

Calculating Driver Wattage

Understanding the wattage requirements of your lighting products is essential for selecting the right driver and ensuring optimal performance. In this guide, we will walk you through the process step by step.

Step 1: Determine Product Wattage

The first thing to consider is the wattage of your lighting product. This information can always be found on our website and in our brochure for each product.

For example, if you are using LED tape and have selected a 9.6W tape, the wattage of your tape would be 9.6W per metre.

LED Side Emitting Tape 9.6w 120 LEDs Per Metre
K36-S780*

Select Colour Temperature

WARM WHITE (WW) 3000K
NATURAL WHITE (NW) 4000K

For all control options please see pages 74-81

- Edge lit LED tape
- Great for use on curves, radiuses and 90° angles
- 9.6w 120 LEDs per metre
- 3000K - 615 lumens per metre
- 4000K - 672 lumens per metre
- Cuttable every 25mm
- Roll length: 5m
- CRI>80
- Bespoke sizes available
- 2m power lead with micro connector
- Dimensions: W8 x D3mm
- Available to order as single tapes or kits

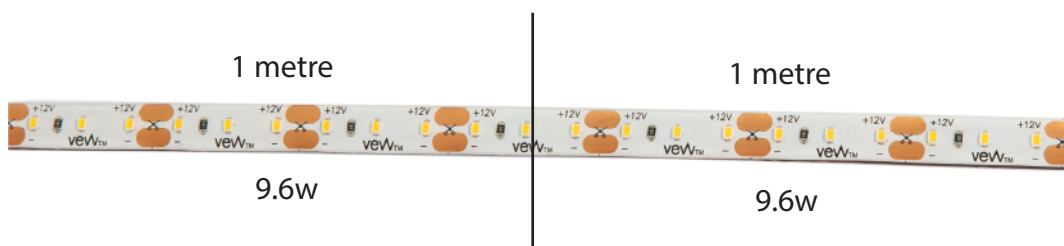
3M^{YHB}

Step 2: Calculate Total Wattage

To calculate the total wattage required, multiply the wattage per meter by the total length in metres.

Example Calculation:

Wattage per metre x Total metres = Total wattage required



For 2 metres of the 9.6W LED tape:
 $9.6W/m \times 2m = 19.2W$

Step 3: Selecting the Driver

It is crucial to choose a driver with a wattage higher than the total wattage required. This ensures that your lights function properly and avoid any issues.

For the previous example, a 30W driver or higher would be recommended.

Additional Considerations

Always choose a driver with a wattage higher than the total wattage required to ensure reliable performance.

If the total wattage comes out to be exactly or slightly under the available driver wattages, it is best practice to choose the next size up for safety.

If the total wattage is significantly lower than the available driver wattages, consider using a lower wattage driver to avoid overpowering the lights.

Example Scenario: Spotlights

Let's consider an example where you are installing 6 spotlights, and each spotlight has a wattage of 0.18W.

Calculation:

Wattage per spotlight x Total number of spotlights = Total wattage required

For 6 spotlights with a wattage of 0.18W each:



$0.18\text{W/spotlight} \times 6 \text{ spotlights} = 1.08\text{W}$

In this case, an 8W driver or higher would be suitable for powering the spotlights.

Conclusion

Understanding how to calculate wattage is vital for selecting the appropriate driver and ensuring the successful operation of your lighting products. By following these steps and guidelines, you can make informed decisions and create efficient and reliable lighting solutions.

Remember, if you have any questions or need further assistance, our team is always ready to help.