# University of Victoria - Visual Arts Building BUILDING MANUAL

Section Equipment Tutorials C

# LIGHTING KITS



## CAUTIONS

High electrical current units.

Units get VERY hot.

Do not gaze directly into the lamps.

Tripping hazard. Run cables carefully.

Possible tipping hazard. Tripods must be stable.

Do NOT leave the lights on for extended periods!

## FUNCTION

The lighting kits are designed to illuminate photographic sessions. They are not intended to be turned on for more than a few minutes at a time.

All of our bulbs emit light that is *Tungsten Yellow*. The colour temperature is roughly 3200K. If you are shooting film, make sure you buy film corrected for this colour temperature. If digital, set the white balance to the "Tungsten" or "Custom White Balance setting. If in doubt, ask the technician. PART 3 • Canwest Digital Lab

### DESCRIPTION

There are three lighting kits available for signout, plus a few individual lamps of various design.

Each lighting kit contains one of two different types of lamp. Both lamp types emit the same type of light (3200K), are high amperage lamps, and mount atop tripods. Although the lamps differ in form, they function identically. The kits also contain tripods and umbrellas.

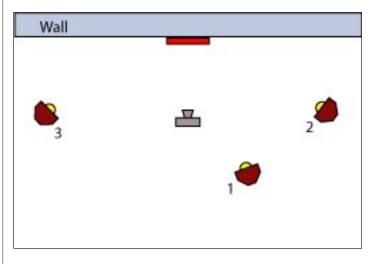
## HOW TO

Your basic process for a shoot is:

- 1. Set up the environment and subject for the shot
- 2. Set up the camera
- 3. Set up the lights.
- 4. Test the lights (On to test, then Off)
- 5. Correct lighting as needed.
- 6. Test the lights (On to test, then Off)
- 7. Turn on lights
- 8. Shoot your session.
- 9. Turn off lights
- 10. Allow cool off period (~10 minutes)
- 11. Pack up lamps in the kit boxes. Keep it tidy!

#### Placement

When documenting paintings or photographs, hang your work at your chosen site. Set up your lamps in the configuration below.



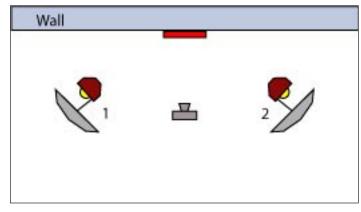
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Lamp 1 should be on a tripod set higher than the plane of the camera. This and the acute wall angles of lamps 2 and 3 will minimize hot spots appearing in your photo. Check for hotspots with a digital camera and adjust lighting if necessary.

The **Black Lighting Kit** contains reflective umbrellas which can be used to eliminate hot spots. To use, set up the lamps as usual. Mount the umbrellas directly onto the lamp housing. The lamps should now be pointed away from the painting as shown below.

#### Umbrella Setup



## IMPORTANT SETUP CONSIDERATIONS:

**Cables** - Setting up three lamps inevitably creates a lot of cable runs along the floor - which in turn creates a potential tripping hazard. To minimize the risk of injury or damage to the equipment keep the cables tidy and bundled together. Run the cables to the wall in a direct line, in as short a route as possible. Run cables along walls where possible. If you can't run along walls or other convenient demarcations, keep the cables together and create clear pathways for foot traffic. Above all - be aware and take your time. Section Equipment Tutorials

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**Power -** Each of the lamps in the lighting kits is rated at 15 Amperes. This means that the lamps draw HIGH amounts of current in operation. Because of this high current draw, you must only plug one lamp into each circuit to avoid tripping a circuit breaker. Note: A circuit is not defined by a different receptacle (wall plug-in). A circuit in the Visual Arts building is defined by a designated number that will be clearly marked on the receptacle. (See image below.) Different circuits have different numbers. If in doubt, ask the technician.



**Tripods -** The tripods can be raised to an impressive height indeed. If you place a weighty object (like a lamp) on top of a tall pole (like a tripod), it will contain a great potential to tip over. To avoid this undesireable event do the following:

- Don't extend the tripod to the maximum height unless absolutely necessary.
- Maximize the spread of the tripod legs. The wider the base, the more stable the structure.
- Strap the power cable to the tripod.
- Gently and safely test each lamp setup for stability before shooting your session.
- If you can't successfully set up a stable lamp, ask the technician for assistance.



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## Lighting Kits, p3

### TROUBLESHOOTING

If a lamp is plugged in but does not turn on, try the following:

1. Plug the lamp into another receptacle - preferably one that is known to work. If the lamp works in the new receptacle, tell a technician that you have identified a receptacle with no power.

 If the lamp still doesn't work after the test in
above, it could be a burned out bulb. Find a technician and explain the situation. Do not attempt to replace bulbs yourself.

3. If you smell odd odors, see smoke, or identify anything as unusual with the lights, turn them off, unplug them, and find the technician.

#### **BROKEN PARTS OR DEFECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

Accidents happen and equipment does wear out. If you break something, or find something broken, report it immediately to the technician. We will repair or replace the damaged parts. It is completely unacceptable to hide or ignore broken equipment. Never, never do this. PART 3 • Canwest Digital Lab

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## ABOUT COLOUR TEMPERATURE

Listed below are standard colour temperatures of light:

- 1600 K: sunrise and sunset
- 1800 K: a candle
- 2800 K: tungsten lamp (ordinary bulb)
- 3200 K: studio lamps, photofloods (VA lamps)
- 5000 K: "Daylight 5000K" (Prof. Standard)
- 5200 K: bright midday sun.
- 5500 K: average daylight, electronic flash.
- 6000 K: lightly overcast sky
- 6500 K: heavily overcast sky
- 8000 K: hazy sky
- 20000 K: deep blue clear sky



Section