

IES Footcandle Recommendations

The following selected footcandle ranges represent the Illuminating Engineer Society's (IES) current illuminance recommendations. Individual applications will determine exact footcandle levels. Please refer to the IES Lighting Handbook for more detailed evaluation.

Airplane Manufacturing

Drilling, riveting, screw fastening.....	75
Final assemble, hangar.....	100
Inspection.....	50-200
Welding.....	50

Assembly

Rough easy seeing.....	20-50
Rough difficult seeing.....	50-100
Medium.....	100-200
Fine.....	200-500(a)
Extra fine.....	500-1000(a)

Auditoriums

Social activities.....	5-10
Assembly only.....	10-20
Exhibitions.....	10-20

Automobile Manufacturing

Final assembly, finishing, inspecting.....	200
Body & chassis assembly.....	100
Body parts manufacturing.....	100
Frame assembly.....	50

Banks

Lobby general.....	10-50
Writing areas.....	20-70
Teller stations, posting & keypunch.....	50-150

Barber Shops

Beauty Parlors.....	50-100
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Chemical Works

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Clothing Manufacturer

Receiving, storing, shipping, winding, measuring.....	20-50
Pattern making, trimming.....	50-100
Shops, marking.....	50-200
Cutting, pressing.....	100-500(a)
Sewing, inspection.....	200-500(a)

Electrical Equipment Manufacturing

Impregnating.....	20-50
Insulating coil winding, testing.....	50-100

Food Service Facilities

Dining areas	
Cashier.....	20-50
Cleaning.....	10-20
Dining.....	5-20
Food displays.....	30-100
Kitchen.....	50-100

Foundries

Annealing furnaces.....	20-50
Cleaning.....	20-50
Core making.....	50-200
Inspection	
Fine.....	100-500
Medium.....	50-100
Molding.....	50-200
Pouring, sorting.....	50-100

Garages-Motor Vehicles

Storage.....	5
Traffic Lanes	
Parking garage.....	10
Service garage.....	10-20
Entrances.....	50
Repair area.....	50-100

Gymnasiums

Assemblies.....	10
General exercise & recreation.....	30
Exhibitions, matches.....	50

Hospitals

Rooms.....	10-30
Corridors.....	5-30
Emergency rooms.....	50-100
Operating rooms.....	100-200

Hotels

Bathrooms.....	20-50
Bedrooms for reading.....	20-50
Corridors, elevators and stairs.....	10-20
Front desk	
Linen room	
Sewing.....	100-200
General.....	10-20
Lobby	
General lighting.....	10-20
Reading and working areas.....	20-50

Iron & Steel Manufacturing

Stock, hot top, checker	
cellar, calcining.....	10-30
Building, slag pits, stripping yard.....	20
Control platforms, repairs,	
mixer building.....	30
Rolling mills.....	30-50
Shearing.....	50
Tin plate.....	50
Motor room, machine room.....	30
Inspection.....	100

Laundries

Washing.....	20-50
Ironing.....	20-100

Library

Ordinary reading, stacks.....	20-50
Book repair and binding.....	20-50
Study & notes, cataloging, card files, check desk.....	20-100

Machine Shops

Rough bench.....	20-50
Medium bench, rough grinding, buffing.....	50-100
Fine bench and work.....	200-500(a)

Materials Handling

Loading trucking.....	10-20
Picking stock classifying.....	20-50
Wrapping, packing, labeling.....	20-50

Offices

Accounting.....	50-100
Audio-visual areas.....	20-50
Conference areas.....	20-70
Corridors, stairways.....	20(k)
Drafting.....	50-200
General and private offices.....	50-100
Lobbies, lounges and reception areas.....	0-20

Mail sorting.....	50-100
Off-set printing and duplicating area.....	20-50
Spaces with VDT's.....	75

Paint Shop

Spraying, rubbing, hand art, stencil.....	20-50
Fine hand painting & finishing.....	50-100

Paper Manufacturing

Beaters, grinding.....	20-50
Finishing, cutting.....	50-100
Hand cutting.....	50-100
Paper machine reel, inspection.....	100-200
Rewinder.....	100-200

Printing

Photo engraving, etching, blocking.....	20-50
Color inspecting.....	100-200
Presses.....	50-100
Proofreading.....	100-200
Composing room.....	50-100

Schools

Reading.....	20-100
Typing.....	20-100
Demonstrations.....	100-200
Sewing.....	20-100

Sheet Metal Works

General.....	100
Tin plate inspection, galvanized, scribing.....	100-200

Stores

Circulation area stockroom.....	10-30
Merchandising, serviced.....	30-100
Merchandising, self-service.....	200

Textile Mills

Cotton picking, carding, roving, spinning.....	50
Beaming & slashing.....	150
Drawing.....	200
Others.....	100

Warehousing, Storage

Inactive.....	5-10
Active	
Rough bulky.....	10-20
Medium.....	20
Fine.....	20-50

Welding

General.....	20-50
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Woodworking

Rough sawing and bench work.....	20-50
Sizing, planing, rough sanding, medium quality machine and bench work, gluing, veneering, cooperage.....	20-50
Fine bench and machine work, fine sanding and finishing.....	50-100

Footnotes:

- (a) Obtained with a combination of general light plus specialized supplementary lighting
- (k) Or not less than 1/5 the level in adjacent areas