



SuperNova Kayak Lighting Installation Instructions

Thank you for your SuperNova Fishing Lights purchase. Night fishing is challenging – just locating what’s out there and being seen on the water are both big issues for the nighttime kayak angler. Our mission is to improve your fishing experience and keep you safe on the water.

SuperNova Fishing Lights are a high-quality and durable product. However, to get the most out of your investment, the quality of your installation is paramount. The following instructions detail the method we use for mounting SuperNova Fishing Lights LED strips to your kayak. Take your time, measure twice and drill once, and please contact us if you have any questions regarding your installation at:

<http://www.supernovafishinglights.com/contact>.

Kit Contents:

- SuperNova Fishing Lights LED Strips (Quantity varies by Kit)
- 3M Adhesion Promoter
- Switch(es) (Quantity varies by Kit)
- Heat Shrink
- Wire Management (including tie-wraps and mounting pads)
- ATC Fuse Holder
- 5amp Fuse
- Extra Wire
- Crimp-on Connectors (Optional)

Necessary Tools:

- Wire Strippers
- Electric Drill, 3/16” bit and 1/2” bit
- Masking Tape or Painter’s Tape
- Tape Measure
- Marker
- Solder Iron
- Electrical Solder
- Heat gun, Torch or Lighter
- Crimpers (for optional crimp-on connectors)
- Silicon Sealant
- Battery- 12v. (Recommend an 18+ amp-hour sealed lead acid battery)

Before You Begin:

- Make sure you have all of the required equipment out and ready to get started.
- Read through the instructions thoroughly and carefully before beginning. We are happy to help with any additional questions you may have.
- **Important- Don’t skip this step! Always begin with a clean work area. The area where you plan to attach your SuperNova Fishing Lights should be thoroughly cleaned and dried. We recommend rubbing isopropyl alcohol on the determined areas and allowing to thoroughly dry, which may take several minutes. If your kayak is new and/or rough-surfaced: clean thoroughly with acetone and allow to dry. Then apply isopropyl alcohol and allow to dry before getting started.**
- Installing these kits does require some basic electrical and soldering knowledge.

WARNING: Improperly installing the lights may cause damage to the lights, equipment, your kayak, and possibly to yourself. SuperNova Fishing Lights cannot be held responsible for damages or injury resulting from improperly installing our product, or for using them in a manner other than that intended.

Step 1 – Mock Up Your Strips

The best location for LED strips is different for each model of kayak and individual's desired use. It is important to mock up the install with masking or painter's tape to avoid mistakes. Once the strip is adhered to the boat, you cannot easily remove it, and the strip will likely be damaged or destroyed in the process.

Front (Bow) strips: These are best located at least 6" from the bow and down far enough that they are not visible from your seated position. You should use a straight edge taped onto the boat or, alternatively, a strip of painters tape just above or below your desired location to help with getting the strips straight. This applies to rear (stern) strips as well. Just remember that if the strip is in your field of vision, your night vision will be affected.

NOTE - When determining location, consider access inside the hull for wiring.



In these photos, the light strips have been taped to the kayak to hold their place.



Cockpit lighting: The cockpit or cabin lights are generally switched separately and used mainly as task lighting. Our 4-inch cabin lights are bright enough to allow for good visibility but can be distracting, so most folks like the option to turn them off when not in use. It's up to the individual to determine where and how these lights will be used. We recommend hooking them up to a temporary battery and sit in the kayak in the dark and move them around until you find the location best suited to your needs.



< Here is a photo of utility, or task lighting, in a tankwell and cabin.

Once you are positive of the locations for your strips, it's time to drill holes for your power leads. Make a mark approx. 1/4" from the end of the heat shrink and drill 3/16" holes on your mark. Pull the lead up and out of the way of your bit. You can then feed the leads in and rout them as needed. If a lead is too short, this is a good time to extend it, using the extra 22AWG wire supplied in the kit.

Step 2 – Choose a location for your switches

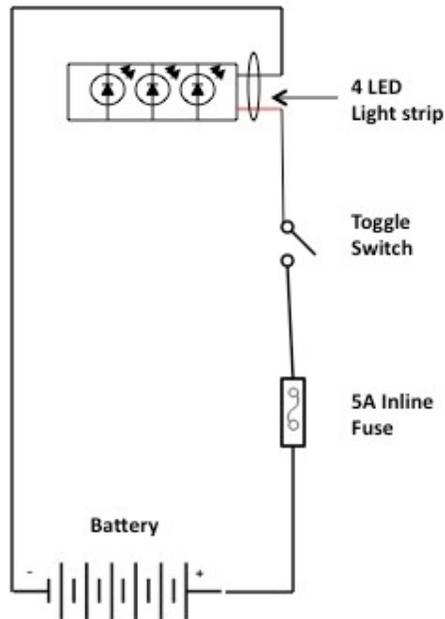
The switches need to be out of the way while fishing and yet easily accessible. We recommend they be located above the level at which water will accumulate. When installing multiple switches, draw out a template on painters tape, marking the holes using a ruler to ensure proper spacing and alignment, and then drill the holes using a 1/2" drill bit.

This photo shows drilled holes for three switches. >

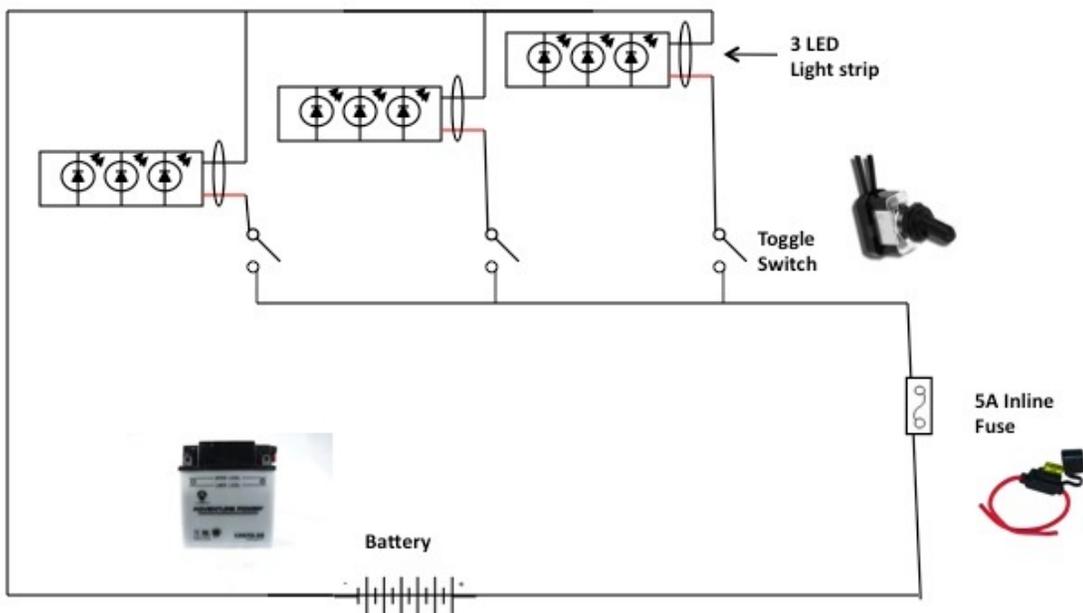


The below diagrams represent an example of how your lights should be installed for both kits that include one or multiple switches.

Single Switched Light Diagram



Multiple Switched Light Diagram

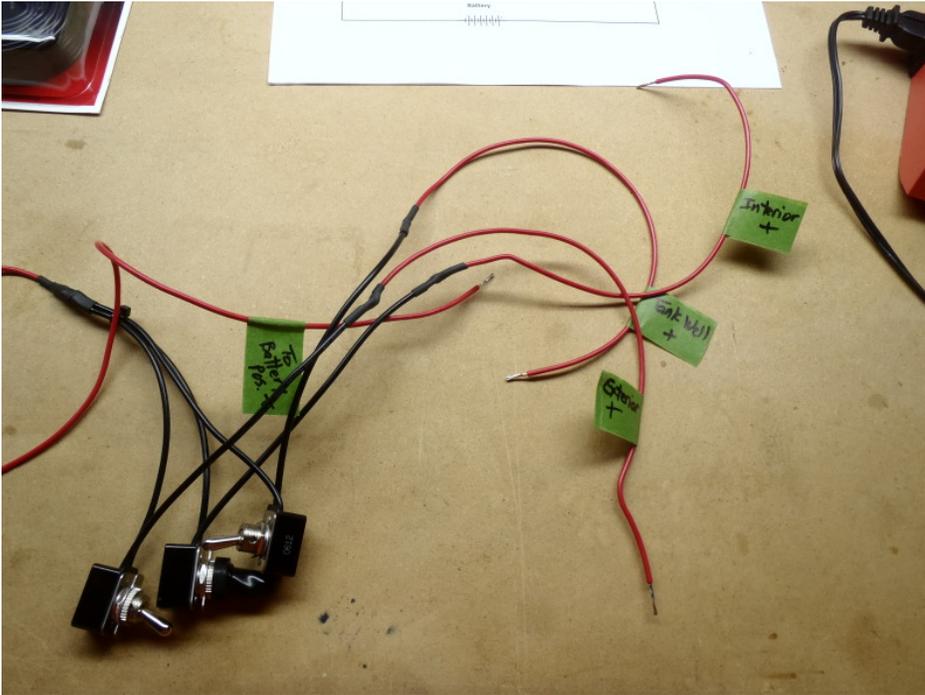


Step 3 – Solder your connections

-Every switch shares a common (positive) power lead, which must be protected by using the in-line fuse holder provided in your kit. Preferably, you would mount this protection as near as possible to the positive connection on your power source.

-The most efficient method is to mark and assemble the switches prior to installing them in your kayak.

-Connect the positive (red) wire that feeds your lights to one lead of the switch. Connect the other lead from your switch to the fused positive connection from your power source. Connect all your negative (black) wires that feed your lights together and to the negative connection on your power source. Solder the connections and utilize heat to shrink the heat shrink tubing (supplied with the kit) or use the optional crimp-on connectors to ensure solid connections. NOTE – Ensure that the heat shrink tubing is far enough from the connection to be soldered that it does not begin to shrink from the heat generated by soldering.



With the exception of the switches, do not make any part of the install permanent until everything is tested. With everything tested and final placement determined, make the final solder connections inside the hull.

You will want to slide a piece of heat shrink on one lead of each of the wire connections to be soldered, and after soldering the wire, slide down the heat shrink over the connection and apply heat to secure and waterproof the connection

Step 4 – Mount your Strips

1. **Preparing Surfaces:** Clean any areas where LED strips need to adhere with isopropyl alcohol and allow them to **dry completely**. Apply adhesion promoter (supplied with the kit) to **ONLY** those areas where the LED strips will be installed and let dry completely (about 3 minutes).
2. **Applying Strips:** Peel the protective covering off a few inches of the tape and lightly press the LED strip in place. Use your straight edge or tape guide to ensure a straight installation. Continuing to peel back just a few inches of the protective covering at a time, *lightly* press the strip in place at the desired location – starting at the end with the wire leads – continue to remove only small sections of the protective backing as you work your way down the strip. It pays to take your time here; as once the tape sticks to your hull, it is nearly impossible to remove. Now, using your index finger and thumb, apply pressure along the outside edges of strip to ensure complete adhesion. **Do not press hard on the LEDs located in the center of the strip.**
3. **Waterproofing your Kayak:** Place a dab of the silicon sealant of your choice in all the holes that went through the hull to keep things watertight and allow the silicon to dry completely, according to its packaging directions. Sometimes this requires up to 24 hours.
4. **Dressing your wires:** Decide where you need to place wire management pads, and clean that area with isopropyl alcohol (allow to dry completely) and then apply adhesion promoter to that area and, again, let dry completely. Apply the wire management tabs firmly and "dress" all the wiring using cable ties. This keeps them neat, protected and out of the way.

You're all done! Go enjoy your new SuperNova Fishing Lights Kit! Get lit & get bit!