

How to buy an LED light bulb



Watts vs Lumens

The true indicator of brightness is measured in lumens. Watts is the measurement of how much energy the bulb draws. There is an accepted correlation between wattage and brightness, but for LEDs, lumens can vary per watt resulting in confusion when evaluating suitability based on wattage.

The lumen (lm) is the best measurement of brightness provided by a light bulb, and is the number you should look for when shopping for LEDs.

Incandescent Wattage	Lumens (amount of light)
40	450
60	800
75	1140
100	1600

Buying Tips:

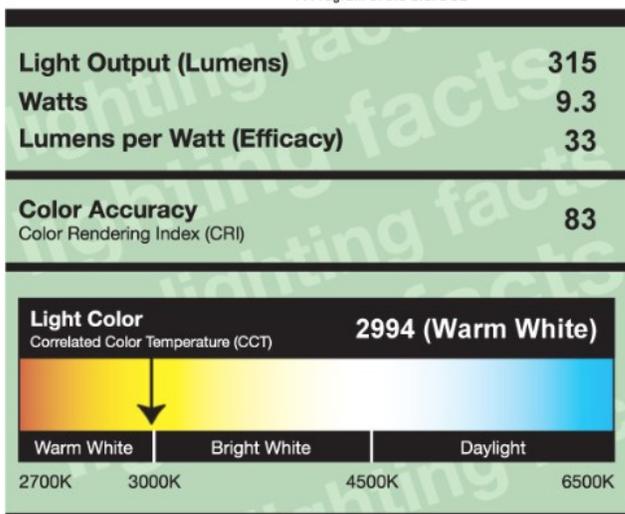
- Look for LED Lights that are dimmable
- Energy Star Rated
- Change frequently used lights first
- Select LEDs with color temperatures of 3500-4100K for reading

Color Temperature

- Light color is measured on a temperature scale referred to as Kelvin (K).
- Lower Kelvin numbers mean the light appears more yellow; higher Kelvin numbers mean the light is whiter or bluer.
- Most ENERGY STAR certified bulbs are made to match the color of incandescent bulbs at 2700-3000K.
- For a whiter light, look for bulbs with a color temperature of 3500-4100K.
- For a bluer light, look for bulbs with a color temperature of 5000-6500K.

lighting facts^{CM}

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Cost Comparison

Incandescent	LEDs
Average cost: \$1 to \$10	Average cost: \$5 to \$25
Average wattage: 40W to 150W	Average wattage: 4W to 22W
Average life expectancy: 1,000— 1,600 hours	Average life expectancy: 35,000— 50,000 hours

Visit the following websites below for more information on how to buy an LED light bulb.

<http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/led-lighting> or <http://www.cnet.com/news/light-bulb-buying-guide/>