



## How to Distinguish a Quality LED Light Bar from Cheap Ones

With so many manufacturers of LED light bars, evaluating your options can be confusing. Hopefully, through reading this guide, you will come to understand the various electronic, mechanical and operating features common to most light bars. The next question is how to determine which LED light bars will give you the best service over their lifetime.

The following characteristics may be difficult to discern if you cannot physically handle a light bar, but often LED light bar reviews from owners can help determine them:

- The number one enemy of LEDs is *heat*. A **quality light bar** will have oversize heat sinks and tight current control.
- If possible, check the *operation* of a light bar you are considering under different voltage inputs. If the LEDs brighten noticeably as voltage rises, this is a sign of poor LED drivers.
- Look closely at mounting points and brackets. The **best LED light bar** has *sturdy, corrosion-proof* mounting hardware and provide options for mounting the bar in different locations.
- Check the IP rating. At a minimum, it must be IP65. IP69K is the highest rating, but few light bars achieve that. Make sure the electrical connectors are IP-rated.
- A wide product line from 3" light pods up to 50" bars and plenty of *accessories* are signs of a quality light bar manufacturer.
- Most importantly, check the *warranty*. Top LED light bar makers back their products with lifetime or near-lifetime guarantees. Be sure to check the fine print for exclusions.

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