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JAN 24

## LED Lighting compared to Halogen Bulbs



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IN: ACCOMMODATION, COMMERCIAL, RESIDENCE



3 COMMENTS



Halogen bulbs may be found in numerous places in any given household, and have become quite popular over the years. They are most often used in spot lighting, such as landscaping lighting that is meant to highlight specific areas, but halogen bulbs have also been used for many other purposes around the house. These bulbs are bright and fairly inexpensive in the short term, which is the reason why they have become popular with consumers.

However, a detailed analysis of halogen lighting may surprise most consumers, because in reality, these bulbs aren't as cheap or environmentally friendly as they first appear. These shortcomings become especially significant when comparing halogen bulbs to LED lighting. The difference between LED and halogen lights is significant, and can add up to hundreds and even thousands of wasted dollars every year if the wrong solution is chosen.

With a little comparison, it is easy to see why LED is a serious contender for being the best lighting option for all your illumination needs. Let's take a closer look:

**Energy Usage**

The average household energy bill is one of the biggest monthly bills after rent or mortgage. Overall, about one third of your energy bill is likely due to lighting of the household, and in some cases, this proportion can be as much as 80 or 90 percent (depending on the appliances in your household). How many lights a household uses, how often they are switched on and off, how long they are on for – these are all factors that contribute to the final amount you pay the power company.

The cost of running any given bulb is calculated by how many watts it takes to run it continuously for an hour. LED bulbs may use anywhere from 7 – 20 watts per hour. Halogen bulbs, on the other hand, need anywhere from 35, to as much as 500 watts an hour (in some cases) to emit the same amount of light. This translates to significant savings in every energy bill you get. As a guide, Halogen Bulbs can use 9 times as much electricity as an equivalent light from an LED globe or downlight. Multiply that savings by the number of bulbs in your house or office, and it can literally add up to hundreds of dollars over the course of an average year. For an office or a large home with landscape lighting, this savings could even reach thousands of dollars per year.

**Longevity**

When compared to LED bulbs, halogen bulbs have a very short lifespan; between 1,000 – 2,000 hours. Compare that to a comparable LED light, which can burn for 50,000 hours. This means that a consumer would need to replace over 20 halogen bulbs during the same time it would take one LED to burn out. When you factor in the cost of the bulbs and the energy savings, **LED lighting blows halogen solutions out of the water**. They are simply so far apart in their efficiency, that it's like comparing an elementary school rugby player with a professional one.

**Quality**

Of course, one needs to have good lighting in all areas of the household, yet there are places where you absolutely need exceptional lighting. For example, in the kitchen, where food preparation is performed, it is essential that the lighting is up to par. Halogen bulbs do a good job with their brightness, but they create light by producing heat. Additional heat in the kitchen is the last thing many of us want.

The heat that emits from the halogen bulbs is also dangerous. Numerous household fires have been linked to the use of halogen lamps and bulbs, and young children may suffer serious skin burns from contact with lit bulbs. On the other hand, LED bulbs stay remarkably cool to the touch, no matter how long they may be employed for. They do not produce as much heat in order to emit light, because they are more efficient at converting electricity. This means added savings in your total energy bill and zero chances of accidental burns.

Halogen bulbs simply cannot provide the quality directional light of an LED. If you used halogen bulbs before, you know that the lighting quality isn't bad if you compare it to an old incandescent bulb. But LED lighting is able to provide significantly more brightness, and instead of dissipating the light, it is more effective at consolidating light into one direction, which is optimal for reading.

3 comments

Angi Baker says:  
MAY 9, 2014

Halogen bulbs produces much heat that it buns the filaments presents inside the it, hence they does not last for long time.. While led lights produces less heat ans are durable.. Nowadays, people prefer to use led lights only.. It looks better and much efficient.. I [find this](#) while searching for led lights..

[Log in to Reply](#)compactlighting  
says:  
MAY 14, 2014

Yes you are right the Halogen bulbs simply cannot provide the quality directional light of an LED. Angi Baker i agree with you now days every [people prefer to use led lights](#) only. Its also help us to reduce electricity bills.

[Log in to Reply](#)RATB says:  
JUNE 19, 2014

Bruce,

There's another benefit of LED bulbs – they can be multi voltage. The [12V-24V AC/DC 4W LED MR16 GU5.3 Bulb – Warm White \(MultiVoltage\)](#) is fantastic because you can use it on really long cable runs without

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(~~main image~~) is fantastic because you can use it on really long cable runs without the traditional decrease in brightness experienced with halogen low voltage lighting systems.

The low running cost is a huge benefit, as you rightly suggest.

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Heat Saving

Many people are not aware that older and now outmoded light fittings were so designed and constructed that they allowed huge amounts of heat to escape through the fitting itself and into the space above.

This equates to money escaping through your ceiling. In the cooler months we all try to keep the heat in but our older light fittings saw to it that the dollars invested in insulation were largely wasted.

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