

## The 11 Best Outdoor Rugs Designers Swear By

We're not about to sweep these finds under the rug.

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othing beats relaxing outside when the temperature is right, whether you enjoy brunching in your <u>backyard</u> or lounging on the <u>balcony</u>. And this summer, you're ready for some outdoor action. Maybe you've got the basics set up, like a <u>seating area</u> and <u>table</u>, but a chic <u>outdoor rug</u> is that piece that ties it all together. In the same way a rug anchors a room indoors, the concept also applies *en plein air*. Plus, it's a practical statement piece that is cozy underfoot. Without further delay, scroll on for our extensive guide to getting the best outdoor rug for your space along with our top-notch picks.



BEST NEUTRAL DESIGNS
Loloi Rugs Isle IE-04 Area Rug

\$59 AT RUGS-DIRECT.COM

Credit: Loloi Rugs

Loloi's designs are proof that neutral shades don't have to be boring. The brand boasts an array of standout prints and patterns, and they're as soft as can be. "We're huge fans of Loloi's outdoor rugs—they're beautiful, unique, and look astonishingly like they were made for the indoors," explains Rebekah Zaveloff, cofounder and creative director of <a href="Imparfait Design Studio">Imparfait Design Studio</a>. "I prefer an outdoor rug that's softer to the touch, and they've improved light years in terms of how they feel now."

## HOW DO YOU CHOOSE THE RIGHT OUTDOOR RUG SIZE?

Measure your space and ensure the rug is big enough for all your outdoor furniture. "Larger rugs tend to work better, as they can accommodate a number of heavier items that prevent the rug from moving too much," Rebekah Zaveloff mentions. "With a smaller rug, it's often only one piece of furniture, such as a cocktail table, weighing it down. Because wind is an issue with outdoor rugs, it's important to choose sizes and styles that can work with multiple pieces of furniture, such as a dining table and several chairs, to help firmly weigh the rug down."

## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN AN OUTDOOR RUG GETS WET?

If it's made out of the right material, there shouldn't be a problem with an outdoor rug getting wet. However, it's still best to bring them indoors during extreme weather conditions. "I'd suggest looking for an outdoor rug that is power-loomed polypropylene," Zaveloff says. "They don't absorb water and are well equipped to handle lots of foot traffic."



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## 15 Best Cordless Lamps for Clutter-Free Ambience

Proof that some things in life really do come with no strings attached.

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othing can ruin a room quite like a visible cord. Its cheap-looking, plastic tendrils snake down that <a href="rare Gio Ponti">rare Gio Ponti</a> side table with garish unsightliness. But when it comes to <a href="lighting">lighting</a>, avoiding such a scene can really get in the way of a well configured room (Murphy's law: The outlet is never where you need it). Before you stick your finger in a socket out of sheer frustration, we'd like to <a href="shed some light">shed some light</a> on the situation by telling you there's another way: cordless lamps. "For nearly 150 years, traditional lights have been tethered to the outlet with a cord, typically along the room's perimeter," says <a href="Pooky Lighting">Pooky Lighting</a> founder Rohan Blacker. "Now, we have the freedom to place lights wherever we want."

These luminaires—some rechargeable, some battery operated—are portable and, in some cases, controllable from your phone. And best of all? They're brimming with personality. From blobby mushroom-shaped bulbs to stylish resin-encased lanterns, these are just the installments you need to create an intimate cocktail scene or cozy reading nook.

"I've been seeing cordless lamps everywhere," says Rebekah Zaveloff, cofounder and creative director of Chicago-based <a href="Imparfait Design">Imparfait Design</a> <a href="Studio">Studio</a>. "From Visual Comfort to Pooky (my new favorite find at High Point Market), I am so impressed with their offerings—i.e., beautiful cordless lamps that don't look like restaurant table lights."

As for tips and tricks on how to best implement these convenient items into your own room scheme, Blacker suggests thinking about places were a cord couldn't be easily hidden with the help of an electrician. "Perhaps you have a favorite piece of artwork that a picture light would illuminate perfectly or a bookshelf that would benefit from some cozy lighting," he suggests. "Aside from the walls, I particularly love placing one on a coffee table or footstool in the middle of a room—and guess what? No cables to trip over!"

For Zaveloff, cordless lamps solve the issue of finding a place to install an outlet on textured walls, like those with wood paneling or other cladding. David Mann, president of MR Architecture + Decor, likes to bring them outdoors at his country house. "I use this lighting on my porch where even the slightest breeze blows out candles. I also use versions of these lights to brighten a pathway from my back porch to the driveway when I have guests."

Ready to say goodbye to ugly, tangled wires forever? Take a look at our edit of the best cordless lamps. Whether wrapped rattan, glazed ceramic, sleek brass, or classic marble, we'd wager they are all worthy candidates that will brighten up your space.