

Re: new LED torch (flashlight) bulbs more efficient?

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ghbt wrote:

- > *Do the new LED torches (flashlights) actually give more value for money from*
- > *the batteries (in terms of illumination per cost of batteries) than the*
- > *previously developed small and bright xeon bulbs or the older ordinary torch*
- > *bulbs?*

Yes. A White LED is about as efficient at turning electricity into light as, say, a 60W 120V incandescent bulb. This is many times the efficiency of the little incandescent bulbs used in flashlights.

A single color LED (Red, Amber, Green, etc) is even more efficient and makes for great traffic signals or turn signals on cars but that monochrome light makes for a lousy flashlight.

LEDs also have a characteristic that the more drained the batteries become, the less they consume. This is opposite typical flashlight bulbs that consume more the less power left in the batteries. This means that with an LED the light slowly gets dimmer and dimmer but it can take a long time to go out entirely. It's not uncommon for some LED flashlights to still produce dim, but usable, light after 24 hours on a single set of batteries.

Anthony