

INSTALLATION GUIDE

KENWORTH W990 AIR VENT LED LIGHT KIT



RULE THE NITE™

BOOGEY LIGHTS®

Family Owned Motorsports Lighting Since 1989

800.847.1359

www.BoogeyLights.com

Thank you for purchasing genuine Boogey Lights® LED Lighting products! We know you're anxious to get started but we strongly recommend taking time to read through these instructions. You'll likely save yourself some grief and aggravation if you do. For additional installation support refer to www.BoogeyLights.com or give us a call at 800.847.1359 for assistance.

BEFORE YOU START

It's simply not possible to provide detailed instructions for all installation scenarios. Far too many variables and truck variations. **The information in this manual is intended to be used as a guide.** It is not a detailed step-by-step how-to installation manual. We do not spell out every single step along the way. We cover the essential steps related to installing this kit. Beyond that however we must assume the installer has the skills, knowledge and tools necessary to do the work using the information we provide. You may need to vary your installation based on your truck. This is particularly the case with electrical wire routing and switching. If you're unsure about how to do the installation – particularly the electrical components – we urge you to seek assistance from someone who has those skills.

Make sure you have ample area in which to work and that the area is protected from rain or cold temperatures. The 3M adhesive tape (and 3M Adhesion Promoter) works best if applied when the air temperature is above 40 degrees (and of course is DRY).

Bench test your setup. We know this takes a few extra minutes but we STRONGLY suggest you bench test your lights (and LED controller if purchased) on a table before doing anything further. While we test every light strip and controller before shipping, bench testing your lights will eliminate the possibility of any problems with the lights or controller before mounting. Also, the process of bench testing gives you an opportunity to understand the wiring system without interference from other wires, connectors and cables. You can use any 12vdc battery to do this (e.g. car battery, motorcycle battery, lawn tractor battery or 12vdc power supply). Bench testing takes an extra 10 or 15 minutes. It's simple to do and can potentially save you hours of time and frustration down the road. **Please take our advice.** Bench test your LEDs AND controller before mounting.

Tools You May Need

Sockets/wrenches in the sizes necessary to remove the driver's side steps to access the battery bank and the two air vents on each side of the truck, wire cutters/strippers, crimping tool, electrical tape, rubbing alcohol, shop rag or two and a heat gun for the heat shrink connections. We also suggest a 12vdc multi-meter to confirm/check voltages.

Installation Time

Installation of this led light kit takes 2 to 3 hours depending on whether or not you're adding this light kit to an existing installation or installing this kit as a stand-alone. Also, the type of lighting and switching you're using will impact the installation time too. Wiring diagrams for the controller/switches (if any) you purchased are included at the end of the guide.

Mounting & Placement Locations / Planning Your Install

Each Air Vent has 3 LED strips (6 total). All of the LED strips in this kit are built on our LOW PROFILE LED strips. In total there are 3 mounting locations on the inside of each air vent. The power leads for these three LED strips need to come together inside the vent where a quick-disconnect connector has to be wired such that if the air vents need to be removed in the future the LED lights power lead cable can easily be disconnected without cutting. We include a photo later on in this guide showing the placement of these LED strips on the inside of the air vent.

For power, you'll need access to the driver's side steps to access the batteries. Also, if you're installing an LED controller, the LED controller can be mounted in either the driver's side storage box or the passenger's. We prefer to use the driver's side as it is closest to the battery bank. While either location will work, be aware if you mount the controller in the passenger's side, you'll need to extend the positive battery cable a little further than if you mounted the controller in the driver's side storage. The 12vdc + power going to the LED Controller should connect directly to the 12vdc+ terminal on your truck's battery bank. You can connect the ground wire on the LED controller to any metal part of the chassis. Regardless of which side bay you use, you will need to drill a hole in the floor of that box to connect power to the battery box, led wires and antenna.

We recommend connecting all LED strips in similar locations together and then running one feeder cable back to the LED controller or switching mechanism you're using. Doing so reduces the total number of power leads coming back to the LED controller. For example, if this light kit is being added along with the grill light kit, we will connect them together and then run one feeder cable back to the controller. Regardless of how you do it, we strongly recommend planning out your install on paper first. Be sure to wrap all power leads in split-loom which is also included and then secure them to the truck using zip ties.

LED PLACEMENT

Here's a photo of the LEDs mounted to the inside of the air vent cover. Note that all three LED strips come together and attach to a male quick-disconnect connector. That male quick-disconnect connector feeds inside the air vent (see next photo) where it meets up with the female quick-disconnect connector that provides power.





The female quick-disconnect meets up with the male quick-disconnect inside the air vent plenum. We drill a hole in the hood's plenum to allow the power lead to exit the air vent plenum and into the engine bay. From there the power lead will connect to the switching or control mechanism. If this kit is being installed with the Grill Light kit, we will typically connect the air vent power lead to the grill light kit. The grill light kit connects to the controller or switching mechanism using a single feeder cable run usually running alongside the driver's side frame rail.



WHAT'S INCLUDED

In addition to the LED light strips, power leads (and controller / switch if ordered), this kit includes some additional items you'll need. Here's a quick review of those items and why we include them. Some of the photos at the end of this guide reference these items too. Some of the items in this are redundant if purchasing multiple light kits. In those cases we only include one for all kits.

- 2 pair M/F quick-disconnect connectors and heat shrink (1/8" and 1/2"). See diagram at the end of this guide showing how to make these connections.
- Feeder Cable – 4 Conductor will work for both RGB and Single Color. 5 conductor is included for RGBA. Use this cable to extend the LED power leads back to the battery box and/or the LED controller/switch.
- 3M Adhesion Primer. Used to prep the surface before attaching the LED strips AND the 3M quick-lock tape. *Always, always, always* use this adhesion primer with 3M adhesive products if you want the bond to hold.
- Split Wire Loom / 1/4". All power leads and the battery extension cables need to be protected from chaffing. Wrap them in this first.
- Battery Extension Cable (if LED Controller or switch is purchased). We include some 10awg cable to extend the battery power inputs going to the LED Controller to the battery. Be sure to wrap this extension cable in split loom.
- Fuse Holder – 25AMP (at least). In some cases we will include a 30 or 40 AMP fuse holder. Insert this fuse holder on the 12vdc positive side of the battery connection before the battery extension cable. This is critical.
- Battery Terminal Lugs (if LED Controller or switch is purchased). We include a couple of battery terminal lugs that attach to the battery extension cable (crimp on) to make it easy to connect the positive and negative power leads to the truck's battery to the LED controller. It's a much better way to make this connection than to just simply wrap the bare cable around the battery post.
- 8" Zip Ties. We include some zip ties which you'll need to secure the LED power leads to the truck.
- Crimp On Wire Connectors. These are used to secure the wire connectors at the LED Controller as well as making all power lead connectors to the feeder cable. We recommend wrapping each connector after it's crimped with electrical tape to protect it from water intrusion.
- **NOTE: Every installation varies a little so you may need to purchase additional items (or more of them such as zip ties) for your install. Here is a LINK to a page on our website that list some of these items: <https://www.boogeylights.com/other-items-you-might-need/>.**

If you purchased a kit without an LED Controller or switch we do not include any switching devices with the kit. We assume you already have a switch available in your truck or will be installing another switch of some type. Regardless of how you decide to switch your single color LEDs, be mindful of the amperage that adding additional LEDs will draw. If you're considering adding these LEDs to an existing circuit (e.g. with your existing marker or running lights) we strongly suggest using a relay vs simply tapping into the existing circuit. This is especially important on newer trucks where the LCM will likely

throw an error when you add more LEDs to the system. Even a slight increase in amperage draw will cause the LCM to think there's a problem with your electrical system and shut it down.

Follow these steps for mounting your LED strips:

- The area where you are mounting the LEDs has to be clean: free of all dirt, oil or anything that might affect the LED from sticking. You only get one opportunity to mount the LEDs so it's critical the area be prepared properly.
- Use rubbing alcohol to clean the area where you are going to mount the LED strip. Be sure to let the alcohol dry completely before proceeding to the next step. (Note: Do not use acetone or similar cleaner).

If the area is especially greasy, you'll need to clean it with a degreaser or similar solvent. IF you do, be sure to use rubbing alcohol on the surface next to completely remove any left-over residue from the degreaser.

- Next, use the 3M Adhesion Promoter supplied with your kit to "paint" on the promoter where you are going to mount the LED strip. ***This is an important step. Do not bypass.*** Allow the promoter to dry for 60-90 seconds.
- Peel off the red backing tape that protects the 3M adhesive tape on your LED strip. Be careful not to let the tape touch anything. The 3M backing tape on these LED strips are one-use only. They cannot be reused.

Carefully push the LED strip to the area you have prepared. You will want to apply only enough pressure to the strip to make sure it is firmly mounted. *You only get one opportunity to do this.* Once the LED strip touches a properly prepared surface that has been promoted, that LED strip will be very difficult to remove. Moreover, if you do remove the LED strip, the strip cannot be used again without adding another layer of 3M adhesive tape to the back. DO NOT press too hard as too much pressure can damage the LEDs and connecting wires in the strip. Also, do not pull, stretch or twist the LED strip. Too much tension on the strip will also damage the LEDs such that some of the LEDs in the strip will not illuminate. The strip must be mounted flat against a single continuous mounting surface, in a straight line. Really important that the ENTIRE STRIP be stuck to the mounting surface and that you NOT attempt to span across multiple mounting surfaces.

Do NOT bend the LED strip in a radius of less than 2 inches.



Do NOT bend the LED strip on a horizontal plane.



WIRING DIAGRAMS & POWER CONSIDERATIONS

This kit includes the wiring diagrams for the configuration you purchased. **Please review carefully.** An essential skill with installation of any Boogey Lights LED product is knowing how to correctly wire the product to a 12vdc circuit. This includes understanding the importance of having a properly sized fuse at the power source, polarity, how to properly seal an electrical connection, using properly sized wire gauge for the load, measuring voltage and measuring the additional amperage draw you're adding. If you are uncertain or unfamiliar with any of these concepts, we urge you to ask someone who has the knowledge to assist you. Electricity is unforgiving.

Be mindful of the amount of amperage you're drawing through your lighting circuit and to not exceed the circuit component limitations. We have included an amperage chart to give you a general idea of amperage draw but be aware that the amount of power (amps) you're pulling through the circuit will vary based on a combination of three factors: 1) The number of LEDs in the circuit, 2) the amount of copper wire in the circuit and 3) the input voltage to the circuit. The amperage ratings for our switches, controllers and LEDs assume 12.5 vdc input or less. If you're going to be driving with your Boogey Lights on, be aware that the input voltage will absolutely increase when the engine is on as RPMs increase. It's not unusual for an alternator to charge the batteries at a rate of 13.5 to 14.5 vdc depending upon the vehicle. Increasing the input voltage to the LED Controller/LEDs will also increase the amperage draw of those LEDs because they'll burn brighter. For example, we've seen circuits that draw 17 amps when the engine is off and the input voltage is 12.5vdc but jump up to drawing 24 amps when the engine is on and RPMs increased. This is because the input voltage jumps to 14vdc when the engine is running. If your circuit is only sized for 20 amps but the system requires 24 amps while running, you're going to have a problem.

Generally speaking, you don't have to be concerned about this issue if you're not within 60% or more of the collective max amperage rating for the components in your circuit. **If however you're at or above that 60% rated load, we strongly suggest measuring actual amperage drawn for your installation to make sure it's fused and wired appropriately given the highest possible amperage draw when the alternator is charging the system at typical operating RPMs.** If you have an over-voltage situation, there are a couple of solutions:

- 1) install a voltage regulator that will limit the input voltage going to the lights to 12.5 vdc regardless of the alternator output voltage. We sell them. They can also be purchased on Amazon/EBay.
- 2) install a second fuse/relay circuit and balance the LED load between those two circuits. Doing so will effectively cut the load by 50% per circuit. This is our preferred solution when possible.

Here's a photo showing how to use the 1/8" and 1/2" heat shrink to connect the quick disconnect connectors. Important that none of the copper wire strands poke through the heat shrink. Make sure they're all laying down (and not pointing outward). Then, slide the 1/8" heat shrink over the connection and heat shrink that connection. Repeat for the other conductors. When those connections have been made, slide the 1/2" heat shrink on top of the bundle and heat shrink. For the 1/8" heat shrink you only need about an inch (1") or 1.25" of heat shrink to seal each connection. Use 2 or 2.5 inches of the 1/2" heat shrink to cover the bundle.

