

# Lowel Umbrella Instructions

## Warnings

- **DO NOT** set the focus on full spot or nearly full spot, when umbrellas are used with high-intensity focusing lights (such as Omni or DP), as fabric is likely to scorch.
- Lowel umbrellas should only be used with Lowel lights. Use Tota-brellas with Tota / Omni, ViP, L-light, and Fren-L 650. Use DP Brella with DP Lights.
- When umbrella lights are extended very high, used on undersized stands, or used in areas of heavy “traffic,” it is advisable to add weight (such as the Lowel Weight) to the base of the stand to reduce the chance of lights falling over, causing damage or injury.

## Purpose

Photographic umbrellas convert relatively hard light sources, such as spot lights, into relatively soft sources that provide soft shadows and highlights. Although not appropriate for every subject or mood, the quality of light can be very beautiful.

Lowel offers 2 types of umbrellas: silver reflective, and white nylon. The silver brellas can only be used to reflect light, and have a higher reflected output as a result. The white nylon brellas are more translucent, so there is less reflected output. However because they are translucent, there is an added ability to shoot light thru them, simulating the effect of a soft box attachment. In all uses, set focusing light to flood.

See instructions for specific Lowel lights for further attachment & use instructions.

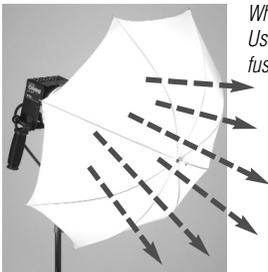
## Reflective Use



*Reflective Silver Brella*

*White Nylon Brella*

## Shoot-thru Use



*White nylon brella only.  
Uses brella as large soft diffuser. (focus light to flood)*

## Techniques

When umbrella light is placed far from the camera lens axis, to the side, overhead, or slightly behind the subject, the effect can be very dramatic and definitely not flat.

To increase the size of the source when the subject requires it, or to increase the exposure level, several umbrella sources can be placed closely together to create, in effect, a large, efficient “single” source that will not produce multiple shadows.

When umbrella light is used, especially in areas with white walls, there tends to be some “spill” from the umbrella. As a result, less fill light is generally required than with hard sources. If it is desired to reduce the “spill” to control contrast, subject brightness, or lens flare, large flags can be used.

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