

Common Spotlights in the Theatre CBRT Script
By Bruce Phillips

- 1: One of the most important elements of theatre is light (gesture)
2: Without light (gesture), nobody could see what is going on on stage!
3: There are two (gesture) primary types of spotlights used in the theatre.
4: The ERS...
5: And the Fresnel!
6: The IRS? Do I owe them money already?
All: No!
3: The ERS stands for ellipsoidal reflector spotlight.
6: Oh, good. I'm broke.
1: The ellipsoidal reflector spotlight is a lighting instrument that uses a reflector in the shape of an ellipse, or oval (gesture).
2: The light (gesture) from the bulb, which is called:
All: The lamp (sound and gesture)!
4: Reflects off the ellipse, and through the *plano-convex lens*.
5: The whato-whata-what???
All: THE PLANO CONVEX LENS!
2: That's means it's a convex lens that is just pretty ordinary.
4: Wrong! A plano convex lens is a lens with one flat side (gesture) and one side *bulging* out (gesture).
1: A convex!
5: Ohh. I get it.
3: So the lamp (sound and gesture)
6: Reflects off the ellipsoidal reflector (sound and gesture)
1: Through the plano-convex lens (sound and gesture)
All: And onto the stage! (gesture)
5: Ohh. Now I really get it!
6: The ERS is used for precise control of light. It can produce a sharp beam that can be focused (gesture) and shaped (gesture).
2: The Fresnel is another type of spotlight!
3: Fresnels are mainly used for back light, soft washes, or areas that do not require precise control
4: You can shape the beam of light from a fresnel with barn doors (gesture) and top hats (gesture).
1: Barn doors and top hats?
2: Those are the names of the shutters that can be attached to the spotlight!
6: Barn doors are shutters that swing outward (gesture)
5: While top hats focus the light through a tube (gesture)...like a tophat!
1: Mr. Lincoln would be proud...
3: Fresnels work much the same way as the ERS.
2: The lamp
4: Reflects off a *parabolic* reflector
5: And through a round *fresnel* lens!
6: The lamp (gesture) is on what is known as a sled (sound effect).
3: If the lamp is moved towards the reflector
1,3,5: ...the light spreads out! (gesture).
2: If it moves away...
2,4,6: ...the light is more focused (gesture).
3: Hey! Get focused!
1: That certainly does shed some light on the subject!
All: Groan! <sound effect>