

Frequently Asked Questions — HPL Beam Pattern

The following *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)* were prepared to help answer any questions you may have about the beam pattern enhancement of HP (High Performance) to HPL (High Performance, High Lumen).

Q: What are High Performance, High Lumen (HPL) flashlights?

A: HPL flashlights are upgraded versions of the HP (high performance) flashlights we previously offered. The HPL lights provide the user with the beam distance of the HP lights with an enhanced lumen output.

Q: What makes Streamlight's HPL flashlights different from the HP beam?

A: Streamlight's HPL lights continue to have the long distance reach of the HP beam, but with the added benefit of increased lumens.

In addition, the new HPL lights give you a bigger hotspot, which means more light on your target at a distance. For example, if you were shining the original HP on a person at distance, you would be able to see his/her head and shoulders. With the HPL beam pattern, you'd be able to see from his/her head to the waist.

Q: Why is candela important? Don't I want the most lumens possible?

A: It's all about balance. Lumens is the measurement of the entire light output, regardless of beam focus. Candela (peak beam intensity) is the measurement of the brightest spot in the focused beam, and takes into account both the output of the lamp (lumens) and the efficiency of the reflector.

If you often find yourself needing light down-range, such as in search and rescue operations, checking utility lines, or even rifle shooting, you may prefer the HPL lights. These will give you the long-range lighting you need, with a more focused beam for greater distances.

Q: A customer is interested in a certain flashlight, but how can we tell which beam pattern (Tradition, HPL or HL) is the best for that customer's use?

A: You are going to want to determine what environment the individual is going to be using the light in the most and for what application. For example, is a general all-purpose light for everyday use needed? You may want to consider a light in the Tradition series. If they need to light an object from a distance, the HPL Series would be the best choice in this instance. Or, if they need a flood-type beam without distance for lighting up a room or large area, they should consider the HL Series.

Q: Can you upgrade an existing HP flashlight into an HPL?

A: Because of the electronics and technology involved, kits are not available to change an HP light into an HPL.