

Lowel Rifa[®] eXchange[®] Instructions





damage material. Do not operate while fixture is damp.		
■ Do not fold Diffuser when storing. Roll it up onto supplied cardboard tube to prevent cracking.	Lamp Code V	
	LC-44EX – Maxir	
	JCV14.5-50WC 12	
Lamp Warnings	GCC	
Always unnlug unit and allow	GCB	

unplug unit and allow it to cool before lamping, changing lampheads, storing. Avoid touching glass with bare fingers. Insert lamps carefully to avoid breaking. Lamps must be pressed firmly and fully into socket. Not doing so will cause socket damage and shortened lamp life.

Do not exceed maximum

Make certain to attach

Never touch hot parts.

Units such as this emit

to faces, delicate objects or

flammable materials.

Do not use near

head use Safety Cables. Unplug before cleaning

Clean with a damp cloth only,

rated wattage for unit.

for voltage being used.

ventilation.

Never exceed maximum rated wattage of unit.

Rifa-44EX socket is designed to accept lamps with 2 different pin configurations. Use extra caution when installing & removing lamps, contacts may be stiff at first.



			Lamp/Beam Data				
/olts	Watts	°K A	lvg Life	FC(lux) 5'	FC(lux)10'		
imum	500w						
120	500	3200	300 hr	72 (778)	19 (209)		
120	500	3000	2000 hr	69 (745)	18 (198)		
220	500	3000	2000 hr	78 (846)	21 (228)		
240	500	3000	2000 hr	66 (710)	17 (188)		
LC-66EX – Maximum 750w (May also use lamps for LC-55EX)							
120	750	3200	300 hr	109 (1180)	30 (326)		
120	750	3000	2000 hr	89 (962)	24 (262)		
240	650	3200	300 hr	92 (990)	25 (270)		
LC-88EX – Maximum 1000w (May also use lamps for LC-66EX)							
120	1000	3200	300 hr	195 (2110)	56 (608)		
240	1000	3200	150 hr	160 (1730)	45 (491)		
240	1000	3200	150 hr	148 (1598)	40 (432)		
	imum 120 120 220 240 imum 120 120 240 imum 120 240	imum 500w 120 500 120 500 220 500 240 500 imum 750w (N 120 750 120 750 240 650 imum 1000w (N 120 1000 240 1000	Imum 500w 120 500 3200 120 500 3000 220 500 3000 240 500 3000 imum 750w (May also 120 750 3200 120 750 3000 240 650 3200 120 750 3000 240 650 3200 120 700w (May also 120 1000 3200 240 1000 3200	Volts Watts °K Avg Life imum 500w 120 500 3200 300 hr 120 500 3000 2000 hr 120 500 3000 2000 hr 240 500 3000 2000 hr 120 750 3000 300 hr 120 1000 3200 300 hr 120 1000 3200 300 hr 120 1000 3200 300 hr	Volts °K Avg Life FC(lux) 5' imum 500w 120 500 3200 300 hr 72 (778) 120 500 3000 2000 hr 69 (745) 220 500 3000 2000 hr 78 (846) 240 500 3000 2000 hr 66 (710) imum 750w (May also use lamps for LC-55f 120 750 3000 2000 hr 89 (962) 240 650 3200 300 hr 199 (1180) 120 750 3000 2000 hr 89 (962) 240 650 3200 300 hr 92 (990) imum 1000w (May also use lamps for LC-66) 100 3200 300 hr 92 (902) 240 1000 3200 300 hr 195 (2110) 240 240 1000 3200 150 hr 160 (1730)		

NOTE: Above lamps are for Standard lampheads as supplied with models of Rifa eX System and pre-2007 models of Rifa-lite. See instructions for Accessory Lampheads or www.lowel.com for information on use and different lamp options.



Warning: Do not pull power cable to open light. Doing so may damage the cable & fixture. Make sure fixture is unplugged before setup.

Remove the Rifa eX unit from its sleeve and mount and lock on suitable stand.

 Release tilt lock handle, tilt light to horizontal, relock tilt handle, release the Velcro strap around the folded assembly.

Reaffix the strap to itself. Unfurl Rifa-lite reflector material until assembly loosens. Loosen thumbscrew located on back end of fixture. While holding the assembly base push the socket/lamp cage assembly (avoid touching lamp) inward until the

assembly "click-locks" into position. Tighten thumbscrew clockwise to lock fixture open. Warning: The fixture must be locked open before using, failure to do so may cause the fixture to close during operation, damaging the fixture. Note: Make sure tilt lock handle is on left side when viewed from rear, this will cause lock to tighten if light droops forward on stand. Orient on stand with one leg extending straight out under Rifa for best balance.

For increased balance, use Rifa Balance Bar accessory. Attach diffuser panel by placing it over the front of the light inserting the corner pins of the reflector frame through the grommets of the diffuser, securing it with Velcro strips located around the reflector. Never use more than one diffuser at a time.

Always operate Rifa-lite with diffuser panel in place. Attach 16' extending

(switched) power cord to captive cable IEC connector.

To remove standard (supplied) lamphead, make sure fixture is

unplugged & cool to touch. With diffuser removed, fixture open, on

stand, hold rear fixture stem, and push in & twist lamphead to release.

Model

Rifa eX 88

Rifa eX 66

Rifa eX 55

Rifa eX 44



bayonet pin / cutout alignment.

eXchange[™] System Accessory Lampheads (See eXchange System Lamphead Instructions Sheet for more information)



TH-X1000 Standard lamphead supplied with Rifa eX 55, 66, & 88. Can not be used with Rifa eX 44

TH-X300

For all Rifa eX models

Standard lamphead that is supplied with the Rifa eX 44. It will also fit the other models of Rifa eX as an accessory head, allowing use of lower wattage, as well as some lower voltage DC powered, lamps.

Wattage	/	Voltage
125 - 300W	at	120V
235 - 300W	at	240V
50 - 100W	at	12V
200W	at	30V

Attaching Soft Egg Crates

Soft Fabric Egg Crates are a valuable accessory for controlling the aproximately 80° beam angle of Rifa, which can cause unintended light spill in other areas of your shot.

They can also help prevent a moving subject from becoming overlit

as they approach the light. Egg Crates are available in 3 different dispersion angles (30, 40 & 50 degree) for each model of Rifa. Egg Crates will lower output of Rifa eX.



FLO-X1

(27W or less)

27W at 120/240V

27W at 120/240V

Wattage / Voltage

For all Rifa eX models

This accessory lamphead is designed to take

screw-thread edison base (normal household

socket) daylight fluorescent lamps. It will also

allow use of low wattage incandescent lamps

27W or 80W @ 120/240V. 65W @ 120V

1 Unfold Egg Crate accessory. With the

27W at 120/240V or 65W at 120V



For all Rifa eX models

It is not necessary to remove supplied Standard Lamphead when storing or transporting Rifa eX.

FLO-X3

This accessory lamphead is designed to take screw-thread edison base (normal household socket) daylight fluorescent lamps, switched separately.

Lowel Rifa eX uses quick-swapping accessory lampheads of the eXchange System, to increase versatility in lamps & output.

Wattage / Voltage	Model
27W or 80W @ 120/240V, 65W @ 120V	Rifa eX 88
27W or 80W @ 120/240V, 65W @ 120V	Rifa eX 66
27W or 80W @ 120/240V, 65W @ 120V	Rifa eX 55
27W at 120/240V	Rifa eX 44

Packing & Storing Rifa eX Unplug light and allow to cool for at least five minutes before disassembly.

Detach Soft Egg Crate (if used) and front diffuser. To prevent damage to the diffuser, wrap material around tube and place in pocket of light storage sleeve.

Accessory flourescent lampheads & lamps will prevent Rifa eX from collapsing fully. Remove lamps and head before collapsing. Place supplied protective caps on head & post.

LO-X5

Use same method to install accessory head, taking note of proper

For Rifa eX 88 only Uses screw-thread edison base lamps. Designed for maximum output from Rifa eX 88, especially when used with the 80w lamp. Use with Rifa Balance Bar for improved balance on stand.

Wattage / Voltage Model 27W or 80W @ 120/240V, 65W @ 120V Rifa eX 88

Hold stand mounting bracket, loosen thumbscrew on mounting arm assembly and push shaft forward until frame has collapsed. Smooth reflector material, and secure with Velcro strap, tilt light down, remove unit from light stand and place in sleeve.

Rifa eX Beam Angles with Soft Egg Crates (Beam Angle = Point at which intensity drops to 50% of maximum) Rifa alone - 75°



Rifa with 50° Egg Crate

Rifa with 40° Egg Crate

Rifa with 30° Egg Crate



An Introduction to Rifa eX for the New Pro

The Rifa eX is a dedicated soft light, with quick set-up and beautiful output. With a little practice, good results are easy to achieve.

First, a brief overview...

Soft light is soft because the size of its source is large when compared to the size of the subject being lit. The larger the ratio of light source size to subject size, the softer the light. If you stand outside on an overcast day, you will have very little shadow because the size of the source (the whole sky) is so much larger than you are.

Hard light is hard because the size of its source is small when compared to the subject being lit. In a fixture such as a Pro-light, the physical size of the source is much smaller. This makes the light very directional and as a result, the shadows it throws are sharper. A clear sunny day will result in sharper shadows because of the smaller (harder) source.

Distance from source to

object becomes a factor in sharpness as well. The further away from the subject the source is, the smaller the source appears to be & therefore the harder its shadows.

Rifa eX Models There are 4 models of Rifa, with front diffusers in sizes of

- 16 x 16" (Rifa 44-EX)
- 21 x 21" (Rifa 55-EX)
- 25 x 25" (Rifa 66-EX)
- 32 x 32" (Rifa 88-EX)

So logically, at same distance, the 88 will be softest of all because its source (the lit diffuser) is the largest.



Soft source close = Softest shadow



Same soft source further back = Less soft shadow

Directional Sources have smaller surfaces



Direct (small) source = Hardest shadows

Rifa eX 55, 66, & 88 all use the same standard lamphead & socket.

While you should never use higher wattage lamps than the maximum recommended for each model, you can use lower wattage lamps in the larger models for increased softness at the same wattage / output.

For example, using the 500 watt EHC lamp in the Rifa eX 55 at a distance of 5 feet will give you 72 foot candles of light with the amount of softness from a 24 square inch source, yet using the same 500 watt EHC lamp in the Rifa 88 from a distance of 5 feet, will give you the aprox. the same 72 foot candles of light, yet a greater amount of softness because its now coming from a larger 32 square inch source.

The TH-X300 Accessory Lamphead can quickly swap to allow greater use of lower wattage lamps in larger sized Rifa's, to reduce output while retaining softness. It is the supplied standard lamphead for Rifa eX 44

Postitioning the Rifa

Soft light falls off in output strength much more quickly than a hard source of identical wattage, because the soft source is so much larger in size (light is dispersed in a wider direction). As a result, soft sources, like Rifa are designed to be used fairly close to the subject. This can create problems of light spill on the areas behind the subject. The first step in minimizing background spill is to move the subject away from walls, by 6 feet or so if possible. This will allow a light placed on a stand higher than the subject to fall off towards the floor, before hitting the wall. Another situation that can arise as a result of using soft sources close to the subject is fluctuation in exposure level that can occur if the subject moves back & forth in relation to the light source. With the source being so close, its effect can be noticable in the camera. An easy solution to this, which can also help reduce the light spill described previously, is to add an accessory fabric egg crate to the front of the light. Soft fabric egg crates are available in different degrees of dispersion, so where the Rifa's have an output that will cast light in almost 180 degrees (with the strongest portion of the output being in the center 70-75 degrees), the egg crates will trim this to either 30, 40 or 50 degrees, depending on the model of egg crate used. They do a great job of preventing the subject from "burning up" if they happen to get too close to the light source for your exposure. Mixing with daylight

Using Fabric Egg Crates

For setups when you are shooting in a room that also has windows, where the desire is to mix the output of the Rifa with daylight, there are 2 options.

First, using Accessory eXchange Lampheads, you have the option of removing the supplied tungsten-halogen lamphead and swapping to one of several heads that take screw-threaded daylight fluorescent lamps. Use only professional photography lamps, such as our 'On-Color' 80w, not hardware store specials. They may be "daylight" but their low Color Rendering Index will mean poor color rendtiton across the light spectrum. See eXchange System Lamphead Instructions Sheet or lowel.com for more information.

The second option involves using some level of daylight color correction gel. The goal is to match the warmer 3200k tungsten lamp in the Rifa, with the cooler daylight color (5000-6500k). Because daylight can vary in color, depending on whether its direct sun, overcast clouds, blue sky or any combination of the above, you will need to choose either 1/4, 1/2 or full day blue to most closely match the Rifa to the daylight in the room. Rifa Day Blue Gels are custom cut to fit the Rifa's. They are sized to cover the front diffuser with enough excess to allow them to be clipped to the velcro pockets on the side of the light. You can use clothespins, Lowel Gel-jawz, or any small spring loaded clip.

These are just some starting suggestions.

For an in-depth understanding of the creative decisions involved in the art of lighting, we suggest a visit to Lowel's EDU section at lowel.com. You will find an in-depth lesson on using the eXchange lampheads of Rifa eX.



Basic Starter Setups using Rifa eX



A 1 Rifa, 1 Tota-light

Setup 1

9:00

To light an interview subject with the Rifa eX alone, You can place the light at a 45° angle, 2-3 feet higher than the subject, with the light tilted down towards the subject. From there, you can arc the angle of the Rifa-lite out in either direction from 6:00 (at camera - this will give the most even lighting) to either 3:00 or 9:00, depending on how much dramatic contrast & fall off you want in your shot. Place the broad throw Tota so it lights the background without spilling onto the subject.

Camera

1 Rifa, 1 Pro-light, 1 Tota-light

To light an interview subject with 1 Rifa eX and 1 Pro-light (250w focusable hard source), try using the Pro-light as a back light to give the subject separation from the background. Vary the angle to the subject while keeping the 2 lights facing each other for increased dramatic results. As you approach a 9:00 / 3:00 placement, the Pro becomes a hard / dramatic key, as the Rifa becomes soft fill. Note: watch for lens flare from the back light (Pro). Place the broad throw Tota so it lights the background without spilling onto the subject.

Setup Keys: A Rifa eX with 250 - 500W lamp B Pro-light with 100 - 250W lamp C Tota-light with 300 - 500W lamp

B

3:00

Lowel Rifa[®] eXchange[®] Accessories





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