General Warnings
The Lowel Rifa-lite is a professional lighting instrument. Read these instructions and lamp manufacturer’s warnings carefully before operating.

- Do not pull power cable to open fixture.
- Always operate with diffuser safety panel in place.
- Not for household use, use only for photographic lighting (film, video, imaging) purposes.
- Do not leave Rifa-lite unattended.
- Allow unit to cool for 5 minutes before storing.
- Do not use near flammable materials.
- Do not use near standing water or in damp locations.
- When mounting light overhead use Safety Cables.
- Do not use more than one fixture at the same time (at any higher voltage).
- Always unplug unit before cleaning fixture is damp.
- Do not pull power cable to open fixture.
- Never exceed maximum rated wattage for unit.
- Make certain that lamp voltage matches power source voltage. The units use lamps of different voltages (example: never connect a 120 volt lamp to a 230 volt source, or a Rifa-44 with 12 or 30 volt lamp to any higher voltage).
- Never exceed maximum rated wattage of unit.
- Do not exceed maximum rated amperage (film; video; imaging) purposes.
- Use only for photographic lighting professional lighting instrument.
- The Lowel Rifa-lite is a professional lighting instrument.

Lamp/Beam Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lamp Code</th>
<th>Volts</th>
<th>Watts</th>
<th>°K</th>
<th>Avg Life</th>
<th>FC(lux)5’</th>
<th>FC(lux)10’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LC-44 – Maximum 300w</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JCV14.5-50WC</td>
<td>12/14</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>100 hr</td>
<td>7 (78)</td>
<td>2 (21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCC</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>100 hr</td>
<td>10 (103)</td>
<td>3 (28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCB</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>100 hr</td>
<td>26 (280)</td>
<td>7 (74)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FSH</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>100 hr</td>
<td>15 (162)</td>
<td>4 (44)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FVM</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>250 hr</td>
<td>16 (170)</td>
<td>5 (48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FVL</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>200 hr</td>
<td>30 (320)</td>
<td>9 (92)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCA</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>100 hr</td>
<td>39 (420)</td>
<td>11 (120)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL/P/4</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>100 hr</td>
<td>32 (345)</td>
<td>9 (94)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL/P/6</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>75 hr</td>
<td>46 (495)</td>
<td>12 (132)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Different lamp base, Rifa-44 socket accepts this base.

Performance with Recommended Lamps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lamp Code</th>
<th>Volts</th>
<th>Watts</th>
<th>°K</th>
<th>Avg Life</th>
<th>FC(lux)5’</th>
<th>FC(lux)10’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LC-55 – Maximum 500w</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHC</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>300 hr</td>
<td>88 (950)</td>
<td>23 (248)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHD</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>2000 hr</td>
<td>67 (724)</td>
<td>18 (194)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JCV220V-500MM</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>2000 hr</td>
<td>68 (730)</td>
<td>18 (195)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JCV240V-500MM</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>2000 hr</td>
<td>63 (680)</td>
<td>17 (185)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC-66 – Maximum 750w (May also use lamps for LC-55)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHF</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>2000 hr</td>
<td>80 (864)</td>
<td>22 (238)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHG</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>2000 hr</td>
<td>82 (886)</td>
<td>23 (248)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FKR230</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>3000 hr</td>
<td>82 (886)</td>
<td>23 (248)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC-88 – Maximum 1000w (May also use lamps for LC-66)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEL</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>300 hr</td>
<td>156 (1685)</td>
<td>46 (497)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEP/220</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>3200</td>
<td>150 hr</td>
<td>148 (1598)</td>
<td>40 (432)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Setup Warning

Warning: Do not pull power cable to open light. Doing so may damage the cable & fixture. Make sure fixture is unplugged before assembly.

Setting Up Rifa-lite (all models)

1. Remove the Rifa-lite unit from its sleeve and mount and lock on suitable stand.
2. Release tilt lock handle, tilt light to horizontal, relock tilt handle, release the Velcro strap around the folded assembly.
3. Reaffix the strap to itself. Unfurl Rifa-lite reflector material until assembly loosens.

Opening Rifa

1. Loosen thumbscrew located on back end of fixture.
2. While holding the assembly base push the socket/lamp cage assembly (avoid touching lamp) inward until the assembly “click-locks” into position.
3. Tighten thumbscrew clockwise to lock fixture open.

Warning: The fixture must be locked open before using, failure to do so may cause the fixture to close during operation damaging the fixture.
4. Place on stand with one leg extending straight out under Rifa for best balance.
5. For increased balance, use Rifa Balance Bar Accessory

Attaching Fabric Egg Crates

The Fabric Egg Crates are a valuable accessory for controlling the light spill of the Rifa. They can also help prevent a moving subject from becoming overlit as they approach the light. Egg Crates are available in 3 different dispersion angles (30, 40 & 50 degree) for each model of Rifa.

1. Unfold Egg Crate accessory. With the diffuser already attached, place the Fabric Egg Crate over the front of the light, inserting the corner pins of the reflector frame into the metal tube sockets located in the egg crate corners.
2. Secure the egg crate to the body of the Rifa with Velcro strips located around the edge of the reflector housing.

Storage

Unplug light and allow to cool for at least five minutes before disassembly.

1. Detach fabric accessory (if used) and front diffuser. To prevent damage to the diffuser, wrap material around tube and place in pocket of light storage sleeve.
2. Hold stand mounting bracket, loosen thumbscrew on mounting arm assembly and push shaft until frame has collapsed.
3. Smooth reflector material and secure with Velcro strap, tilt light down, remove unit from light stand and place in sleeve.

Rifa-lite Beam Angles

Rifa-lite alone - 75°

Rifa-lite with 50° Egg Crate

Rifa-lite with 40° Egg Crate

Rifa-lite with 30° Egg Crate
The Rifa is a dedicated soft light, with quick set-up and beautiful output. With a little practice, good results are easy to achieve.

First, a brief overview...

Soft light is soft because the size of its source is large when compared to the size of the subject being lit. The larger the ratio of light source size to subject size, the softer the light. If you stand outside on an overcast day, you will have very little shadow because the size of the source (the whole sky) is so much larger than you are.

Hard light is hard because the size of its source is small when compared to the subject being lit. In a fixture such as a Pro-light, the physical size of the source is much smaller. This makes the light very directional and as a result, the shadows it throws are sharper. A clear sunny day will result in sharper shadows because of the smaller (harder) source.

Distance from source to object becomes a factor in sharpness as well. The further away from the subject the source is, the smaller the source appears to be & therefore the harder its shadows.

![Soft source close = Softest shadow](image)

Postioning the Rifa

Soft light falls off in output strength much more quickly than a hard source of identical wattage, because the soft source is so much larger in size (light is dispersed in a wider direction). As a result, soft sources, like Rifa are designed to be used fairly close to the subject. This can create problems of light spill on the areas behind the subject. The first step in minimizing background spill is to move the subject away from walls, by 6 feet or so if possible. This will allow a light placed on a stand higher than the subject to fall off towards the floor, before hitting the wall.

Using Fabric Egg Crates

Another situation that can arise as a result of using soft sources close to the subject is fluctuation in exposure level that can occur if the subject moves back & forth in relation to the light source. With the source being so close, its effect can be noticeable in the camera. An easy solution to this, which can also help reduce the light spill described previously, is to add an accessory fabric egg crate to the front of the light. Fabric egg crates are available in different degrees of dispersion, so where the Rifas have an output that will cast light in almost 180 degrees (with the strongest portion of the output will being in the center 70-75 degrees), the egg crates will trim this to either 30, 40 or 50 degrees, depending on the model of egg crate used. They do a great job of preventing the subject from “burning up” if they happen to get too close to the light source for your exposure.

Mixing with daylight

For setups when you are shooting in a room that also has windows, where the desire is to mix the output of the Rifa with daylight, some level of color correction gel will be needed. The goal is to match the warmer 3200k tungsten lamp in the Rifa, with the cooler daylight color (5000-6500k). Because daylight can vary in color, depending on whether its direct sun, overcast clouds, blue sky or any combination of the above, you will need to choose either 1/4, 1/2 or full day blue to most closely match the Rifa to the daylight in the room. Rifa Day Blue Gels are custom cut to fit the Rifas. They are sized to cover the front diffuser with enough excess to allow them to be clipped to the velcro pockets on the side of the light. You can use clothespins, Lowel Gel-jawz, or any small spring loaded clip.

These are just some starting suggestions.

For additional introductory information, see the Resources section of the complete Lowel catalog. For an in-depth understanding of the creative decisions involved in the art of lighting, we suggest Ross Lowel’s acclaimed book, Matters of Light & Depth, available from many of our dealers. Also see the evolving educational resource section of www.lowel.com

Basic Starter Setups using Rifa-lite

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Setup 1</th>
<th>Setup 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Rifa-lite, 1 Tota-light</td>
<td>1 Rifa-lite, 1 Pro-light, 1 Tota-light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>To light an interview subject with the Rifa-lite alone, You can place the light at a 45º angle, 2-3 feet higher than the subject, with the light tilted down towards the subject. From there, you can arc the angle of the Rifa-lite out in either direction from 6:00 (at camera - this will give the most even lighting) to either 3:00 or 9:00, depending on how much dramatic contrast &amp; fall off you want in your shot. Place the broad throw Tota so it lights the background without spilling onto the subject.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>To light an interview subject with 1 Rifa-lite and 1 Pro-light (250w focussable hard source), try using the Pro-light as a back light to give the subject separation from the background. Vary the angle to the subject while keeping the 2 lights facing each other for increased dramatic results. As you approach a 9:00 / 3:00 placement, the Pro becomes a hard / dramatic key, as the Rifa becomes soft fill. Note: watch for lens flare from the back light (Pro). Place the broad throw Tota so it lights the background without spilling onto the subject.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Setup Keys:**

- A Rifa with 250 - 500W lamp
- B Pro-light with 100 - 250W lamp
- C Tota-light with 300 - 500W lamp
Rifa-lite® Accessoriess

Light Controls

Replacement Diffusers

Standard light diffuser replacements for all 3 models of Rifa-lite.
Diffuser must always be used to protect against lamp explosion.

For LC-44
Code: LC-44D
Size: 16 x 16" (40 x 40 cm)

For LC-55
Code: LC-55D
Size: 21 x 21" (53.3 x 53.3 cm)

For LC-66
Code: LC-66D
Size: 25 x 25" (66 x 66 cm)

For LC-88
Code: LC-88D
Size: 32 x 32" (81.3 x 81.3 cm)

Fabric Egg Crates

For better light control. Each Egg Crate attaches quickly and afterwards folds up to be stored in its own small light-weight bag.

30° x 30° Egg Crate
Fabric Egg Crate with 30° dispersion angle.

30° Egg Crate for LC-44
Code: LC-44EC/30
Weight: 1 lb (448 g)

30° Egg Crate for LC-55
Code: LC-55EC/30
Weight: 1.6 kg

30° Egg Crate for LC-66
Code: LC-66EC/30
Weight: 2 lbs (907 g)

30° Egg Crate for LC-88
Code: LC-88EC/30
Weight: 3 lbs (1.36 kg)

Mounts

Uni TO Stand
Code: UN-55
Weight: 2.6 lbs (1.2 kg)

Size: 21.5" (55.2 cm) folded.
Maximum height: 7" (2.2 m)
Base diameter: 46"
New stand, based on design combination of Uni-stand & Omni-stand. More stable than Uni-stand, more compact than Omni-stand. For Rifa 44.

KS Jr. Stand
Code: DT-33
Size: Maximum height: 7" (2.3 m)
Collapsed length: 2.3 (65 cm)
Weight: 3.5 lbs (1.6 kg)
Wide based, sturdy, lightweight stand with 5/8" (1.59 cm) stud and solid bar legs. For Rifa 44, 55, 66.

KS Stand
Code: KS
Size: Maximum height: 9" (2.74 m)
Collapsed length: 3" (91 cm)
Weight: 4 lbs (1.8 kg)
Wide based, sturdier, lightweight stand with 5/8" (1.59 cm) stud. For all 4 Rifas.

Balance Bar
Code: LC-30
Size: 12.5" (31.8 cm)
Weight: 6.5 oz (184 g)
The Rifa Balance Bar is an extension arm accessory that mounts between the Rifa-lite and its stand fitting. When installed, it can shift the Rifa's center of gravity to allow better stand balance. It can facilitate angling and tilting of the light when necessary, such as on a boom arm, without the need to overtighten stand fitting knob. Install Balance Bar as shown, orienting conical washers as shown (∗).

KS Support Bar

Rifa Daylight Gel Sets

For correcting Rifas to mix with varying strengths of daylight, they attach to Rifa’s velcro pockets with clothespins. Each set contains 3 sheets:

Day Blue: 1/2 Blue: 1/4 Blue
Each set contains 3 sheets:

For LC-44
Code: LC-47
Size: 23 x 16" (58.4 x 40.6 cm)

For LC-55
Code: LC-57
Size: 29 x 22" (73.7 x 56 cm)

For LC-66
Code: LC-67
Size: 33 x 26" (84 x 66 cm)

For LC-88
Code: LC-87
Size: 39 x 32" (99 x 81.3 cm)

Problems, info, repairs, etc.

Lowel equipment and kits are sold through authorized Lowel Dealers and, in some countries, Authorized Lowel Distributors. Repairs, problems, suggestions, and requests for brochures, instructions, parts lists may be handled by your authorized Lowel Dealer (Distributor) or directly with Lowel. Electrical repairs should be made only by Lowel or a qualified electrician. Rifa-lite® is a registered trademark of Lowel-Light Manufacturing, Inc./U.S. Patent No. 4594645, ver: 5.0 © Lowel-Light Mfg., Inc. 2005

Cables

16' Switched AC Cable
Code: T1-80
Weight: 13 oz (369 g)
Standard #18/3, with switch.

10' Unswitched Cable
Code: T1-808
Weight: 1.1 lbs (5 kg)
For portable stage lighting use.

16' (5 m) Eurocord
Code: T1-801
Weight: 13 oz (369 g)
#18/3 (.75 mm3) with double pole switch and male CEE-7 plug.

16' (5 m) T/O UK Cord
Code: T1-802
Weight: 13 oz (369 g)
#18/3 (.75 mm3) with double pole switch and male fused BS 1363A plug.

5' Omni 30v Cable
Code: O1-81
Adapts Rifa-44 for use with 30 volt battery #18/3, with switch and 2 pin “Amphenol Type” connector for batteries.

4-pin XLR Switched Cable
Code: R2-82
Adapts the Rifa-44 or use with appropriate 12 volt batteries. No wiring required.

1' 12v Switched Cigarette Lighter/Car Adaptor Cable
Code: R2-85
Adapts Rifa 44 IEC Connector for use with some 12 volt batteries and automobile cigarette lighter sockets. No wiring required.

12v Car Adaptor
Code: O1-82
Connects T1-80 Cable to cigarette lighter connector. For Rifa 44 only.