

Lighting Equipment

There are several types of lights available at Berwick IT Services. This is a guide as to the types of lights and their uses.

General lighting rules.

Electricity is dangerous. Most of our lights pull a sufficient amount of current to cause serious injury or death if mishandled. Ensure that lights are turned off at the point before plugging in or unplugging. Failure to do so can cause electricity to spark between points.

Make sure that cables are kept away from high traffic areas – There is a risk of tripping on cables and bringing a hot light down, damaging it and potentially causing harm to others.

Light globes have a limited life span. When not in use, turn them off.

Never move lights while they are turned on. There is a good chance that you will blow the globes if you do so, resulting in delays to your production. Turn the light off and wait at least 30 seconds before moving them.

Allow the lights to cool down completely (at least ten minutes) before packing them away. Hot lights will melt any synthetic carry bag or foam packing.



With the exception of the work lights, all our light stands have a standard fitting at the top.



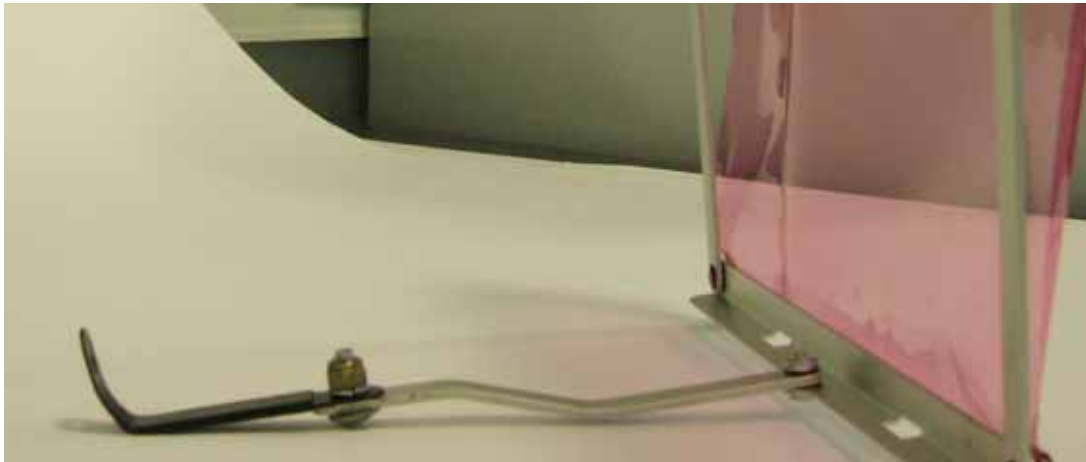
The lights have a bracket which fits over this and is held in place by a screw. Hand tightened screws are often used in photographic equipment such as light stands and tripods. It should be noted that these should only be tightened to a level sufficient to ensure the stability of the equipment. Do not use undue force as this can damage equipment.

Work lights(halogen).

Twin 500W lights mounted on a bracket.



For green screen use, these come with aluminium brackets to which pink or orange gels can be attached. There should be a bracket for each light. The gels are held to the bracket by alligator clips as shown. Never attach gels directly to the surface of the lights. They will melt.



These brackets have been modified for use with the work lights. The light case has a butterfly nut at the top, shown below.



Unscrew the butterfly nut and mount the bracket as shown.



Lowell lighting kit



This kit contains one 800W and two 500W lights.



500W



800W



Both types fit on to the stands using this bracket. The 500W units can be adjusted using the handle. When in use, Fold the handle out to the horizontal position. (otherwise, it could melt)

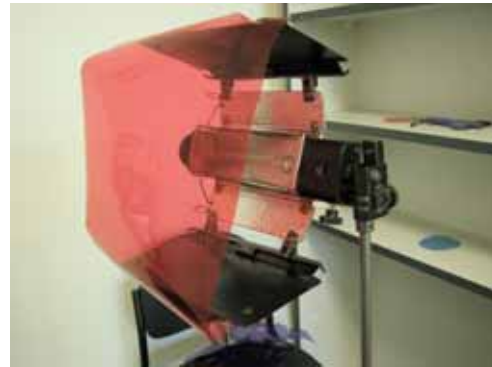


For green screen use, these kits come with gel brackets which fold out as shown.



The gel brackets mount on slots built into the light and are tightened with screws (in the case of the 800W you can see the screw on the underside of the light).

We also have a spare 800W light. This does not have a gel bracket but does have extra barn doors designed to clip onto the light and alligator clips for holding gels.



For green screen use, these are aimed directly at the subject. In other instances, the strong, harsh light these emit might not suit the shot.



Special umbrella reflectors can be booked through Technical services. Here the light is pointed away from the subject. The umbrella throws a softer, more diffused light back.



The umbrella handles fit through the same slots used to hold the gel brackets. These lights get very hot- hot enough when left on for long periods to melt the power plug. Turn them off when not in use. Allow them to cool down before packing them away.

Cyclorama lights



4 X 1000W lights. Very powerful. They tend to reflect a lot of green onto the subject. You will need to correct for this by lighting the subject with gels. When not actually setting up or shooting, turn these off as they get very hot.

Arri 650

650W spotlight.



This has a lens and an adjustment knob at the back, allowing you to change the beam from spotlight to floodlight.



It can be adjusted loosening or tightening the knob on the side (above left).
Gels can be attached to the barn doors using wooden clothes pegs (do not use plastic pegs, they will melt)

Flouro kit (Kino-Flo)

There are two flouro lights at Technical Services. These cast a soft even light but are of limited use when lighting large areas as they cannot throw a beam very far without the light intensity falling off.

They mount on C-stands which are very sturdy (and heavy).



The top leg is tightened by means of a screw. The other two just fold out



On one side of the control box is a dimmer, on the other a switch where you can select to use 2 or all 4 lamps.



The light mounts on the C stand as shown. It is adjusted by a ball and ratchet system.



First pull the handle out to disengage it, then pull it down. Engage the ratchet handle by pushing it in, then push up to loosen it.

The flouros do not get hot like incandescent lamps. If you need to soften them they come with a white diffuser which fits over the front.



Spotlight kit.

Set of three 500W spotlights.

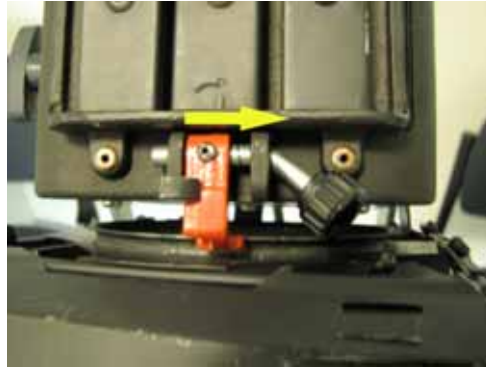


These are adjusted by tightening or un-tightening the handle shown on the side. Like the Arri, there is a knob at the back of the light that allows you to adjust the beam from spotlight to floodlight.



The barn doors are fitted with clips, allowing you to attach gels for green screen use.

Due to the fact that they have a diffusion lens, the spotlights cast a softer beam than the halogens. For this reason they are also used for dramatic lighting. Gels can also be used to provide color and mood. A kit containing smaller colored gels is available through Technical Services. These fit into a special holder which comes with the light. To fit dramatic gels, locate the handle on the top of the light and pull it to the right.



Lift up the orange bracket and remove the metal disk.





Separate the two sides of the disk and select a colored gel. Reassemble the disk and insert it into the light.