

Tip: Bluetooth, Gold Mount

Versatile LED Examination Lights and Accessories

The Litepanels Astra 6x 105W Bi-Color LED lights and their associated accessories are a versatile, easy to use lighting system that can be upgraded over time.

These LEDs are reliable to use. The light quality is even and consistent with a color-rendering index (CRI) of 98. The light is adjusted using the intensity and color-temperature controlling rheostats. The color temperatures range between 3200K and 5600K. The change between working, photography, and gallery lighting conditions can be made in a matter of seconds.

The light can be further modified with accessories such as gel filters or screens. These 1x1 LED panel accessories can be found from a variety of manufacturers.



Fig. 1. Imaging of a Minotaure periodical before treatment. Shown in use are three LED Litepanels lights with diffusing gel or honeycomb grid filters. All lights are being controlled by an iPad with SLD app. Image courtesy of Ashley Stanford.

Litepanels' Bluetooth adapters and the SmartLite Director (SLD) app work with the lab's existing Apple iPad devices to allow for

remote lighting controls of multiple lights at once (fig. 1). This method is useful when streamlining workflows to be more suited to small teams or spaces.

The lab plans to upgrade the lamp further by adding gold mount wireless battery adapters to eliminate the need for cords. This will be useful for projects where outlet placement may be prohibitive or extension cords would be unwieldy.

SOURCES OF MATERIALS

The exact products in use for this set-up are listed below with manufacturer websites listed where possible.

Litepanels equipment can be found at <https://www.litepanels.com/en/products/astra/>

- Astra 6X Bi-Color LED Panel
- Astra Bluetooth Communication Module (with Smartlite Director application)
- 1x1 Individual Gel – Opal Frost Diffusion
- A/B Gold Mount Battery Bracket with P-Tap to 3-pin XLR cable

Other Accessories

- Avenger Roller Stand 17 with Folding Base
- Kupo Wrap & Go Shot Bag - https://www.kupogrip.com/products/wrap-and-go-shot-bag-10-lbs?_pos=1&_sid=a4437e30f&_ss=r&variant=17955936206915

- Smith-Victor Tabletop Light Stand - <https://smithvictor.com/product/tabletop-or-background-light-stand-18/>
- Intellytech Honeycomb Grid for 1x1 LED Panels - <https://www.intellytechusa.com/products/honey-grid-for-1x1-led-light-panels-choose-25-or-45-degrees>
- Core SWX X2A 2-Bay Virtual Gold Mount Battery Charger

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The opinions expressed in this tip are my own. I do not have any affiliation with or gain any benefit from Litepanels, Apple, or any other manufacturer of these or similar companies.

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