

(a starting point for designing and using LED's)

1. **Do** look carefully at the areas you want to light, to assess: a) how much light will do the job; b) what colour does the light need to be, e.g. cool or warm white, a colour, or colour changing; c) will the light source be too visible and spoil the effect.
2. **Do** look out for unwanted reflections from nearby polished surfaces, e.g. mirrors, floor tiles
3. **Do not** rely wholly on basic double-sided adhesive tape for mounting. LED strip lighting does not get hot, but it does get warm and unless you are sticking to a perfect surface, your strip will eventually come away. Use the correct housing for the job and add screws to fix it securely, or use High Mass tape, which is suitable for permanent adhesion without screws.
4. **Do** use good quality IP65 waterproof LED strip lighting on every occasion unless you need to put the lowest possible cost above reliability and longevity. Unprotected strip is cheap but delicate and tends to have a short life.
5. **Do not** overload the LED power supply unit. It will fail and overload the LED strip, greatly shortening its life. Allow for the PFI of the power supply manufacturer (Power Factor Index). If this is 80% (typical) then a 100 watt transformer will only deliver a maximum of 80 watts continuously and reliably. A good rule of thumb is to calculate the total power needed and then add 25%. There is nothing wrong with using a PSU much larger than currently needed as it will allow for future expansion.
6. **Do** consider having custom-length light units made to fit your job from a specialist such as 4Sight, who have more tools, connectors and special fittings to make it easy, and can help you to design a system and to fit it perfectly without the assembly process. Generally, specialist advice and experience comes free of charge.
7. **Do not** be scared of tackling basic installations yourself. The video and How-To-Fit PDF on our website should give you the advice and tips you need.
8. **Do** email a sketch or photos to illustrate what you are intending, so we can advise. We may have suggestions that add value to your project. For example, if you want to use RGB (colour change) LED lighting in several areas some distance apart, we can show you how to control and synchronise them from one controller, even if there is no way to join them with cables.
9. **Do not** settle for high-maintenance, off-the-shelf battery powered devices, or ready-made lights which are the wrong size for your job when we can make it easy for you to produce a built-in, perfectly fitted, professional looking lighting system every time. It needn't even cost you more.
10. **Do** be ambitious. You can create truly beautiful and impressive lighting just by using the right light units, careful planning and by incorporating the right control systems.