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# Lighting For Cinematography: A Practical Guide To The Art And Craft Of Lighting For The Moving Image (The CineTech Guides To The Film Crafts)





## Synopsis

We can't shoot good pictures without good lighting, no matter how good the newest cameras are. Shooting under available light gives exposure, but lacks depth, contrast, contour, atmosphere and often separation. The story could be the greatest in the world, but if the lighting is poor viewers will assume it's amateurish and not take it seriously. Feature films and TV shows, commercials and industrial videos, reality TV and documentaries, even event and wedding videos tell stories. Good lighting can make them look real, while real lighting often makes them look fake.Lighting for Cinematography, the first volume in the new CineTech Guides to the Film Crafts series, is the indispensable guide for film and video lighting. Written by veteran gaffer and cinematographer David Landau, the book helps the reader create lighting that supports the emotional moment of the scene, contributes to the atmosphere of the story and augments an artistic style. Structured to mimic a 14 week semester, the chapters cover such things as lighting for movement, working with windows, night lighting, lighting the three plains of action and non-fiction lighting. Every chapter includes stills, lighting diagrams and key advice from professionals in the field, as well as lighting exercises to help the reader put into practice what was covered.

## **Book Information**

Series: The CineTech Guides to the Film Crafts Paperback: 288 pages Publisher: Bloomsbury Academic; Reprint edition (July 10, 2014) Language: English ISBN-10: 1628926929 ISBN-13: 978-1628926927 Product Dimensions: 7.3 x 0.6 x 9.4 inches Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (24 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #52,550 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Television > Direction & Production #11 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Cinematography #42 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Performing Arts > Film & Television

### **Customer Reviews**

As a self-taught cinematographer I can confidently state that this is an indispensable tome for anyone part of the revolution of filmmakers gaining their education through websites, collaboration,

and trial and error. Truly, one of the best books on lighting for film that I have ever read. Mr. Landau's writing style is fluid, conversational, and easy to understand; and, his examples are derived from real world projects that he has crewed, and not conjecture based off of the work of others. I purchased this book for the kindle and have found myself highlighting about 75% of what I read--that's incredible! I am no slouch when it comes to lighting, but there is just so much useful material between these pages that I can't help myself. Many of you may be familiar with the following scenario: the information on lighting that we unearth on the web or via other books on the subject is either woefully basic, or it is dependent upon absurdly expensive, power-hungry instruments that most of us will never use. Honestly, to my eye, this is the case of at least 75% of the material that I come across. Conversely, Mr. Landau stays true to the title, and teaches the reader all sorts of theory and application that is achievable with accessible instruments. This is precisely what I have been looking for for years now. Do yourself a favor and purchase this book. If you are a beginner, this is going to rapidly ratchet your skills to a higher level; if you are a more advanced cinematographer or gaffer, this book will fill in the gaps necessary to make you shine far brighter than you ever have. Honestly, I can not recommend Lighting for Cinematography highly enough!

Fantastic non-technical overview of lighting, with several different scenarios and anecdotes. Paired with the Set Lighting Technician's Handbook, one can receive a relatively encompassing education of lighting for cinematographers. Landau goes through different daylight interior/exterior and night time interior/exterior with stills to illustrate each of the his written examples. A great book on the design of lighting, but definitely needs to be paired with the Set Lighting Technician's Handbook for a full education. Great read!

David Landau is a talented and professional cinematographer as well as an excellent teacher. Being a past student of his, I appreciated every lesson he's taught me from basic lighting, netting and bouncing natural light, shooting at night, and that special trick that older interviewees appreciate that make their wrinkles less prominent.

Being a 40yr vet in film production...I'm always looking for a good training manual or a book for my students. The book is written in an easy to follow manner and keeps your interest. I strongly recommend for those new to the industry or those just having fun with gorilla filming.

Enjoyed all of the info and insight but felt the practical examples were lacking. Most of the still grabs looked like lighting scenarios you'd want to avoid. All in all good read for the aspiring DP/LD.

Product condition wise is arrived pristine and well kept, no folds or wrinklesProduct though, Overall all it is a good book. Cover lighting from a very visual and representative standpoint. Other lighting books tend to cover from a scientific and technical perspective this book walks you through relative lighting positions and theory practices instead. A must have for anyone who is looking to get into cinematography or simply looking to understand light a little better

"Lighting for Cinematography" is an essential resource and one of the best references on lighting I have read! David Landau has put in a tremendous amount of work, insight and expertise making it an invaluable tool for the craft of lighting. This book is a must have for my production classes at Bowling Green State University! Each chapter includes production exercises: "putting it into practice" allowing the reader a practical, hands on experience to practice the topics discussed.

This book is packed from cover to cover with lighting, grip and scene set-ups. It is clearly written, featuring tips and tricks a seasoned professional or beginning student could utilize in their productions. As a Director of Photography on documentary films and corporate interviews, I have learned a tremendous amount from reading Lighting for Cinematography by David Landau. When you're working in the field and you encounter challenging lighting scenarios, having a book like this will not only solve technical roadblocks creatively and efficiently, but will impress your client and make the viewing audience appreciate your work.

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