

TEN TOP TIPS

1. Plan your outdoor area lighting to create a seamless flow from interior to exterior.
2. Plan a strategic lighting layout for your outdoor area to achieve a blend of effective task lighting, mood lighting and feature lighting.
3. Consider the use of ecologically friendly technologies, such as energy saving LED light fittings.
4. When planning your landscaping, include a budget for outdoor lighting. Most people use their outdoor areas at night due to long working hours.
5. Add a new dimension to your outdoor area with the right lighting systems in place. Create a sense of space at night. Think about how you use your outdoor area and what features should be highlighted.
6. Create soft and interesting aesthetic effects, address step and trip hazards and incorporate security lighting in the planning stage.
7. “If everything is a feature then suddenly nothing is a feature.” Consider highlighting objects in your garden differently from how they are perceived in day light hours.
8. The pre-wiring for garden lighting should be completed during the hardscaping installation – meaning before the paving and timber decking is getting done.
9. Uplighting and downlighting are the most requested lighting effects. Uplighting is used to create focal points in the garden. It gives depths and contours to objects and plants when lit from below. Downlighting creates less shadow and provides a fuller light.
10. Engage a professional lighting specialist to achieve the maximum result for your garden lighting project. This can save a lot of money and grief in the long term.

