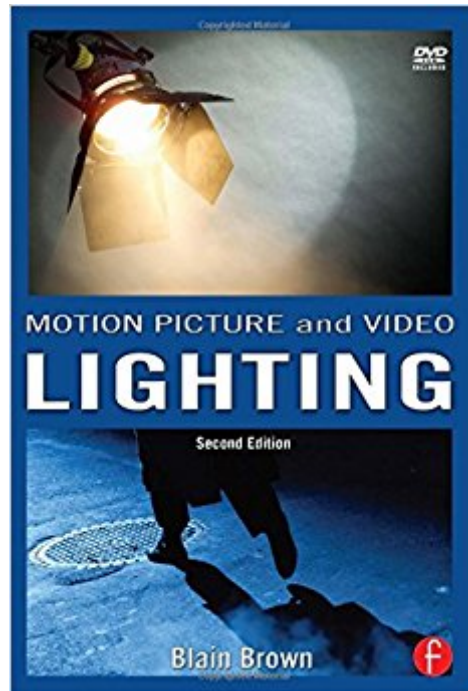




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Motion Picture And Video Lighting (Volume 3)



Synopsis

Motion Picture and Video Lighting, Second Edition, is the indispensable guide to film and video lighting. Written by the author of the industry bible Cinematography, this book explores technical, aesthetic, and practical aspects of lighting for film and video. It will show you not only how to light, but why. Written by an experienced professional, this comprehensive book explores light and color theory, equipment, and techniques to make every scene look its best. Now in full color, Motion Picture and Video Lighting is heavily illustrated with photos and diagrams throughout. This new edition also includes the ultimate 'behind the scenes' DVD that takes you directly on a professional shoot and demonstrates technical procedures and equipment. In addition, 20 video clips include lighting demonstrations, technical tests, fundamentals of lighting demos, and short scenes illustrating different styles of lighting.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am less than an amateur so my opinion should be taken with a large dose of salt. That said, this book received such high praise that I figured I could learn a ton from it. There is definitely a lot of information in it but more than half of it is VERY technical. I am talking about a whole host of things that go FAR beyond types of lights, placement, gels and so forth. There is simply too much info that I do not need as a beginner videographer - a whole bunch that I won't even need down the road as far as I can tell. This book, I believe, is used as a textbook in film schools and covers that kind of ground. It would also be a great reference book for someone whose job is only

lighting a set. However, for someone like me that is doing all things related to a video shoot, I do not need much beyond the first couple of chapters. I am not giving it a bad review, it's well written and there is useful info in it. It's simply not for beginners.

Fairly decent coverage of lighting devices, only a little out of date. This book focuses on lighting with big crews, and does not get much into the techniques of smaller crews. The significant coverage of film issues instead of modern cameras is dated. Some of the coverage of log curves in film would be better applied to digital representations, for example, for today's world. The book, in general, is a little too 'professorial' in my view for typical lighting people. Nevertheless, a lot of important issues are discussed, and pretty good advice given, in general. The stuff on HMI flicker is dated. What I think it needs most is some more discussion of particular moods, lighting plans, and techniques for creating particular looks. I think most readers would like more of that.

I teach film and video at the college level, and whenever a student wants a book recommended as a general learn lighting book I recommend this.¹ This comes with a great DVD that shows visually the difference between many types of hard and soft light as well as numerous light placements and types of bounce. A lot of people who get into film are visual learners, and this DVD is awesome for those of us who like to look at something for results based on how the lighting is set up.² I love that Blaine gives such a detailed description of how electricity works. This is something that is very difficult to learn unless it's really laid out there for you. The book is almost worth it just for this section.³ The pictures in his book are great. They are from very accessible movies and are great examples of each thing that Blaine is trying to show. Along with Blaine Brown's cinematography book you really only need to get two books to get a great understanding of the medium. I would never recommend reading over real world experience. But by being on set and reading this book you'll be off to a great start.

I choose this rating because the book is good. What I like about the book is that it will show you not only how to light, but why. What I dislike about the book is that it had a lot of pages to read. I would recommend this book to other people.

Item as described

I got this book for a cinematography class. Sometimes, it is helpful, but it is very dense. There were

some things in the book that my teacher told us to ignore-- so that didn't seem too promising. Overall, it's an okay book for starting out.

Very comprehensive coverage - initial chapter on the history of lighting may not interest many, though it is necessary to have an understanding of how lighting evolved. As the book progresses into subsequent chapters there are pearls of wisdom that capture the author's life experience in this profession.

It is a real treatise on lighting measurement and stuff that I guess the real pros in allcohollywood would really find valuable or perhaps pros at CNN. Frankly, it's a ton more than the average videographer would ever need or likely use. But, that doesn't mean it isn't good stuff. The tips in the book are excellent, found a couple of handy ones that gave me some new ideas on handling old problems. What was super helpful was the discussion of setups. Perhaps less so, the in depth review of every lighting unit, it seems, out there but you'll darn sure know what the options are once you go over that. The lighting setups were the most interesting to me but there were not too many of them. Perhaps that's not the focus of the book but it would have been more useful if there had been about 4x as many setups in different situations. My assessment is more for Motion Picture lighting and major production studio video than any run and gun or smaller video shoots. I just wish there had been a lot more setups that were not major production setups and more ordinary stuff a business video would run into along with a bit more discussion of why something was done and what else could have been used. Clearly the author is a wizard with lighting, I hope in the next edition he goes down in size to working videographers who shot weddings, interiors, stores, interviews, cars, etc. I'd buy it first one off the press, be that digital or hard copy!

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