

Backlighting Surfaces

United States
(Headquarters)

1320 N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard
Richmond, VA 23230
Tel: 804 355 1692
thelighttapeteam@lighttape.com

©2025 Light Tape® Electro-LuminX Lighting Corporation

Table of Contents

Backlighting Surfaces

- A1. Light Tape® Ordering Guide
- A2. Installation Guidelines
- B1. Standard Sizes
- B2. Color Options
- B3. Backlighting Top View
- C1. Installation Instructions Continued
- C2. Installation Tips
- C3. Safety and Handling



LightTape® Customer Ordering Guide: How to Specify and Order Your Backlighting System

Welcome! This guide is designed for customers new to LightTape® and outlines the process of ordering a backlighting system for countertops, islands, bathroom vanities, or any translucent stone application.

Step 1: Confirm Stone Compatibility

- LightTape® is ideal for highly translucent stones.
- Semi-translucent or opaque materials will not deliver the same illumination quality.
- We recommend ordering a LightTape sample to test with your specific stone to ensure the desired lighting effect.

Step 2: Provide Project Measurements

To generate an accurate quote and layout, please provide:

- Overall dimensions of each backlit surface
- Locations and setback measurements of any cutouts (sink, faucet, cooktop, outlets, etc.), measured from the edges of the plywood substrate.

Step 3: Prepare Surface Details

- LightTape should be installed on a plywood substrate that is 1/2" to 3/4" thick.
- This substrate is always smaller than the stone top and may be inset into the cabinetry or mitered.
- A 3-5mm foam flooring underlayment should be applied over the substrate and under the LightTape to absorb vibrations and accommodate any air gaps.

Step 4: We Handle the Layout and Power Planning

- Once we receive your measurements, our team will design a custom LightTape layout for your project.
- We will select the appropriate panel widths (available in: 0.5", 1", 2", 4", 6", 12", 18", and 24") based on your design.
- LightTape panels are designed to be butted together seamlessly to avoid light breaks.
- We will calculate the total illuminated area and choose the correct drivers for the system.
- For example, a DMX4000 driver powers up to 4,000 square inches.

Step 5: Final Layout & Order Submission

- You will receive a finalized panel layout plan including:
 - Panel sizes and locations
 - Connector locations (always centered on the narrow side of each panel)
 - Which panel connects to which driver
- Once approved, we will proceed with production and shipment.

Step 6: Installation Tips

- Connectors feature a 4" ribbon tab that folds behind the panel
- The connector tab is fed through a hole in the plywood for a clean, hidden connection

Need Help?

We're here to support you at every stage. For samples, design assistance, or custom quotes, contact the LightTape® team today. thelighttapeteam@lighttape.com or call us at (804)-355-1692 during normal business hours.

Light Tape® Backlighting Installation Guidelines

Surface Preparation

- Ensure the mounting surface is **smooth, level, and free of protrusions.**
- Recommended layering order (bottom to top):
 1. Plywood substrate -1/2" to 3/4"
 2. Thin underlayment (~3 mm, similar to floorboard underlayment from Lowe's or Home Depot) *optional, but recommended to reduce any audible harmonics from panel vibration.*
 3. Light Tape® panels
 4. Stone surface

Test Layout

1. Lay Light Tape® panels on the substrate to test the backlighting layout.
 - Panels may overlap slightly at the lamination edge if needed for light uniformity.
2. Identify connector locations where cutouts are required, then remove all panels before making the cutouts.

Cutouts & Wiring

- Route holes in the substrate for connectors, allowing wiring to run beneath cabinetry or behind sheetrock (for wall applications).
- Panels have **4" extension tabs** that position electrical connections under the mounting surface.
- Panels have **no polarity (+/-)**, so wiring cannot be reversed.
- Multiple panels can be wired in **parallel** to a single Smart Driver™ power supply.

Mounting Panels

1. If using double-sided tape, apply narrow strips along panel edges and remove the liner.

2. Feed the flexible tab with connector and leads through the cutouts.
3. Starting from the connector end, unroll the panel in a straight path, avoiding bumps or ridges. Keep it flat, square, and in the same position as the test layout.
4. Continue placing panels one by one, overlapping slightly where needed to ensure full surface coverage.
5. Avoid creasing or hard-folding Light Tape®. Keep panels on clean, smooth surfaces until installation.

Adhesive Guidelines

- Attach Light Tape® only to the underlayment using **double-sided tape**—never glue directly to the Light Tape®.
- If gluing the stone layer:
- Apply adhesive around the perimeter (laminated edge).
- Leave a **½"–1" perimeter gap** in your design if planning adhesive space.
- Alternatively, use a silicone bead along the inside corner where the stone meets cabinetry.

Resonant Surfaces

- Do not mount Light Tape® or the Smart Driver™ directly to metal or other resonant surfaces to prevent amplified harmonics. Any remaining hum will usually disappear once installation is complete.
- While the underlayment layer is optional, it helps dampen vibration and minimize audible harmonics during operation.

Final Steps

1. Test all Light Tape® panels after installation but before placing the final surface.
2. Panels are designed for **compressive loads only**—avoid tensional or shear forces.

Light Tape® Standard Sizes

Item No.	Illuminated Width		Laminated Width (Interior)	
LT-050	0.5"	12.7mm	0.75"	19.05mm
LT-100	1"	25.4mm	1.25"	31.75mm
LT-200	2"	50.8mm	2.25"	57.15mm
LT-400	4"	101.6mm	4.25"	107.95mm
LT-600	6"	152.4mm	6.25"	158.75mm
LT-1200	12"	304.8mm	12.25"	311.15mm
LT-1800	18"	457.2 mm	18.25"	463.55 mm
LT-2400	24"	609.6 mm	24.25"	615.95mm

Please note: Custom widths are cut from wider stock

WHEN ORDERING, PLEASE SPECIFY:

- Engineered for interior installations. Exterior options available.
- Desired illuminated color
- Illuminated width item number
- How much Light Tape® are you going to need? See below for our team’s help determining that for you.
- Does job site have AC power available? It makes the job much easier.

The Backlighting Process

Please send us basic top or front view drawing of the surfaces with dimensions. This is very helpful for our engineering team to estimate materials needed.

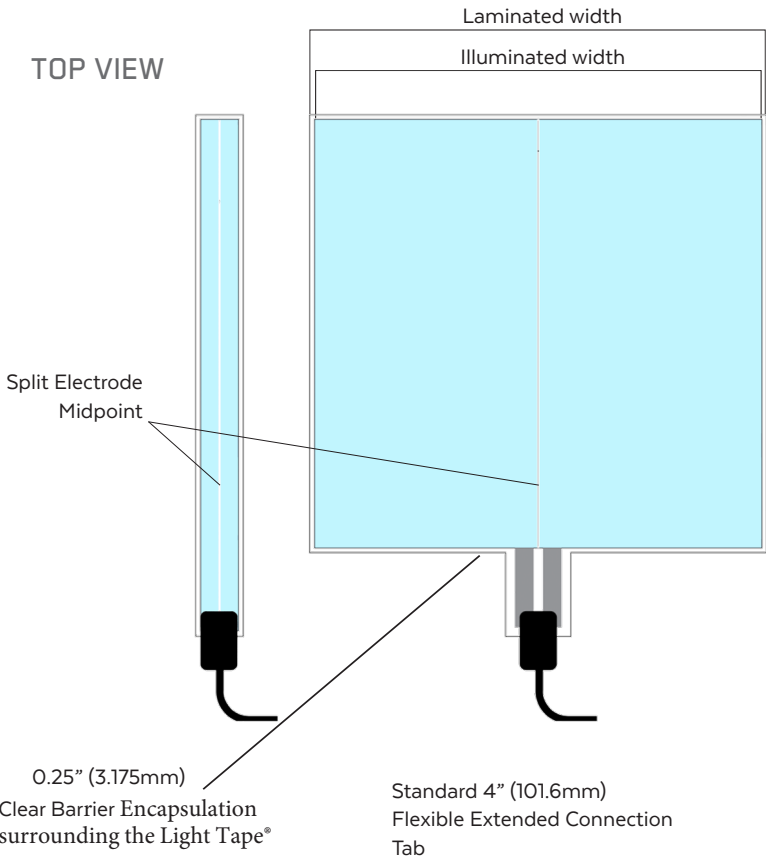
Light Tape® lights to the very edge and can be tiled together to cover any surface with no seams or gaps in illumination.

The Light Tape® connector will be located on the narrow side of the panel. One connector at the end can illuminate very long countertop depending on the width.

Once project is a go, we will need a template so we can prepare your panel layout. This will ensure all goes smooth on installation day.

If you do not have a digital file, we can make a file to fit your surface if you send us a paper template. Or if it is a fairly basic shape, we can load in manually.

We will suggest best electrical and connection configuration for your project based on site layout.



NOTE: the split electrode midpoint (SEMP) is a critical element of Light Tape®’s engineering that runs centered through the entire length.

Light Tape® Color Options

Light Tape utilizes high performance phosphors to create light. Our base colors are the Classic Natural Blue and Extreme Blue-Green patented phosphor formulations. These colors appear white when off and colored when illuminated. We then add filters to produce alternative color options.

Our Media White and Glacier White colors are perfect for backlighting and applications requiring white, unfiltered light, these will appear lightly colored when switched off.

Our remaining range of colors will retain their vibrancy when not illuminated so you don't lose the desired effect even when it's switched off, perfect for branding and advertising.

CLASSIC SERIES

Natural Blue OffOn	Media White OffOn	Glacier White OffOn	Amber OffOn
Electric Blue OffOn	Rich Red OffOn	Yellow OffOn	

EXTREME SERIES

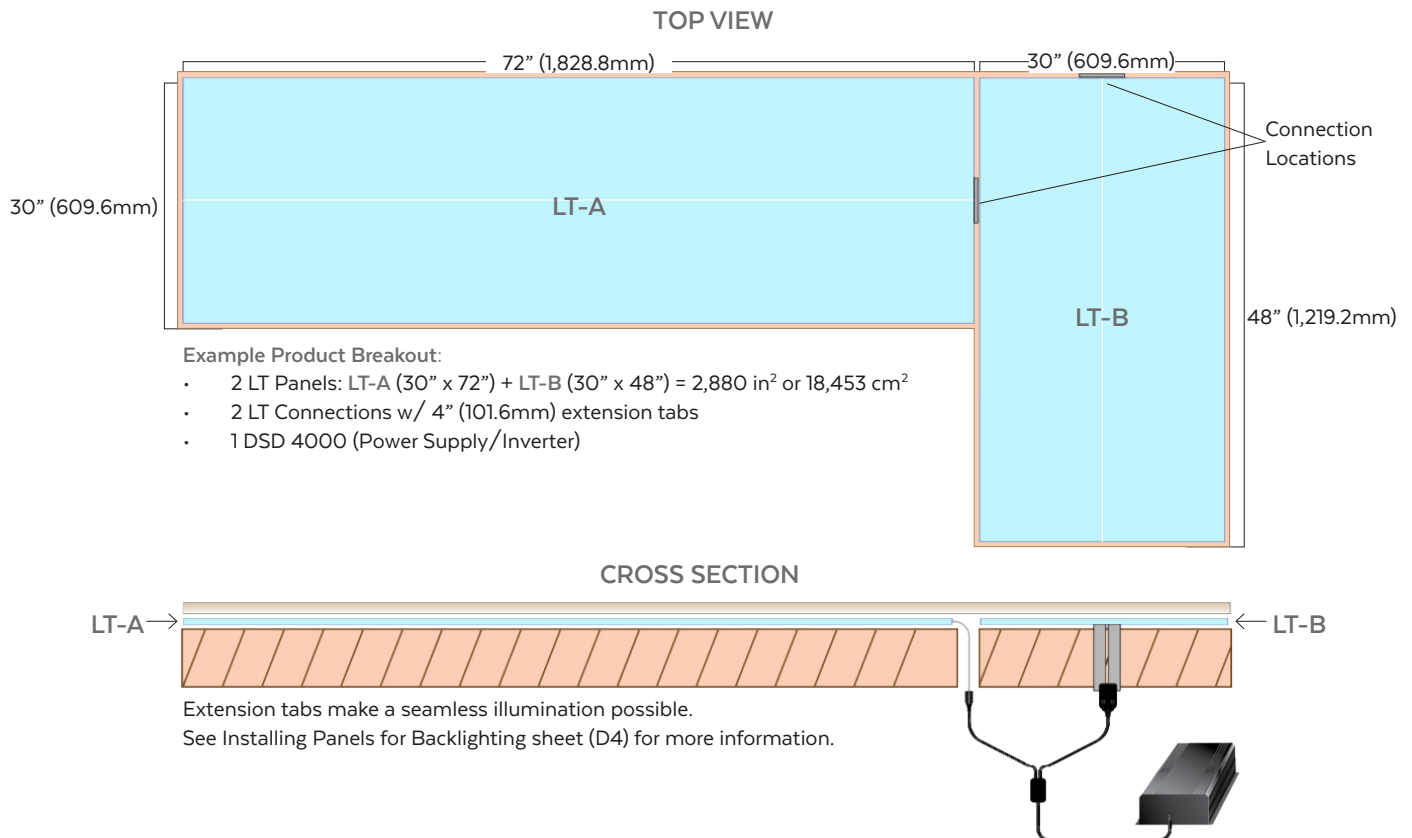
Blue Green OffOn	Caribbean Blue OffOn	Purple OffOn	Orange OffOn
Rich Red OffOn	International Red OffOn	Pink OffOn	Green OffOn

NOTE: The colors in this guide are simulated and as such the final product may vary. If an exact color is required, we recommend seeing a physical sample of the lamp. Custom colors and widths are available, but may be subject to minimum order quantities, set-up fees, and approval testing.

Backlighting Example: Top View

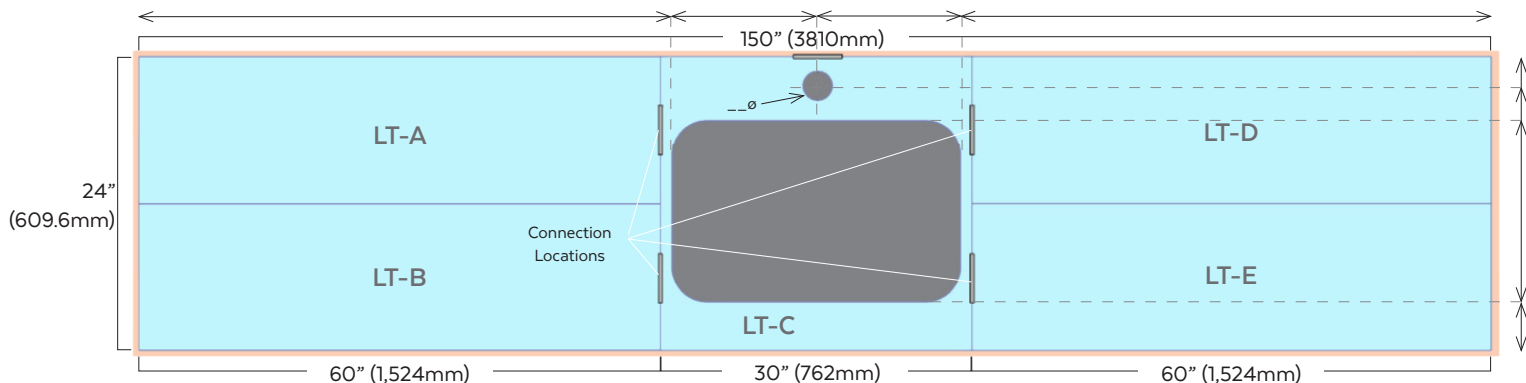
BASIC BAR, COUNTER TOP OR WALL

Any surface area can be evenly illuminated with a minimal number of panels and connections. A bar design resembling the one below would require only two Light Tape® panels and one power supply. The Light Tape® panel is placed directly on surface with double sided adhesive. The solid surface is placed directly on top of the Light Tape, no spacers, that's it!



SURFACE WITH CUT OUTS

Light Tape® panels can be custom cut to any shape and placed side-by-side or overlapped to seamlessly illuminate any surface. For custom shapes, an AI file or template will need to be provided.

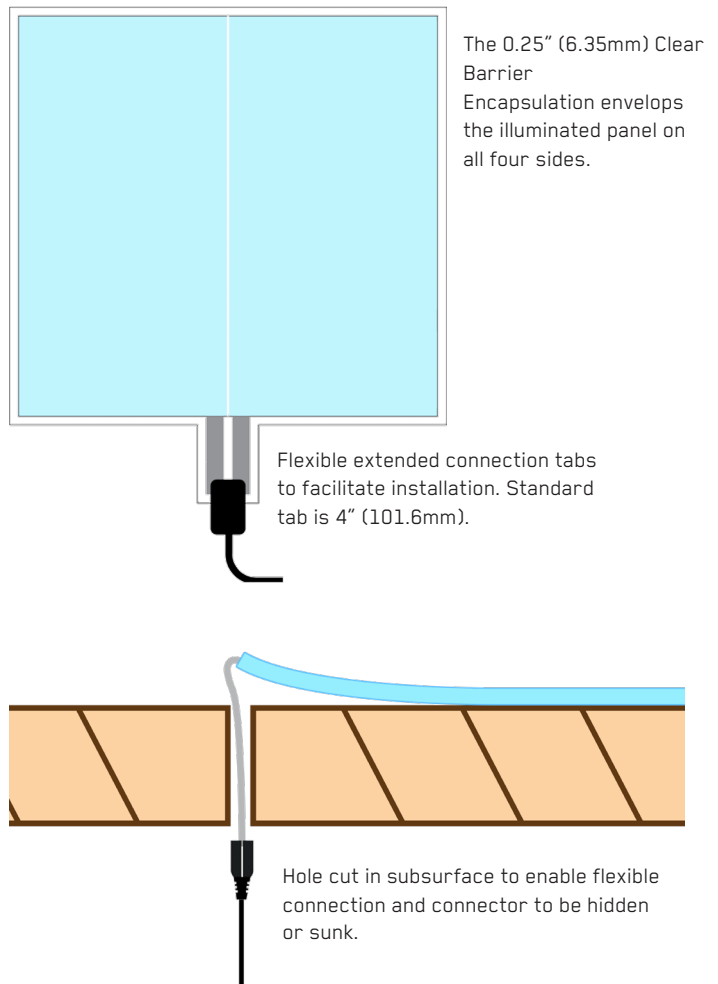


Installing Panels for Backlighting

- Light Tape® panels utilized for backlighting are equipped with 4 " extension tabs. The tabs are designed to position the electrical connection under the mounting surface.
- Light Tape® panels do not have polarity (+ or -). You cannot get the wiring backwards.
- Multiple panels, connected in parallel, can be powered by a single Smart Driver™ lighting ballast.
- Do not crease or hard fold Light Tape®, keep out of work area until ready to install. Ensure it is placed on a clean, smooth surface.
- Plan panel placement before taking down Light Tape(r) on sub-surface to prepare for solid surface top.
- Do not mount Light Tape® or Smart Driver™ directly to resonant surfaces such as metal, as this may produce amplified harmonics. Please note, audible harmonics will be minimized once Light Tape is secured and installation is complete.
- In many cases, very little adhesive is necessary to hold light tape® in position. Please note, LightTape® is designed for compressive loading only, tensional and shear loads must be avoided.

Installation steps to follow for a quick and easy installation.

1. Ensure surface is smooth and even, without protrusions.
2. To test the backlighting layout, lay the Light Tape® panels on the surface of the plywood substrate. It is acceptable for the Light Tape® panels to overlap on the lamination edge if necessary, to maintain light uniformity.
3. Once preliminary test layout is complete, identify the connection locations where cut outs through the structure are required. Then remove all Light Tape® panels prior to creating the cutout/s to route connectors.
4. If using double sided tape to secure, start with narrow widths along edge of panel, and remove liner.
5. Feed the flexible tab with connector and leads through the cutouts and connect all panels in parallel to the Smart Driver™ power supply.
6. Making sure to replicate our panel layout, and begin to mount the Light Tape® panels. Starting with connector end, unroll panel in a straight path being careful to avoid bumps or ridges, ensuring the Light Tape® is flat to the surface and square.
7. Once first panel is set in place, continue placing panels one by one until surface is covered, overlapping adjoining panels to cover entire surface area.
8. Test operation of the Light Tape® panels once all are installed and connected to corresponding power supplies prior to installation of the final backlit surface.



Indoor Installation Tips



1. Clean surface with isopropyl alcohol to remove all dust, oil and grease. Surface should be smooth and clean for strong adhesion.
2. Determine where you will make the electrical connection. It is important to consider the connector and cap lengths. The conductive electrodes can be located behind the Light Tape®. We recommend all electrical connections are made in a suitably rated junction box. Always consult local electrical codes for wiring regulations and installation requirements.
3. Do not step on Light Tape® during installation. Avoid hard creases. We recommend using a flooring underlayment as a backing when indoors.
4. Hide the connector. The conductive electrodes are essentially flat wires. Be careful not to rip the surrounding lamination around the lamp; lamination can be trimmed around the tabs if needed. Ensure a sufficient lamination border surrounding the connection tabs.
5. Be very careful when applying Light Tape®, make sure the coiled lamp is straight before you start to unroll. Once it has been applied, pulling Light Tape® off without care may damage the lamp.

Please note:

For larger panels, it is easier to unroll the Light Tape® into place. Begin with the connector end, make sure the leading edge is square, and slowly unroll the panel into position.

Remote Power Supply Installation

Sometimes, the power supply must be located far from the lamps. In this case, shielded conduit may be required to protect against high frequency and high voltage.

- A suitably rated enclosure is required to store power supply when located outdoors to ensure protection against the elements.
- 50 foot connection radius - it is possible to install the Light Tape® up to 50 feet (15.25m) from the Smart Driver™ Power Supply. Multiple connections are possible from one central location.
- Electrical Metallic Tubing (EMT) conduit is required to shield the high voltage and high frequency AC signals for remote installations. All wiring should be within a conduit and 600 volt rated.
- Always consult local electrical codes for wiring regulations and installation requirements.

Light Tape® Safety & Handling

Safety:

- Never power on and leave Light Tape® in a coil. Unroll first before switching on.
- Always consult local electrical codes for wiring regulations and installation requirements.
- Light Tape® should be covered with a protective overlay if installed within direct reach of the general public.
- Always seal Light Tape® lamp with Edge Guard™ end seal tape when cut. Exterior rated Light Tape® must only be cut and sealed in factory.
- Do not make electrical connections when Light Tape® is turned on.
- Do not operate Light Tape® without protective insulating lamination due to risk of shock. Install in dry conditions. Do not cut or expose open ends to moisture.
- Smart Driver™ power supplies are equipped with overload and short circuit protection. If trip occurs during operation, please inspect Light Tape® for damage, and operating voltage is within correct range.
- Do not operate your Smart Driver™ outdoors unless in a suitably rated enclosure. Ensure installation in a dry environment.

Handling:

- Do not step on Light Tape® during installation. Keep Light Tape® off the floor or any rough surfaces during installation.
- Do not pull on the connector and/or Tab when installing or removing.
- Only install in dry conditions. Do not cut or expose open ends to moisture.
- Take care to not damage lamination when installing around sharp edges or corners. Avoid the use of any sharp objects to force lamp into tight areas.
- Avoid any hard creases. Do not fold, twist, rotate, or kink lamination excessively.
- Do not stretch, puncture, or hard crease Light Tape® in a tight radius, as this will destroy conductive layers causing black spots or failure.
- Do not operate lamp outdoors during peak daylight hours for extended periods as it may be damaged by UV rays.
- Do not thermoform or stretch Light Tape® over objects.
- When cleaning Light Tape® or Smart Driver™, do not use water or chemical cleaners.
- Do not staple or puncture through Light Tape® or the protective lamination. Take care around screw heads or other sharp protruding objects.

General Installation Guidelines:

- Follow all installation guidelines from Electro-LuminX. Please visit our website www.lighttape.com for additional information.
- Please read all instructions prior to installation. Contact your regions tech support with any questions.
- When unpacking, please review all contents on the packing list and immediately notify us of any missing or damaged items.
- There is a front and back of Light Tape®. The gray colored side with a white line down the middle is the back, and non-illuminating side.
- Do not mount using an epoxy, silicone, or other exothermic curing adhesives, as they may damage the conductive layers. We recommend 3M double sided tapes. Please contact us for additional information.
- If mounting near a wet area, please provide suitable protection from pooling water. Ensure there are no standing water conditions, and provisions for drainage are made.
- Light Tape® can be mounted outdoors, however should not be operated in direct sunlight. This will shorten the life of the lamp. Use a photo-cell to prevent the Light Tape® from operating in peak daylight hours.
- Always mount in extrusion or approved system for outdoor installations. It is important to allow for the thermal expansion coefficients of exterior surfaces. Both sides of Light Tape® must remain free to move with changing ambient temperatures.
- Do not mount Light Tape® or Smart Driver™ directly to resonant surfaces such as metal, as this may produce amplified harmonics. We recommend mounting to a cork, or foam layer completely covering the subsurface.
- Light Tape® is non-polar, each hemisphere requires its own lead from the power supply. Multiple Light Tape® pieces must be installed in parallel.
- The Smart Driver™ to be selected based on total load. One Smart Driver™ can light multiple Light Tape® pieces. Do not under load or over load the Smart Driver™
- Do not power up the Smart Driver™ without having the proper load applied.
- The Smart Driver™ should be set to 270V AC output. This will help maximize lifetime of the lamp.
- Always mount the Smart Driver™ vertically (with the fan facing up) if the model has a fan to allow proper air circulation.
- Always store electronics in dust free environments to ensure proper performance.

WWW.LIGHTTAPE.COM