

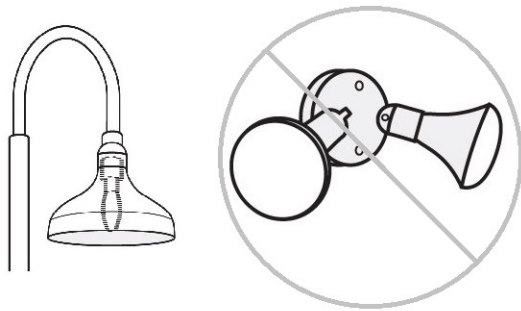
Outdoor Lighting in Portola Valley – New Regulations

Purpose of Outdoor Lighting

The purpose of the Outdoor Lighting Ordinance is to provide clear regulations regarding allowable outdoor lighting while maintaining the Town's rural character. Lighting should not exceed the minimum necessary for night-time safety, utility, security, and enjoyment while minimizing light pollution and offsite lighting impacts to protect the night skies. For more information, see the Outdoor Lighting Ordinance in Section 18.36.040 of the Portola Valley Municipal Code.

Town Regulations

All applications received and any outdoor lighting installed on or after September 7, 2018 shall comply with the lighting requirements outlined in this handout. This includes, but is not limited to, new and replacement lighting, bulbs and fixtures, and any other lighting attached to structures, poles, the earth, or any other location.



All outdoor lighting fixtures shall be Dark Sky compliant or equivalent and comply with the following:

Lighting Requirements

- Shielded fixtures that direct light downward
- Bulb cannot protrude below the horizontal plane of the bottom of the shield
- Illumination limited to discrete areas
- Fixture cannot swivel or adjust direction
- Light source not to exceed 1,125 lumens
- Lighting to be controlled by manual switches, photo-cells, timers and/or motion-sensors

See back of handout for fixture examples

Regulations regarding placement of lighting:

Lighting Placement

- Exterior doors shall only have one fixture each
- Garage doors may have one or two fixtures, however total lumen count between them cannot exceed 1,125
- Path, step, and wall lights shall be low and for safety and pedestrian navigation purposes only
- Exterior patio and dining area lighting shall be recessed and shielded from off-site visibility

The following light fixtures, placements or types are discouraged and require Architectural Site Control Commission (ASCC) review and approval prior to being installed:

Lighting Requiring ASCC Approval

- Decorative lighting for landscaping, trees or structures, including entryway features, pillars and posts
- Commercial parking lighting

The following lighting types and systems are prohibited from being installed or used:

Prohibited Lighting

- Light sources that exceed 1,125 lumens
- Lighting with no on/off switch or ability to be controlled
- Up-lighting
- Flood lights and flood lighting
- Festoon, café, or any other string of exposed bulbs
- Searchlights, aerial lasers and other focused beams
- Lighting for night use of uncovered game courts or similar outdoor recreation facilities/areas

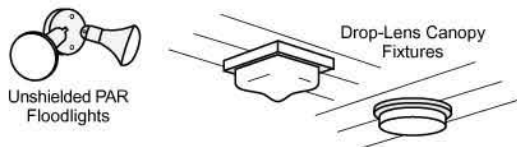
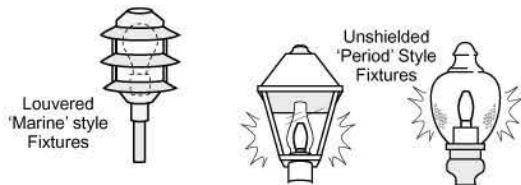
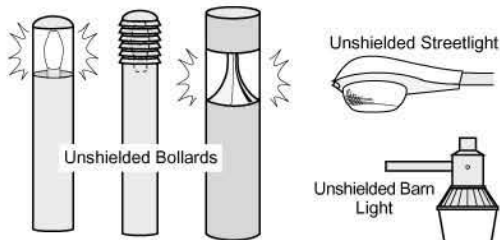
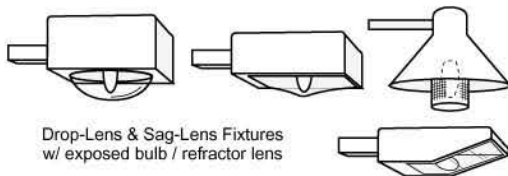
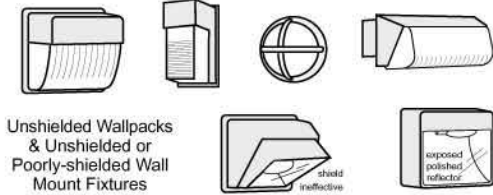
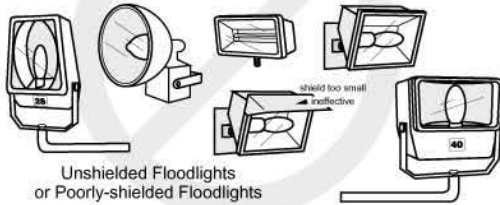
See back of handout for fixture examples

Good Lights for Good Nights

Help eliminate light pollution. Select the best fixture for your application using this guide. Use the lowest wattage bulb appropriate for the task and turn off the light when it's not being used.

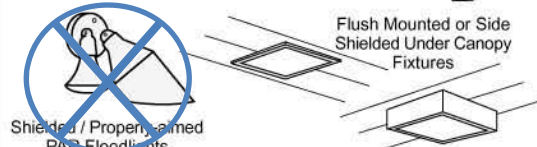
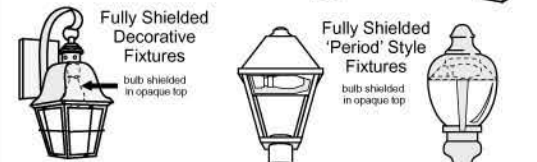
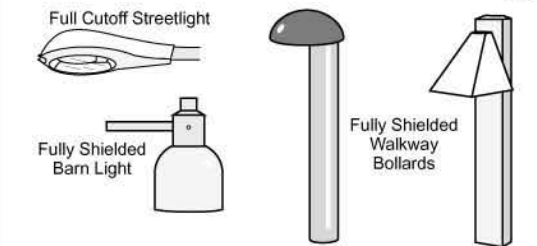
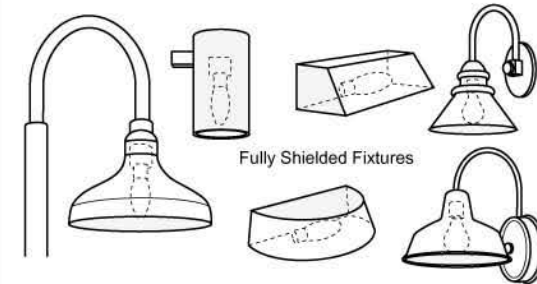
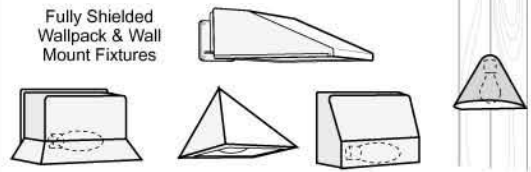
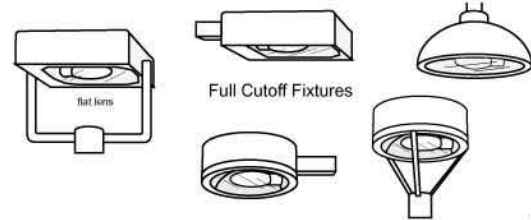
Unacceptable / Discouraged

Fixtures that produce glare and light trespass



Acceptable

Fixtures that shield the light source to minimize glare and light trespass and to facilitate better vision at night



Rendered for the Town of East Hampton, NY by Bob Crelin ©2/05

presented by the

Dark Sky Society
www.darkskysociety.org

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