IlluminFx LED RopeFx Instructions

IlluminFx LED rope light is easy to use and install. Only a few tools, parts, and a little knowledge are needed to get things going.

For all intents and purposes, setting IlluminFx LED rope light up is as easy as: measuring the distance the rope light needs to run and determining the mounting method (IlluminFx track, silicone adhesive, routed groove, etc.); cutting the rope light to length (if necessary); attaching the power cord and end cap; and, finally, putting the rope light in place and connecting it to the transformer.

While it isn't difficult to use IlluminFx LED rope light, there are things that need to be kept in mind when planning the layout and installing the product.
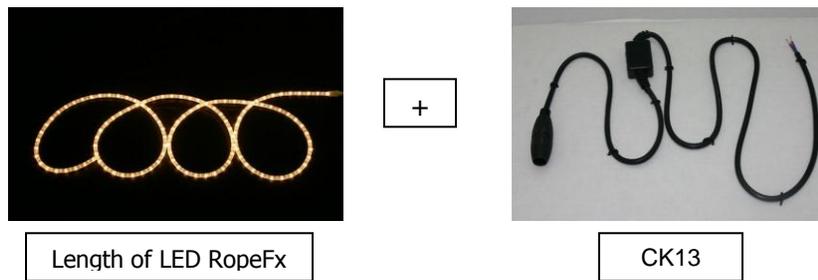
Tools

You should have a few tools handy for your LED rope light installation:

- ✓ Shears - in case you need to cut the rope light shorter than the 50ft. length it comes in. (Fiskars are a good brand to consider.)
- ✓ Wire Strippers
- ✓ Drill – in case screws are used to secure the IlluminFx track or holes need to be drilled for the rope light to pass through (a 9/16ths drill bit will be needed for this procedure).
- ✓ Router – if you're going to mount the rope light directly into the railing, step, etc., without track.
- ✓ Heat Gun – for shrink tube used with invisible splice connectors (part number IC13, L and T connectors).
- ✓ Adhesive and/or Screws – for mounting track.
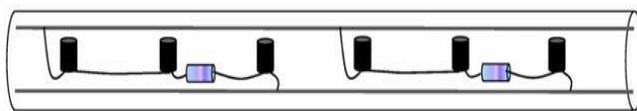- ✓ Magnetic Transformer and Low-Voltage Wire

Parts and Considerations

Only a few IlluminFx LED RopeFx parts (and a few considerations) are needed for a simple rope light set up:

- To get LED RopeFx running, all that is needed is a length of the rope light (up to 50ft long) and a power/connector cord, which comes with an end cap for the opposite end of the rope light (part number CK13). See Figure 1.

Figure 1

Length of LED RopeFx	CK13

- Two wires run through the length of the rope light, which deliver power to the LEDs. (See Figure 2.) The end of the CK13 that connects to the rope light is a silicon sleeve that a 2 prong piercing pin. The piercing pin is inserted into the LED RopeFX and then inserted into the CK13. When connecting the power/connector cord to the length of rope light, it's important to make sure that the prongs make good contact with the wires. Otherwise, the LEDs may not light. (one CK13 is already connected to the 50ft spool).
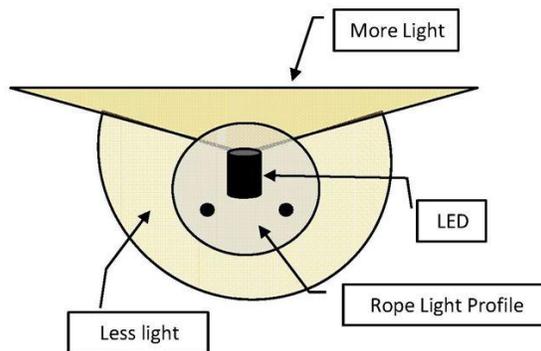
Figure 2

The power delivery wires are above and below the LED's (represented by the black barrels) in this image.

- There is a polarity to the power delivery wires that needs to be considered, when connecting the power/connector cord to the rope light. After you have attached the CK13 to the RopeFX (only if additional CK13s are needed per 50 feet of RopeFX) and the power cord to your low voltage line and transformer to make sure it fires up. If it does not, remove the prongs from the rope light, rotate them 180 degrees and re-insert them into the wires. Again, test that the LEDs light up.

- Unlike other rope light products, IlluminFx LED rope light's LEDs are directional. (See Figure 4.) When installing the rope light in a particular application, it's important to turn it so that the LEDs are pointing in the direction where the light is desired. Otherwise the light from the LEDs will be somewhat blocked.

Figure 3

Be sure to aim IlluminFx LED rope light so that the direction where more light is thrown is illuminating the desired area.

- Mounting the LED rope light to the desired surface can be done using IlluminFx track (part numbers T13-3 or TF13-3). Epoxy can be used on the back of the track (approximately 5/8 of an inch wide) to secure it in the specified location. Screws have also been used. Once the track is attached, the rope light can be snapped into place. See Figure 3.

Figure 4

Using IlluminFx track (p/n T13-3, seen on the underside of the porch railing) is a simple way to mount LED rope light to the desired location. Epoxy and/or screws can be used to secure the track in place, and then the rope light can be snapped into the track. (Note: T13-3 track is clear. The track in this figure has been painted.)

- An alternative to using the mounting track for the LED rope light is to rout a groove into the surface of the area in the application where the rope light is needed. The rope light has a diameter of about a half an inch, so the groove would need to accommodate that. Epoxy or silicon can be used to secure the rope light in place.

- When cutting IlluminFx LED rope light to the desired length, you must find the cut line – marked on the rope light by a dotted line and a scissors symbol. (See Figure 5.) These are the only places that a cut can be made. Cutting elsewhere will cause some of the LEDs not to light.

Figure 3

Using a good set of cutting shears, you can cut IlluminFx LED rope light wherever the "X" is (this is actually a scissors symbol. Cutting anywhere else will damage the rope light.

- IlluminFx LED rope light can be cut in intervals of 4.5 inches, with the longest length up to 50 feet.

- While IlluminFx LED rope light is low voltage and made for outdoor use, it is not recommended for use in water features or other water applications. Around the outside of spas is acceptable.

- IlluminFx LED rope light uses only .67 watts per foot. When attaching a length of rope light to a transformer, the amount of power needed to drive the specific length will have to be taken into account.

- IlluminFx LED rope light is flexible, making it a great choice for lighting applications that need curves or to go around corners, etc.

- IlluminFx LED rope light is available in cool white, warm white and blue. (See Figure 6.) Other colors may be available, through special order.

Figure 4

The top spool is cool white; the bottom spools are blue and warm white.

- The LED technology in the rope light offers a product life expectancy of up to 50,000 hours, as well as the inherent energy efficiency of the LEDs.

- IlluminFx LED rope light can also be "spliced" together, should you desire alternating colors. All that is needed to achieve this is the lengths of rope light desired and either a black connector (p/n BC13) or an invisible connector (p/n IC13). Again, when putting an alternating color length of IlluminFx LED rope light

4

together, polarity needs to be considered, as well as the maximum length of 50 feet.
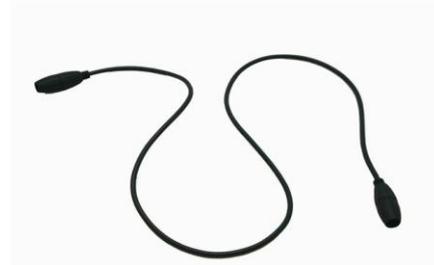

OR

BC13

IC13

- When using IlluminFx LED rope light to light outdoor steps, our new 18 inch (p/n RTR-18) and 48 inch (p/n RTR-48) rope-to-rope connectors (See Figure 7.) are a great way to get from step to step, without having to bend and hide a section of rope light.

Figure 5

RTR-18: 18in. Rope-to-Rope Connector.

RTR-48: 48in. Rope-to-Rope Connector.

- If it's necessary to run Illuminfx LED rope light through conduit, a one-inch internal diameter will accommodate one section of the rope light and the power/connector cable.

- The type of transformer needed to run IlluminFx LED rope light is a 12-volt, AC, MAGENTIC transformer. **THE TRANSFORMER MUST BE MAGNETIC!!** No specific brand is required. It just needs to have these requirements and enough wattage to cover the length of rope light being connected to the transformer.

- Some of the most common applications that IlluminFx LED rope light is used in are: deck/porch railings; front walk steps; outer portions of spas; and the undersides of wall copings.

www.illuminfx.com

Under porch railing.

Under table coping.

Under decking.

Lighting path steps.

Or, get creative…