

How to find cost effective workable 12V self adhesive strip lighting for survival use.

Start with a search parameter in ebay.com: “5m led strip waterproof cool white -non-waterproof -no-waterproof” and modify as needed.

Before 2014 I would have recommended warm or cool white 3528 SMD at 5M 300 LEDs/string. However now in 2016 I recommend the 5050 SMD 5M 300 LEDs/string or 60LED/M. The price and performance has now changed to make the 5050 a better buy.

In general “Cool white” gives out more light/watt than the “warm white”. However, “warm white” is closer to the suns yellow and is easier for us to be around. The higher frequency cool white takes a bit of getting use to. Use cool white for grow lighting and use warm white for people task lighting where extreme efficiency of power usage is not a big factor.

Waterproof is better than non-waterproof for all around use in a primitive environment including grow lighting. No sockets need to be purchased or installed as would be needed for light bulbs. 12 DC transformers that use 120V AC and 12 volt DC dimmers are readily available for this strip lighting. The backing is adhesive and sticks to the wall or ceiling like tape.

For grow lighting, if one can purchase LED bulbs (12v dc or 120v ac) at a lower cost/watt than for 12 volt strip lighting than this would be the way to go. My research has lead me this way recently and I currently believe 120v LED white light bulbs to be a better way to go for grow lighting.