

2015

LIGHTTOOLS

Soft Light Control

pocket reference



A Perfect Match



LIGHTTOOLS[®]

with



CHIMERA[®]

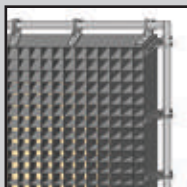
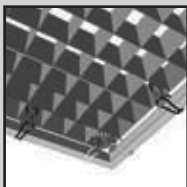
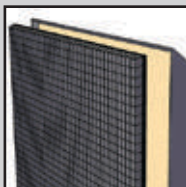
PERFECT LIGHTING

- 4 Original Soft Egg Crates®
- 8 CUfocus® Soft Egg Crates®
- 12 Stretch Frames®
- 14 ez[POP]® Patent Pending
- 18 EggCalc
- 24 Lighttools® to fit B&O

Choose the Right Tool



LIGHTTOOLS
exceptional control.



Printed in Canada

soft light control | pocket reference

Lighttools® Original and ez[POP] Soft Egg Crates® for Chimera Lightbanks are available exclusively through Chimera dealers worldwide.



Lighttools and Chimera have forever changed the way photographers and cinematographers work in the field. While Chimera Lighting changed ordinary open faced quartz fixtures into a source of beautiful light, Lighttools allowed users to accurately control the placement of that light.

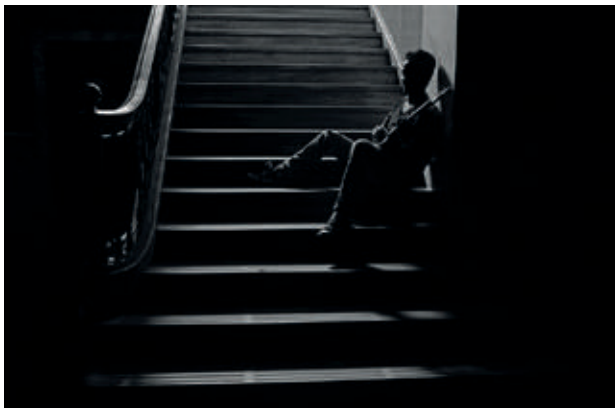
Together, Chimera Lightbanks and Lighttools Soft Egg Crates provide effortless and creative control of your soft light. They are easy to use, easy to transport, and easy to store.

Lighttools and Chimera continue to collaborate to enhance the way our products fit and work together.

What They Say

Bill Frakes

Bill won the coveted Newspaper Photographer of the Year award in the prestigious Pictures of the Year competition. He was also a member of the Miami Herald staff that won the Pulitzer Prize for their coverage of Hurricane Andrew. Bill was awarded the Gold Medal by World Press Photo.



“When I work, my goal is to maintain the organic look of my subject. Using Lighttools Soft Egg Crates allows me to create a soft and natural look. If you can’t tell I’ve used strobes, then I’ve used them well.”
www.billfrakes.com



As the inventors of the Original and CUfocus® Soft Egg Crates®, Lighttools is the world leader in soft light control.

Lighttools provides:

- Models to fit all Chimera Lightbanks.
- In-house manufacturing.
- Unparalleled quality assurance, dependability and 6-year warranty.
- Personal support with product selection, technical specifications and photometric data.

You're In Control

Controlling soft light is no simple task! However, working with soft light can be a lot easier when you have our full range of tools.

Our industry leading **Original Soft Egg Crates** control spill of light in four directions and reduce variation in near-to-far light values, saving you time and effort.

Alternatively, if you would like to have the softest light possible and the most dramatic light blocking around your subject, **CUfocus Soft Egg Crates** are the best tool.

Lighttools Soft Egg Crates are available in a wide variety of specifications so we have a Soft Egg Crate that is right for you, whatever your project.

Not sure which Soft Egg Crate you need? Read on to learn more, or email us at: admin@lighttools.com

Lighttools website **CLICK**



Original Soft Egg Crates®

Varying Degrees of Control

Through the use of uniform parallel cells, our Original Soft Egg Crates:

- **Reduce spill by blocking off axis light in four directions.**
- **Reduces the near-to-far light ratio, creating a more even light. This can be a benefit when the subject is moving toward or away from the light.**

This more even lighting is due to increased occlusion† by the cells at closer distances.

†Occlusion: Refers to the blocking of light.

[Original Soft Egg Crates Link](#)

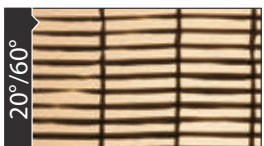
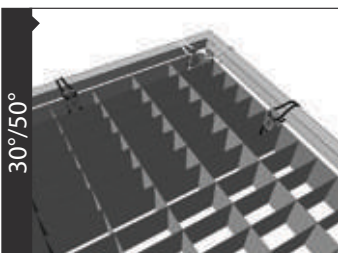
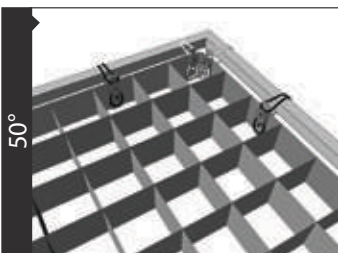
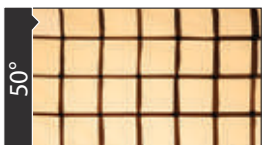
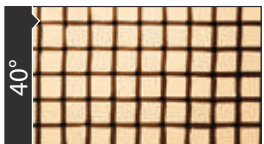
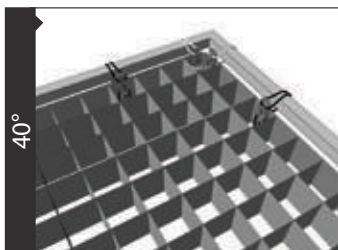
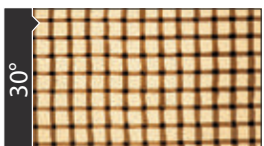
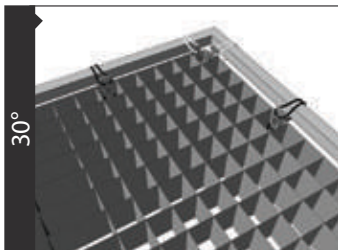
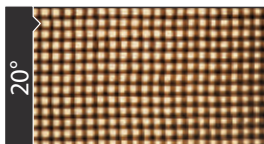




Cell Sizes

To fit Chimera Lightbanks

To fit Butterfly and Overhead frames





Original Soft Egg Crates®

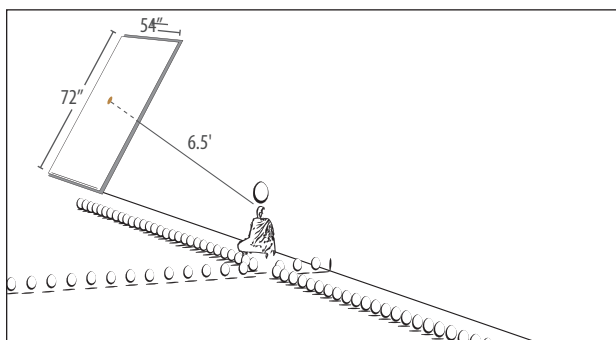
Original

Light Distribution

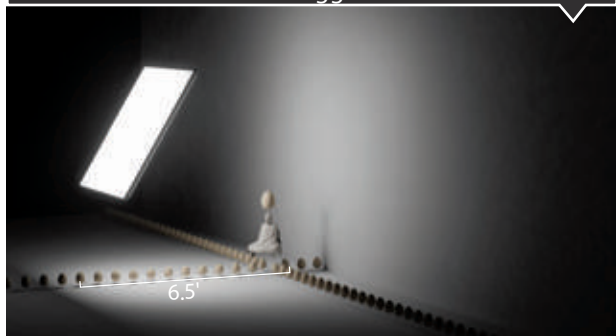
The following renderings show light distribution for Original and ez[POP] Soft Egg Crates.

Images rendered with an 54"x72" Large Chimera Lightbank at a distance of 6.5' from the subject.

Occlusion percentages calculated at center axis

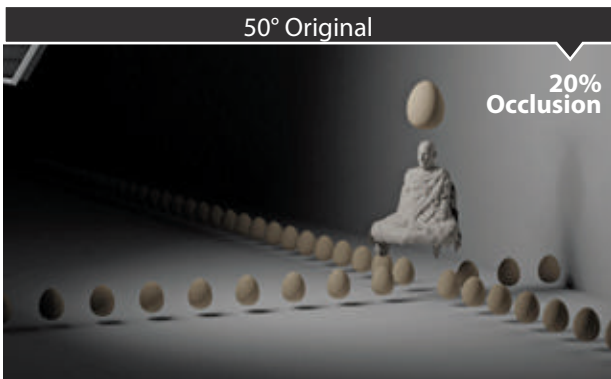
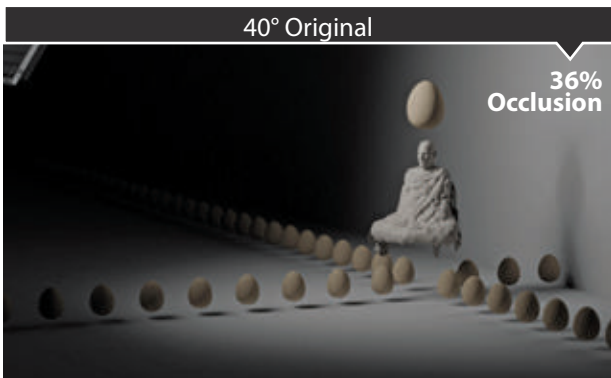
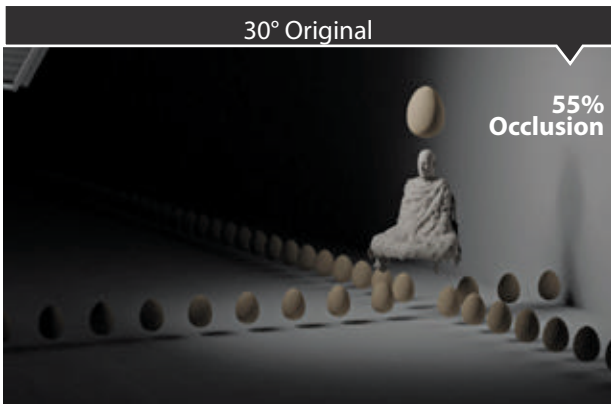


No Soft Egg Crate



Lighttools gives you more control with less equipment and in less time.

James Bagdonas, ASC
Director of Photography





more light, tighter control

CUfocus Soft Egg Crates use specially angled cells to:

- **Provide full-source illumination at close distances.**
- **Maximize your ability to tightly block light around the desired subject.**

Full source illumination at close distances is not possible with Original Soft Egg Crates due to occlusion.

CUfocus works by angling the cells to focus 100% of the light on a predetermined point close to the source.

[CUfocus Soft Egg Crates Link](#)



Steven Fierberg, ASC



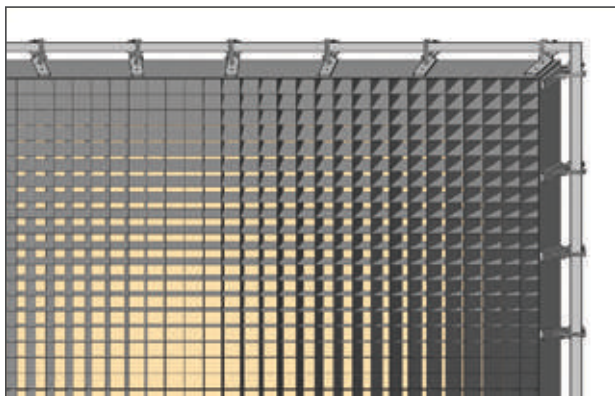
Models

CUfocus Soft Egg Crates are available by special order to fit Chimera Lightbanks.



CUfocus Soft Egg Crates to fit butterfly and overhead frames are available in sizes from 4'x4' to 20'x20' directly through Lighttools for sales and rental.

Contact admin@lighttools.com

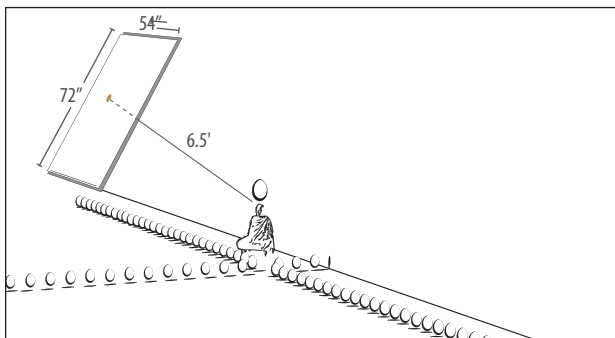




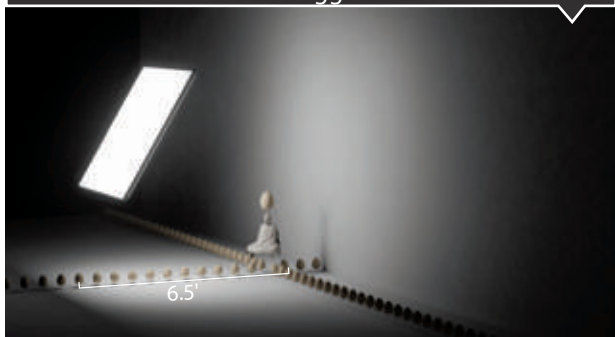
CUfocus^R Light Distribution

Images rendered with an 54"x72" Large Chimera Lightbank at a distance of 6.5' from the subject.

Occlusion percentages calculated at center axis.

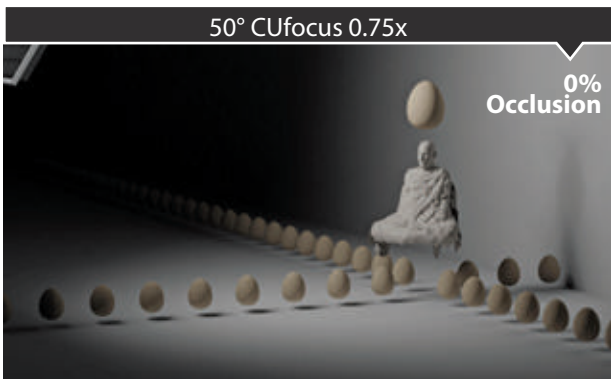
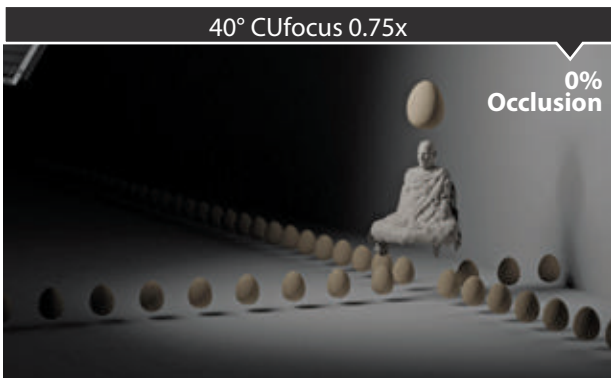
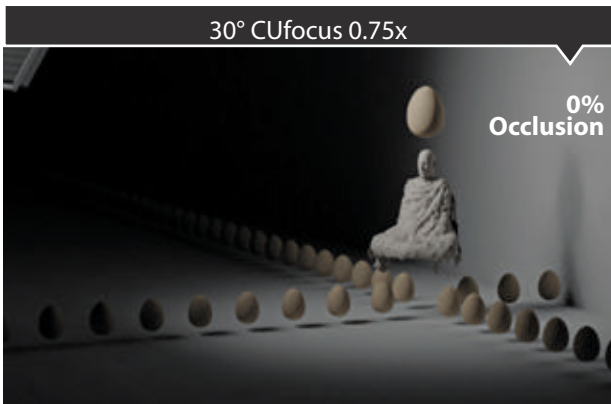


No Soft Egg Crate



"Whenever I stepped past a CUfocus, I flinched, thinking that a lamp went out! They are the *ultimate* in soft light control."

Peter Wunstorf, ASC
Director of Photography



to fit Original Lightbanks for more *precise* results

Lighttools Stretch Frames eliminate sag, to give you complete control, regardless of how much your lightbank is angled downward.

Essential for larger lightbanks, Stretch Frames are a **one-piece, collapsible frame**. When inserted into the lightbank the Stretch Frame creates rigid sides to keep the Lighttools Soft Egg Crate taut for 100% efficiency.



One Stretch Frame can be used for all Lighttools Soft Egg Crates of the same outside dimensions, regardless of their cell size. This includes Original and CUfocus models.



[Stretch Frames Link](#)



Lighttools® Stretch Frames®

Achieve 100% Soft Egg Crate® Efficiency



Chimera Octaplus 5 with 40°
Lighttools Soft Egg Crate

54"x72" Chimera Lightbank with
50° Lighttools Soft Egg Crate

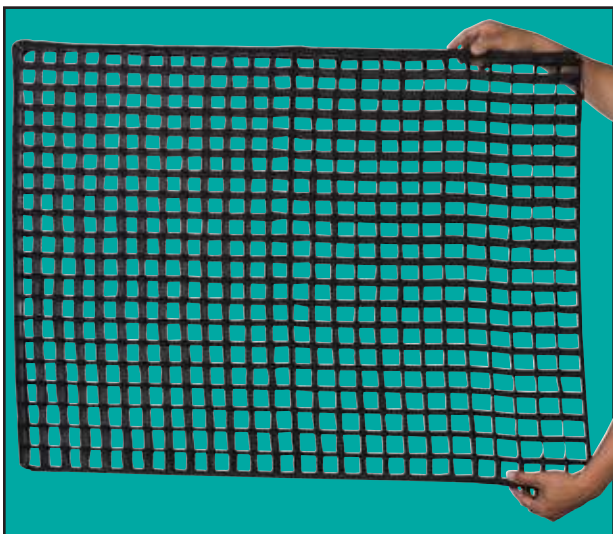


to fit Chimera Lightbanks

Pull ez[POP] out of the case;

Pop into formation;

Place into the softbox.



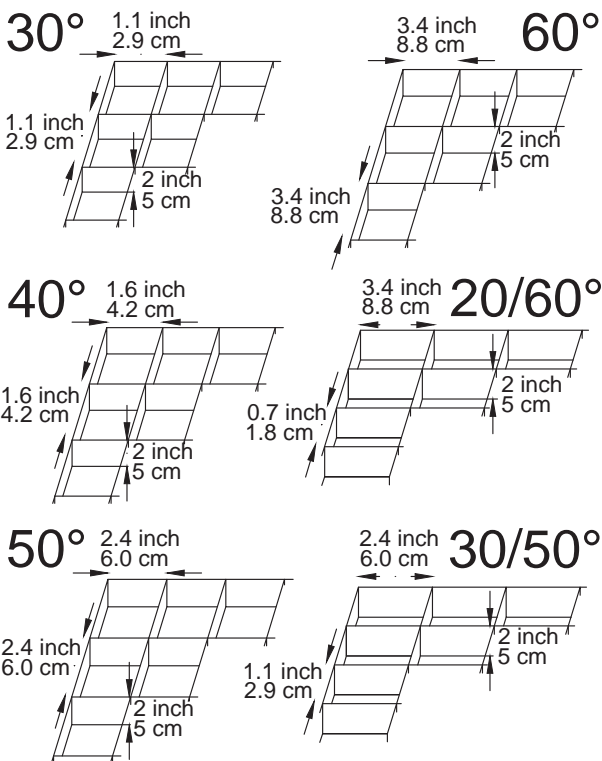
ez[POP] Link



Complete control in lighting and set up

Lighttools ez[POP] combines innovation in lighting and setup with a built-in tensioning frame; this keeps the Soft Egg Crate taut for maximum soft light control. The ez[POP] for larger lightbanks includes a built-in centre brace to keep the Soft Egg Crate in perfect formation regardless of how the lightbank is angled.

Lighttools ez[Pop] Soft Egg Crates come in a variety of cell sizes each with dramatically different effects. Lighttools ez[POP] are available for all Chimera models.



Howard Schatz

Howard Schatz is an internationally known, critically-acclaimed, award-winning photographer. His work has been published in 20 books and is found in galleries and museums worldwide as well as in innumerable private collections.



"I use Chimera Lightbanks and Lighttools fabric grids frequently in my studio work."

www.howardschatz.com

See Howard Schatz 25 year Retrospective

www.schatzimages25years-glitterati.com



Michael Grecco

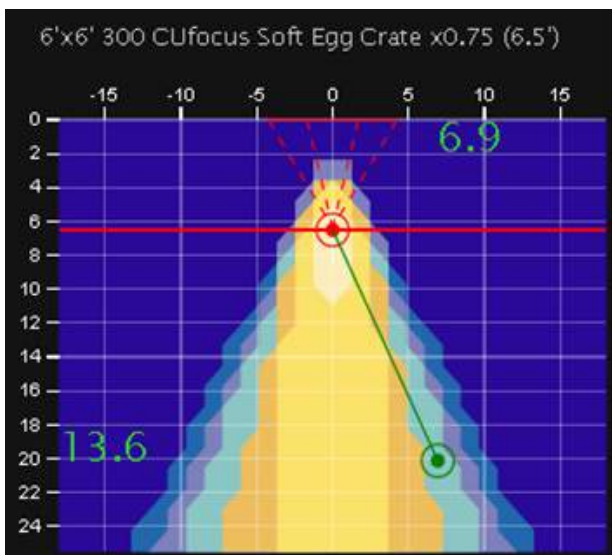
Michael Grecco is an award-winning commercial photographer and film director noted for his iconic celebrity portraits, innovative magazine covers and advertising spreads.



“My images are all about creating pools of light, using darkness and shadow wherever possible. Lighttools Soft Egg Crates and Chimera Lightbanks are the only way I can have tight, soft light.”
www.michaelgrecco.com

EggCalc Lighttools® Soft Egg Crate® Online EggCalc Calculator

EggCalc is an interactive calculator designed by Lighttools for photographers and cinematographers to determine exact light distribution changes when Original Soft Egg Crates or CUfocus Soft Egg Crates are placed over a diffused light. Light distribution is also shown for diffused light sources without egg crates.



[EggCalc Calculator Link](#)

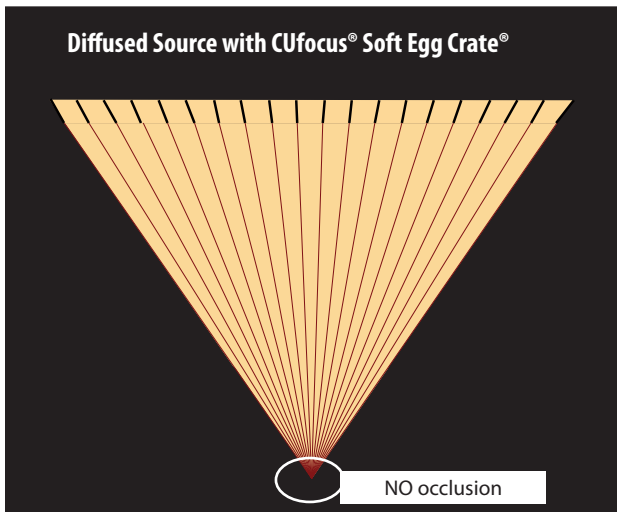
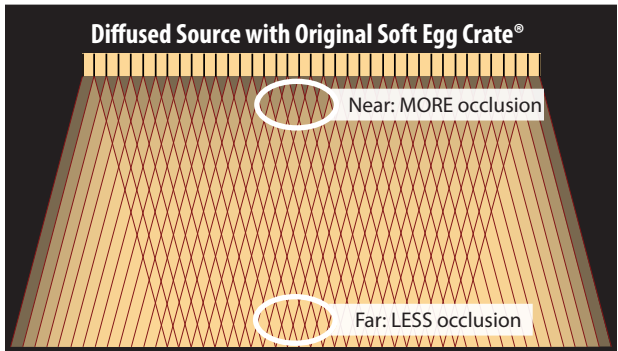


Why Occlusion Matters

The softness of a light source is determined by both the size of the source and the distance to the subject.

The effect of occlusion at distances close to the source reduces the effective size and therefore the softness of the light.

Occlusion refers to the blocking of light by the egg crate cells.



Matteo Mescalchin

Matteo has worked extensively across four continents constantly developing his passion for images which has led him to work as a photographer in many different commercial and industrial projects.



Audio Research GS150 photographed at La Specola Museum, Italy

“As a professional photographer I really enjoy working with top level equipment like Chimera Lightbanks and Lighttools Soft Egg Crates in almost all of my projects.

I can count on these reliable, high precision, easy-to-use light shaping tools. Whether I am working on a single-light setup or a multi-strobe complex scene, it’s all about light control. Using Lighttools means I have every light under control.”

www.digitalmovie.it



Brook Aitken

Director of Photography

“The music video for Big Head Todd & The Monsters was set in a downtown Denver bar. We used a mix of practical lighting and larger sources. I didn’t want to just flood light everywhere, it needed to be controlled yet look soft and natural. I found this easy to do with my Chimeras and Lighttools. I was able to give the talent a soft beautiful looking key light that didn’t pollute the rest of my lighting scheme.”



“Lighttools Soft Egg Crates is a product that I absolutely love and now can’t live without. It really controls the spill and keeps my background from any contamination, especially in tight quarters. The ez[POP] models are incredibly easy to open and insert into my Chimera Lightbanks!”

www.brookaitken.com

Daniel Desmarais

"My Lighttools modifiers are at the core of my lighting equipment.

I use a 3'x 4' softbox as my main light and when I want to narrow the beam, I use Soft Egg Crates. Using the Stretch Frame ensures my grid stays taut.

I love to 'rimlight' and my stripboxes with the Soft Egg Crates are amazingly precise. I rarely need flags to avoid flare in my lens."



www.danieldesmaraisphoto.com



Chip Simons

Pop-inspired visual puns; contemporary fairy tales of half-human, half-bunny creatures; wide-angled dog noses; foreshortened fisheye caricatures; vividly-colored light painting; post-apocalyptic landscapes; madcap creativity.



“For most of my shots involving one to three people, I use the Chimera Super Pro in Small and Extra Small. Lighttools Soft Egg Crates allow me to control the spill, and add punch to the light, and they’re durable! They can take a beating and always bounce back.

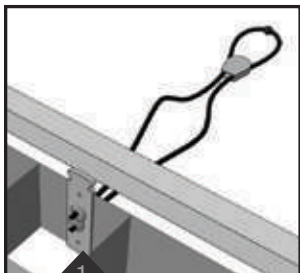
Lighttools is the best thing that ever happened to lighting: I never leave home without them.”

www.chipsimons.com

Lighttools® to fit B&O

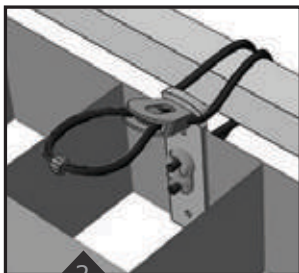
Tie One On Today

Lighttools® to fit Butterfly and Overhead frames



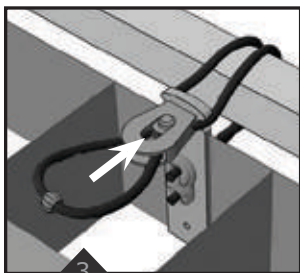
1

Wrap adjustable cord around frame.



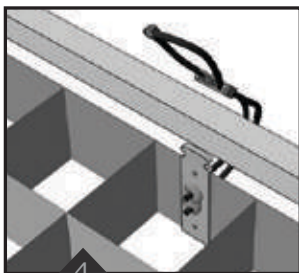
2

Secure cord over plate grooves.



3

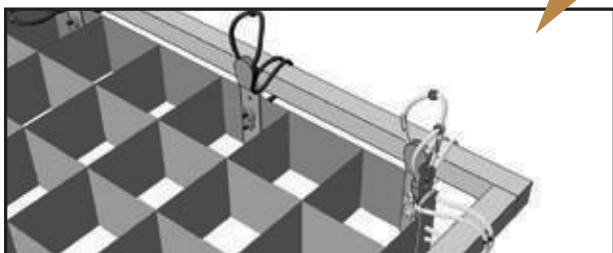
Apply tension to the cord to slide clip into *locked* position.



4

To adjust, release cord from plate grooves sliding clip into *unlocked* position and repeat steps 1-3.

Color-coded corner ties.





Original and CUfocus[®]

Soft Egg Crates[®]

Lighttools[®] to fit Butterfly and Overhead frames

Original

Original Soft Egg Crates are available to fit butterfly and overhead frames in 4'x4', 4'x8', 6'x6', 8'x8', 8'x12', 12'x12', 12'x20' and 20'x20' for sales and rentals.

CUfocus

CUfocus Soft Egg Crates to fit butterfly and overhead frames are available for sales and rental in sizes from 4'x4' to 20'x20' directly through Lighttools.

Contact admin@lighttools.com

lighttools.com/rentalcalc

Lighttools Warranty

Lighttools Soft Egg Crates are made with the highest quality materials by skilled technicians.

Lighttools products are guaranteed for 3 years against defects in material and workmanship.



Peter Wunstorf, ASC
Director of Photography

"We used CUfocus on *The Killing*. Taking a few steps forward, the subject would come from complete darkness into an 8'x8' source. With an overhead, we were able to quickly keep light off the walls of a small bathroom set."

"Whenever I stepped past a CUfocus, I flinched, thinking that a lamp went out! They are the *ultimate* in soft light control!"

www.peterwunstorf.com



Matt Mindlin
Director of Photography

"With CUfocus, I can place a key light close to my subject providing the soft wrap that I expect and still have significant fall-off in the background, especially when challenged with limited space."

www.mattmindlin.com



James Bagdonas, ASC
Director of Photography

"On both *Modern Family* and *Boston Legal* I have been using Lighttools Soft Egg Crates. When lighting a scene, being able to control your light is key. Lighttools gives you more control with less equipment and in less time. What more can you ask for? With floor space at a premium, they are a grip's best friend."

Derrick Kulus,
Chief Lighting Technician

"The CUfocus played a crucial role on *Body of Proof*, by allowing us to use large diffusion frames while minimizing problematic reflections in our windows. The design is simple, but brilliant."

Steven Fierberg, ASC
Director of Photography

"CUfocus Egg Crates provide luscious, enveloping light exactly where you want it, and not where you don't."

www.stevenfierberg.com





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