BUTLER LIGHTING
FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1948

www.butlerlightingusa.com

LIGHTBULB BUYING GUIDE

Selecting light bulbs can be confusing and frustrating for most people who aren't familiar with all of the terminology.

There are many factors to consider such as color, wattage, voltage, dimmable or non-dimmable, socket size, and LED vs. non-LED. If you find yourself in need of assistance, a qualified source such as Butler Lighting can help you select and service your light bulbs

LIGHT BULB TYPES

There are four types of light bulbs: incandescent, halogen, fluorescent, and LED.

Butler's Choice!

LIGHT EMITTING DIODES (LEDS)

LED technology began in the early 20th century, but it wasn't until the 1960s that the first practical LED was developed by Nick Holonyak Jr. The 1990s and 2000s witnessed breakthroughs in LED technology, allowing for brighter and white light LEDs.Today, LEDs are the most energy-efficient lighting option available,

- LED lights popularity
- Energy-efficient and versatile.
- High lumen ratings.

HALOGEN

Halogen bulbs, an advanced form of incandescent lighting, were introduced in the 1950s. They work similarly to incandescent bulbs but contain a small amount of a halogen gas that increases brightness and improves energy efficiency. Became popular in the 1980s and 1990s for both residential and commercial use,

- Halogen lights description
- Longer, brighter burn
- Explosion risk

COMPACT FLUORESCENT LAMPS

CFLs were developed in the 1970s as an energy-saving alternative. They use an electric current to excite mercury vapor, which in turn produces ultraviolet light. Saw widespread adoption in the late 1990s and early 2000s, Lauded for their energy efficiency and extended lifespan compared to incandescent bulbs.

- Fluorescent lights efficiency
- Temperature-sensitive illumination.
- Mercury-containing bulbs

INCANDESCENT

The concept of incandescent lighting was experimented with as early as the 1800s by inventors such as Humphry Davy, but it was Thomas Edison who, in 1879, successfully commercialized a practical and durable incandescent light bulb. Dominated lighting for over a century due to their warm light and initial low cost.

- Bulbs discontinued for eco reasons
- Glowing wire filament
- Phasing out reasons

SMART BULB OPTIONS

In addition to LED bulbs, another popular choice for modern lighting is smart bulbs. Smart bulbs are LED bulbs that can connect to your home's Wi-Fi network and be controlled remotely through a smartphone app or a voice assistant like Amazon Alexa or Google Assistant Here are somekey features and benefits of smart bulbs:

1 **Remote control:**
With smart bulbs, you can control your lighting from anywhere using your smartphone or tablet. This allows you to turn the lights on or off.

2 **Customization:**
Smart bulbs often come with a range of customization options. You can adjust the color temperature of the bulbs to create different moods.

3 **Integration with smart home systems:**
Smart bulbs can seamlessly integrate with other smart home devices and systems. For example, you can connect them to a smart homehub or use them in conjunction with other smart devices like motion sensors or door/window sensors.

4 **Energy efficiency and cost savings:**
Like standard LED bulbs, smart bulbs are energy-efficient and consume less electricity compared to traditional incandescent or fluorescent bulbs.

5 **Voice control:**
Many smart bulbs are compatible with voice assistants like Amazon Alexa, Google Assistant, or Apple HomeKit.

LIGHT BULB SIZES AND BASES

Light bulb codes will identify light bulbs with a letter or series of letters to indicate shape and special features and a number to indicate the size of the base.

- Letter 'A' indicates the Edison styles.
- Letter ''C' indicates the Chandelier Bulb.
- Letter 'R' indicates the reflector type, a special feature.
- Letters 'MR' indicate a multi-faceted reflector spotlight track are common
- Letters 'PAR' indicate a parabolic aluminized reflector.
- Letter 'G' indicates the Round shape.
- Letter 'T' indicates the Tubular shape.

Light bulb base codes are similar with a letter indicating the shape of the base and a number indicating the size.

The most common light bulb base sizes are:

- E16 or E27 for a standard-medium (regular sized screw in base)
- E12 for a candelabra (smaller screw in base)
- E17 for an intermediate
- G4 or GU24 for a bi-pin (a pin-in base with two points of contact)
- GU10" for a twist-and-lock base

TERMINOLOGY AND SPECIFICATIONS OF LIGHT BULBS

1 **Kelvin explained:**
If you're looking for a warm light, you will want to choose a bulb between 2,700K and 3,000K. Warm light has a yellowish color similar to the light of an incandescent light bulb, creating an intimate and relaxing feel.

2 **CRI:**
The Color Rating Index, CRI, is a rating of how naturally a lighting source will show an object. CRI is measured between 0 and 100. At 0, all colors look the same.

3 **Lumens:**
Lumens measure how much light you are getting from a bulb. More lumens means a brighter light and less lumens means a dimmer light.

4 **Wattage Explained:**
Wattage indicates the amount of power used to illuminate the bulb. This is different from how much light the bulb actually emits (lumens).

5 **Voltage explained:**
120 vs 220 For residential applications, you will need to know the difference between 120v and 220v. 120 volt service is used for lights, outlets, and small appliances like microwaves, televisions, and irons.

6 **LED vs Non LED:**
Light emitting diode lights (LEDs) are Incandescent lights produce light by heating a wire filament to a specific temperature. Light Emitting diodes, or LEDs, do not have filaments.

7 **Watts**
Watts indicates the amount of power used to illuminate the bulb.

8 **Beam Spread**
Beam spread is the amount of space a light covers from different distances.

9 **Dimming vs. non-dimming**
Dimmable LEDs have special circuitry that makes them able to respond to changing phase forms that produce the dimming effect.

10 **Energy cost / lifetime / watt conversion**
If you're looking to save money in the long run, it is wise to invest in LED lights. They cost more money upfront, but they are 75% more efficient than traditional lights.

BUTLER LIGHTING'S RECOMMENDATIONS PER TYPE OF BULB (OR APPLICATION)

It is always a risk when you buy light bulbs from big box stores or other outlet stores. For example, not all LED light bulbs from these stores are rated accurately or the same as the bulbs from professional lighting stores.

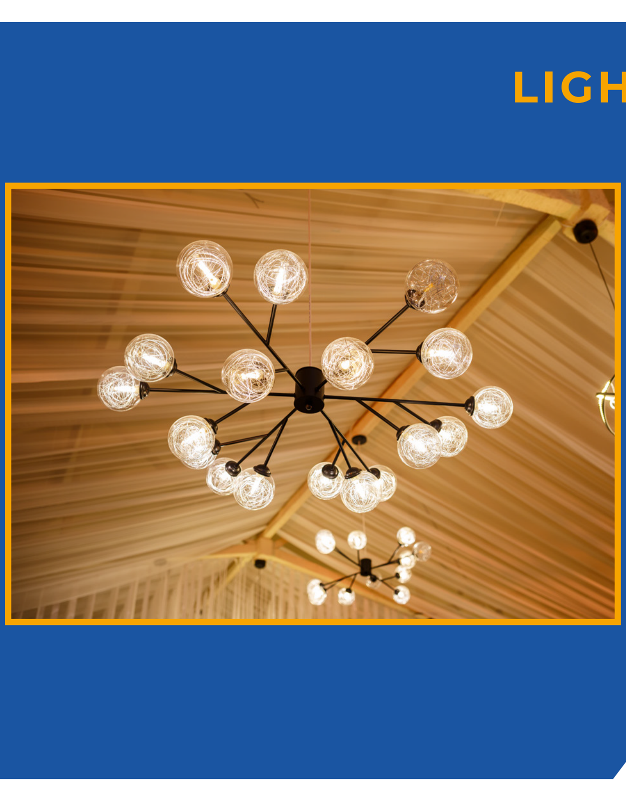
Butler Lighting strongly recommends these lighting brands:

- Halco
- Satco
- Elegant / Elitco
- Bulbrite

WHY BUTLER?

We at Butler Lighting have been fulfilling the lighting needs of our customers since 1948. Whether you need lighting for your home, multi-family project, or restaurant, we can provide whatever lighting that you need. We will work within your budget to get your lighting to a state that you will love. As a family-run business, we put an emphasis on communication and a commitment to hard work. We at Butler work with over 150 vendors to and we can handle any lighting job you can throw at us. If you have a lighting job, or a job that requires fans that needs to be finished contact us today, and we'll take your lighting to the next level.

LIGHTBULBFAQS



How can you tell the wattage of a light bulb?
All light bulbs will have the wattage rating printed somewhere on the glass or on the metal collar of the bulb.

What are the 3 types of light bulbs?
The three types of light bulbs are incandescent, fluorescent, and LEDs.

CONTACT US

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