

What Is a Fully Shielded Light Fixture?

A fully shielded (full cut-off) light fixture has a solid barrier (cap) at the top of the fixture in which the lamp (bulb) is located. The fixture is angled so the lamp is not visible below the barrier (no light visible below the horizontal angle).



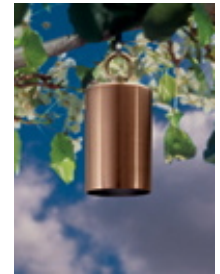
The goal of fully shielded light fixtures is to prevent the following:

1. Light trespass, which makes problems for neighboring and distant properties. Unshielded light travels much further than people realize.
2. Glare, which can cause discomfort or temporary blindness.
3. Sky glow, which keeps all of us from enjoying the splendor of the night sky.

Many different fully shielded light fixtures are available for all lighting situations and complement buildings with various architectural styles. All actually provide more light on the ground since energy is no longer being wasted by lighting the sky. Timers and sensors protect neighbors while alerting owners and others to potential problems. Landscapes require downlighting rather than uplighting for full shielding.



Special care must be taken in selecting fixtures for buildings on hillsides, as even meeting the “horizontal angle” requirement is not sufficient to protect owners of properties lower than the hillside site. Non-clear glass and lamps with the lowest wattage or lumens possible help prevent light trespass.



The photos are all examples of “fully shielded” fixtures:

