

Light Fixture Types

Exterior Security Lighting

This job aid provides the characteristics and uses of different types of light fixtures for exterior security lighting.

Type of Light Fixture	Purpose	Pole Heights	Where Used
Cut-off	Used to control glare and light trespass	30-50 feet	In medium-to-large areas such as parking lots next to residential areas
Refractor	Used where glare and light trespass are less important	50 feet and higher	On highways, streets, and general areas
Low-mounted site lighting	Used to control glare and for aesthetic appeal	4 feet and under	In small areas and on buildings
Post-top, controlled	Provides low-to-medium wattage lighting	4-10 feet	In medium-to-small areas and on pedestrian walkways
Post-top, uncontrolled	Provides 360 degrees of low-wattage lighting for decorative purposes	4-10 feet	In medium-to-small areas and on pedestrian walkways
High-mast lighting	Provides high wattage lighting with good glare control	6-150 feet	In large areas such as railroad yards, large parking lots, industrial yards, and highway interchanges
Floodlight or projector, full cutoff	Provides medium-to-high wattage lighting with good glare and light trespass control	Up to 50 feet	On airport aprons and areas adjacent to residential areas

Type of Light Fixture	Purpose	Pole Heights	Where Used
Floodlight or projector, no cutoff	Provides medium-to-high wattage lighting with a tight symmetrical beam and has no light trespass control	60-150 feet (dictated by height of buildings)	On buildings and in sporting venues and for area lighting where light trespass is not a concern
Building-mounted, cutoff type	Provides low-wattage lighting with good glare and light trespass control	Dictated by building heights and desired area coverage	All types of buildings
Building-mounted, refractor type	Provides low-wattage lighting with a wide beam distribution and no glare control	Dictated by building heights	General lighting of buildings