room when people used to use gas lamps. It provides the overall illumination for the room. Bouncing light all around. You can use many lights, pendant lights, chandeliers or spot lights as your main light to soften the light cast.

Task Lighting

Task lighting does what it says on the tin. Illuminating tasks such as reading, cooking or craft. Task lights are free-standing floor lamps, table lamps, desk lights, and pendant lights that provide light for kitchen islands or a desk lamp in an office.

Accent Lighting

As its name suggests this type of lighting can be used to highlight areas. Such as wall lights or picture lights. Creating pools of light either to highlight a feature or create atmosphere. Typically, wall lights service this purpose. It can also be lights such as tinted glass coloured

lamps, which diffuse the light beautifully and gently. Accent lighting can be a feature light in a garden which highlights a shrub.

How to Create a Lighting plan

It's simpler than you think. All rooms need a lighting plan. Essentially this is a combination of general, task and accent lighting. This is known as layering light. Layering light adds dimension, sets a mood and enhances the versatility of your space.

- Tip: Some interior colours and textures will reflect light in different ways. Like pale greens and lighter shades reflect more light than colours with a higher saturation which will absorb some light, therefore reflecting less light back to your eyes. Think about, what mood do you want to create? What will the room be used for? Perhaps it's multi-purpose. Which is why having all three types of lighting is a good guide.

Light can be hard or soft. Hard light, such as just one main light in the middle of a room produces a sharp shadow whereas soft light is diffused. The material of the shade and natural light will impact this.

The key is lots of light layers, so, lots of different types of lighting, table lamps, floor lamps, wall lights, pendant lights is the secret to creating atmosphere.

Debunking Dimmable switches

Some lights are dimmable which is handy as you can control the levels of light in your room. However, you will need a bulb that is dimmable and a compatible dimmer switch. Each dimmer switch is given a minimum and maximum load, so make sure you account for lights which have more than one lamp holder to ensure it falls in this wattage bracket. You can replace non dimmable lights with dimmable ones but this is something you'll likely need an electrician for. Some LEDs may require special switches (e.g trailing edge dimmer switch).

Caveat: do not use non-dimmable lights in a dimmable circuit as this can cause damage

Pendant Lights



What is a Pendant Light?

Pendant lights are usually a single light fitting. They suspend from the ceiling with either a cord, rod or chain. Pendant lights come in many different sizes, styles, materials and finishes. Glass, metal, ceramic, poly carbonate and wood effect to name a few.

Pendant lights are versatile and can providing task, general or accent light for a room, depending on finish, transparency, material.

Tip: Hang pendant lights in a cluster at various heights for a dramatic effect. Or, a row of three row at the same height, ideal for lighting over tables in dining rooms or kitchens. It's best, though not essential, to use an odd number, so think in threes.

You can also hang pendants by the side of the bed, saving space on your bedside table. Mixing and matching pendant light styles has become popular and adds unique personality, style and architectural intrigue to a space. You can take advantage of vintage filament bulbs which are super trendy and stylish. they have become a style in their own right.

Take a look at our beautiful, designer pendant light selection.

In more recent times pendant lights and ceiling have been fitted with integral LED's. Helping to save energy and running costs.

Can you replace recessed lighting with pendant lighting?

Sometimes removing recessed lighting can leave a hole in the wall. You'll need to choose a ceiling rose or canopy that is large enough to cover it.

It makes sense to hire an electrician and ask them to remove your old light fitting and replace with a new one. Think about other lighting jobs around your home to make the most of the time.

How high do you hang pendant lights over an island?

As a rule of thumb pendant lights should hang between 76 to 91 centimetres from a table or island. Your height and the height of the ceiling factor into the equation too.

Can you adjust the height of your pendant light to fit your ceiling?

Yes. Most pendant lights can be shorted but at the point of installation, allowing you to make sure it's a good fit for your ceiling height. If you would like to shorten an existing pendant light you would need to take it down first.

Ceiling Lights



All lights that are fitted to ceilings are known as ceiling lights. We have a range of top-quality designer ceiling lights waiting to make your home, your dream home.

Multi Arm Ceiling Lights



If you are looking for more than a single light or a ceiling light with many arms, then you've found it here. We have ceiling lights and chandeliers which branch out into space, making a beautiful addition and style statement to any room. There are a range of styles, colours and finishes for you to choose and range broadly speaking from traditional to modern styles. Think classic mid-century sputnik designs, or milky white opal glass globe style lights, whose arms branch out into space.

Chandeliers



Chandeliers are one of the first forms of lighting by use of candles in the medieval era.

The various styles, still popular today, represent an evolution of styles that capture each historical period. Each epoch leaving its mark, adopted for today with contemporary and luxurious colour palettes.

The word chandelier originates from the French word "*chandelle*", meaning candle, due to its original use with candlelight. Originally in regal, palatial or religious buildings, they have become popular for use in homes. They add elegance, opulence and statement style to master bedrooms, living rooms, foyers and reception areas, dining room tables or kitchens. Adding glamour, luxury and class to a setting.

What are the Different types of Chandeliers?

Traditional and Medieval Chandeliers

Medieval chandeliers designs are often in wrought iron or rustic wood. Featuring hoop shape designs. This style is still being made today with elements of modern finishes and with the use of LED light bulbs. Reminiscent of rich heritage and history. Bring majestic style into your home. Perfect for those who love traditional styles or have a period property and want to keep it in its original style.

Flemish Chandeliers

Flemish style as an art and lighting movement flourished throughout the 15 and 17th Centuries. representing a move away from rustic, towards high elegance and simple, yet ornate glamour.

Features such as a central sphere with upturned arms. They are a staple design for chandeliers and the Flemish design has stood the test of time, albeit re adapted. The beauty of Flemish chandeliers is you can display them in modern or traditional settings.

Antler Chandeliers

Rustic country looks like the decor you would find in a French ski chalet, country pub or home and are a great rustic-chic lighting choice. Evoking the beauty of the countryside indoors they look fantastic in older properties or add touches of French chalet style to more modern homes. We have a beautiful, artisan replica stag antler chandelier range which can be found in our curation by [David Hunt Lighting](#).

David Hunt Lighting designs light fittings from a workshop in the Cotswold's countryside. Want to discover more about this heritage brand? Read our blog: [Spotlight: David Hunt Lighting](#).

Crystal Chandeliers

Made from crystal or glass, crystal chandeliers do a great job to add eye catching features to rooms. They reflect, catch and sparkle light with a phantasmagorical effect. Reflecting and refracting light with dazzling shine. If you are a bit of a magpie and love glamorous touches that glisten you will love the value that a crystal chandelier will bring to your home or venue. Bringing luxury into your everyday, the reflections change dynamically and offer a different look at various times of the day.

Sputnik Chandeliers and Modern Chandeliers

Mid-century style lighting is iconic and instantly recognisable. Chandeliers have strong, clean and bold lines. A less is more attitude with asymmetry at its core. Sputnik style chandeliers feature bold lines emanating from a central sphere have a space inspired aesthetic, known as the atomic age. Equally popular globe style chandeliers which often feature intrinsic spherical shapes with milky white opal glass globes. Also known as retro style lighting which is often made with modern finishes today. Evoking a nostalgia with design elements taken from the 40's-70's for today's interiors.

Modern and Contemporary Style Chandeliers

There are so many chandelier styles and the introduction of integrated LED technology has influenced designs, allowing a variety of shapes, sizes and styles that would have not been possible before. Think beautiful crystal encrusted chandeliers with simple, curved lines. Or cascading beads and glass framing and reflecting light.

How do you choose a chandelier?

There is a general rule of thumb about choosing the right size of A chandelier for your room. You don't want a chandelier that's far too small for the space as it will look out of place.

Width of room (feet) + length of room (feet) = diameter/width of chandelier (in inches)

Wall Lights

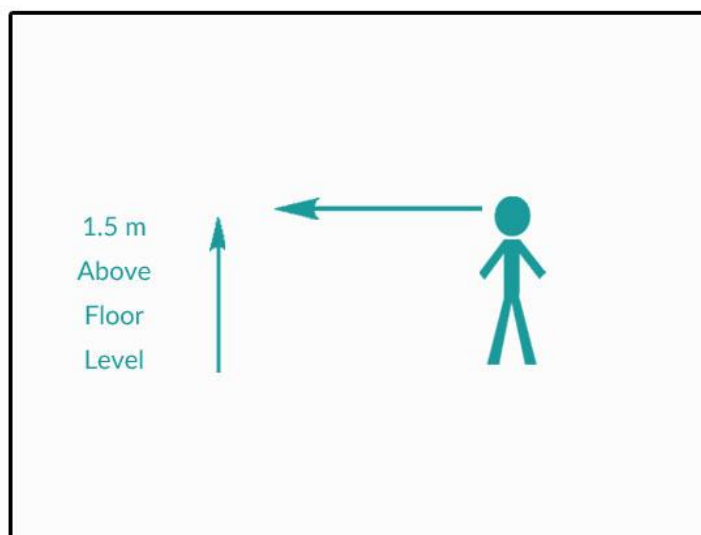
Wall lights or sometimes called wall sconces, add to a room's ambience and decoration, adding a soft wash of light. Choosing a style that you love helps you put your stamp on a house and makes it home. We have so many finishes from bright glossy painted colours,

gently tinted glass, bright golden metallic, contemporary glass to a range of metallic or wooden effect choices, to name only a few. As all light allows you to see colour wall lighting can wash light softly up or down the walls and this illuminates your carefully chosen wall colours and interior design beautifully.

Wall lights are multi-functional provide accent lighting when placed beside or above artwork. You can also use wall lights that have task focused or directional light.

Wall lights can be placed to bring colour, paintings, sculptures and architecture to life. You can also mount wall lights at the bedside, one either side of the bed for symmetrical, balanced hotel chic look. Some wall lights are hard wired into your home or plug in. Plug in wall lights don't need to be "wired in" so perfect if you have an older home and want a quick solution without the need for an electrician.

What Is the Best Height for Wall Lights?



The best height to place wall lights in general is 1.5m above floor level, or at eye level. This does depend of course on the purpose of a wall light. If you are illuminating artwork you will want to fit your wall light, or picture light in this case, slightly higher, above a feature. Bedside wall lights will also be lower to for the convenience factor, with the height reflecting their purpose. Wall lighting can also serve as a task light and if you're choosing a wall light for reading or a specific function you may want to choose one with an adjustable or flexible head, so you can adjust the direction of the light source.

What are double insulated wall lights?

Double insulated lights can sometimes be referred to as class 2 lights. If your home was built before 1970 then it will not have an earth wire. Meaning you will need to choose lights that are "double insulated", or class 2. These lights are safe to install and use when your house has not been fitted with an earth wire.

If you're looking for inspiration on which wall light to choose, read our blog: [10 of the Best: Living Room Wall Lights.](#)

Table Lamps

Table Lamps are a lighting essential; they help to add layers of light to all rooms. Allowing an overall diffused and balanced lighting effect. They can be used for different purposes. Such as ambient light by bedsides. Reading, for more of a direct light, or creating accent lighting to areas with soft, diffused light and shadow. All rooms in the home benefit from table lamps. Kitchens are becoming more sociable spaces for atmosphere lighting in the evening so having lighting that cover all situations is smart and practical. You wouldn't need the same brightness of light as you would when cooking for example.

As a general rule the combined height of the lamp and table should not exceed 58 to 64 inches, so that's about 147 to 162 centimetres.

How do I choose a table lamp?

Choose a table lamp that reflects your personality and help to make your home tell a story about yourself. It will bring you moments of joy each day if you choose a style that you love, regardless of trend. They are so versatile you cannot have too many. Plus, as they're plug in you can move them to different rooms in the home to keep things fresh. Bedside lighting offers a room an ambient light, reducing glare from the general lighting and enhances the mood and atmosphere of a room.

What is the best light for reading and studying?

Choosing the right lamp for reading is key to focus whilst studying and reducing eye strain while reading.

- Table lamps with flexible or adjustable heads allow you to adjust the direction of the light source which is helpful while studying or reading
- Make sure you have a variety of light sources in the room, so the light is distributed
- A wattage guide is around 50-60 Watts
- It largely depends on personal preference and time of day
- There are cultural differences and it depends what light your eyes are used to

Yes, your eyes need good light for reading to reduce strain on the eyes. This can also be affected by the bulb chosen.

Table Lamp Finishes and Shades

The finish and shade of your table lamp effects the way the light is reflected and therefore the overall atmosphere. Chrome, silver metallic and lighter lampshade colour will reflect light clearly.

Warmer metallic finishes such as bronze or copper dapple the light with soft warm, golden glow. Saturated or darker colour shades will absorb light, pushing the light up and down and creating a more relaxing and ambient mood. Glass table lamps add touches of colour and shine with a special kind of lustre, catching the light and gleaming gentle glows of colour to a setting. We have some designer glass lighting from Ebb and Flow Lighting, with very original nature inspired palettes. Shop our Ebb and Flow lighting collection here: [Ebb and Flow Lighting](#).

Table Lamp Switches

- Push bar switch usually fitted towards the neck of the lamp on the top of the stem
- In line rocker switch is fitted along the cable of the table lamp for ease of use
- Touch lamps allow you to control the light output with your fingertips
- 3 stage touch dimmer which allows you to control the light intensity emitted
- In line dimmer dial switch which allows you to adjust the intensity of the light (not a very common type)
- Toggle switch is pretty much the same as a rocker switch but is more of a lever
- Pull cord switch often found on Tiffany style lamps is a string you pull to switch on

Floor Lamps

Floor lamps can be ambient, task or accent and essential for any lighting scheme. Due to their stature, they commonly position light towards the top of the room. Some come with adjustable heads and various settings which allow you to change the direction of light. Great for reading or craft activity. Some point the light downwards, ideal for a cosy reading nook, placed by a chair, such as arc style floor lamps.

How tall should your floor lamp be?

Usually floor lamps are eye level height, however some may be taller or larger for distinctive, oversized lighting style.

Floor lamps add personality and style to your bedrooms, dining rooms, bedroom or living rooms. When choosing a floor lamp think about what style suits your space, how big or small is it?

How to choose a floor lamp

The floor lamp you choose will largely depend on its purpose. If you would like an ambient style you can choose lampshades in darker, or more saturated colours which will funnel the light up or down, casting shadows.

With such a wide range of finishes and materials, copper, chrome, geometric, golden brass bamboo and mottled metal textures. Styles range from retro to heritage with a twist and many more!

We suggest rather than following the rules you just go for one you like the most, whichever one sparks joy as it will become an integral part of your living space.

Which floor lamp is best for a small space?

We have a blog dedicated to floor lamps best for small spaces, [Top 5 floor Lamps for Small Spaces](#) . See if you agree with our order!

Do floor lamps in a room have to match other lighting?

Often lights are sold in collections if you want a cohesive look. It's really a matter of personal taste. You may love order and symmetry? If so, you can use symmetry as your guiding design principle and place two table lamps either side of chairs. Or if you prefer a quirkier, edgier look which is more eclectic go for that! All our floor lights are of a high quality, where care and attention is bestowed into each detail and made to treasure.

Bathroom Lighting

Bathroom lighting is diverse and stylish. A nice hot bath to end your day is enhanced by having great bathroom lighting. Investments in high specification and quality lighting are worth it. Not only something you will enjoy the benefits from every day, but it is worth the investment, adding value to your property.

Can I put any light in a bathroom?

No, water and electricity are not a good match. Bathroom light fittings are specially made to withstand water and condensation from getting in. So you will need special lights to go in your bathroom. Here's the lingo bit, simplified. You will need lights that have an IP rating.

- Bathroom light fittings are given an IP rating by law, followed by a number, this will tell you which "zones", or areas of the bathroom it is safe for use in.
- You need to choose a light with an IP rating, or Ingress protection. Really, It's the last number that matters! The first digit is protection against solids, and the second digit is protection against liquids, which is what we're interested in here.

There are 3 bathroom "zones" in the trade.

Bathroom Zones

Zone 0: Is inside the bath or shower. You'll need a low voltage (max 12) and an IP67 rating which protects the light when its fully immersed in water.

Zone 1: The area above a bath or shower needs a minimum of IP44.

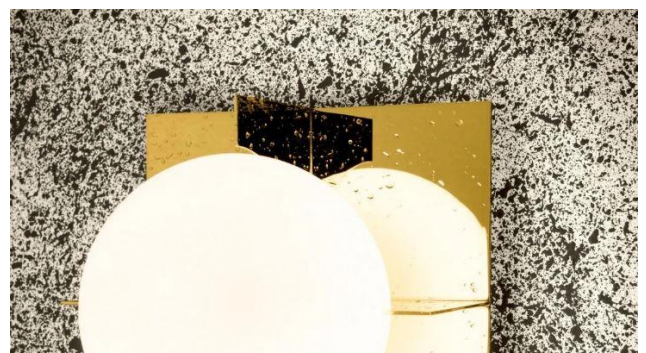
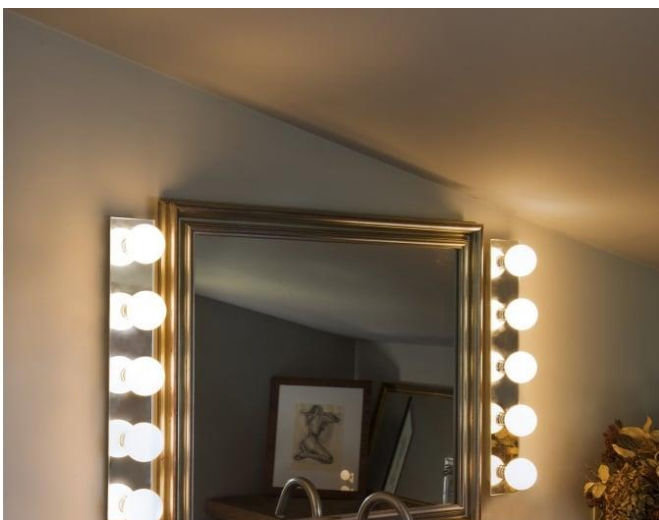
Zone 2: This is the area only just outside the bath or shower, so approximately 0.6 metres outside. A minimum of IP44 is necessary here.

Zone 3/Outside Zones: This area is unlikely to be touched by water, so you won't need any special lighting for this zone. However, we recommend choosing an IP44 rated light here just to be on the safe side. there are many styles to choose so you won't be limited.



Bathroom Wall Lights

Bathroom wall lights come in many styles.



Globe style bathroom lighting offers mid-century, elegant style modern, pure simplicity.

LED Bathroom Wall light



IP44 rated this LED lights are a beautiful and functional option. Shown here in a minimal Scandinavian style, a bathroom design staple.

Flush bathroom ceiling lights



Spa style glamorous lights in bathrooms



Above the bubbles add a contemporary look to a classic, Art Deco design. There are so many bathroom light fittings available. We have high quality designer pieces waiting for you to discover.

Outdoor Lighting



Outdoor lighting is not only beautiful but also has a safety and security function. There a variety of lights for use outside. The most common being front door porch lights. Porch lights add to the decoration, character and charm of your home while providing necessary light for you to get your key in the door, welcome guests and deter any unwanted ones.

These can be fitted to a wall, either hanging or mounted. There are so many styles ranging from industrial, nautical and modern, to name a few. Available in a range of colourways or metallic finishes, such as chrome, nickel, brass, black or antique brass finishes. We have a great selection of designer outdoor lights which shine with a high quality and style, adding to the personality of your home visible to all.

Some people choose to use outdoor lighting inside for an original style look to interiors. You may want to illuminate a garden pathway with a post light. Adding lights to your garden illuminates the wonderful patterns of nature, found in trees and plants and adds to a magical atmosphere. Perfect for entertaining outside too. Or seeing glows of light from the comfort of your window.

If you have a pond or feature you can choose accent or ambient outdoor lighting, adding highlights to garden architecture.

What's great about garden lighting is it's so diverse and multi-functional. You can take a portable garden light you can take around with you. Perhaps a picnic or a festival? Faro offers some beautiful choices. Read Our Blog for more garden lighting ideas for inspiration: [Illuminate The Hidden Room in Your Home with Garden Lights!](#)

What lighting do you need for outside?

Garden and outdoor lights are designed to be watertight and withstand weather and dust. Therefore, they are given an Ingress Protection or, IP rating. As a guide most outdoor situations will require an IP44 rating. If, however you are lighting inside a pond or pool and planning on submerging lights you will need lights with an IP67 protection rating. We always state the IP rating in the description and details of each light. It works in a similar way to bathroom lighting. The first number as a protection rating from solids and the second is digit is protection from liquids.

Do LED garden lights attract bugs?

No, luckily, bugs don't like LED light emits. Partly due to the fact they emit little heat energy, unlike the old-style bulbs.

Can you add a motion (PIR) sensor to existing outdoor lights?

PIR stands for, passive infrared sensor is a motion detector. Sometimes, PIR sensors are already fitted to outdoor lights which turns on the light when they detect is localised

movement. We always state in our descriptions to help you when choosing a light. But don't worry, you can add a motion sensor to outdoor lights too!

Do outdoor lights need special bulbs?

No, however, the light fitting will need to have a minimum IP44 rating.