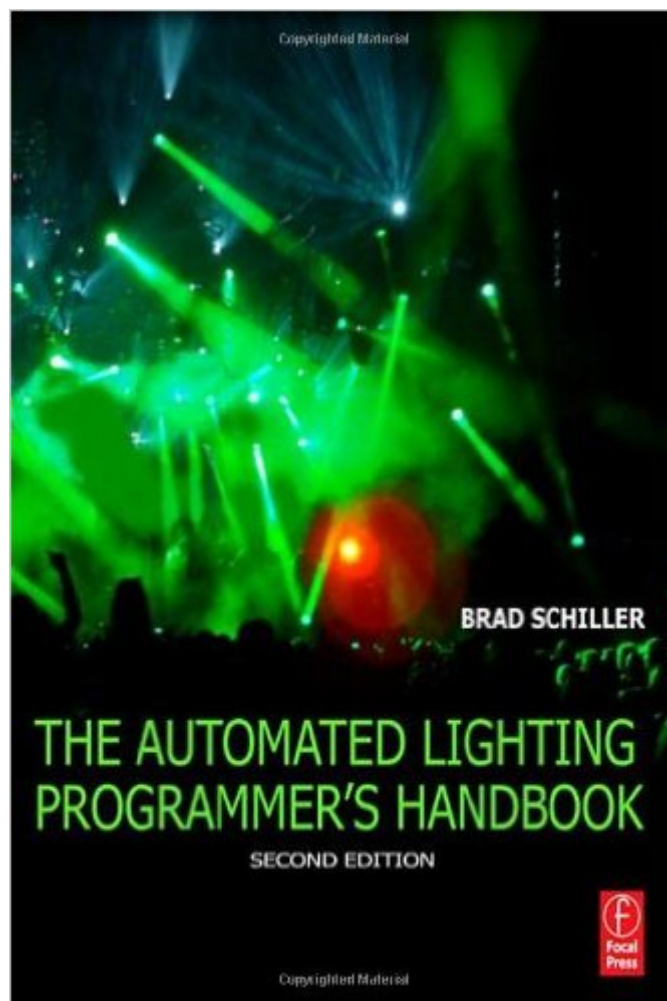


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# The Automated Lighting Programmer's Handbook



## Synopsis

Now in full color, this guide helps the lighting designer with all of the many creative and operational challenges you face. Providing respected and clear coverage of the process of programming automated lighting fixtures, Brad Schiller brings you from basic principles to pre-production preparations. Concepts, procedures, and guidelines to ensure a successful production are covered as well as troubleshooting, much needed information on work relationships, and of course all of the fun technology including LED lighting, console networking, digital lighting, and more. The final chapter brings the creative thinking of some of the heaviest hitting lighting designers of today, featuring Butch Allen, Jason Badger, Mike Baldassari, Richard Belliveau, Allen Branton, John Broderick, Dall Brown, Mark Butts, David Chance, Christian Choi, Vickie Claiborne, David Davidian, Patrick Dierson, C. Andrew Dunning, Mike Falconer, John Featherstone, Cory Fitzgerald, Laura Frank, Demfis Fyssicopulos, Craig Gaff, Steve Garner, Jon Griffin, Tim Grivas, Rob Halliday, Bryan Hartley, Bud Horowitz, Steve Irwin, Seth Jackson, Mark "Junior" Jacobson, Shannon January, David "Gurn" Kaniski, Mats Karlson, Eric Kennedy, Tom Kenny, Hillary Knox, Marcus Kr  mer, Jim Lenahan, Steve Lieberman, Esteban Lima, Heath Marrinan, Michael Nevitt, Adrian Ngieng, Paul Normandale, Jim Ohrberg, Steve Owens, Mitch Peebles, Paul Pelletier, John Rayment, Benoit Richard, Scott Riley, Larry "Uncle Fester" Robbins, Timothy F. Rogers, Susan Rose, Arnold Serame, Marsha Stern, Henry M. Sume, Howard Ungerleider, Lawrence Upton, Jon "Hillbilly" Weir, and Ross Williams.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you thought this was a book for programmers (the computer kind) about programming \*for\* lighting systems (like i did), think again. That being said, if you are the computer kind of programmer writing programs for lighting systems, then this book is a very good introduction to technical aspects of physical lighting systems. It will help you with the vocabulary, the concepts, and much about the whole lighting trade. Definitely a book to read. If you're trying to learn about operating lights, see other reviews who have done a better job than i would.

Pros:-The text provides sage advice. I very much appreciate the author's "Rule #9" which basically states that if you do not understand how to create "an effect or look ... admit it" (xxv). Love it! I wish more people in the industry took that credo to heart.-The author's writing is occasionally playful. It's refreshing to have a text that doesn't mire itself in lingo and jargon. (With that said, I'm not a fan of the "Life is Like a Box of Chocolates" heading (125). I'm pretty sure that should never be uttered or written ever again.)-Chapter 13 "Words of Wisdom from Industry Professionals." It provides a wide array of advice from both programmers and designers.Potential Cons:-I must concur with one of the previous reviews: I did expect a bit more of an in-depth study for nearly \$40.00.-It features precious few examples (and even fewer photos of the end-product).-A few editing errors here and there. The bold-type heading "Stay as Cool as You Fan" was a particularly startling typo that should have been caught by the publisher (61). Editing errors like this do undermine the text's authority. (My own students love to point them out ... which is insanely annoying.)This text could prove a valuable supplement to your professional library. However, if I were selecting my texts for the semester, I would probably skip this one and order a slightly more expensive but extensive study.

The first thing I noticed about this book is that it doesn't read like a dry, esoteric textbook. It is written clearly - there's not a whole lot of filler and it is well organized.It's a pretty broad overview about how to manage a light system for small to medium-sized venues and events. I'd say it's a decent introduction to running lights in these types of venues.However, after reading it I decided that it's a complex field, and definitely something I would hire someone else to take care of -- someone with a little more knowledge and experience about lighting consoles and other related equipment.But if you want to get your feet wet in automated lighting, this is a great book to start with. Five stars!

This book will be useful if you are, or want to become, a programmer for electronic stage lighting

control boards. It doesn't discuss the specifics of particular equipment but does lay out the general principles for efficiently programming any lighting control system.

This book is must have for every Lighting Programmer and LD! As of 1/2 way through I decided that it would be required reading for my Programmers and Lighting Interns. It reminded me of things I had forgotten, and gave me some fresh ideas on how to make my workflow faster. It is being passed around my crew, and I don't for-see it sitting on my bookshelf very much. The journals in the back are really cool and almost worth the cost of the book. I am a Hog2 user, and it was cool to see how others are using the same desk. Thank you! Austin Taylor[...]

Informative in a general way, but targets advice exclusively to those who have access to or possess high-end DMX controllers and fixtures. Very little information about how to use specific controllers or fixtures. Descriptions of how the author is greatly experienced are not useful.

For anyone interested in lighting programming techniques, this book is a must. For theater, industry, large projects, and even home uses, you can learn a lot from this book. And for students, a very comprehensive manual that not only can help you get started, but will be useful for many years.

Full of great information for those new or old to lighting. Both technical information and useful anecdotes of a clearly talented professional in his own right. Great read.

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