OUTDOOR & PATIO LIGHTING PLANNER

The three priorities for Outdoor & Patio lighting are to deliver overall brightness through **general lighting**, create functionality with **task lighting**, and provide a visually appealing space with **accent lighting**. In order to accomplish this task, you should incorporate these three layers of lighting into your space.

You may need one or several types of light fixtures in a room, depending on the layout, size, aesthetic and space available. Here is a checklist of lighting types to consider for a properly lit outdoor and patio:

### General Lighting
**Provides lighting for everyday activities**
- Outdoor Wall Lights
- Outdoor Flushmounts
- Controls & Wall Plates

### Task Lighting
**Highlights a specific area creating a focal point or focused illumination for walkways and steps**
- Post Lights
- Path Lights
- Deck & Step Lights
- Security & Flood Lights
- Transformers & Accessories
- Controls & Wall Plates

### Accent Lighting
**Highlights a specific area creating a focal point or to set a mood**
- Outdoor Chandeliers
- Outdoor Pendants
- Outdoor Floor & Table Lamps
- Bollard Lights
- Dimmers, Controls & Wall Plates
The Right Bulb

**INCANDESCENT**
Recognizable as the “standard” light bulb, with electricity heating a tungsten filament enough to produce visible light.
- Dimmable Fully dimmable
- Average Life 1,500 hours

**HALOGEN**
Energy efficient and warm light. Halogen bulbs are actually incandescent lighting with their energy savings.
- Efficiency At least 25% more efficient than standard incandescent
- Dimmable Fully dimmable, just like standard incandescent
- Average Life 1,000 hours
Like Halogen, Xenon and Krypton bulbs are also energy efficient incandescent bulbs. Xenon doesn’t get as hot as Halogen, and can be a better option in tight or enclosed lighting fixtures.

**FLUORESCENT**
Energy efficient bulbs are available in a wide variety of types, and have improved accuracy in how they render color, so everything looks more natural and alive.
- Efficiency About 75% more efficient than standard incandescent
- Dimmable Not always dimmable (check the bulb’s label)
- Average Life 8,000 hours

**LED**
LED bulbs are fast becoming the coolest light bulb of them all—literally, as they emit almost no heat and they thrive in cold locations.
- Efficiency At least 75% more efficient than standard incandescent
- Dimmable Dimmable options and LED-compatible dimmers available
- Average Life 25,000 plus hours

Color Temperature

The color temperature indicates the relative color that a light source has. It is measured on the Kelvin temperature scale. Light sources with warm light are lower in color temperature, usually around 2700-3000K. Light sources with white light (daylight) are usually around 3000-4000K. Light sources with cooler blue light are higher in color temperature, usually 4000K and over.

Switches & Controls

Light dimmers offer flexibility in that area in-between, giving you just the right level of brightness as dictated by a given situation or desired mood. When choosing a dimmer, keep in mind:
- Incandescent or a Halogen Lamping that is 120 Volts will use a standard dimmer switch.
- Halogen Lamping that is 12 Volts (low voltage) will need an electronic low voltage dimmer or a magnetic low voltage dimmer depending on the transformer.
- Integrated LED fixtures need to indicate that they are dimmable. Often they will use an electronic low voltage dimmer, but please refer to manufacturers spec sheet.
- CFL Lamping is rarely dimmable and can be a fire hazard.