



COOL LIGHTS™

CL-SFT1P Speed Softbox Kit Operations Manual



**Cool Lights USA
www.CoolLights.biz**

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Introduction

This is the operations manual for the Cool Lights USA CL-SFT1P Fluorescent “Speed” Softbox Kit. You should have received the CL-SFT1 Fixture, a stand to yoke adapter, 200w fluorescent bulb in either 3200K or 5600K, secure bulb carrying box, and finally the CL-SPSBSFT1 Speed softbox which includes a speedring that will be permanently attached to your CL-SFT1 Fixture, the quick setup softbox, 24 x 24 inch diffusion sheet and fabric eggcrate filter. The 200w 8U bulb can only operate on 110v 60hz power as found in North America. This bulb is not dimming capable so please do not try to operate it on a dimmer unit of any kind. Should any parts be missing contact us at support@coolights.biz and mention your order number and which part or parts are missing.

Assembly Process

Remove the CL-SFT1 Fixture from its box. Take the CL-SFT1 fixture from its box and attach the mounting yoke to the fixture with the included knob and bar handle clamps. Remove the items from the CL-SPSBSFT1 box. Attach the stand adapter to the bottom of the yoke with included bolt hardware.



Figure 1 – Speedring attached to the CL-SFT1 fixture with included screws and clamp ring.

Attach the Speed Softbox to Speed ring. Take the speed softbox from its packing. It should look as pictured in Figure 2. Please take care when removing it from the small carrying case as it will spring out into what we call the intermediate stage as shown in Figure 3. From there, you will unfold it

Assemble the Speedring onto the CL-SFT1 fixture. Find the square frame speedring and the round ring clamp, screw and nut that will attach it to the CL-SFT1. Place the round ring clamp around the end of the CL-SFT1 fixture near the lip around the edge. Place the 4 speedring holders into the clamp. Attach the two ends of the clamp together with the included M3 machine screw and nut. When finished, it should look as pictured in Figure 1. This is a one time assembly. Your speedring will stay on the fixture from this point forward. So this will not be necessary each time you setup your softbox.



Figure 2 – Softbox Stage 1, as packed from the factory.



Figure 3 – Softbox Stage 2, intermediate stage of unfolding.

Attach the bulb. Remove the bulb from its secure carrying case and screw into the mogul socket of the CL-SFT1 fixture. Don't overtighten, just screw in until it's turning has stopped.

Warning. The CL-20056 and CL-20032 200w bulbs are extremely fragile so handle with care. They can only be operated on 110v 60hz. Please do not attach a dimmer of any kind to the fixture as the 200w bulbs are not dimmable!

Attach the diffusion silk. The included diffusion silk is not absolutely necessary as the output of the 200w 8u bulb is already very diffused. Its only necessary if you feel you need a bit more softness but will reduce the light output by 1 stop so that should be noted. Just take the diffuser and attach around the large opening side of the softbox using the Velcro on the opening and on the silk to complete the attachment process.



Figure 5 – Softbox with diffuser and eggcrate Velcro attached to front.

further into the final unfolded stage. At the back of the softbox is an opening just large enough and of the right size to clamp onto the newly attached speedring of the CL-SFT1. The Softbox will stay attached to the fixture through tension. There is no other attachment or fastening necessary. When attached to the softbox fixture, the assembly will look as pictured in Figure 4. This is simply a matter of stretching the back opening a bit and putting it on over the speedring.



Figure 4 – Softbox Stage 3, totally unfolded and attached to SFT1 speedring through tension.

Attach the fabric eggcrate filter. The included eggcrate filter can be used to control side spill of light out of the front of the softbox. It works far more efficiently and effectively than barndoors or flags can with such a “soft” or diffused output fixture. Just attach it around the outermost edge of the softbox in front of where the diffuser goes. You may use the eggcrate without the diffuser and the diffuser without the eggcrate. When finished, the softbox should look as in Figure 5.

Plug the fixture into the wall socket. Using the included American power plug, insert the plug end into the wall socket. The bulb will only operate on North American power of 110v 60hz. No power switch was included as it was felt that future iterations or bulbs used with the CL-SFT1 fixture might include an external ballast and such a switch would not have worked well in that particular case. You should now have light coming from the fixture.

Angle adjustment using the CL-SFT1 yoke. When you need to adjust the angle of the softbox, while holding the back handle of the CL-SFT1 fixture, un-tighten the bar handle on the side of the fixture and simply move into the position desired and retighten the thumbscrew as shown in Figure 11.

Fixture transport. When transporting the fixture, its best to take the delicate and fragile bulb out if there is even the slightest chance of the fixture not being well protected from bumps and mishaps. Also, never move the fixture while it is on! This can result in bulb damage.

Warning. Wait until the bulb is well cooled down before moving the fixture around or trying to take it out of the socket. Always store the bulb in its secure carrying case.

Troubleshooting

When troubleshooting any problem, always start with the simplest possibilities and work forward to the more complex ones as you exhaust each scenario. Start with the power plug and make sure it is not only securely plugged into the wall. The bulb should be screwed all the way into the mogul socket of the CL-SFT1. After that, make sure you are working within the suggested optimum operating temperatures of 60°F and 125°F (15°C to 51°C). There is no fan in the ballast in the base of the bulb, so it is highly recommended not to use it in overly hot conditions for a long period of time.

If all trouble shooting options are exhausted, then you most likely have developed a bad switch, ballast or socket. If the unit is still in warranty, you will need to acquire an RMA from info@coollights.biz so the defective unit can be returned and repaired or replaced.

Conclusion

This completes setup and testing of the Cool Lights CL-SFT1P Speed Softbox Kit. With proper care, you should get many years of service out of its sturdy aluminum construction, high quality fixture and softbox. Thanks for your business!

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