



Creating Lighting Effects With Outdoor Wall Lights

Modern homes often show as much care for the exterior of their property as their interior. [Outdoor wall lights](#) indicate a level of interest that proves this fact. If you drive through rural areas you might notice that even large swathes of farmland, where a house is surrounded by the greenery of the countryside in trees, shrubs and meadow wildflowers that there is also a well-tended garden. For houses to appear and feel like home, owners are bringing the outdoors inside, and the inside outdoors, with their own distinctive stamp of personal taste and style on it.

Lighting effects of all sorts can be achieved with outdoor wall lights. Contemporary and traditional designs can be mixed and matched quite effectively. For any house with steps leading to it, small, square recessed lights could be viewed as art deco with their geometric squares and brushed stainless steel fascia. Some people might regard these LED step lights as the very latest in modern design with an industrial influence behind them. Regardless of any debate about style, these lights can harmonise with traditional or contemporary designs that feature the same finish. They are an effective solution to lighting narrow steps as there are no protrusions to catch ankles or calves whilst making your ascent.



If you wish to make a subtle statement with your outdoor wall lights, accompanying recessed step lights with a recessed, rectangular wall light – or series of them – will continue a complementary theme that is enhanced whenever the lights are illuminated.

For houses with a broad set of entrance steps, there are terrific wall lights that can draw attention to the elegant flight. If the steps are flanked by walls with brick troughs or planting on the tops of them, you can show off the foliage as well as lighting the steps, by choosing outdoor wall lights that have both an upward and downward beam.

Outdoor wall lights don't just offer illumination. They offer an opportunity to show off features such as stonework or brickwork with the wash their illumination creates against their mounted surface. It's not just where you have your lights that is important, but what else they might provide light for once they are lit up.



Lanterns with hats, or top shades will direct pools of light downward, whereas a lantern with glass surrounds will emanate light in all directions. It is important to look carefully at the other things which may have attention drawn to them from your choice of outdoor wall lights. Which way do you want your light directed? Could you make more a feature by choosing a different style of light? Where there might be an unsightly feature above the position of your light, choose a lantern with a top hat on the shade to minimise attention being drawn to it, and maximise the area to the side or below with something attractive such as a hanging basket, or wall plaque, if appropriate. That way you will divert attention from the ‘ugly’ feature and create a piece of outdoor wall art instead.