



Lighting Flags using Floodlights

Ground-mounted floodlights are often used to provide illumination for flags. When doing so, the most important factors to be considered are wattage, distribution, setback, spacing and aiming.

Flag Lighting Considerations:

1. Wattage
2. Distribution
3. Setback
4. Spacing
5. Aiming

Wattage

Depending on your pole height, flag size, and ambient light levels, the wattage of lamp used in the lighting fixture should be carefully considered when choosing the appropriate fixture for your flag lighting application. For typical conditions, with mid to low ambient levels, the chart below shows the recommended wattage using floodlights with Metal Halide lamps:

Pole Height	Recommended Wattage
25'	175W MH
30'	175W MH
35'	175W MH

Distribution

The amount of light that actually is visible on the flag greatly depends upon the beam pattern of the light fixture illuminating the flag. Most often, a narrow distribution pattern such as a "spot" or "narrow flood" pattern would be the desired distribution for flag lighting. Such patterns would typically fall into the NEMA classification of Type II or Type III.

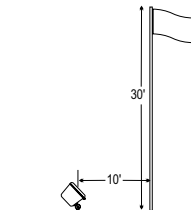
Spread Degrees	NEMA Type	Beam Description
10° up to 18°	1	very narrow
18° up to 29°	2	narrow
29° up to 46°	3	medium-narrow
46° up to 70°	4	medium
70° up to 100°	5	medium-wide
100° up to 130°	6	wide
130° and up	7	very wide

Setback

The fixtures should ideally be placed 1/3 flagpole height away from the pole.

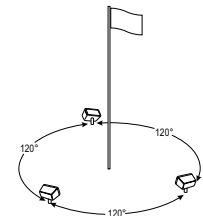
$$\text{Setback} = 1/3 \times \text{pole height}$$

Flagpole height	setback
20'	7'
25'	8'
30'	10'
35'	12'
40'	13'



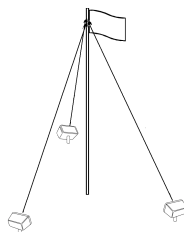
Spacing

Ideally, three fixtures should be used to cover all wind directions, vantage points, and provide the most even uniformity for flag illumination. The floodlights should be placed approximately 120° apart.



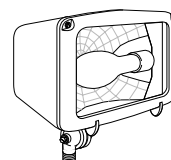
Aiming

The aiming point for the fixture(s) should ideally be at the top of the flag pole.



Recommended fixtures

Pole height	Recommended fixture	Fixture ordering nomenclature	Pole ordering nomenclature
25'	TFM	TFM 175M RG TB FV LPI	RTAFP 25 BA
30'	TFM	TFM 175M RG TB FV LPI	RTAFP 30 BA
35'	TFM	TFM 175M RG TB FV LPI	RTAFP 35 BA



For further application assistance and/or to find your local Lithonia Lighting sales representative visit www.lithonia.com/floodlighting