



K&H Industries, Inc.

The Permanent Name in Temporary Lighting & Power

8656 Delameter Road, Angola, New York

Phone: 716-549-0135 • Fax: 716-549-2725 • www.khindustries.com

Choosing the proper work light for your environment and application

Selecting the right work light for your application is a critical component to ensuring a safe and well lit work environment. Determining the right work light is based on several factors including type of application, environment the light will be used in, light output, color rendering required, and durability.

First consider both the **application and environment** before determining the proper work light. There are many types of work lights on the market and the first step is to determine if you need a general duty work light, industrial grade work light, or task specific work light.

Types of Work Lights:

General Duty Work Lights: Most commonly used for light duty repair and inspection work on an occasional basis. Look for a work light with non-energized and impact-resistant plastic or rubber housing. The bulb needs to be enclosed in a plastic tubeshield to protect against potential bulb breakage. The handle should be easy to grip and depending on the size of the light one to two integrated hanging hooks should be included. The cord should be rated SJT. Bulbs typically come in fluorescent or LED, in varying wattages/lumen output.



Industrial Grade Work Lights – Used on a frequent basis for extended periods of time in dry or damp environments. Look for a work light with a weather-resistant construction, impact resistant lens, and rubber end cap and handles to eliminate the risk of electrical shock. An industrial grade work light will need to withstand damage when accidental drops and falls occur. A good quality industrial grade work light will have built-in shock absorbers and integrated tubeshields that contains the bulb in the event of breakage. The handle should be easy to grip and one to two integrated hanging hooks should be included. The cord will need to be SJO rated (oil and water resistant). Bulbs typically come in fluorescent or LED, in varying wattages/lumen output.

Considerations for barrel-inspection lights would be environmental specific, such as:

- Is the light being used in a Hazardous Environment as defined by section 500 of the National Electric Code (NEC)?

- Is the light being used in a dry or damp environment?
- Should the work light be mounted on a retractable cord reel for tangle-free storage?
- Would a pull-to-light feature assist the operator?

Other considerations when selecting a work light:

Electrical Operation

Work lights can be 120v or 12VDC battery operated; both modes of electrical operation have pros and cons. 120v offers the most reliable illumination with no downtime due to low batteries; the con is that you need an outlet. 12VDC – no outlet is required, but batteries run out and replacements can be expensive.

Light Output and Color Rendering:

Work lights come in various lumen/wattage outputs with either fluorescent bulbs or Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs). Your bulb selection should be based on the desired brightness and the type of color rendering required. Fluorescent bulbs offer cool, natural, and shadow-free lighting and are commonly used for work/task lighting. LEDs are becoming increasingly popular because of the long bulb life and intense lumen output.

Longevity:

Simply put, your work light is a tool that you need to depend on for years. The light needs to be made from durable materials that can withstand breakage from accidental drops and falls. Its major components should be made with standard parts that the end user or certified electrician can purchase and/or repair themselves or have the option of a manufacturer's repair program that goes beyond the warranty period.

K&H Industries offers a full line of dependable and durable work lights,

Call today 716-549-0135

Or visit our online selection: [K&H Portable Work Lights](#)