

# LIVING GREEN NEWS

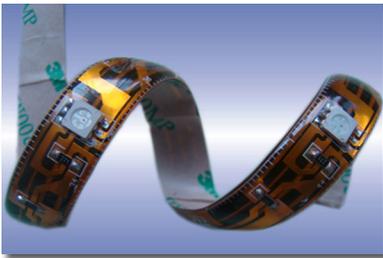
Volume 5, Number 11  
November 2012

Brought to you by



## LED Ribbon Lights

Lighting matters. The lighting in a movie theater should differ from the lighting at a holiday dinner with loved ones, which in turn should contrast the lighting in an operating room in a hospital. When lighting your home or office, think about what you and your guests want to experience in the locations you illuminate.



For a more modern alternative to the ceiling lights and table lamps, consider easily concealable LED ribbon lights for indirect lighting and visually appealing ambiance that lets the

viewer enjoy what is being illuminated as opposed to the fixture itself. This relatively new innovation gives off a bright, even light that can last as long as 30,000-50,000 hours based on the chosen brand, type, and use. They emit little to no heat when in use and have a low voltage (12 or 24 volts). The low power consumption renders them energy efficient, reducing the electric bill.

There are two main varieties: single color and color changing RGB (Red Green Blue). They come in blue, green, red, yellow, UV black light, and three shades of white (warm, cool, and pure white). The color changing LED ribbon lights are capable of being programmed using

a control unit to glow in a single color or can adjust between colors using multiple effects that can even be coordinated to music for occasions such as the holidays. They are dimmable with the use of controllers, transformers, drivers, or switches. Being a practical source of light, LED ribbon lights can also be used to accent or highlight.



Furthermore, LED ribbon lights can be connected up to 30 feet on one power supply with the use of quick connectors at marked interval points. Alternatively, they can be cut to size at marked intervals. Only install according to local electrical code requirements. When in doubt, call an electrician.



Thin and flexible with double-sided adhesive for easy peel and stick installation, the lights can be placed almost anywhere. Some are even designed to be water resistant for damp locations or exposure to water. Here are just a few placement suggestions:

- Home or building exterior for holidays or decoration
  - ▲ decks, patios, & balconies
  - ▲ path & sidewalk markings
  - ▲ backlit signs
  - ▲ swimming pools & water features
- Elegant home or building interior decoration
  - ▲ cabinets & cupboards
  - ▲ multilevel ceilings

- ▲ crown molding
- ▲ show cases & shelves
- ▲ backlit wall art
- ▲ acrylic blocks
- ▲ hallways
- Architectural decorative lighting, stairway accent lighting, and bars

Whatever is used to light an area, look for the IP rating to be sure the fixture is appropriate for the area it is being installed in. IP ratings measure durability against solid objects or materials, liquid, and mechanical impacts. Also, check to see if it has been UL approved, which is an indicator of being independently tested to meet certain safety standards.

## Robert Frost Quotes:

"A successful lawsuit is the one worn by a policeman."

"Half the world is composed of people who have something to say and can't, and the other half who have nothing to say and keep on saying it."

"Happiness makes up in height for what it lacks in length."