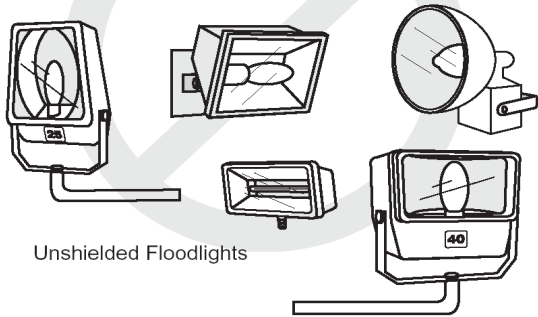


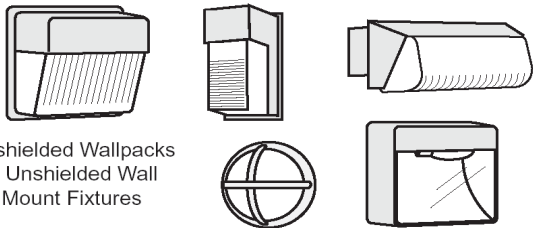
These types of fixture designs **DO NOT** comply in all locations.

**Unacceptable / Discouraged**

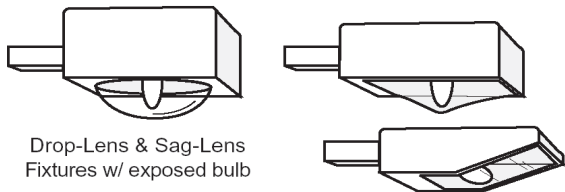
Fixtures that produce glare and light trespass



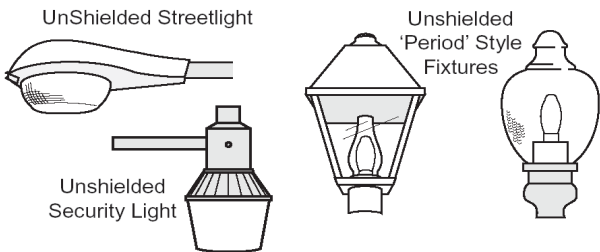
Unshielded Floodlights



Unshielded Wallpacks & Unshielded Wall Mount Fixtures



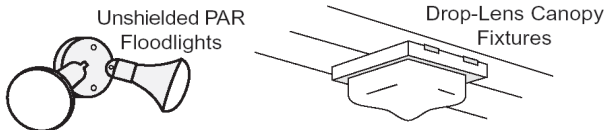
Drop-Lens & Sag-Lens Fixtures w/ exposed bulb



UnShielded Streetlight

Unshielded 'Period' Style Fixtures

Unshielded Security Light



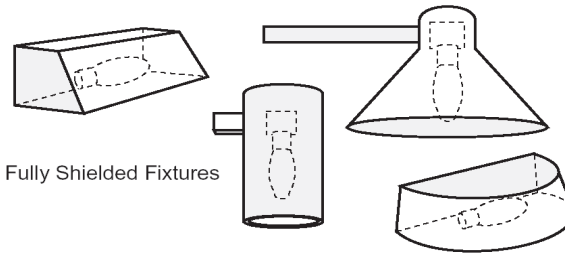
Unshielded PAR Floodlights

Drop-Lens Canopy Fixtures

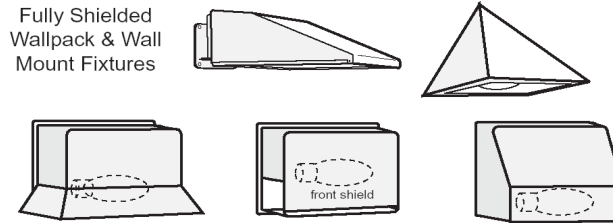
These types of fixture designs **DO** comply in all locations.

**Acceptable**

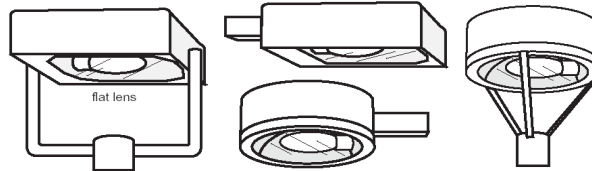
Fixtures that shield the light source to minimize glare and light trespass and to facilitate better vision at night



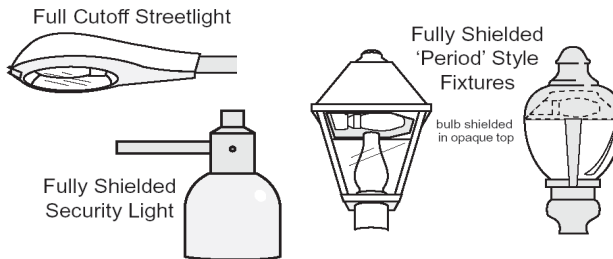
Fully Shielded Fixtures



Fully Shielded Wallpack & Wall Mount Fixtures



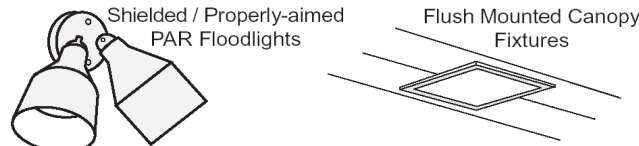
Full Cutoff Fixtures



Full Cutoff Streetlight

Fully Shielded 'Period' Style Fixtures

Fully Shielded Security Light



Shielded / Properly-aimed PAR Floodlights

Flush Mounted Canopy Fixtures

# Good Neighbor Lighting

## Lighting Requirements and Practices in Cambridge



City of Cambridge  
DRAFT: 4/1/2016

This illustration courtesy of Bob Crelin / NELPAG

Photo by Jeffrey Berg

## Lighting best practices

Adequate lighting ensures safety and enjoyment of outdoor areas. Excessive lighting causes light trespass, glare, light pollution and energy waste. Good lighting:

- Promotes **SAFETY** and **SECURITY** in our neighborhoods.
- **PRESERVES** and **ENHANCES** neighborhood character.
- Reduces or **PREVENTS LIGHT TRESPASS** onto neighboring properties.
- Promotes **ENERGY CONSERVATION** and saves money.
- Enhances the **NIGHT-SKY BEAUTY**.
- Improves the **QUALITY OF LIFE** for people and wildlife.

Sensible lighting practices make good lighting AND good neighbors!

## What if a neighbor has problematic lighting?

Please share this brochure, particularly the “Easy steps for existing lights,” with your neighbor. If a friendly conversation does not resolve the issue, feel free to contact Cambridge’s Inspectional Services Department to file a complaint.

The full Outdoor Lighting Ordinance is located in Section 15.22.010 in the Cambridge Municipal Code. For more information:  
[www.cambridgema.gov/outdoorlighting](http://www.cambridgema.gov/outdoorlighting)  
or **Inspectional Services Department**  
831 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
Phone: 617-349-6100 | TDD: 617-349-6112

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## Easy steps for existing lights

**Meeting the new requirements can be as easy as changing your light bulb!** Use the lowest lumens necessary to safely illuminate the space; save money on energy costs; and eliminate light pollution. Look at the *Lighting Facts* label (example at right) that is on all light bulb packages to determine if it meets the City standards.

These simple rules cover most lights:

**Facing the Neighbors.** Partially or unshielded light fixture can be 315 lumens placed not less than 4 feet apart and mounted up to 12 feet above the surface to be illuminated.

**Facing the Street.** Partially or unshielded light fixture can be 630 lumens placed not less than 4 feet apart and mounted up to 12 feet above the surface to be illuminated.

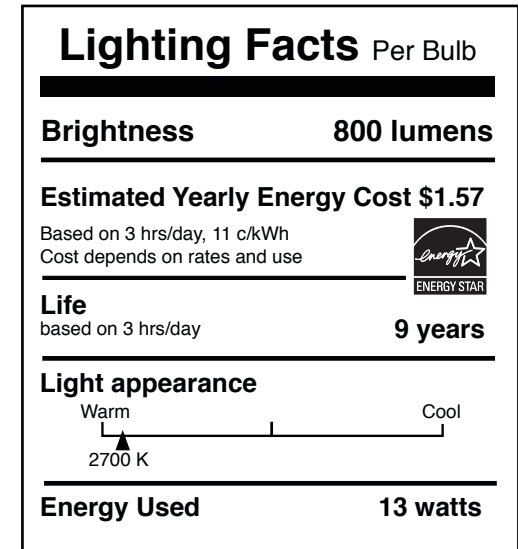
**Entrances, Walkways, & Facade Lighting.** Fully shielded light fixtures can be 1,050 lumens placed not less than 4 feet apart and mounted up to 12 feet above the surface to be illuminated. They also must be located and aimed to minimize light pollution.

**Parking Areas, Driveways & Outdoor Loading Bays.** Fully shielded light fixtures can be 1,260 lumens placed not less than 4 feet apart and mounted up to 14 feet above the surface to be illuminated. They also must be located and aimed to prevent light pollution.

**Other good practices include:**

- Redirect fixtures to illuminate your property, not your neighbor’s.
- Use manufacturer-provided shieldings to direct light as needed.

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The light Appearance must be below 3500 K.

## Easy steps for new lights

1. Always consult with the Cambridge Inspectional Services Department (ISD) about the applicable electrical and energy codes and proper permitting process. A licensed electrician needs an approved permit from ISD prior to beginning work.
2. Review the light level requirements listed in the Prescriptive Standards outlining the lumen limits, fixture shielding requirements, mounting height limits, and recommended bulb limits.

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