

yourknowledgebase



Lumens & lux explained...

Lumens and lux are regularly confused. However, in very simple terms, lux is a measure of light given out by a light source, and lumens is a measure of illumination at a certain point or across a surface area.

For instance, one luminaire or light source might be 3,600 lumens. This might provide 400 lux at 2m from the light source, but 800 lux at 1m from the light source.

The below is a snip from our current catalogue.

Variable	Symbol	Unit	Definition
NOUS FLUX 0	Φ	Lumen (Im)	The light of a light source
Luminous intensity	T	Candela (cd)	Intensity of the light output in a specific direction (luminous lux/solid angle)
S INTENSITY I	E	Lux (lx)	Luminous lux incident on a surface area divided by the size of the surface area
E Luminance	L	cd/m² cd/cm²	Luminous intensity of a light emitting surface divided by the size of the perceived surface or: the brightness of a diffuse relecting surface, determined by multiplying illuminance with relectance divided by p

When looking at a lighting design, always take into account that whilst average lux across a room may hit the specified levels, it is always critical to ensure there is an even light spread. This is crucial to a successful lighting scheme. Appropriate luminaire selection as well as specifying the correct beam angle will ensure that an even light spread is achieved.

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