

TECH STUFF



Sign Lighting

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Courtesy of Dick's Sporting Goods - Kenwood TownCenter, Cincinnati Ohio

Lighting a sign is much like lighting any other task once you break it down into its basic parts.

Sign illumination is one of those jobs that baffles a lot of people as they try and address the lighting aspects of a typical retail project. This subject, like most issues dealing with photometrics, is shrouded in mystery and misunderstanding. The truth is lighting a sign is much like lighting any task once you break it down into its basic parts; angles, distance, and intensity.

And matching the right lamp with the right fixture makes the job done correctly look fairly easy. It is a fact that a good lighting job is one in which your attention isn't drawn to the fixture, but rather to the object being lighted. But given that many times the fixture is

required to be an intrinsic part of the design, Abolite has developed a large selection of fixtures and the decorative gooseneck brackets. This then allows the designer freedom of choice in carrying out his theme. And with the ***standard Wet Location Option*** and ***PG3 Globes***, this can be indoors or outdoors in the standard RLM Series.

Today, the mall has expanded the application of sign lighting far beyond what it was just a few years ago. And this can be done by Abolite in CFL Compact Fluorescent (32/42W), low wattage Metal Halide (50/70/100W), and Incandescent in wattage's up to 200 Watts.

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Getting down to basics is a matter of first putting things into perspective. The center of the sign will determine placement of the fixture. Once this is defined, then next you locate the position of the outlet box to which the RLM/Gooseneck will attach. The fixture of choice would be the *Abolite AD Series* mounted to the *GB A 3 WHT*.

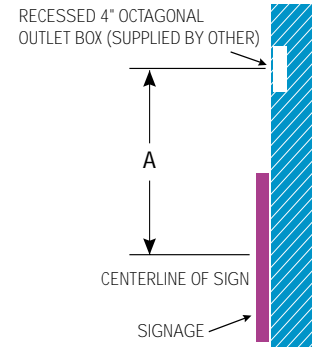
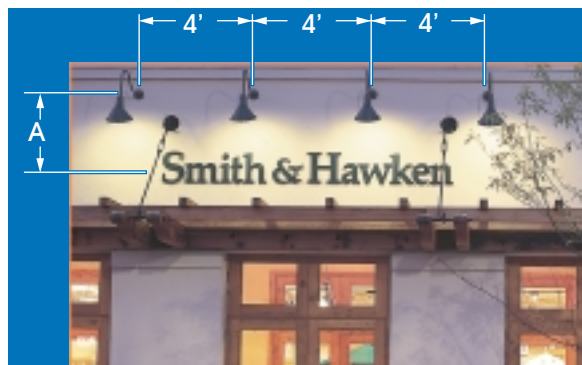
Small lamps allow fixtures like the Abolite Bistro Series to become part of the architectural statement

Now, let us talk about small signs and fixtures. Small signs require small fixtures and lamps. These small medium base, low wattage PAR-16 and PAR-20 lamps come in spot and flood patterns that are controlled by the lamp itself.

Available from GE Lighting, Osram Sylvania, and Philips, these small lamps allow fixtures like the *Abolite Bistro Series* to become part of the architectural statement the designer is using. The fixture can now enhance the design rather than being a necessary element of project.

Incandescent halogen lamps offer one advantage over most other lamp types; they are available in small sizes, wattage's, and a wide variety of predetermined light patterns. This allows the fixture to become a decorative architectural element rather than a means of controlling light distribution. Simply position a standard 4" recessed outlet box to mount the fixture bracket and small signs can be done quite easily. Please refer to the following sketch for proper fixture placement. The important thing is to focus the lamp on the particular part of the display or sign you wish to illuminate.

ABOLITE AD SERIES MOUNTED TO GB A 3

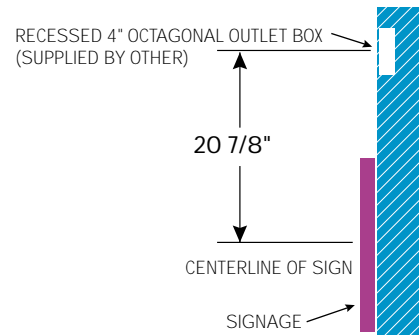


<u>Abolite Fixture</u>	<u>Gooseneck Bracket</u>	<u>"A"</u>
AD100	GB A 3 WHT	34-1/4"
AD150	GB A 3 WHT	35-3/4"
AD200	GB A 3 WHT	37-1/4"

If the size of the sign precludes the GB A 3 bracket then 1 of the many other Abolite Gooseneck Brackets could be selected.

Lateral spacing of multiple Abolite brackets is preferred to be 4 ft. on centers across the width of the sign. For a 24' wide sign, 6 fixtures would be required spaced 4' on centers. The suggested lamp would be 42W Compact Fluorescent (CFL) or 50W Metal Halide (MH). It is recommended that these lamps be used in conjunction with the "PG3" Globe Option.

ABOLITE BISTRO SERIES MOUNTED TO NEW MINI-GOOSNECK BRACKET



<u>Wattage</u>	<u>Lamp Size</u>	<u>Beam Pattern</u>
50	PAR-20	NSP-Narrow Spot (10°)
50	PAR-20	NFL-Narrow Flood (27°)
45/60/75	PAR-16	NSP-Narrow Spot (10°)
45/60/75	PAR-16	NFL-Narrow Flood (27°)

In this example the Bistro Series Mounted on a mini bracket GB L 1 WHT would attach to a recessed outlet box. The box would be located 20-7/8" above the center of the sign for proper illumination of the sign.

It is also important to be aware of the materials that the sign is made of. If of a high gloss finish, the light may reflect into the eyes of anyone looking at the display. The resulting "disability glare" not makes the display or sign difficult to see, but may in fact cause people to turn away rather than being attracted. On the other hand, gold leaf letters on a dull background will attract attention; one person's glare is another's glitter.



Courtesy of Phillips Lighting Co.

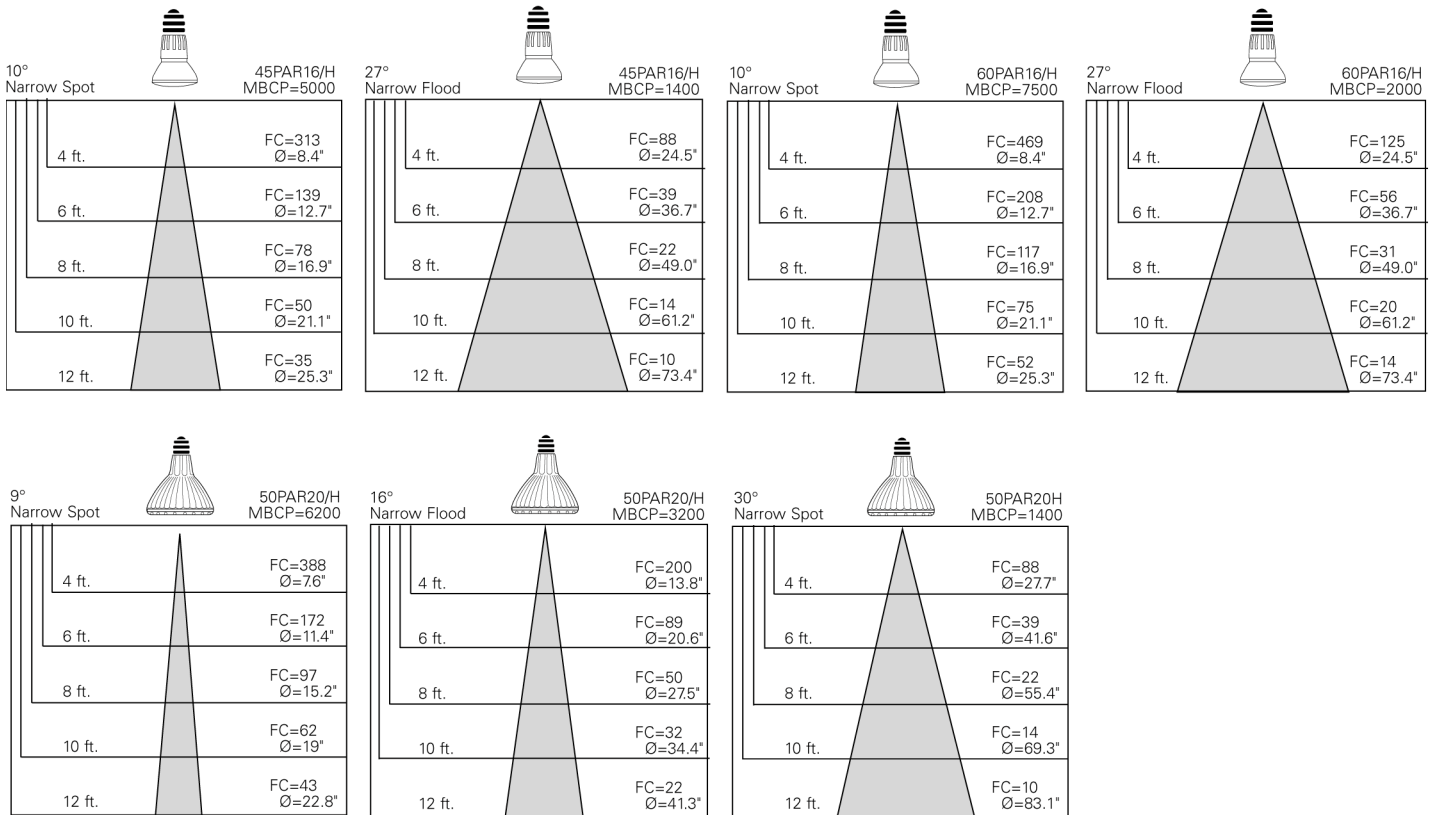


Courtesy of Osram Sylvania

CAPSYLITE® DESIGNER PAR-16 LAMPS

PRE-FOCUSED PAR-16 LAMPS WITH THEIR SELF CONTAINED DISTRIBUTION DON'T RELY ON THE FIXTURE FOR BEAM PATTERN. THEY ARE AVAILABLE IN BOTH SPOT OR FLOOD PATTERNS. BELOW ARE THE TYPICAL CANDLEPOWER DISTRIBUTIONS AVAILABLE FROM PHILIPS WITH THEIR PAR16 LAMPS.

Light Distribution – Candlepower Distribution



MBCP = Maximum Beam Candlepower Ø = Diameter of beam spread in inches FC = Footcandles measured at 0°



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