

Less is more when it comes to yard lighting



Carla Keast

AROUND THE YARD

As we put away the Halloween decorations, it's tempting to pull out the Christmas lights. Outdoor decorating in the prairies is more about temperature than calendar day, as anyone who's attempted it in -20 C or lower will attest!

More is more, when it comes to Christmas lights. However, put them in only one or two places. There are many different kinds of lights available. The energy efficient lines just keep expanding, and now have improved quality of light.

Use the same kind of lights together, and always respect the manufacturer's recommended number of lights per

outlet.

The main focus of the front yard, is the front door. This is true for all seasons, decorations or not. Use the lights to outline the doorframe itself, wrap lights around pillars that frame the door, or put them on shrubs that are adjacent to the door.

If you love colour, indulge yourself. There is a colour for every taste, including pink! If your house colours are subdued, Christmas lighting is a great time to cut loose. It'll be gone just as you start to find it tiresome.

Incorporating tinsel or a synthetic pine garland will add sparkle and soften the lighting, as well as carry the look into daytime's light. Ensure that the lights you are using are compatible with tinsel and garlands.

While lots, lots, lots is the name of the game with lights, keeping them to one or two locations is more.

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