

Question: How do I know if the IR LEDs on my camera are switched on?

Answer: Often people think the IR LEDs are not working because they don't get the illumination they expected. To prove the IR-LEDs are coming on at night, do the following tests:

Often people think the IR LEDs are not working because they don't get the illumination they expected. They think it will be a floodlight but it's better described as a torch light.

To prove the IR-LEDs are coming on at night do one of the following:

1 - One person test (night). At night put a white or brown paper bag over the dome then check the picture. If the picture is all white then the LEDs are working and you are seeing the IR light reflecting off the bag.
(Note: you won't get an actual picture as the bag stops the camera seeing anything.)

1 - One person test (day). Few paper bags are thick enough to obscure all daylight to mimic night so it's difficult to conduct this test during the day. To test the IR LED function in daylight use aluminium foil to cover the camera. This prevents any daylight getting to the camera and triggers the IR LEDs to turn on. Again if you see a bright, white picture the LEDs are reflecting off the foil proving they are working.

2 - Two person test. At night one person watches the monitor and the other puts their face next to the dome about 1m away. On the monitor the person's face should be illuminated just like a torch is shining if the IR-LEDs are working.

If the IR LEDs are working but you still don't get the night time performance you require you have two choices:

A - Add more conventional illumination. Metal halide lights are low cost to run and produce a nice "white light" ideal for CCTV.

B - Add more IR lighting. Remember though, if you want the equivalent IR illumination as a 500W floodlight you would need a 500W IR light - that would be a big IR light!

IR illumination is great if it's not oversold in its benefits. It's ideal for close up illumination of porches, entrances etc. Where longer distance applications are needed plan the installation with care to avoid disappointment.

As a rule, think of IR illuminators as *torch beams* of different powers **NOT** as floodlights.



Ext Varifocal IR Dome
Code: SEE350W



All-In-One HD-TVI
Code: SEE835G



Why not get the best of both worlds and opt for a Nitedevil Eyeball with built in IR too? Code: SEE870B

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