

## STANDARD RECOMMENDED LIGHTING INTENSITIES

*These are the lighting levels recommended by conservators for the protection of art and artifacts.*

<b>LIGHT LEVEL</b> (in footcandles)	<b>OBJECTS:</b> Detailed Description, Examples
<b>1 to 5</b>	<b>INSECTS, FLORA, FAUNA:</b> Butterflies, grass clothes, hemp products, flax textiles, berry dyes, dried flowers, native baskets
<b>2 to 5</b>	<b>FRAGILE PAPERS, RARE PHOTOGRAPHS:</b> Documents, letters, hand-written items, newspapers, drafts, checks, rare books, Daguerreotypes
<b>2 to 7</b>	<b>STAMPS, TAX TAGS, RIBBONED MILITARY OBJECTS, BRAID:</b> Rare stamps, event tickets, tax stamps, military ribbons, sword handles, paper money
<b>2 to 12</b>	<b>ANCIENT CERAMICS, GLASS, POTTERY:</b> Biblical glass, Faiences, bilbils, seals, painted pottery, unearthed ceramics, iridescent glass
<b>2 to 20</b>	<b>ORGANICS, ANIMALS, BIRDS:</b> Mounted animals, dioramas, furs, feathered objects, untanned hides, hair objects, shells
<b>3</b>	<b>FLUORESCENT DYES AND PAINTS:</b> Asian art, safety clothing, stick-on post notes, modern posters, bright markers, children's paints
<b>3 to 10</b>	<b>TEXTILES, COSTUMES, ABORIGINAL OBJECTS:</b> Shrouds, quilts, samplers, movie costumes, shoes, African art, Native American artifacts
<b>3 to 10</b>	<b>PROMOTIONAL PRINTED OBJECTS:</b> Trading cards, movie posters, game boards, ads, printed packaging, fliers, rare handbills, can labels
<b>3 to 12</b>	<b>ILLUMINATED BOOKS, ILLUSTRATIONS, ART PRINTS:</b> Fragile books with color, flower illustrations, hand-tinted prints, Sumi-e ink paintings
<b>3 to 25</b>	<b>BOOKS, PRINTED MATERIALS:</b> More durable books, collector fine art prints (modern), printed plates, greeting cards
<b>5</b>	<b>BONE, IVORY, HORN, PHOTOGRAPHS:</b> Inlaid instruments, horn chairs, scrimshaw, more durable photographs, paintings on ivory
<b>5 to 10</b>	<b>UNSTABLE PLASTICS, STYRENES:</b> Plastic toys, dolls, promotional items, telephones, kitchen table-top appliances
<b>5 to 12</b>	<b>WATERCOLORS, PASTELS:</b> Paintings on paper, art studies, fugitive pastels, bright chalks, cloisonné. 5 fc for permanent exhibits, 12 fc for exhibits under 1 year.
<b>5 to 15</b>	<b>PEARLS, FRAGILE GEMS, FRAGILE MINERALS:</b> Soft stones, uncut gems, carved jade, cameos, intricate-structured minerals
<b>10 to 20</b>	<b>LEATHERS, CURED HIDES, SADDLES:</b> Unpainted leathers, boots, harnesses (no clothes, no ancient artifacts)
<b>10 to 30</b>	<b>WOODS, FURNITURE, VENEERS:</b> Tables, Chinese boxes, classic car interiors, (use lowest fc level for cherry woods)
<b>10 to 30</b>	<b>NATURAL RUBBERS, LATEX, AGED RUBBER:</b> Balls, hats, rubber shoes, belted machinery, construction equip., sales models
<b>10 to 50</b>	<b>ANTIQUÉ CERAMICS, POTTERY, CHINA:</b> Fine china, ceramic sculptures, clay pots, porcelain, Victorian tiles, bisques
<b>10 to 30</b>	<b>PAINTINGS IN OIL/ACRYLIC:</b> Well-constructed paintings only (no objects on paper or older works) folk art, painted furniture, whirligigs. 10 - 12 fc is the limit for masterpieces or really fine work. 30 fc is for commercial retail galleries showing a work for a short time, usually 1 year or less.
<b>20 and up</b>	<b>STABLE PLASTICS, CLEAR RESINS:</b> Plastic sculptures, tables, cases, water dioramas, computer housings, castings
<b>20 and up</b>	<b>GLASS, CRYSTAL, COLORED GLASS:</b> Stained-glass windows, carnival glass, stemware, cut crystal, light fixtures
<b>30 and up</b>	<b>METALS, SILVER:</b> Damascus steel, swords, copper pots, brass instruments, engraved silver, bracelets
<b>30 and up</b>	<b>ACRYLIC, SYNTHETICS, CARBON-FILLED RUBBER:</b> Stress test models, nylon webbing, military hardware, tires, no textiles or fabrics
<b>50 and up</b>	<b>GEMS, MINERALS, ROCKS, FOSSILS:</b> Diamonds, set jewels, necklaces, carved coal sculpture, sculptures, dinosaurs