Lighting For Film And Digital Cinematography (with InfoTrac) (Wadsworth Series In Broadcast And Production)
Explores the basic concepts necessary for designing and implementing lighting setups. This text adopts a conceptual approach to lighting, focusing on ideas and setups; it assumes readers have a prior knowledge of equipment. Coverage includes lighting, color control, texture, exposure technique, and elements that create image, 'look,' and mood.

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I bought this book because, as someone who has shot a limited amount of both film and video, I wanted to learn more specifics about lighting, exposure theory, color theory, and so on. While the book covers all of these topics, it does so in a limited, rather basic way, and for the information you get, it is not worth the price. It is a flimsy paperback book with lots of empty white space on every page and the illustrative photos are mostly black and white, which is fine for black and white cinematography but . . . . I returned my copy and purchased "Motion Picture and Video Lighting" by Blain Brown for 1/3 the price of "Lighting for Film and Digital Cinematography." Not only is Brown's book less expensive, but it is PACKED with highly useful, very practical information. Plus, it includes a DVD with lighting demonstrations, technical tests, and short scenes illustrating the lighting principles covered in the book. Also, I really like the section of Brown's book that lists all the major types of lights used on professional shoots (from Fresnels and HMI's to PARs, Dino's, MaxiBrutes, FAYs, Soft Lights, Space Lights, fluorescents, and so on). Yes, Brown's book is a bit more
technical, but he covers the basics very well and his book is, in my opinion, a far better investment, and a less expensive one at that.

I have had this wonderful book since its first imprint. It demystifies the art of cinematography and lays a good foundation for the reader to understand both the craft and practice of cinematography. Those who have struggled to read American Cinematographer will have no problems after reading this excellent book. Highly recommended. But why the price increase? I paid only $30 in 1992.

This is a good book that I have been using in class, but the price just keeps creeping up and is now well beyond reasonable. This is a thin paperback, and the publisher would have sold several hundred copies to my students over the past years if the price was right (ca. $40!) I can’t justify asking my students to spend nearly $200 (more at the College Bookstore) on this publication. It's really a shame and a tremendous disservice to the author, because I do consider this to be one of the best books on the subject!

This book absolutely helps the beginning cinematographer in every sense of the word. It is not only helpful for the amateur cinematographer but its also a useful and resourceful book at any stage of your profession. There are diagrams that help you duplicate lighting situations explained in the book. This book truly attempts to teach you.

Lighting for Film and Digital Cinematography (with InfoTrac) (Wadsworth Series in Broadcast and Production) "Lighting for Film and Digital Cinematography" by Dave Viera, is the best book I've encountered on exposure for cinematography period! I strongly suggest this book; We have multiple copies in my creative team and we use it keep everyone on the same page. I recommend buying a good used copy. It has replaced every book I own on the art, science, and craftsmanship of exposure for narrative visual arts.

I thought I knew it all by attending cinematography classes by some of the top professionals, absorbing everything on YouTube, putting into practice etc... I was surprised at how the author of those book simplified so many simple setups that I frequently over-complicate. A great read and must have for a dp’s library, but not worth a penny over $40.00 due to the book being very small page wise and the quality of the images is spotty and mostly black and white. Still 5 stars, because I actually got it cheap, thank you.
This book is a definitely must have for anyone interested in cinematography. This book goes thru all the different aspects and things that a cinematographer must know to create beautiful images. It does go into detail about video as well. But the thing is, and it does state this in the book, if you use film techniques for video, you’ll come out with much better images than those that you see on those bland tv sitcoms and such. If you know the film techniques you can’t do anything but improve the quality of your video. And the lighting exercises in the back are good ways to practice what the books teaches...all books on lighting should come with exercises. The only true way to learn lighting is to engage in it. This is a great book but the price is a bit outlandish.

This book dishes out a lot of information in the small space between it’s paperback covers. I read it looking for film lighting basics, and had a tough time grasping some of the more technical language involving exposure, T-stops, etc, even though I have a decent background in photography. The book does a poor job of addressing and explaining these key concepts. I gleaned a decent amount of information from the pictures and diagrams, but they were poorly aligned with the text, requiring lots of flipping back and forth. All in all, I would recommend this book only to people with a fair amount of knowledge of the physics behind photography and/or film.

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