



[Forums](#) > [Photography Talk](#) > **Lighting Setup Tutorials: basic to advanced**

[Rej](#)

[first](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) **5** [6](#) [last](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[Anthony Hawthorne](#)

Male

Location: New Jersey

Posts: 10

wow....these are some very extravggent lighting set-ups...looks like I have a lot more equipment to buy..and I need a bigger house/room/studio..etc..

My lighting set up is....Sun on the East....then sun on top...then sun on west...Then dark.

Dec 26 06 09:57 pm [Quc](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

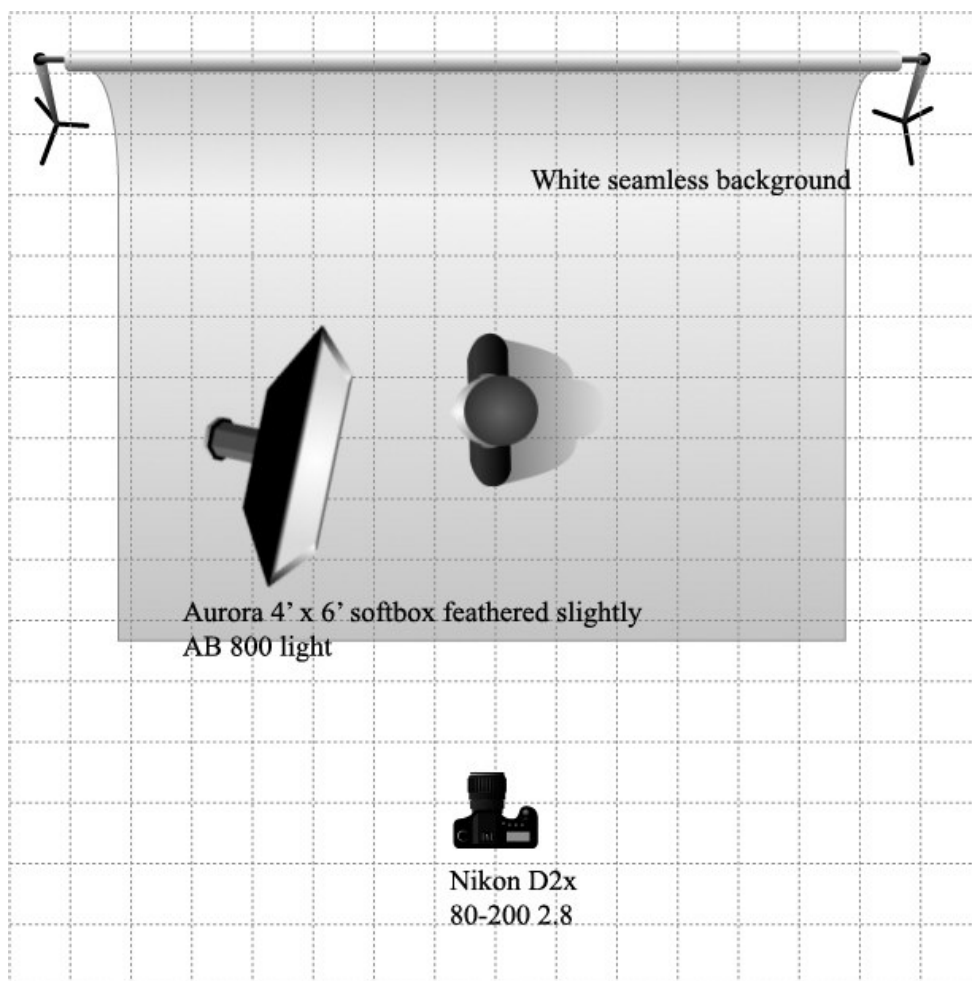
[The559](#)

Male

Location: California

Posts: 31

A simple one to keep this thread alive:



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And the result:



Dec 27 06 12:53 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[RBDesign](#)

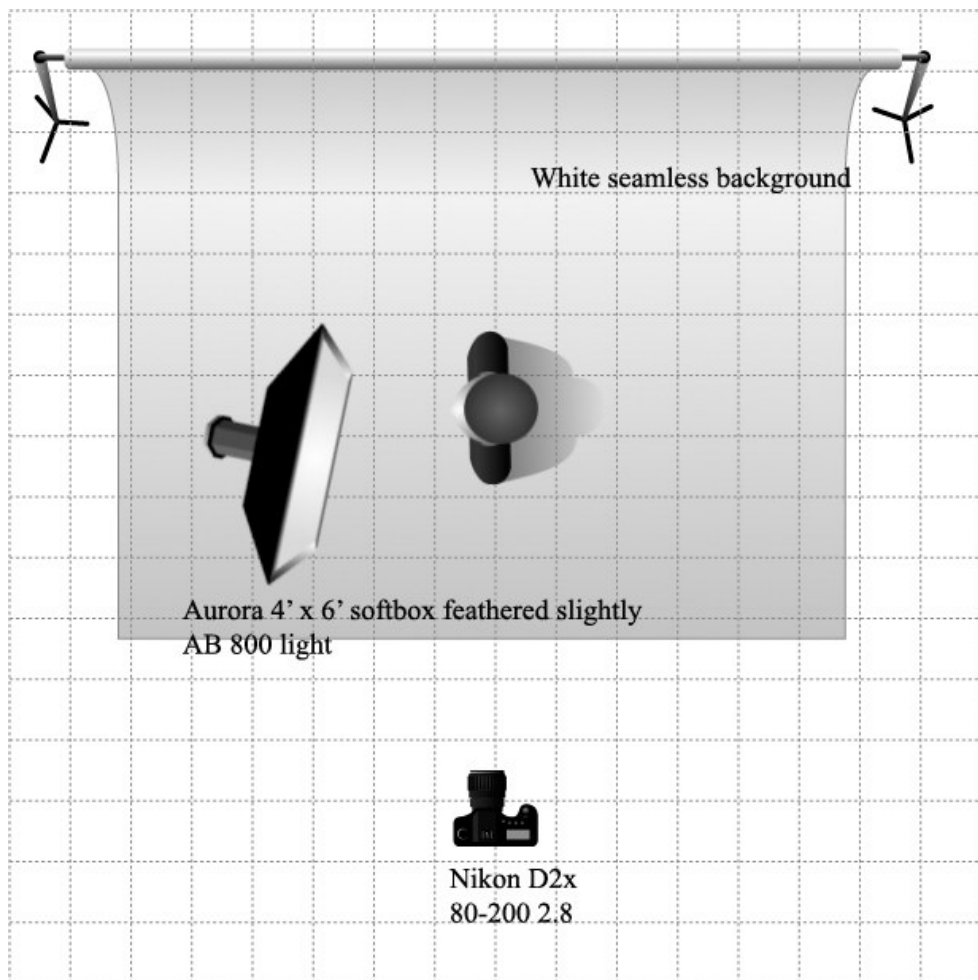
Male

Location: Maryland

Posts: 1,217

**The559 wrote:**

A simple one to keep this thread alive:



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And the result:



Nice shot, I love simple set ups. I know that this is off topic, please do not take this as criticism, just a question about something that bugs the crap out of me. I am assuming that you did the resize/JPG conversion in PS. I noticed in the high contrast high detail areas of the image (hair against background) looks like there are boat loads of compression artifacts. I have found that PS save to web seems to do this almost with out rhyme or reason on some images and not to others with the same settings and similar image characteristics. When this happens to me I play randomly with the jpg quality settings un I can get it minimized. Has anyone else seen this and what do you do about it?

RB

Dec 27 06 01:00 pm [Qu](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

[The559](#)

Male

Location: California

Posts: 31

Not sure if its artifacts unless we are looking at two dif things. I looked at the raw file which looks the same- I should have not been lazy and retouched all the loose hairs and the bit of hair just in front of h nose that looks like artifacts, she has thin hair and Im guessing a bit of light is coming through the hair giving that appearance- which sucks because it does look like artifacts. I should work on the photo a bi more. I didnt use a save for web in PS, just resized it to 75 dpi- saved at 11.

Now lets see some more lighting set ups.

Dec 27 06 01:24 pm [Qu](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

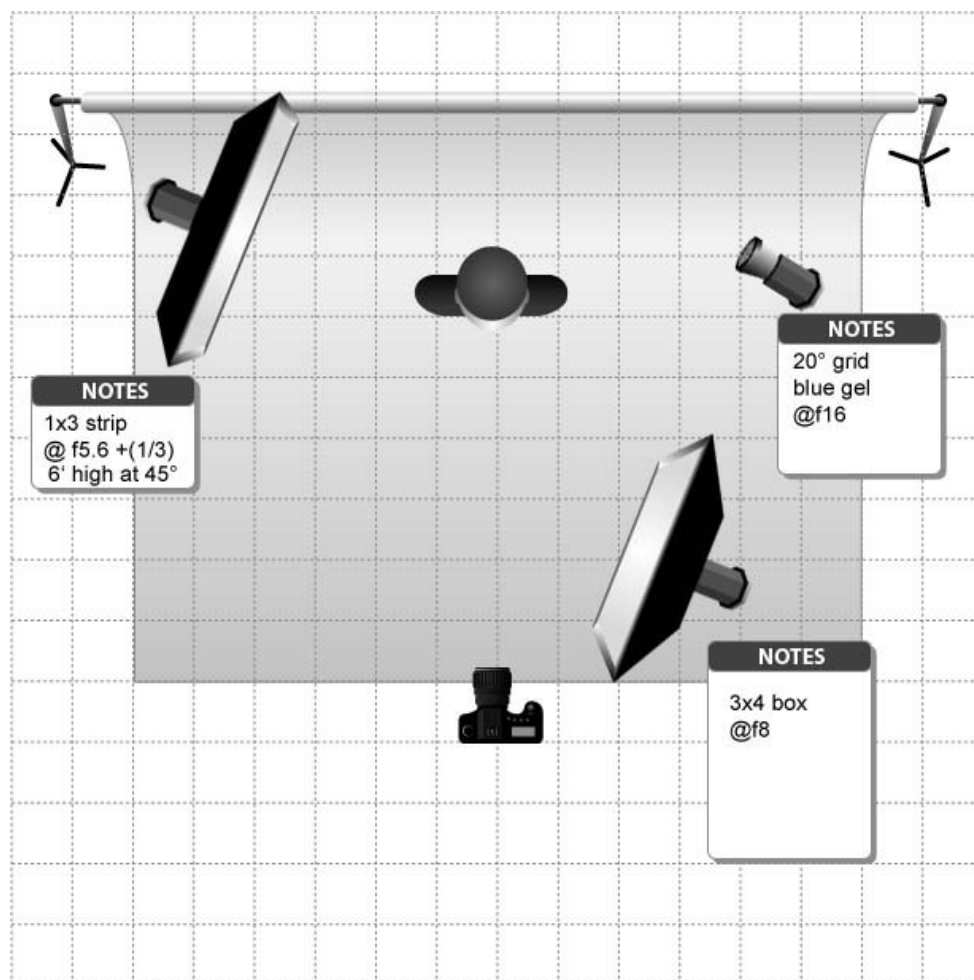
[RBDesign](#)

Male

Location: Maryland

Posts: 1,217

I am just going to do my civic service and show my AVI



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RB

Dec 27 06 02:06 pm [Qu](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

[Still Moving Photos](#)

Male

Location: New York

Posts: 60

So far the best thread on MM related to photography.(I will be posting more soon)...

Dec 27 06 10:55 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[Dee](#)

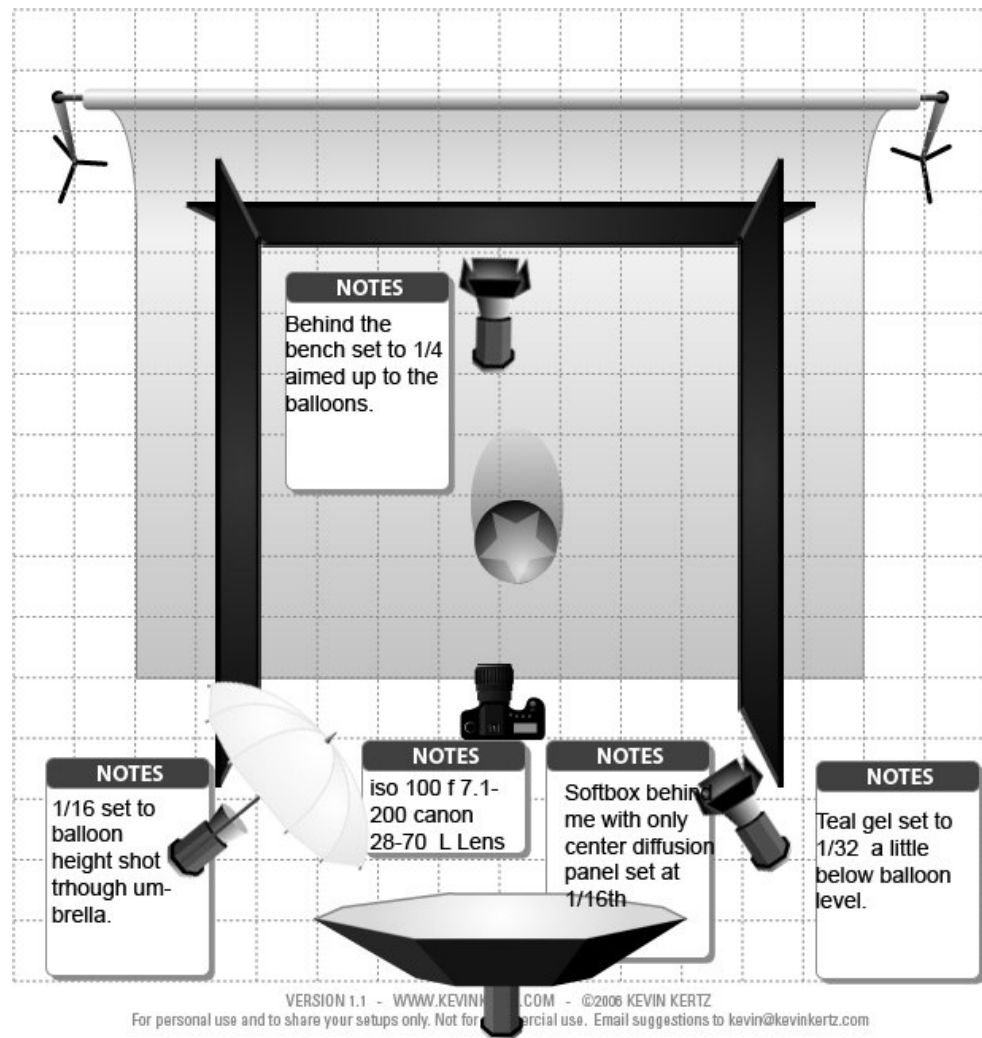
Female

Location: Ohio

Posts: 1,883

I love this thread!!!

Here is mine for my shoot tomorrow!!!

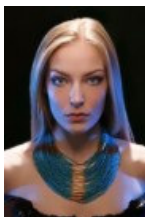




Result







PHOTOGRAPHER

[robert christopher](#)

Male

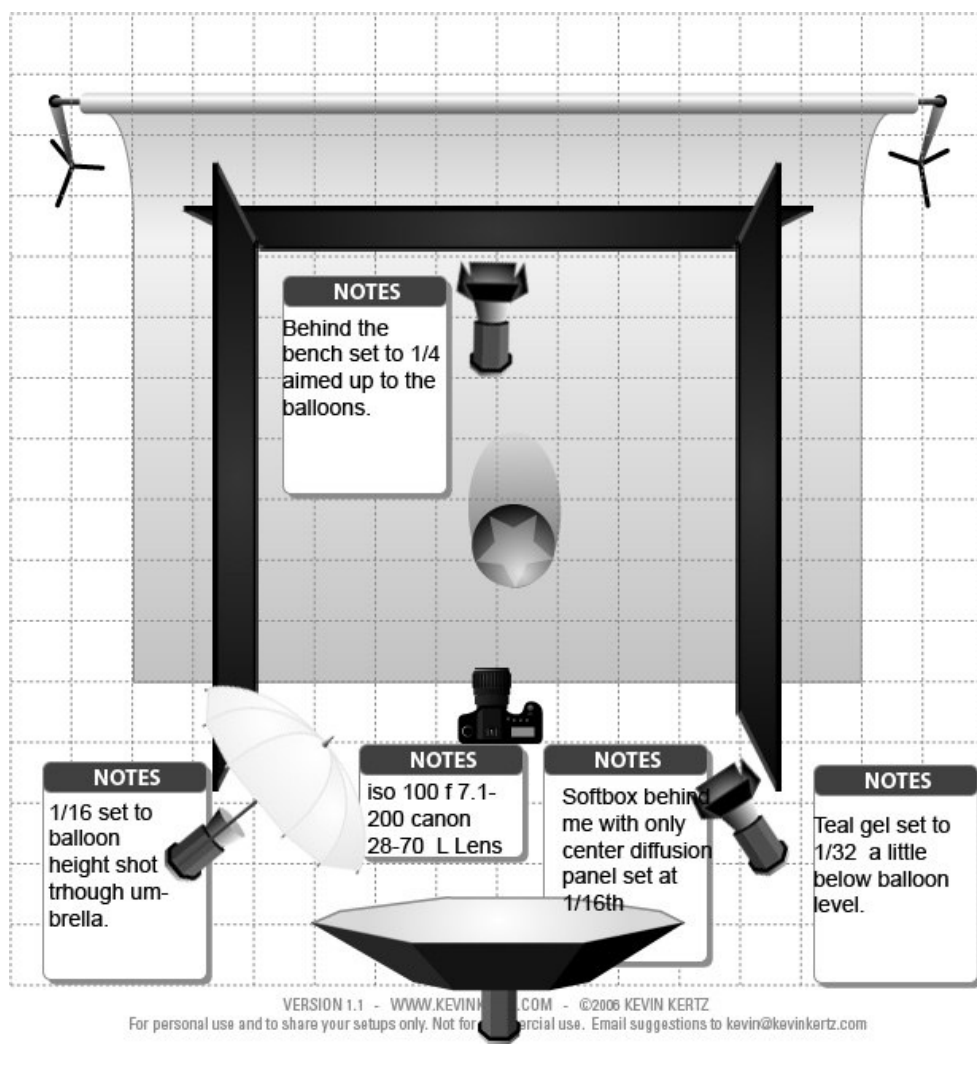
Location: Washington

Posts: 683

**Dee wrote:**

I love this thread!!!

Here is mine for my shoot tomorrow!!!





slow shutter speed to get the tungsten lights so bright?

now i know who it was that ordered the pink ab's

Dec 28 06 03:33 am [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

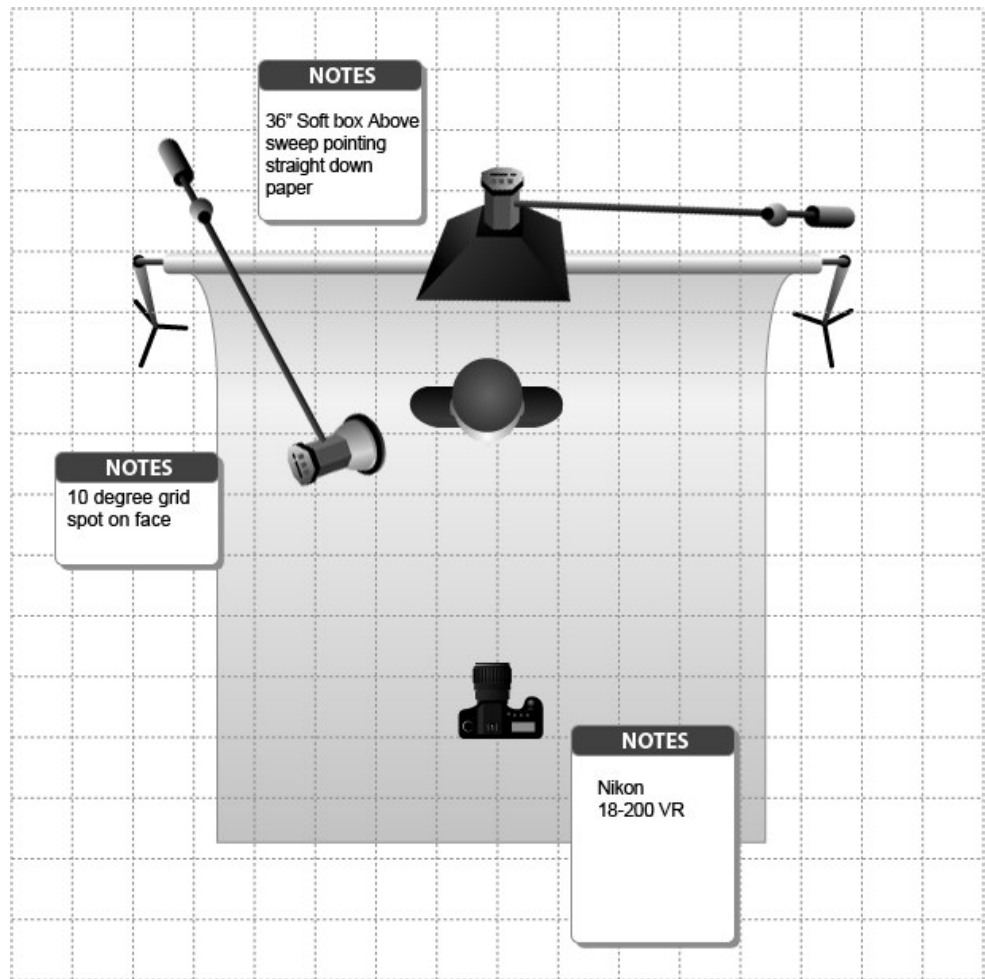
[Meehan](#)

Male

Location: New  
Hampshire

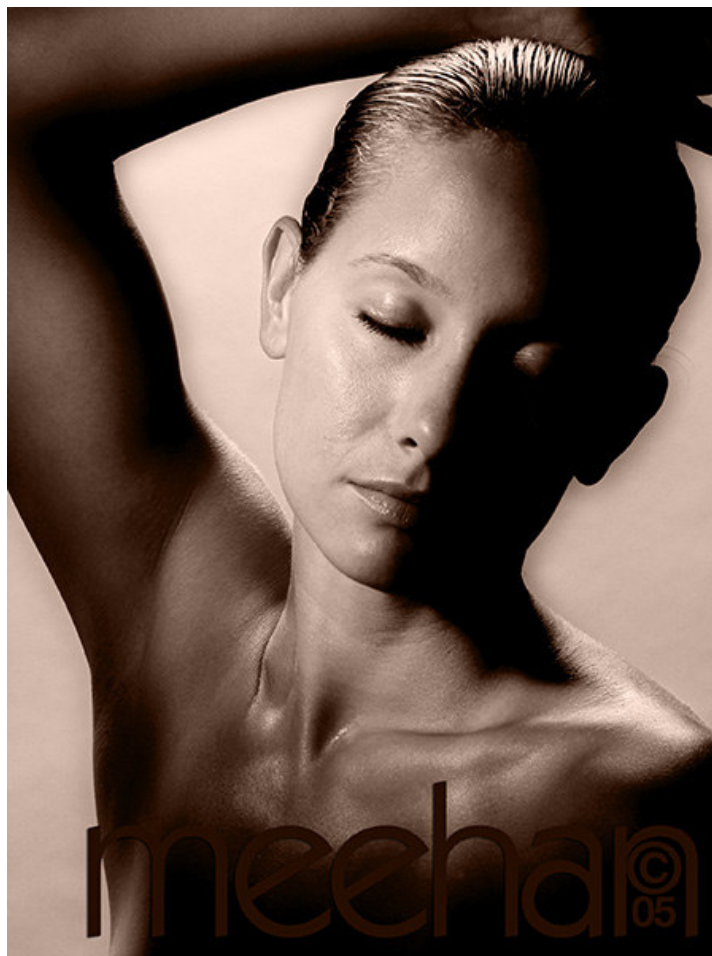
Simple yet dramatic set up. Love the collar bones! Soft box feathers onto back of model's shoulders.

Posts: 874



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Result



Dec 28 06 09:46 am [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[Dee](#)

Female

Location: Ohio

Posts: 1,883

**robert christopher wrote:**

slow shutter speed to get the tungsten lights so bright?

now i know who it was that ordered the pink ab's

I believe the shutter was at 200th of a second....My strobes at almost the lowest power they can be so the tungsten can stand out a little better....I think they are 100 watt bulbs in each....

I LOVE my pink AB's!!!

Dec 28 06 11:44 am [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

**Dee wrote:**

I LOVE my pink AB's!!!

I'm probably going to be selling a pink B1600 soon. Interested? 😊

**LarryB**

Male

Location: Tennessee

Posts: 1,583

Dec 28 06 11:50 am [Qu](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

**LarryB wrote:**

I'm probably going to be selling a pink B1600 soon. Interested? 😊

lol I have 4 800's and I have WAYYYY too much power as of now....But how much?

**Dee**

Female

Location: Ohio

Posts: 1,883

Dec 28 06 12:06 pm [Qu](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

**Dee wrote:**

lol I have 4 800's and I have WAYYYY too much power as of now....But how much?

That's my only problem with the B1600. Unless you're shooting outside or through a lot of modifiers, most of us don't need that much juice.

Haven't set a price yet. I'll PM ya when I figure that part out.

**LarryB**

Male

Location: Tennessee

Posts: 1,583

Dec 28 06 12:10 pm [Qu](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

**Dee wrote:**

lol I have 4 800's and I have WAYYYY too much power as of now....But how much?

Really? Too much power? Are you using any modifiers? I shoot with mine indoors in just about every shoot. I either have a glamour dish or softbox over it but I've never had any issues with too much power.

I use it with two 800's and a 400.

**Steven Eldridge**

Male

Location: Florida

Posts: 445

Dec 28 06 12:40 pm [Qu](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

What size seamless paper should I buy, 107" x 12yds or 53" x12yds. Should I get white or Black or bot Limited on funds so i think im goign to get 1 now and save up for another one, which is more versitle or important to have?

**bwharton**

Male



Location: Arizona  
Posts: 10

Dec 28 06 12:44 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[Brian Diaz](#)

Male

Location: New York

Posts: 15,432

**bwharton wrote:**

What size seamless paper should I buy, 107" x 12yds or 53" x12yds. Should I get white or Black or both, Limited on funds so i think im goign to get 1 now and save up for another one, which is more versatile or important to have?

53" is fine if you're only shooting one person at a time, that person is not planning on moving around at all, and you are not planning on moving around at all either.

Dec 28 06 12:54 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[bwharton](#)

Male

Location: Arizona

Posts: 10

Thanks, And which color do you think is more important to have first?

Dec 28 06 12:59 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[Processed Pixels](#)

Male

Location: Wisconsin

Posts: 21

**bwharton wrote:**

Thanks, And which color do you think is more important to have first?

It depends a lot on your desired final look. But from a more technical aspect, I would say white, but that depends on the size of your studio. If you can control the light well enough and work with the right apperature you can take it from stark white to almost a dark charcoal/black. The size of your studio will determine how far you can have your subject from the background, thereby increasing the falloff.

Dec 28 06 01:07 pm [Qu](#)



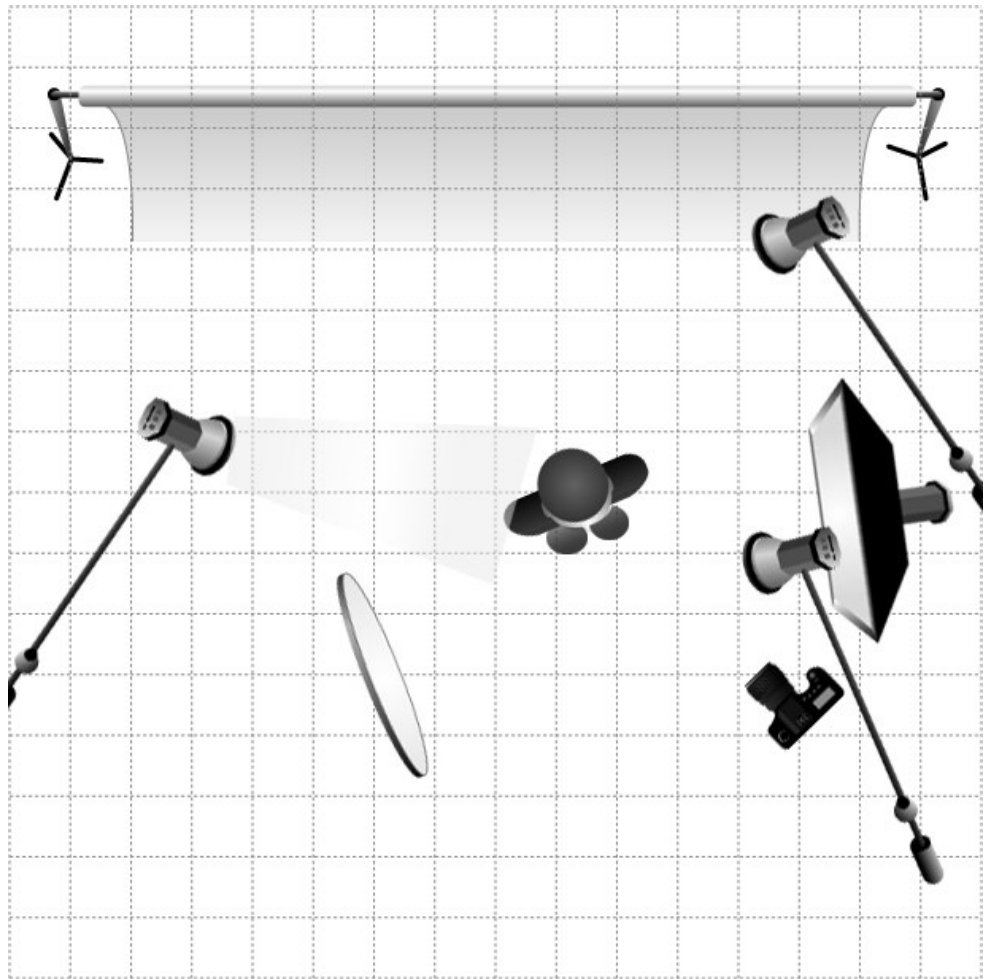
PHOTOGRAPHER

[kelvin pinney](#)

Male

Location: Montana

Posts: 48



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I frequently use both a softbox and a hotlight as a combination mainlight, or perhaps the box could be considered a close-in fill. The hotlight is just in front of the box, and it gives you complete control of how soft or hard you want your shadows. By hotlight, I'm not referring to a hot source, but rather a flash with a fairly tight grid on it, allowing me to apply "hot" light to model the face. I just call it a hotlight because its effect reminds me of those old fresnels used by Hurrell and the Hollywood 40's gang.

Dec 28 06 01:13 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[bwharton](#)

Male

Location: Arizona

Posts: 10

**Processed Pixels wrote:**

It depends a lot on your desired final look. But from a more technical aspect, I would say white, but that depends on the size of your studio. If you can control the light well enough and work with the right aperture you can take it from stark white to almost a dark charcoal/black. The size of your studio will determine how far you can have your subject from the background, thereby increasing the falloff.

It is about 35' deep and 20' wide. I'm not familiar with the term "falloff" do you have any examples or can you describe that to me?

Dec 28 06 01:14 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[Processed Pixels](#)

Male

Location: Wisconsin

Posts: 21

**bwharton wrote:**

It is about 35' deep and 20' wide. Im not familiar with the term "falloff" do you have any examples or can describe that to me?

It simply refers to the distance the light can travel and to what extent it affects its surroundings. So thin of shining a small flashlight at a white wall in a large dark room. You'll have the hot spot at the center and then the light gradually falls off to the shadows. Again with the proper conditions and light control this will give you your dark background.

Dec 28 06 01:45 pm [Qu](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

[bwharton](#)

Male

Location: Arizona

Posts: 10

OH right, I understand that! Thanks!

Dec 28 06 01:57 pm [Qu](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

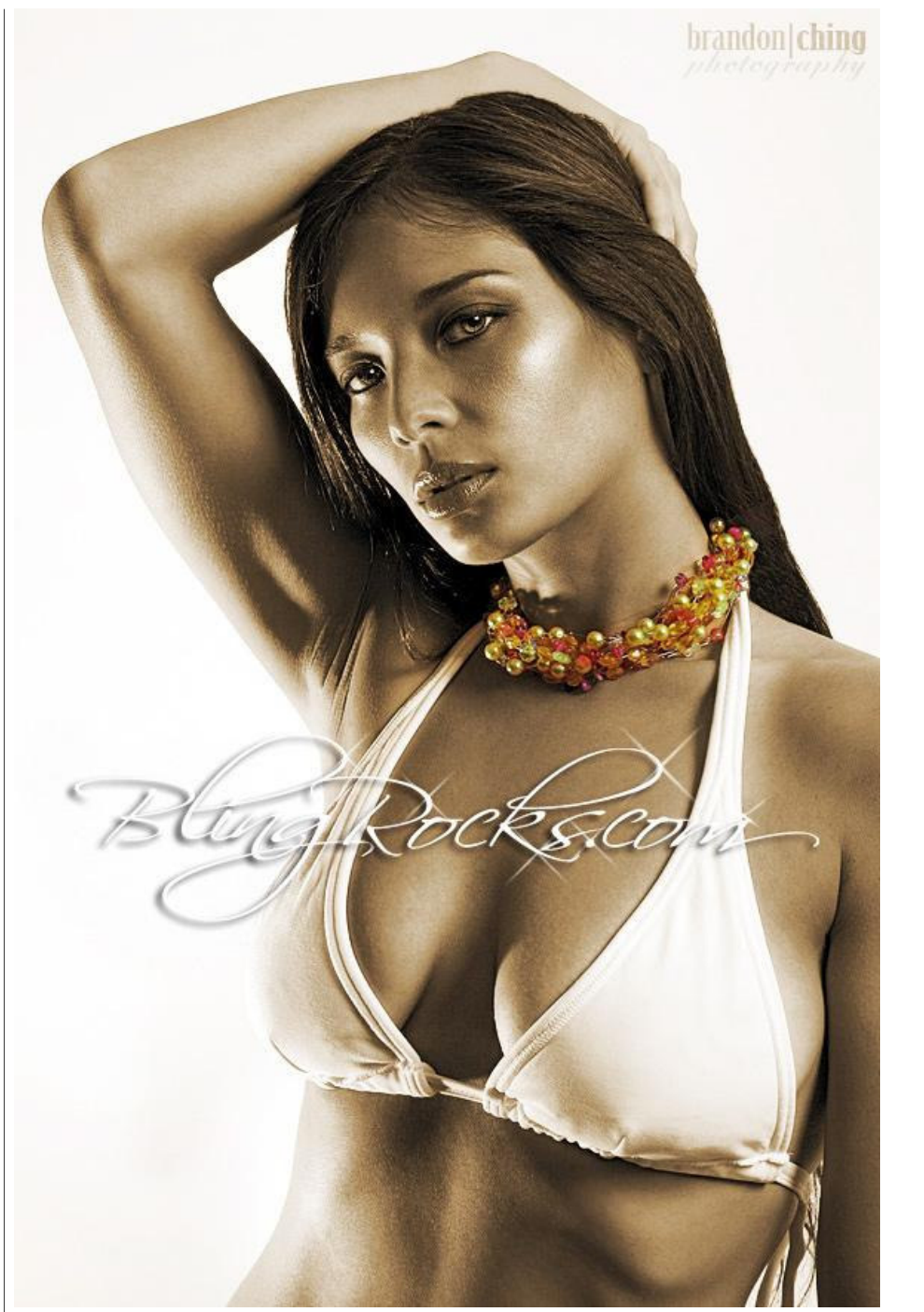
[DMHolman](#)

Male

Location: Washington

Posts: 142

**Brandon Ching wrote:**



Brandon - Hey, mind if I ask what is lighting up the backdrop? Or is it just spill from the main?

Thanks!

-=>Donald

Dec 28 06 05:30 pm [Qu](#)





PHOTOGRAPHER

[Craig Thomson](#)

Male

Location: Washington

Posts: 4,890

**DMHolman wrote:**

Brandon - Hey, mind if I ask what is lighting up the backdrop? Or is it just spill from the main?

Thanks!

-->Donald

I've got \$5 on Potatoshop

Dec 28 06 05:36 pm [Our](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

[Kevin Kertz](#)

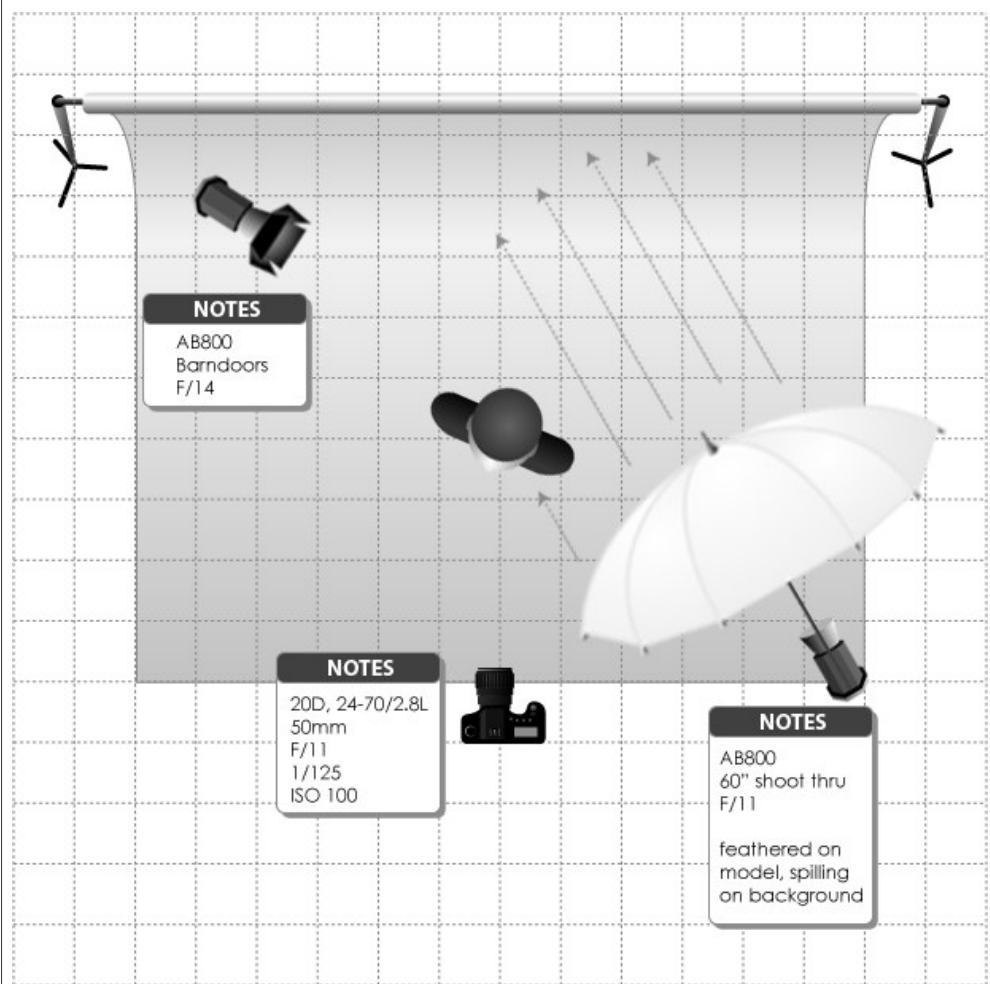
Male

Location: Ontario

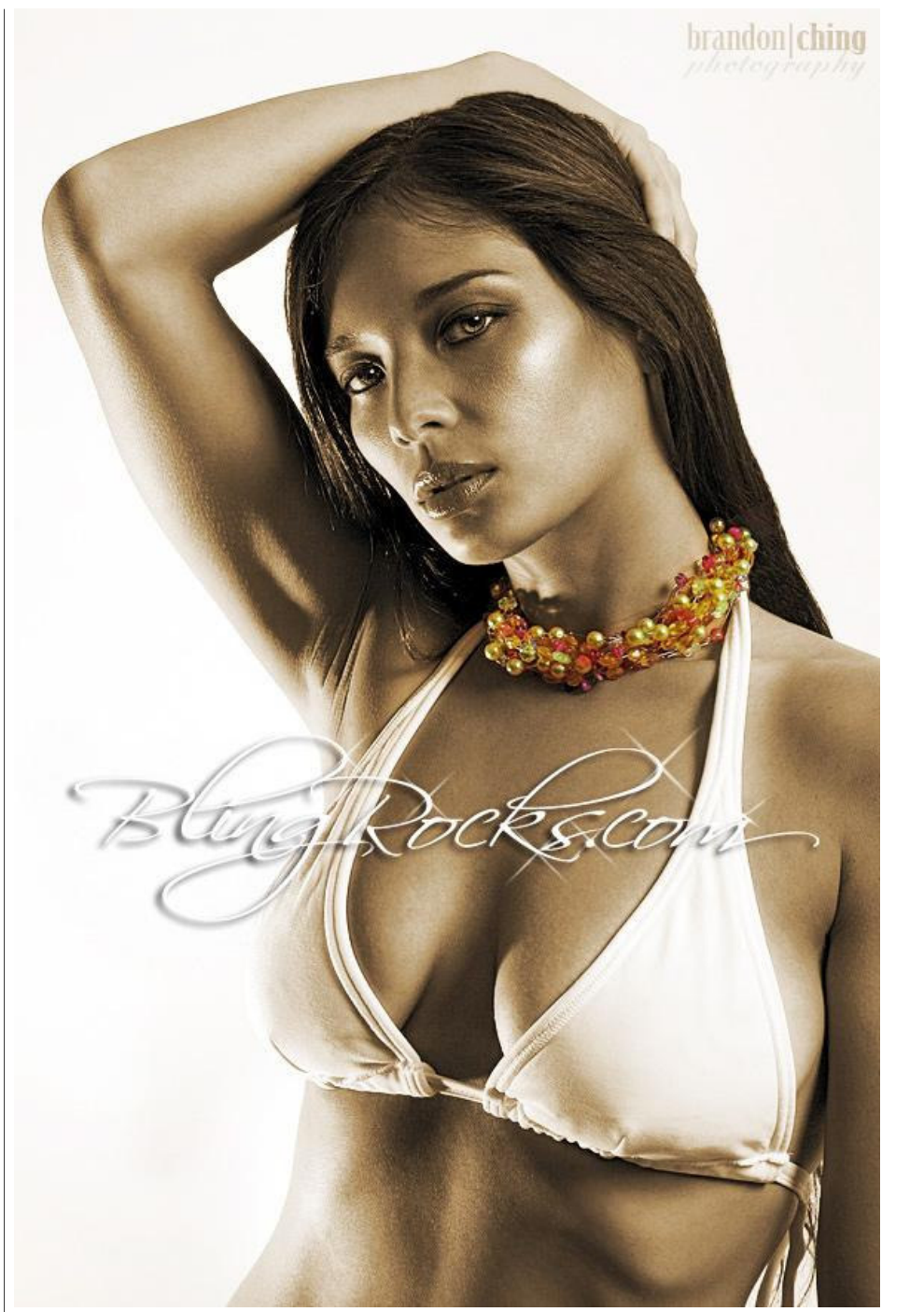
Posts: 548

**Brandon Ching wrote:**

Alright, I'll bite since I provided the link to the lighting setup psd...



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This was Brandon's light set up for that shot.

Dec 28 06 05:36 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[ward](#)  
Male

In regard to the question about which backdrop colors to buy...I use Thunder Grey, Black and Super White.

Location: Ontario  
Posts: 548

Dec 28 06 05:38 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[Craig Thomson](#)

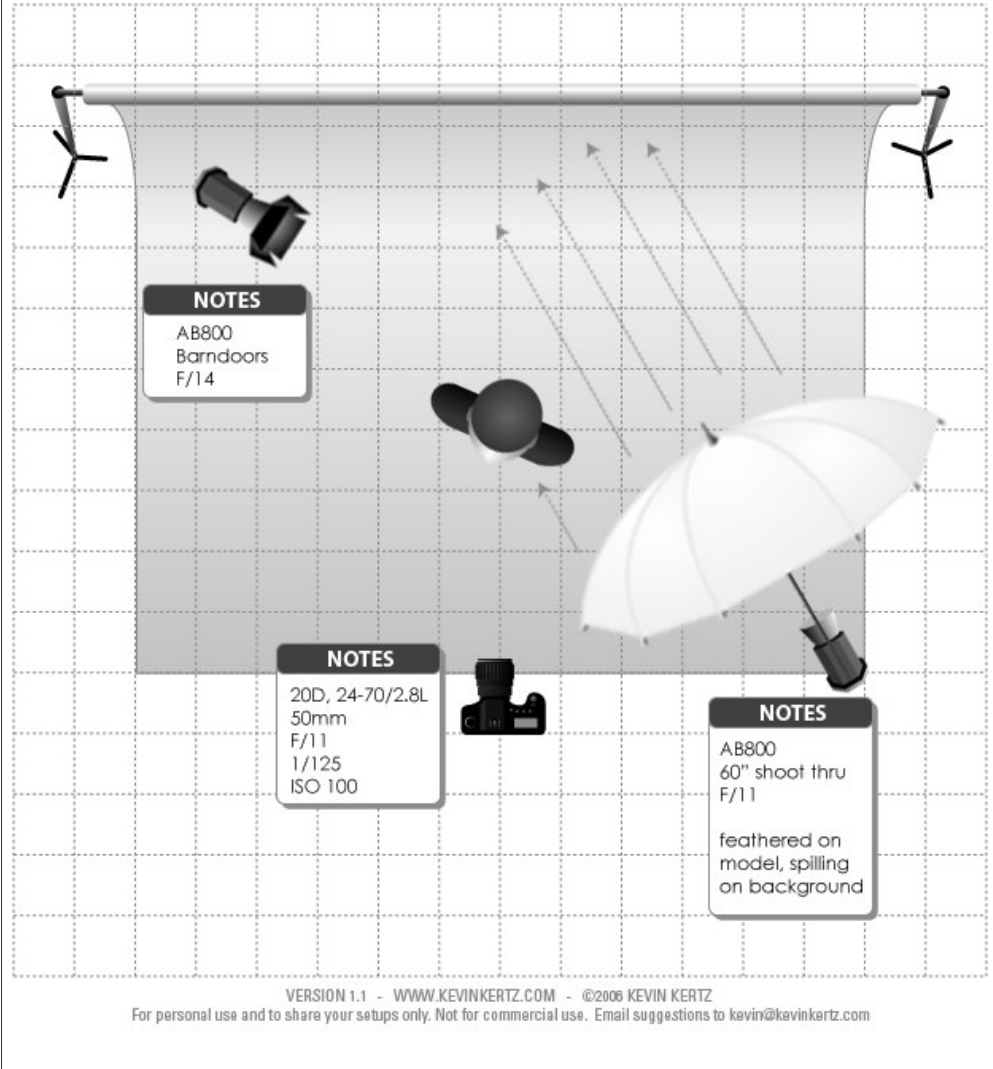
Male

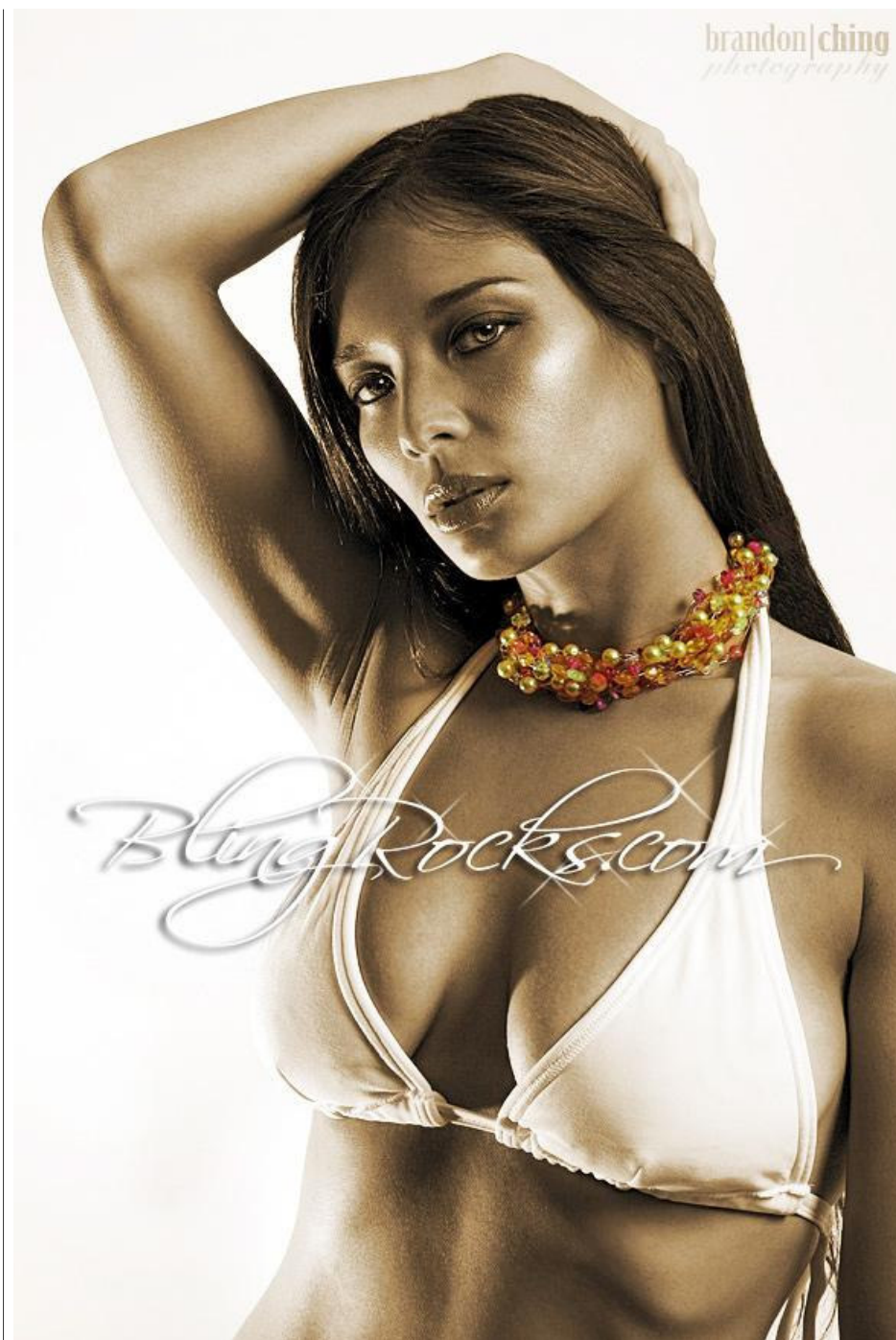
Location: Washington

Posts: 4,890

**Brandon Ching wrote:**

Alright, I'll bite since I provided the link to the lighting setup psd...





**ward wrote:**  
**This was Brandon's light set up for that shot.**

We saw that Ward, thank you.

The question was "what is lighting up the backdrop? Or is it just spill from the main?"

I'm thinking it was PS'd.

Dec 28 06 05:41 pm [Qu](#)





PHOTOGRAPHER

[Jonathan Bell](#)

Male

Location: Ontario

Posts: 73

http://jonathanbell.ca/beauty/pages/3.htm putting all the black along the sides made for nice controlab shadows while a big ass bank did a nice job of diffusing the light. what do you think?http://jbclientsite.0catch.com/LightingSetup.jpg

Dec 28 06 05:46 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[Jonathan Bell](#)

Male

Location: Ontario

Posts: 73

oooookay... how do i post images??

Dec 28 06 05:47 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[ward](#)

Male

Location: Ontario

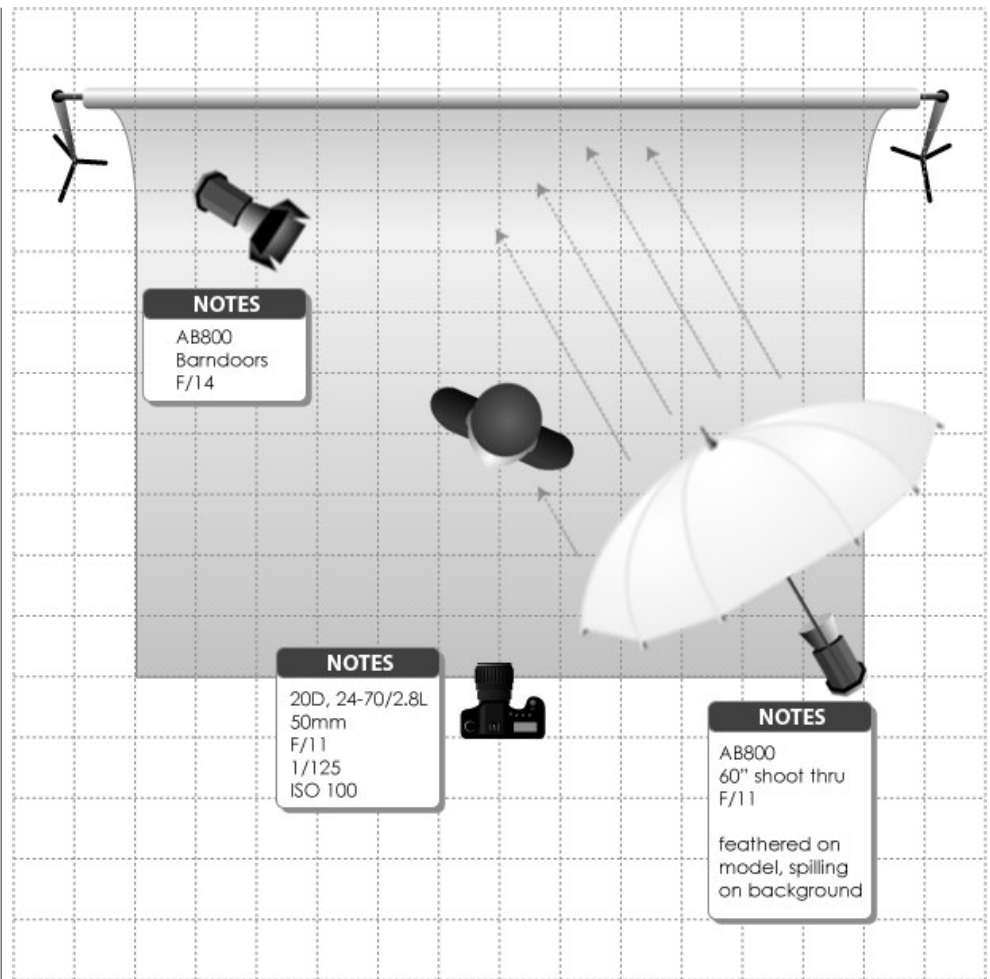
Posts: 548

**Craig Thomson wrote:**

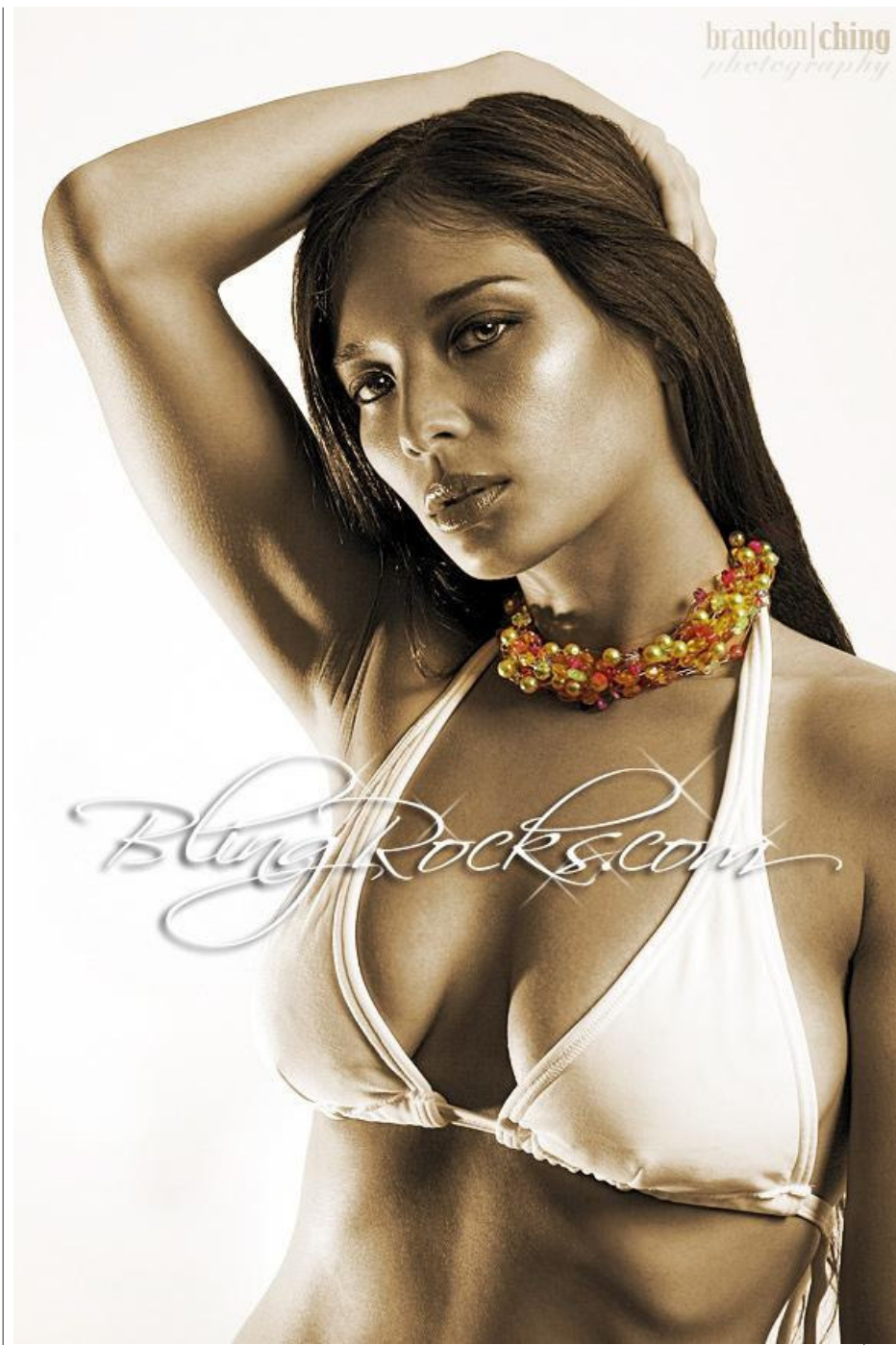
**Brandon Ching wrote:**

Alright, I'll bite since I provided the link to the lighting setup psd...





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We saw that Ward, thank you.

The question was "what is lighting up the backdrop? Or is it just spill from the main?"

I'm thinking it was PS'd.

I know, but I wanted to remind people that Brandon's backdrop had no direct lightspill directed at it. 😊  
Sorry.

Dec 28 06 05:49 pm [Quic](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[ward](#)

Male

Location: Ontario

Posts: 548

**Jonathan Bell wrote:**

oooookay... how do i post images??

Jonathan, you need to add: [img][img] at the front and backend of your images links. 😊

Dec 28 06 05:50 pm [Qu](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

[Jonathan Bell](#)

Male

Location: Ontario

Posts: 73

**ward wrote:**

Jonathan, you need to add: [img][img] at the front and backend of your images links. 😊

grr... i did... here are the links instead

<http://jonathanbell.ca/beauty/pages/3.htm><http://jbclientsite.0catch.com/LightingSetup.jpg>Dec 28 06 05:57 pm [Qu](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

[ward](#)

Male

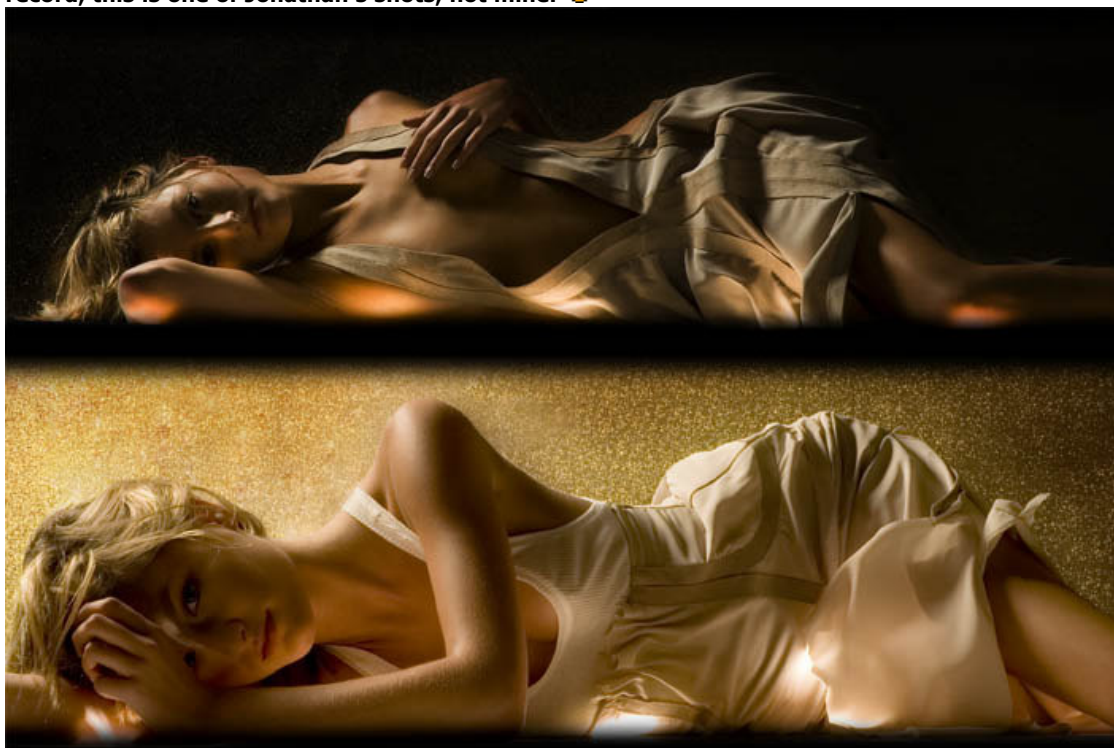
Location:

Ontario

Posts: 548

**Jonathan Bell wrote:**

grr... i did... here are the links instead

<http://jonathanbell.ca/beauty/pages/3.htm><http://jbclientsite.0catch.com/LightingSetup.jpg>I'll try. BTW, your second link is bugged, because it password protected, so I can't get into it. **For the record, this is one of Jonathan's shots, not mine.** 😊

Dec 28 06 06:02 pm [Qu](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

[Brandon Ching](#)

Male

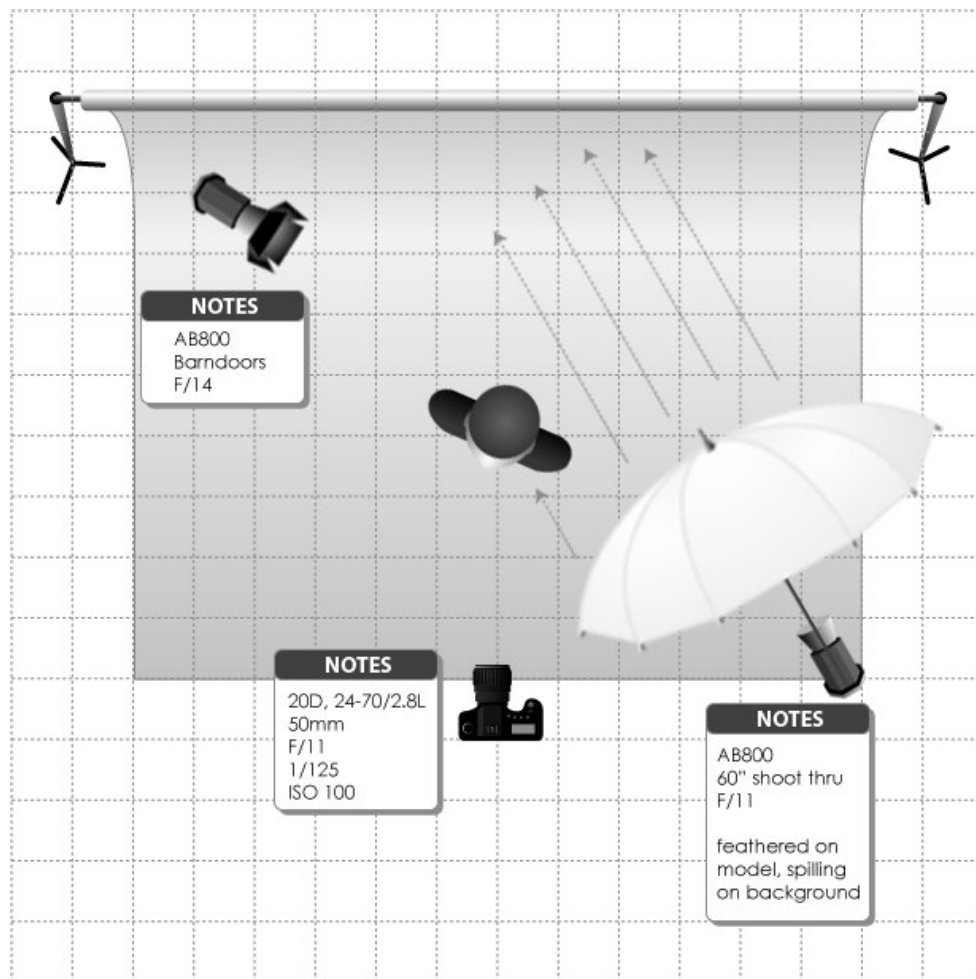
Location: Hawaii

Posts: 725

Actually, if you look at my diagram... she is placed about 4 feet (blocks) away from the background. The light was feathered using the left edge of the umbrella to light the model, the rest of that light was spilling onto the backdrop. That thing throws light EVERYWHERE!

I've updated the diagram by scaling the umbrella larger since that default one doesn't do any justice. You may need to refresh your browser, Ctrl + F5.

Thanks for playing!!



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Dec 28 06 07:11 pm [Edit](#) [Qu](#)

PHOTOGRAPHER

[Skidder-Steve](#)[Images](#)

Male

Location:

Posts: 73

This should be it's own link.

Dec 28 06 07:27 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[Glamour Haus](#)

Male

Location: California

Posts: 59

Does anyone know how to PDF this thread into one long file ?

Dec 28 06 08:10 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[LightLab Studios](#)

Male

Location: Montana

Posts: 297

It's great to see my thread still going! I'm on the road for another 3 weeks and will post again when I g back home. Otherwise, I'm checking in as often as possible.

Dec 28 06 08:19 pm [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[Brandon Ching](#)

Male

Location: Hawaii

Posts: 725

**Glamour Haus wrote:**

Does anyone know how to PDF this thread into one long file ?

I only know how to PDF each page, don't know how to consolidate them all into 1 PDF but I can compile them into a zipfile. I'll start with pages 1-4. As this gets bigger, I may need some of you to mirror the fi to save on some of my bandwidth but for now, we'll see how much it uses on my server.

Maybe Tom can update the OP with a link to the PDF and keep it updated as new ones are created and archived???

I must be in a giving mood, Happy Holidays everyone! 😊

<http://www.brandonching.com/pdf/lightin ... pp1-4.zip> (6.4MB)

Dec 28 06 08:25 pm [Edit](#) [Qu](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

[Dee](#)

Female

Location: Ohio

Posts: 1,883

Here is another!!

<http://images.flutterbyphoto.com/misc/mm/beth.jpeg>

result





Dec 28 06 09:21 pm [Qu](#)**PHOTOGRAPHER****[Brandon Ching](#)**

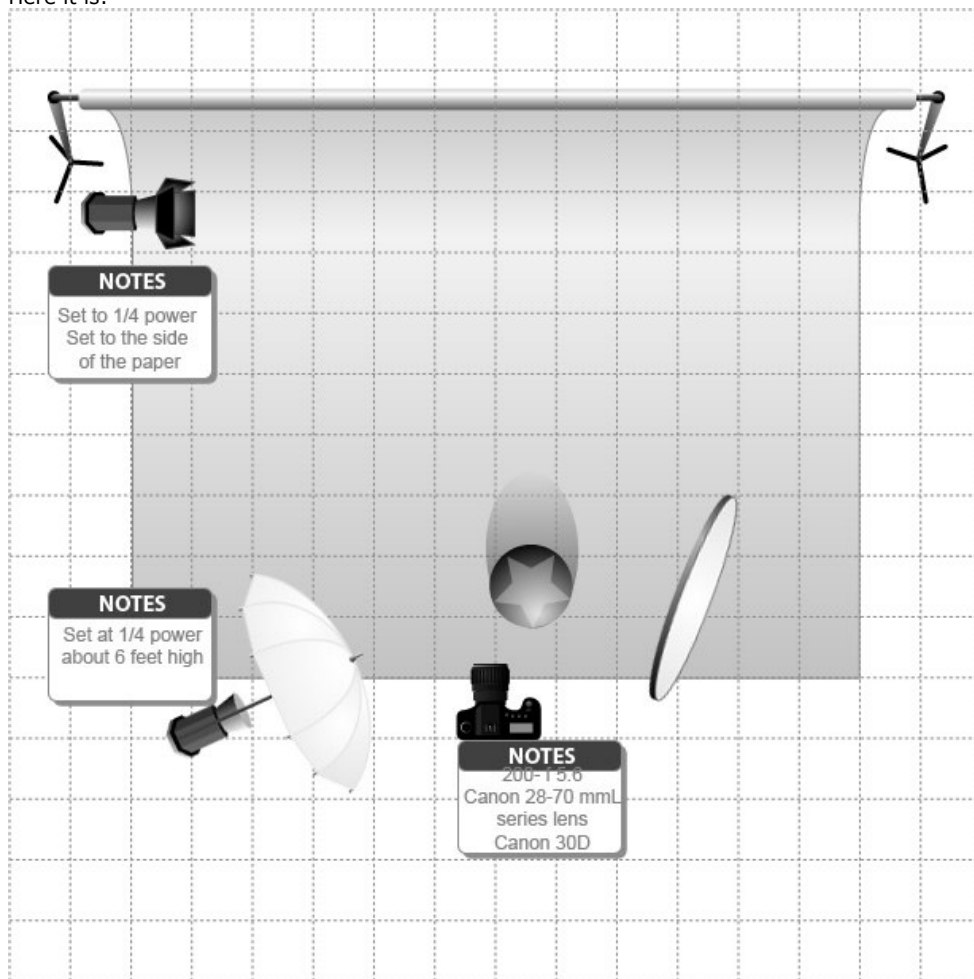
Male

Location: Hawaii

Posts: 725

Your diagram isn't showing.. you typed "jpeg" instead of "jpg" for your url.

Here it is:



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Dec 28 06 09:24 pm [Edit](#) [Qu](#)[first](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) **5** [6](#) [last](#)[Rej](#)

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