

# Incandescent Bulbs vs. LEDs?

THE **4** TAKEAWAYS

Genesis  
Electrical Service  
Let there be light

LEDs are more expensive initially, but the maintenance costs are much cheaper than incandescent bulbs.

LEDs last significantly longer than incandescent bulbs.

LEDs are more energy efficient and eco-friendly than incandescent bulbs.

LEDs come in many shape and color options.



## New Lighting: Where to begin?

There's lots of options to weigh when thinking about installing new lighting in your home or business. Cost? Shape? Color? Ultimately, many of these decisions come down to the type of bulbs you'll pick. Let's go over the basics.

## Incandescent Bulbs:

Invented in the 1800s, incandescent bulbs are the type of light bulbs you may associate with Thomas Edison. These bulbs light up when an electrical current flows through a wire filament inside the bulb, causing the filament to heat up and to glow.

While these bulbs are cheaper to buy, 90% of their energy goes toward heat and only 10% goes toward light. This makes incandescent bulbs highly energy inefficient. These bulbs are also hard to dispose of as many of them contain gases that can be harmful to people and the environment.

## LEDs:

LED stands for light emitting diode, another type of light that was invented in 1962. This type of bulb has no wire filament, but creates light as electricity flows through two terminals called the anode and the cathode, similar to the way a battery works.

## The Perks of LEDs:

- >Can operate between 50,000-100,000 hours (50-100x > incandescents)
- >Many color and light intensity options
- >More compatible with smart home technologies
- >Come in many shapes and sizes
- >Maintenance is cheaper than with incandescent bulbs
- >Most are recyclable

## Important Reminder:

Always remember that dimmers and switches must be LED compatible when installing LED lights. Contact Genesis Electric today for help in upgrading to LEDs in your home or business.

