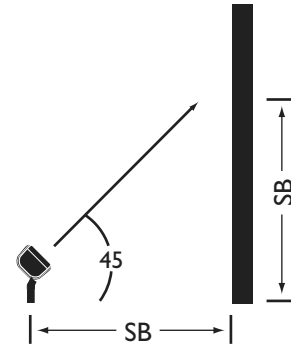


# RULES OF THUMB FOR ILLUMINATING WALLS WITH FLOODLIGHTS

**RULES OF THUMB FOR ILLUMINATING WALLS WITH FLOODLIGHTS:** If your goal is uniform, scallop free illumination, using a floodlight, simply use the following rules of thumb. Light levels can be adjusted by changing lamp wattage.

**AIMING POINTS:** For uniformity from top to bottom aim the fixture two thirds up the vertical surface. If a wall is twenty one feet tall, aim at a point fourteen feet up the wall.

**SETBACK:** Setback is frequently limited. However, if possible fixtures should be setback from the wall the same distance you are aiming up the wall. From the example above, the aiming point is fourteen feet above grade so the setback distance is also fourteen feet. The minimum acceptable setback distance is one-quarter the height of the wall. Regardless of the setback distance, spacing should still be twice the setback.



**SPACING:** For optimum uniformity fixtures should be spaced at a distance of two times the setback distance. Fixtures setback fourteen feet from a wall should be spaced twenty-eight feet apart. This causes the beams to overlap and produces uniform light levels. If uniformity is less of an issue than budget, fixture spacing can be stretched up to four or five times the setback distance.

**RULES OF THUMB FOR ILLUMINATING BUILDINGS AND SIGNS WITH INGROUND UPLIGHTS:** Inground uplights are unobtrusive. For this reason they are often chosen to illuminate decorative elements, signs, and walls. To design attractive jobs simply use the following rules of thumb. However, due to differences in location and aiming angles inground uplights will not provide the same uniformity as floodlights.

**SETBACK:** Placing fixtures too close to a wall will result in hotspots at the base of the wall. Placing fixtures too far from a wall will cause shadows or scallops at the base of the wall. Greenlee fixtures perform best when placed three to four feet from the wall. However, greater setbacks are required for taller walls.

**SPACING:** Placing fixtures too far apart results in larger scallops at the base of the wall. For most applications a spacing of three to four times the setback results in an acceptable appearance.

**RULES OF THUMB FOR DETERMINING THE NUMBER OF FIXTURES REQUIRED:**

In general the number of fixtures required is equal to the available budget divided by the unit price of the fixture being considered. This is often called the pocketbook or wallet formula.

