

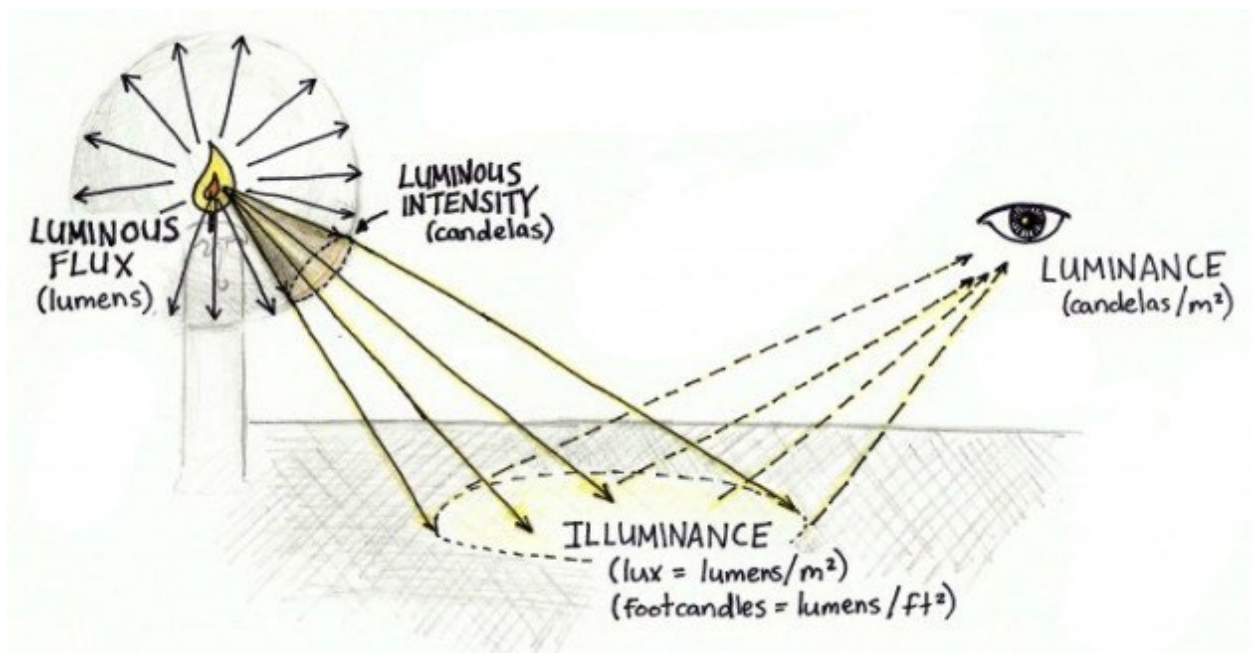
Common Light Measurement Terms

In lighting, terms like lumens, candelas, and lux measure light output and intensity. Beam angle and beam spread describe how light is distributed, while color temperature indicates the perceived warmth or coolness of a light source. Accent, ambient, and task lighting refer to different ways of using light for emphasis, general illumination, and specific tasks.

Here's a more detailed breakdown of key lighting terms:

Light Measurement & Output:

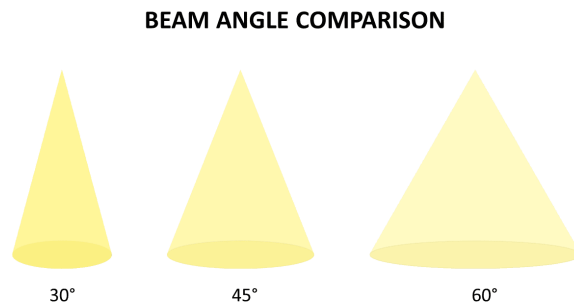
- **Lumens:** Measures the total amount of visible light emitted by a light source.
- **Lux:** Measures the illuminance of a surface, or how much light is received by an object or room. Similar to footcandles, but in the metric system (lumens per square meter). One lux is the illuminance produced by a standard candle at a distance of 1 meter.
- **Footcandles:** Measures the illuminance of a surface, or how much light is received by an object or room. Similar to Lux, but in the imperial system (lumens per square foot).
- **Nit:** A unit of measurement for luminance, specifically the brightness of a display or light-emitting surface. One nit is equal to one candela per square meter. Nits are commonly used to describe the brightness of displays like digital signage.
- **Candelas (or Candlepower):** Measures the luminous intensity of a light source in a specific direction.



Credit: Sigma Safety Corp. <https://sigmasafety.ca/news/lumens-lux-and-candela/>

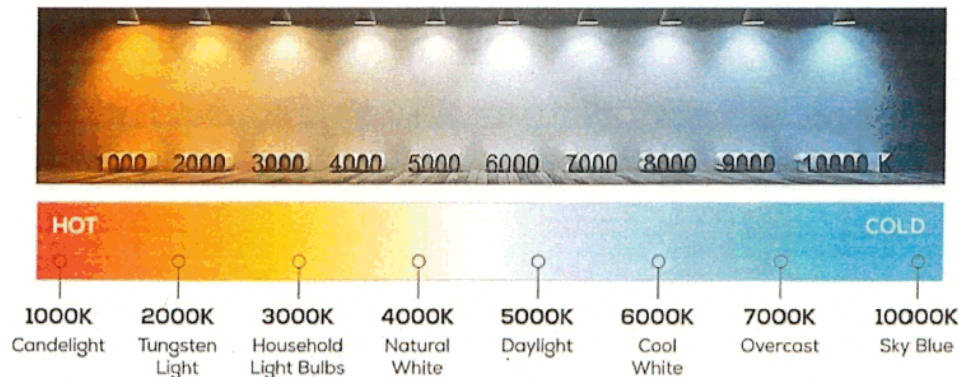
Light Distribution & Characteristics:

- **Beam Angle:** The angle at which a light fixture emits light.



Credit: R&C Lighting <https://rclite.com/blog/lighting-beam-angle/>

- **Color Temperature:** The perceived warmth or coolness of a light, measured in Kelvins.
- **Correlated Color Temperature (CCT):** The color temperature of a light source, expressed in Kelvins.



Other Important Terms:

- **Luminaires:** A complete lighting unit, including the light source and its housing.
- **Lamp:** A generic term for a light source, often used in the lighting industry to refer to the light bulb itself.
- **Bulb:** The glass or plastic part of a lamp that contains the light-producing element.
- **Diffuser:** A material that softens or spreads light.
- **Dimmer:** A device that controls the brightness of a light.
- **Festoon Lighting:** String lighting intended for permanent installation and year-round use.
- **Seasonal Lighting:** String lighting meant for temporary use and displayed on buildings or landscaping.