



# LIGHTING FAQ WITH OUR EXPERTS

Lighting upgrades are often the best—and easiest—way to make energy-efficient improvements to your business. LEDs have become the go-to lighting technology for most businesses because the bulbs, often called lamps, last longer and use far less energy than older lighting technologies while still providing great light.

Here are a few answers to common lighting questions to help you get started.

## **Q: What are the most common spaces that could benefit from a lighting upgrade?**

- Areas with 8-10 hours of operation per day or more—retail spaces, work areas, corridors and reception areas are a few examples.
- Spaces that are frequently vacant throughout the day, such as garages, stairwells, gyms, conference rooms, storage closets, offices and restrooms. In these spaces, you can add occupancy sensors so the lights are only on when you need them.
- Exterior areas that need bright light for safety, such as garages, parking lots and exterior walkways.

## **Q: Should I replace the lamps in an existing fixture or replace the entire fixture?**

You should consider three things when deciding whether to replace old lamps, or bulbs, with LEDs in an existing fixture or whether a whole new fixture is a better solution.

### **1. Condition and location**

- If the fixture is exposed to harsh weather conditions and looks worn, replacing the entire fixture can ensure greater reliability and performance over time.
- Replacing with new LED lamps is a great option if the existing fixture is in good condition, functioning properly and LEDs are compatible.

### **2. Performance and lifetime**

- If your fixtures are not working well or LEDs are not compatible, upgrading to new fixtures is likely a good investment. Newer fixtures are much more efficient and give you better control of light distribution in your space.
- Replacing old lamps with LEDs is a good option for existing fixtures like sconces or ceiling mount fixtures.

### **3. Project goal**

- If the goal is to reduce operating costs with the lowest upfront investment, replacing old lamps, or bulbs, with LEDs in an existing fixture is a great option.
- If the goal is to reduce costs, improve the property's lighting and achieve the highest return on investment (lifetime savings), a new LED fixture is often the best option.

## **Q: How can Energy Trust of Oregon help me figure this all out?**

Call us at 1.888.777.4479 and we can connect you with a Business Lighting trade ally contractor, free of charge, to talk about lighting opportunities, products and the upgrade process.



Visit [www.energytrust.org/for-business](http://www.energytrust.org/for-business) or call 1.888.777.4479 for more resources and information on how you can save energy at your business.

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