



## Resource Guide to LED Lights (Light Emitting Diodes)

LEDs are the cleanest, most cost-efficient, and energy-efficient source of lighting you can purchase for your home, business, or institution. LED allows you to save money, choose lighting color temperatures & brightness to fit your desired aesthetic, and conserve energy - all at once.

The reason our hands get burned from an incandescent light bulb is because most of the energy produces HEAT instead of visible light. An LED light bulb produces the same amount of visible light – but without wasting 80% of the energy in heat. It takes less than 20 watts of LED bulb to produce the same amount of light that a 100-watt incandescent bulb produces.

Here are a few tips and things to think about before you purchase your first LED light bulb.

### When purchasing your bulb....

- There are so many different LED options - which one you choose depends on your needs & tastes. If your light fixture has a dimming switch, make sure the LED is compatible with a dimmer.
- The “Lighting Facts” label shows brightness, light color, energy use, estimated energy costs, and expected life. Choose a US EPA Energy Star rated lamp.
- If you’re buying LED lights for the first time, consider going in person to shop rather than online so you can actually see the colors on display. Look at a retailer’s **Light Box** to see the various shapes, sizes, color temperatures, & coatings (Clear, sparkle, frosted, etc...)
- Look at the hours the lamps are rated for.
- *Be cautious of cheap light bulbs.* While a cheap bulb may be less expensive, its life span may be as low as 2,000 hours vs. 10,000 to 25,000 hours for a quality alternative.
- “*Lumens*” are the measure of the amount of light. For example, a 60-watt incandescent bulb is 800 lumens.
- A CRI (Color Rendering Index) of at least 80 is recommended for interior lights. Differences of fewer than five points are insignificant.
- Some LEDs can be used in fully enclosed fixtures and are identified for that use by the manufacturers.
- Some A-type bulbs (what most people would call a “regular” light bulb) may not evenly cast light in all directions, which could create spotty light.
- Many LEDs work outdoors – but some cannot get wet. Check the label.
- Stick with names you recognize and generally associate with lighting. This includes brands like GE, Phillips, Feit, Home Depot’s brand, or Sylvania.
- FEIT and other manufacturers often participate in mid-stream utility incentives – the utility pays the discount to the manufacturer, so you pay less up front and don’t have to take the time to submit for a rebate.

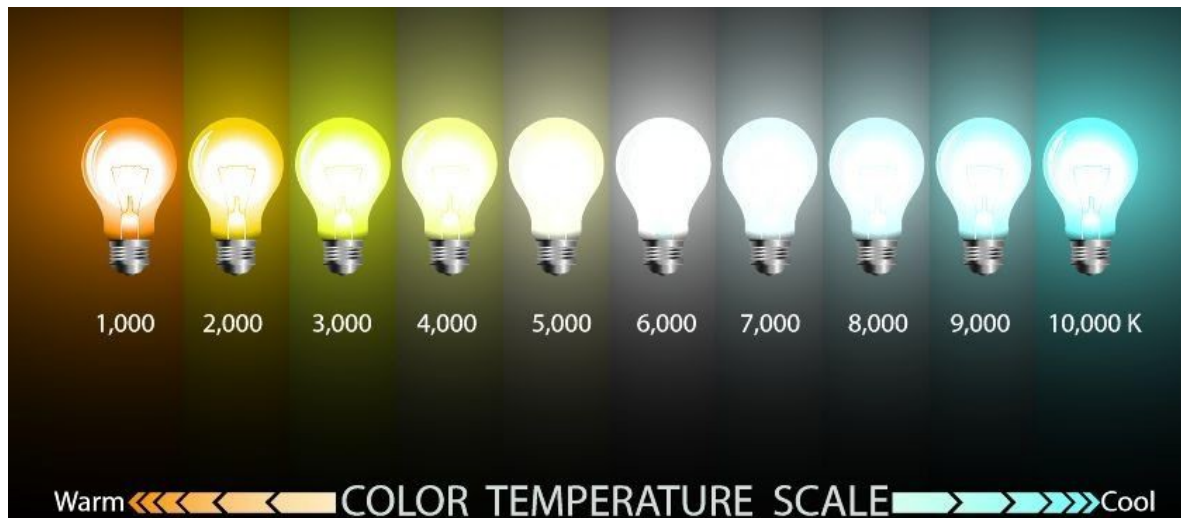
## How You'll Benefit

- Your power utility costs will decrease by changing to LED lighting. You'll save an immense amount of power costs by using LED lighting that's only using a much smaller portion of the energy than incandescent light bulbs do.
- Energy = Greenhouse Gases. Unless you are using 100% renewable energy, every \$ you spend on energy is also a major part of your greenhouse gas emissions.
- Your replacement costs are reduced since LED lights can have up to a 25,000 hour lifespan.

## One more note...

- Occupancy sensors automatically turn on lights when activity is detected and shut them off a short while after activity stops. Photocells turn off lights in daylight and turn them back on when it's dark. The LED bulb, motion sensor and/or photocell must be compatible to work properly. Check the manufacturer's website and read the bulb package.

The transition to LEDs provides a financial advantage in the long run, and is a great first step into becoming more environmentally conscious. Here is a chart to understand which color of LED light will work best for you.



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