

Please Note

These "Technical Tips" help sheets aim to answer commonly asked questions in a concise and informative manner - they are for advice & guidance only and do not replace any of the manuals or other literature supplied with our products.

Tip Classification

1. Cameras
2. Lighting - InfraRed Lighting

Product : IR LIGHT/CAMERA

Problem : The IR light on my camera is not working

Solution :

Often people think the IR LEDS are not working because they don't get the illumination they expected. (They think it will be a floodlight and it's better described as a "torch-light")

To PROVE that the IR-LED's are coming on at night do one of the following;

1- TWO person TEST - At night one person watches the monitor and the other puts their face next to the dome (about 1mtr away), on the monitor the persons face will be illuminated just like a torch is shining on it if the IR-LED's are working.

2- ONE person TEST - To test it with one person, AT NIGHT put a white or brown paper bag over the dome then check the picture. If the picture is all white then the LED are working and you are seeing the IR light reflecting off the bag. Please note - you won't get an actual picture as the bag stops the camera seeing anything!

Few paper bags are thick enough to obscure all daylight to mimic night time so its difficult to do this test in the day. If you wish to test the camera's IR LED function in the day, cover the camera with aluminium foil (cooking foil). This will prevent ANY daylight getting to the camera and trigger the IR LEDS to come on. Again, if you see a bright white "picture" you are seeing the LED's reflecting back off the foil proving they are working.

If you prove the IR LED's are working and you still don't get the night time performance you require you have two choices;

A - Add more "conventional" illumination. Metal-Halide lights are low cost to run and produce a nice "white light" ideal for CCTV.

B - Add more IR lighting. Remember, if you want the equivalent IR illumination as a 500W floodlight you would need a 500W IR light! That would be a big IR light!!!

IR illumination is great if its not oversold on its benefits. Its ideal for close up illumination of porches, entrances etc. Where longer distance applications are needed plan the installation with care to avoid disappointment.

In general always think of IR-illuminators as "torch-beams" of different powers NOT as floodlights.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

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Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3