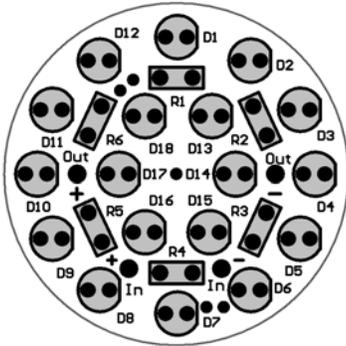


LED SpotLight jr 18-LED SpotLight

LED SpotLight jr – 18-LED SpotLight



Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) are an attractive, economical and convenient option for lighting applications. Available in a wide variety of colors, styles, sizes and intensities, LEDs provide for inexpensive, highly-efficient, low-voltage, reliable lighting solutions. Applications range from lighting in aquariums, recreational vehicles, marine & aircraft to computer case mods, under-vehicle lighting, emergency/security lighting and accent-lighting in the kitchen and around your home – the options are endless.

One challenge with LEDs is the mounting of the displays. We produce several innovative solutions, including the **LED SpotLight jr**, which holds 18 LEDs in a circular pattern on a compact 1.6" (41mm) diameter board.

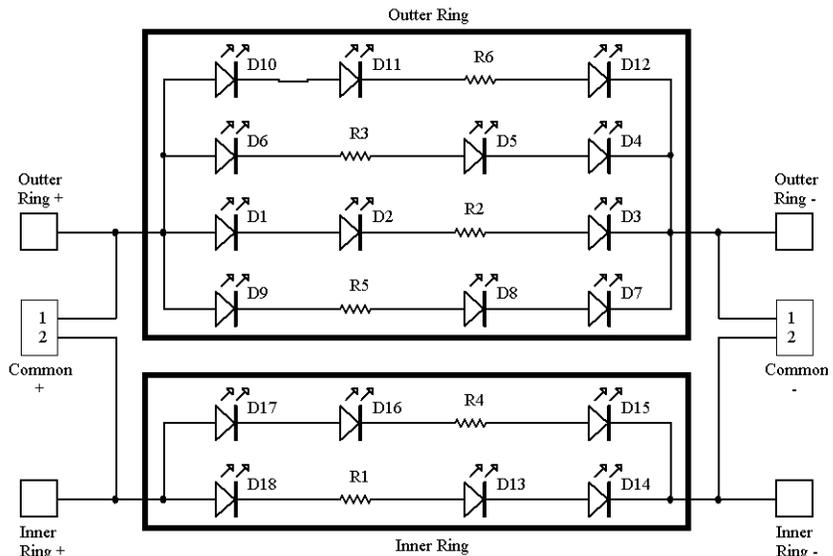
The design of the **LED SpotLight jr** allows for the outer 12 LEDs (**D1** to **D12**) to be controlled separately from the inner 6 LEDs (**D13** to **D18**). To power the outer ring of LEDs, simply apply power to the "Out +" and "Out -" connection on the board, while the inner ring power is applied to the "In +" and "In -" connections.

Located in the centre of the board is a hole which can be enlarged for specialized mounting needs. This hole can also be used to position a camera lens to use the board as a ring light in macro-photography or filling the board with IR LEDs for the positioning of a low-light night vision camera.

The schematic shows the LEDs wired in sets of three with each set having its own current limiting resistor. A full 18 LEDs running on the board will draw a total of approximately 120mA.

LEDs do require care in controlling the maximum current through the circuit – this is known as Current limiting. Current limiting is the process of restricting or controlling the total current draw of a circuit with the use of resistors.

Current limiting is accomplished on the **LED SpotLight jr** by six resistors located at positions **R1** to **R6** on the board. Different colors of LEDs can be included on the board, but you must always ensure to not exceed the maximum current (known as the *forward current*) which is usually around 20mA to 25mA.



The value of the current limiting resistors is determined by the supply voltage to the circuit, the voltage drop across each LED and the current desired through the circuit. As a rule, keep the current through each leg of the circuit to approximately 20mA, which is normally the standard for 5mm LEDs. The following chart will assist you in determining the correct dropping resistor needed for your specific application.

Resistor Selection Chart				
LED Type/Color	Blue	UV & Green	White & Pink	Red & Yellow
LED Forward Voltage	Vf=3.7v	Vf=3.5v	Vf=3.0v	Vf=2.0v
Supply Voltage	13.5v to 14.0v	150-ohm	150-ohm	220-ohm
	13.0v to 13.4v	120-ohm	150-ohm	200-ohm
	12.5v to 12.9v	100-ohm	120-ohm	200-ohm
	12.0v to 12.4v	68-ohm	100-ohm	150-ohm
	11.5v to 11.9v	43-ohm	168-ohm	120-ohm

Resistor Color Codes		
330-ohm (orange-orange-brown-gold)	270-ohm (red-violet-brown-gold)	220-ohm (red-red-brown-gold)
200-ohm (red-black-brown-gold)	150-ohm (brown-green-brown-gold)	120-ohm (brown-red-brown-gold)
100-ohm (brown-black-brown-gold)	68-ohm (blue-grey-black-gold)	43-ohm (yellow-orange-black-gold)

For example, if you were going to run a set of White LEDs in an automobile, the normal battery voltage of a car is approximately 13.8v. Based on the chart, the supply voltage is between 13.5v and 14.0v and the White LED option shows you would require a 220-ohm dropping resistor.

It is important that you use the correct current limiting resistor, as using a value too low could result in permanent damage to the LEDs by allowing too much current flow. If you use a value larger than is needed, no damage will occur, but the LEDs will not glow as brightly which may be desirable depending on your application.

The current limiting resistors need to be placed on the board in positions **R1** to **R6**. Refer to the pictorial image of the board showing the positions of the eight resistors. The resistors will need to stand vertically on the board to fit.

The PCB also has the ability to be powered by a single power supply, which will drive both the outer and inner rings at the same time. To use this feature, you must install two jumpers on the board. The first jumper is located between **D12** and **D18** on the upper right of the board, while the second jumper is located between **D6** and **D7** on the lower right corner of the board. Once the two jumpers are installed, you can simply apply power to the “**Out +**” and “**Out -**” connections on the board

