

# ELLE DECORATION

*IT'S SPRING!*  
*Let the outside in*







#19

**THE GREEN LIGHT**

Lighting is as important outside as it is inside your home. Follow these simple tips from Sally Storey, design director at John Cullen Lighting, to illuminate your garden (johncullenlighting.co.uk)

- **Layer lighting in the garden** as you would in the house. Use spotlights to draw attention to key features such as sculptures, and opt for floodlights to offer a broader wash of light across a path.
- **Consider how your set-up will look from all vantage points**, especially from different levels in a house. It's a good idea to use a dimmer switch to control lighting that is near your home, so that you can create a seamless indoor/outdoor transition.
- **When entertaining, combine candles, flares and fire bowls** and drape strings of lanterns across trees to create an atmospheric blanket of light.
- **Simple tricks such as illuminating a tree** at the end of the garden, can add a sense of perspective.
- **Freestanding lamps can transform** outside seating areas into attractive 'garden rooms'. There's a huge variety of weatherproof designs available, from the traditional to the very modern.
- **A little light will go a long way at night**, so you only need one-watt LED bulbs to pick out your favourite plants or other focal points.
- **In small spaces, try lighting a window box** or placing a few spiked spotlights around the perimeter to make your garden feel larger.
- **Products with ground spikes offer versatility.** You can move them as you change your space around.
- **Use green metal or dark fittings** as they blend in with your plants, so are not easy to spot during the day. Copper fittings are also good as they develop a verdigris patina with time
- **Whatever the lighting, work with a qualified electrician** so that all connections are properly sealed and waterproofed.



From top 'XL 217 Outdoor' light by La Lampe Gras, £820, DCW Editions (dcw-editions.fr). 'Freedom' floor light by Massimiliano Raggi, £560, Keir Townsend (keirtownsend.com). 'Hue Go' lamp by Philips, £79.99, John Lewis (johnlewis.com)



#20 HOT HOUSES

The trend for greenhouses is big right now, but you don't need a large garden to take part. With many smaller versions now on offer, all that's required is a sunny windowsill or balcony. The extra protection offered by growing under glass means you'll have more plant options than if you were relying on the British climate alone.

Manufactum's glass-and-pinewood balcony greenhouse (pictured bottom, £1,049; [manufactum.co.uk](http://manufactum.co.uk)) is easy to assemble and comes with three modular shelves. For something on an even smaller scale, the 'Grow' mini greenhouse by Caroline Wetterling for Design House Stockholm (pictured top right, £30, [Selfridges](http://Selfridges.com); [selfridges.com](http://selfridges.com)) acts as an incubator for the first stages of a plant's life. The bottom half of the system holds the plant and soil, while the top has a spout that regulates the moisture and temperature levels inside the pot. Finally, if you're looking for the perfect herb garden, LED lighting company Bulbo's 'Quadra' grow lamps (top left, £149, Really Well Made; [reallywellmade.co.uk](http://reallywellmade.co.uk)) reproduce the optimal light levels required for a vegetable garden to thrive, so that you can grow your own in any corner of your home.

