

Dark Skies Herefordshire

Dark Skies Herefordshire aims to conserve and enhance dark skies across the rural landscape of Herefordshire and raise people’s awareness of Artificial Light At Night (ALAN). It is a volunteer-led initiative that is supported by Herefordshire CPRE.

Are you blinded by the light?

Not all lighting is bad. It’s about having the right light in the right place at the right time. Unnecessary lighting costs money through using excess energy and emits additional carbon into the atmosphere. Long term exposure to Artificial Light At Night (ALAN) can have a detriment impact on night-time pollinators and humans’ health & wellbeing. For rural communities, obtrusive lighting can be a blot on the landscape and prevent people from seeing the Milky Way. Dark skies are healthy landscapes for flora, fauna, people and planet.

How do you measure the 'visible' light emitted?





Watts are a measure of power not light intensity.

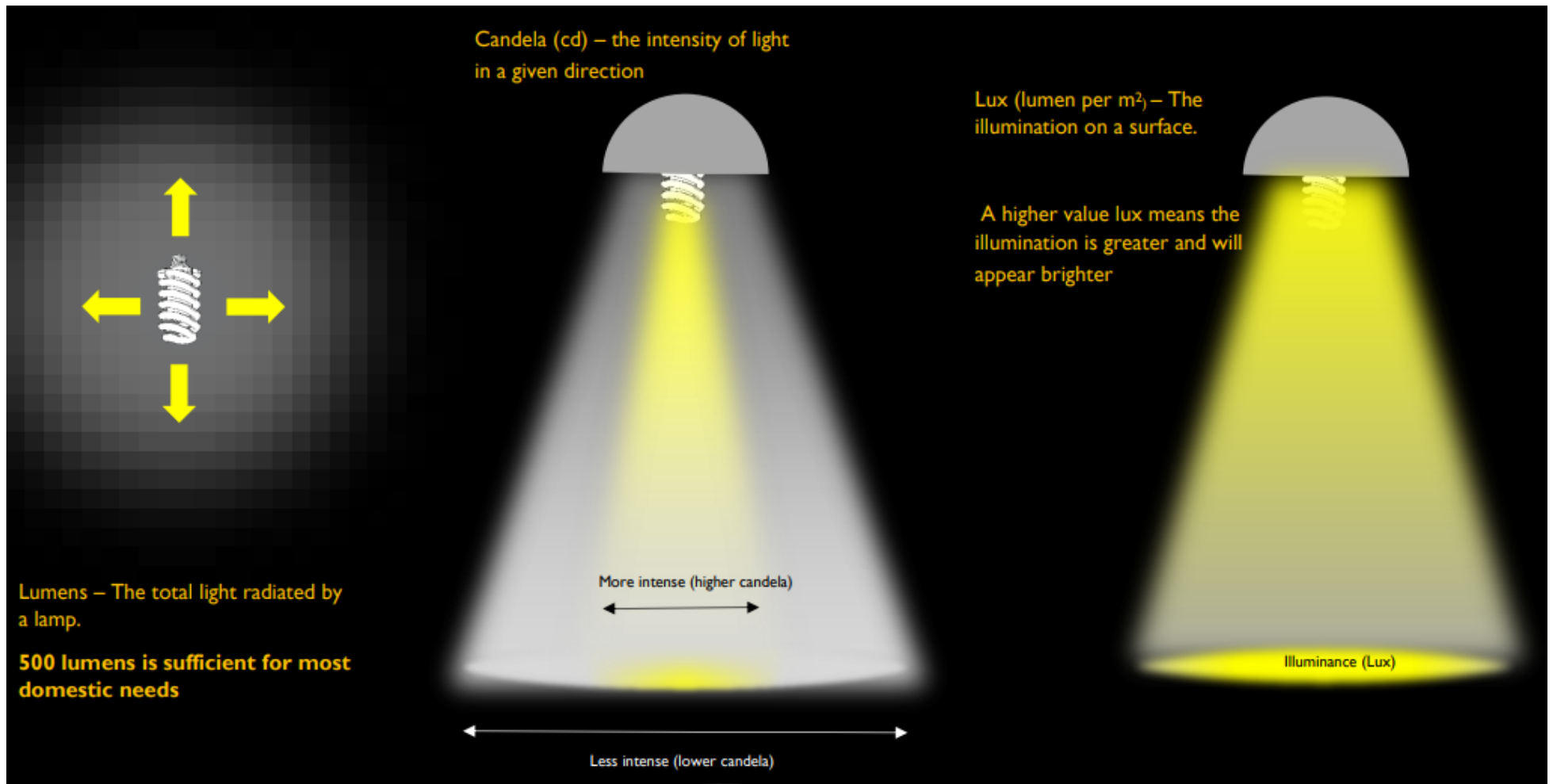
More recently, manufacturers refer to the ‘Lumen’ (lm) output of a bulb. This is simply a measure of the total amount of ‘visible’ light emitted from a source.

The conversion table provided by Universal Lighting outlines the approximate lumen output emitted from light sources of varying wattages.

For example a 11w LED bulb produces the equivalent level of brightness (630+ lumens) as a 60 watt standard incandescent light bulb. Refer to Figure1 : [What Are Lumens And Why Do They Matter - Universal Lighting \(universal-lighting.co.uk\)](http://www.universal-lighting.co.uk)

The light radiating from a light is only part of the equation, lighting specialists also consider the intensity of the light (Candela) and the illumination on a particular surface (Lux). Refer to Figure 2 from South Downs National Park Technical Advice Note (2021).

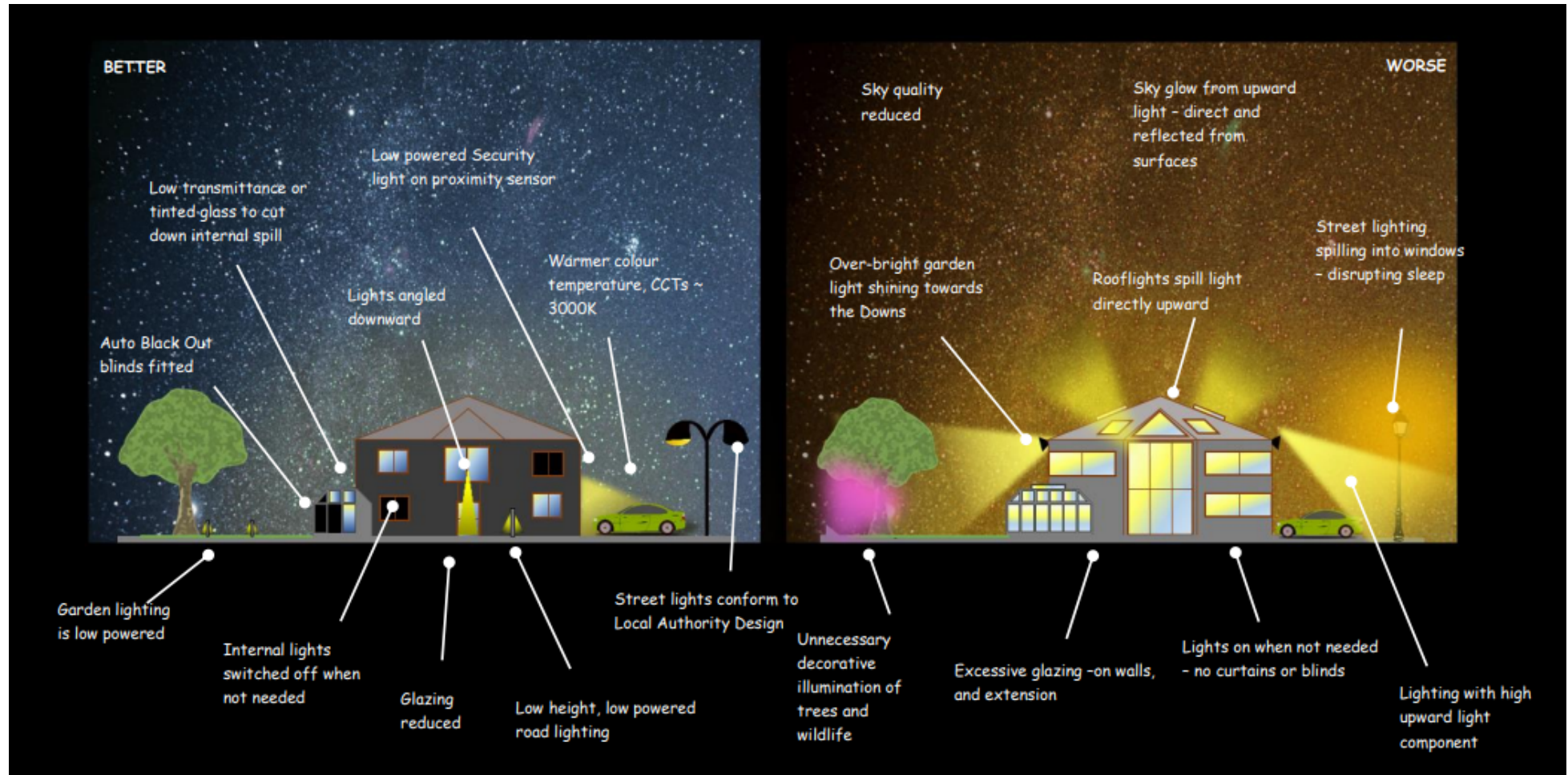
EFFICIENCY	Least Most			
BULB TYPE				
LUMENS	STANDARD	HALOGEN	CFL	LED
450	40 W	29 W	9 W	8 W
800	60 W	43 W	14 W	13 W
1100	75 W	53 W	19 W	17 W
1600	100 W	72 W	23 W	20 W
RATED LIFE	1 year	1–3 years	6–10 years	15–25 years
SAVINGS	×	up to 30%	up to 75%	up to 80%



No matter where you live, you can make a difference. Help enhance and conserve dark skies by switching off unnecessary lights and changing the light bulb with a lower emitting lumen, warmer hue on all other lights in and outside your home or business.

Put the Right Light in the Right Place at the Right Time.

Figure 3 is from South Downs National Park Technical Advice Note (2021) and pictorially shows the difference between good and bad lighting.



For more information and detail of lighting for commercial and sporting buildings, go to the South Downs National Park's Technical Advice Note (2021) on <https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning-policy/supplementary-planning-documents/technical-advice-notes-tans/dark-skies-technical-advice-note-tan>