

# IS YOUR OUTDOOR LIGHTING DARK SKY FRIENDLY?

## A CHECKLIST FOR HOMEOWNERS

For each outdoor light on your property, ask the following questions.  
(These questions correlate with DarkSkyInternational's "Five Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting".)

[methowdarksky.org](http://methowdarksky.org)

**1.** Is the light useful?  
Does it have a purpose?

On the first house, the light illuminates only the entryway and stairs, where it is needed.



**Yes**

*Excellent! Thanks for helping keep your neighborhood dark.*



**No**

*Consider removing unneeded lights or removing the lightbulbs.*

**2** Does the light fall only where it is needed?



Direct the light down, not up into the sky or sideways. The light source should not be visible from beyond your property.

**Yes No**

*Excellent! Your neighbors and wildlife thank you.*

*Consider re-aiming the light or installing a shielded fixture.*



**3,5** Is the amount of light appropriate for the task?

Use the lowest lighting level needed. Excessive light can contribute to glare, actually making it harder to see things well.

**Yes No**

*Excellent! Lighting is safer and easier on the eyes when not ultra bright.*

*Change the bulb to a **DIMMER** value and/or **“WARMER”** light (3000 Kelvin or less).*

**4** Is the light connected to active controls?

Use controls like timers or motion detectors to ensure lights are used only when needed.

**Yes No**

*Excellent! You're saving electricity, ensuring safety and preserving the dark.*

*Consider installing timers or motion sensors or even SMART lights which can be programmed.*



Stars are still visible at Sun Mountain Lodge because of dark sky friendly lighting.

