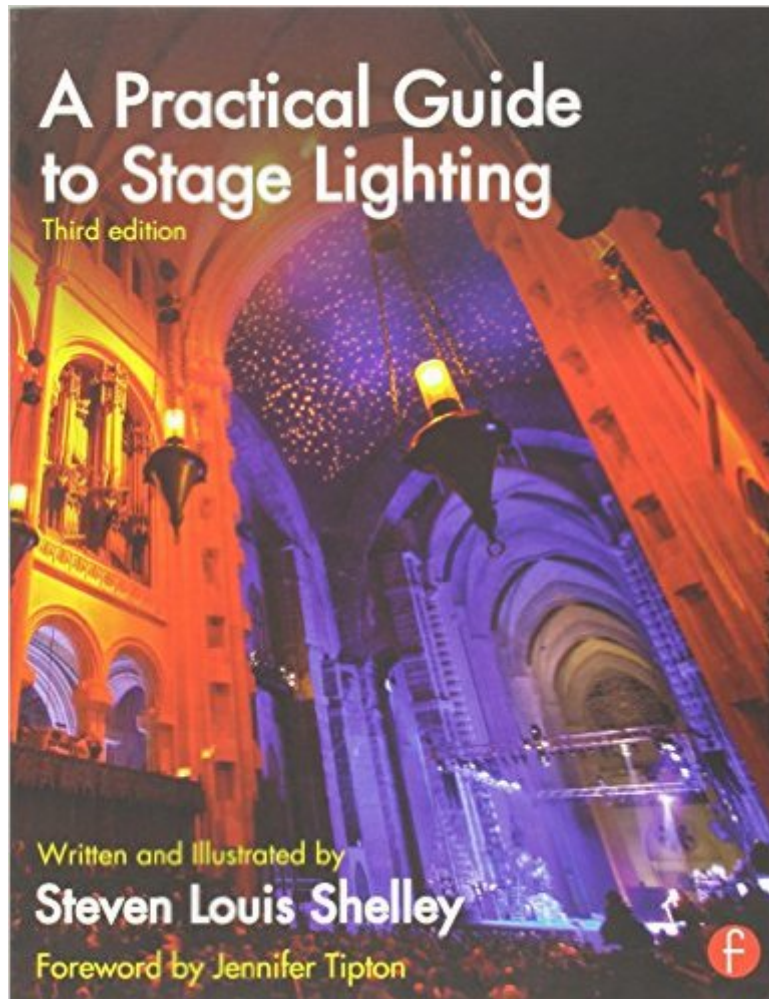


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# A Practical Guide To Stage Lighting Third Edition



## Synopsis

In the first edition of *A Practical Guide to Stage Lighting*, Steve Shelley cracked open his production book and showed how to prepare a lighting design and create the paperwork needed to mount a production. In the second edition, he pulled back the curtain and showed the methods and processes that go on before the light plot is finalized and ready to go into the shop, even dealing with cutting the plot in half. In this third edition, Shelley throws the door wide open and shows step-by-step how to construct every lighting system in the Hokey light plot. Combining his diacritical analysis, killer drafting, and analytic use of the Slinky Method and Slinky Calculations, he presents the Periodic Table of Fundamental Lighting Systems and shows the basic methods used to create multi-instrument lighting systems. Highlights include:

- \* Over 100 new topics, including analysis and application of the three categories of collaboration; detailed examinations of production meetings, approaching production schedules and budgets; one-on-one meetings and checklists with management and the creative team.
- \* Over 50 new illustrations, including Shelley's Periodic Table of Fundamental Lighting Systems -- groundplans, sections, and front elevations that illustrate basic system wash configurations for each direction of light.
- \* Analysis, calculation, examples, and step-by-step technical construction of each lighting system in the Hokey light plot.
- \* Detailed examination of techniques used to light backdrops, scrims, and translucencies in the scenic stack.
- \* Explanation of a manufacturer's cut sheet, and how to apply basic formulas to determine beam size, footcandle, and gel transmission for lighting instruments.
- \* Updated discussion of the process for pre-programming computer lighting consoles prior to the load-in.
- \* Comprehensive overview of archiving paperwork and softcopy for a production.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The beauty of A Practical Guide to Stage Lighting has always been that it takes the designer and brings them down to the nitty gritty. The wonder of the third edition is that you now have expanded resources to communicate not only to the beginning lighting student, but to the 201, 301, and 401 levels as well. I have students that carry this book through multiple levels of courses and by the end come out with an understanding that is unmatched in terms of executing a comprehensive design from top to bottom. The expanded sections help clarify complicated concepts seamlessly. I require this text in all of my lighting classes and the students get so excited to go to conferences and meet "the REAL STEVE SHELLEY" in person. He's like a super-star to them and this insightful textbook is the reason.

So this book has ALL the information you need - plus it is a really good read. -- Imagine!The material is well-organized and broken down into easily digested pieces for the novice reader. For experienced designer, the book is also worthwhile. I helped me question some of my routine practices, and definitely helped me in communicating more clearly when working with students or interns. Plus, Steven Shelley has clearly been through it ALL - and his tips, hints and war stories will be useful and amusing for all readers. It doesn't get better than this!

Once again, Steven Louis Shelley has improved upon the definitive guide to getting a lighting design out of the brain, and onto the stage. To be clear, this volume isn't only a great text for students and a handy desktop reference for professional lighting designers. A Practical Guide to Stage Lighting, is a valuable tool for design colleagues, producers, production managers, and stage managers. Sharing information, understanding the needs of the team, these are things that help create a collaborative process. Shelley details that process, specifically for Lighting Designers, but also to inform the entire staff. Now, this is tough material, but Shelley is a funny personable guy. That great personality comes through on every page as he clearly is inviting the reader into his own secret world. Without process, all artists are doomed to failure. This is one designer's process, and it is a good place to begin to evolve your own process. It is also a great check list. Forget one of Shelley's steps and that error of omission is likely to come back at you later. Not in a good way. I sure someone has counted the detailed illustrations that show everything from how to place a

lighting unit to sample paper work for each step in the design process, but to say the illustrations are comprehensive does not do the author/illustrator proper respect. To go back to my original comment, there is no other book available that offers all of this critical information. Specifically, the discussion of collaboration, and sharing information, that causes *A Practical Guide to Stage Lighting, Third Edition*, to transcend the category of Lighting Design, and require the book to be in the library of anyone who works in theatre.

wonderful book. Made of hours of theatres and years of experiences. I recommend this for learning and improving the skills in lighting design

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