



OUTDOOR LIGHTING BASICS

The City of Malibu Dark Sky Ordinance is effective October 15, 2018, so what does that mean for the **commercial and recreations zones** of Malibu? There are requirements of the ordinance that are applicable immediately upon the effective date and other requirements that will need to be addressed prior to the designated compliance

For Existing Lighting (Applicable upon the effective date):

1. Outdoor light fixtures that have the ability to be redirected, shall be directed downward so as to minimize sky glow, glare and light trespass onto adjacent properties.
2. Outdoor light fixtures that have adjustable dimmers with color temperature that exceeds 3000 Kelvin shall be dimmed to comply with MMC Section 17.41.050(G) to minimize glare and light trespass onto adjacent properties.
3. String lights may be allowed in occupied dining and entertainment areas only and must not exceed 3000 Kelvin. String lights shall not be used as landscape lights. This does not apply to seasonal lighting.

For **New Lighting** (Basic Requirements):

1. Lighting shall be fully shielded and directed downward.

Lumen count shall not exceed 850 lumens.
2. Security lighting shall be attached to buildings and controlled by motion sensors which extinguish no later than 10 minutes after activation.
3. Color temperature shall not exceed 3000 Kelvin.
4. Curfew: Unless controlled by motion sensors, outdoor Lighting shall be extinguished by 11:00 pm or when people are no longer present in exterior areas.
5. Outdoor lighting shall only be used within 50 feet of a residentially habitable building or pool with the exception of security, driveway and walkway lighting.

Compliance periods for existing non-conforming lighting are established by zoning district. Notwithstanding the provisions in MMC Chapter 17.60 (Non-conforming Structures and Uses) and MMC Section 17.04.070, a property owner shall comply with the requirements of this chapter by the following compliance deadlines. Any non-compliant lighting still in place after the compliance deadline shall remain extinguished at all times.

Commercial and Recreations Zones: Outdoor lighting in commercial zones, including but not limited to CN, CC, CV, CG, RVP and RD zoning districts shall comply by **October 15, 2020** (2 Years from the effective date).

What does 3000 Kelvin look like?

A Kelvin is a measure of color temperature. Color temperatures reaching 5000 Kelvin (K) appear blueish in tone and are typically referred to as “cooler” colors.

Kelvins between 2700-3000 (K) are yellowish and are referred to as “warm” colors.

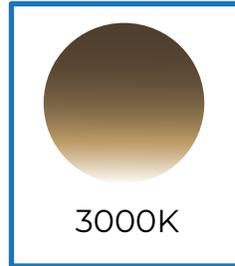
The Dark Sky Ordinance allows for a maximum of 3000 Kelvin.



5000K



4000K



3000K



2700K

What Does “Fully Shielded” Mean?

“Fully shielded” means a light fixture constructed and installed in such a manner that all light emitted, either directly from the lamp or a diffusing element, or indirectly by reflection or refraction from any part of the fixture, is projected below the horizontal plane through the fixture’s lowest light-emitting part.



The images to the left are examples of “fully shielded,” Dark Sky-Compliant outdoor light fixtures. The bulb or lamp is not visible below the fixture.



The images to the left are examples of outdoor light fixtures that are NOT “fully shielded” and Dark Sky-Compliant. The lamp, or diffusing element, is visible through the glass or plastic cover.

The Dark Sky Ordinance includes a requirement to direct the light “downward” or towards the ground. This is done to concentrate the light in a fixed area, thereby improving the visibility within that area and reducing light pollution, light trespass and sky glow.

Definitions of light pollution, light trespass and sky glow can be found in Section 17.41.030 of the Dark Sky Ordinance.

