



## Top Tips for Lighting Art



At TM Lighting we are passionate about art and light. Our mission is to transform art collections with light and we are keen to educate collectors about the advances in lighting technology. At our London studios, we design and manufacture the best quality LED lighting to bring museum grade lighting to the home, as well as heritage properties, galleries and institutions.

Our expert approach and meticulous attention to detail brings art to life using the latest and most sophisticated energy-efficient LED technology, defined by careful selection of LEDs, resulting in unrivalled colour rendition and light distribution.

## 1 COLOUR

The most important thing about your art is how it looks. Light is the tool that allows us to see art and having the correct type of light is crucial to allowing us to perceive depth, texture, detail, vibrancy and colour. We have created a simple guide when using LED to help select the best lighting for your art. We call this the THREE C's:

### **Colour Rendition**

Choose a high CRI 95+ product. Not all light sources are equal. Colour rendition is a quantitative measure of the ability of a light source to render the colours of various objects faithfully in comparison with a natural light source. Daylight (natural light) is used as the benchmark 100 CRI (100%). When choosing LEDs for lighting art, we recommend 95+ CRI.

### **Colour Temperature**

Choose a warmth of light suitable for your environment. LED lighting is available in various warmth's of light. These can affect the look and feel of an artwork and its environment.

2700K (incandescent white) - suitable for homes and lifestyle projects  
3000K (neutral warm white) - suitable for contemporary art galleries and commercial spaces  
4000K (cool white) - suitable for contemporary galleries, also great for viewing silver and diamonds.

### **Colour Consistency**

Choose a reputable manufacturer. Make sure to choose the same colour and quality of light across your collection to ensure a consistent appearance of your collection.







## 2 BRIGHTNESS

We all have an idea of how bright our art should be lit. This is a matter of taste. It is important however, that we don't over light and damage the pigments and colour in artworks.

Watercolours, fabric, leather and other natural materials are the most delicate. The pigments in oils and acrylics can generally take more light, and metals, glass and other hard materials can generally take the full brightness of artificial lights. We can measure the brightness to set the correct levels. We always ensure that a canvas is as evenly lit as possible, this allows greater control of the light intensity on the canvas.

## 3 CONSERVATION

LED is an ideal light source for conservation because they are generally only made up of the visible light spectrum - they do not contain ultraviolet (UV) or infrared (IR) light which can cause significant fading. LED also generally does not produce forward heat. Heat is also a damaging factor in conservation.

## 4 REFLECTION

Even with the best anti-reflective glazing, there can still be reflection and glare on artworks. Reflection can be minimised by considering the position of the lighting, and the location of your artwork within the room. Consider the main positions where you will view your artwork and always try to make sure that any reflections would not be directly viewed. By placing your lighting correctly, you can help reduce visible reflections in artworks. Additionally, avoid placing glazed artworks directly opposite large windows.

## 5 LIGHTING STYLES

Lighting can help create the atmosphere, presentation and feel of your collection. Here are a few styles to consider:

### Collector

Light every piece specifically using individual lights per artwork

### Casual

Select a key picture within a group, light this with a pool of light and let light spill onto your other works

### Intermediate

Use accent lights to project a wash of light across a group of artworks

## 6 ENVIRONMENT

Lighting is dependent on the artwork and its environment.

**In a classical setting** consider using picture lights instead of spotlights. Both have their own benefits but the use of picture lights provides a more precise lighting tool in comparison with spotlights, which can create scallops of light above the artwork.

**In a contemporary environment,** there may be more flexibility to use a discreet track and spotlight solution. This will give greater flexibility in the lighting scheme particularly if the client has a rolling/curated art collection.







## 7 FINISH

The finish of the lights should be considered. If using picture lights, consider using a finish to match other features in the room such as door handles, or other light fixtures. Alternatively, match the finish of the picture light to the frame, or wall colour to create a subtle, seamless look. All solutions will work equally well in both settings if the finishes are correctly selected for the environment.

## 8 SCULPTURE & OBJECTS

When lighting three-dimensional artwork and sculptures use spotlights in specific positions to work with light and shadow. This can accentuate the form of the sculpture. Poorly positioned lighting on a sculpture can completely change the intent of a piece - a face could look sad, or happy just from an incorrectly positioned light.

## TM PICTURE LIGHTS

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TM Picture Lights, developed in response to recent energy-saving legislation, use the finest quality energy efficient LED technology to illuminate artwork evenly. All TM Picture Lights feature the same technology and adjustable light source within different housings and finishes.



**TM**  
GOODWOOD



**TM**  
SLIMLIGHT PRO

## TM ACCENT LIGHTS

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TM Accent Lights are available in a range of sizes and finishes, and have been specifically designed to partner with the TM Picture Light range, sharing the same quality of light and high 96+ CRI colour rendition which brings art to life.



**TM**  
ZEROSIXTY



**TM**  
RIVOFORTY (NEW)

To see the full range of TM Picture Lights and Accent Lights available, please visit our website or request a brochure.

# TM LIGHTING FOUNDERS

Directors Harry Triggs and Andrew Molyneux founded TM Lighting in 2012.



Bringing 30 years' combined experience in lighting and product design, the TM Lighting approach and meticulous attention to detail, brings art to life using the latest and most sophisticated, LED energy-efficient technology, defined by careful selection of LEDs, resulting in unrivalled colour rendition and light distribution.

TM Lighting works with the most prestigious collectors and institutions throughout the world. Recent commissions include: The Rothschild Foundation, English Heritage, Historic Royal Palaces, Masterpiece London and Damien Hirst's Venice exhibition, *Treasures from the Wreck of the Unbelievable*.



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