

Let There Be Light

From early on, Model A owners have been attempting to improve upon the light from the original headlights. Almost from the start of production, higher output bulbs were available and when “sealed beam” headlight units became available in 1940, aftermarket adapter kits that allowed sealed beam units to be installed in the original Model A headlights were offered for sale. About 40 years ago, quartz replacement bulbs were being sold. While all of these “improvements” did make the headlights brighter, there were drawbacks with all of them. All required more current to operate and often the owner would also have to upgrade the vehicles charging system. With the case of the quartz bulbs, when illuminated they were very hot and often a failure would occur when the special sockets or the wire connections would melt.

Within the past few years, several versions of LED Headlight bulbs that promised brighter light with less current draw have come on the market. Most of the more “mature” Model A owners with eyes that no longer see as well welcome brighter headlights. Less current draw is especially attractive to those of us who do use our Model A's for night driving and touring that are still equipped with the original 6 volt generator charging system, just as Henry intended. No modifications were required when using these LED bulbs. They simply replaced the existing bulbs in the original sockets.

In 2018, I purchased a pair of LED bulbs for my '30 Tudor. that I use for touring. I found the lights were brighter, but it was impossible to actually focus the light to where it was needed. The end result was more light, but it was all over the place. The 50/32 CP incandescent bulbs that I had been using were able to be focused and provided better usable light down on the road where it was needed. These first generation LED bulbs did provide more light and only drew a few amps to operate, but in reality they were less than satisfactory.

Recently, a second generation “pre-focused” LED headlight bulb has come on the market. They have all the good qualities of the original LED bulbs but incorporate their own built in reflector which eliminates the problem of focus. Pre-focused LED bulbs are brighter, require much less current to operate and the light they produce is able to be directed onto the road. They are also a direct replacement for the original incandescent bulbs. I have not done a lot of night driving since I installed these new pre-focused LED bulbs. I am satisfied that they will be a good solution for those Model A owners wanting brighter, more usable light with less current draw.

Pre-focused LED headlight bulbs are available from the better Model A parts suppliers or you can purchase them online directly from the manufacturer, “Logo Lites”. <https://www.logolites.com>



Logo Lites Products

Logo Lites® are high quality products for antique cars and trucks. Our products are made for 6V and 12V electrical systems with positive and negative chassis ground polarities. Logo Lites makes new products that look at home on various vintage vehicles.

LED Headlights – Bright white LED Headlight bulbs to replace the original incandescent bulbs with no changes to the socket, harness, or reflectors. They work with generators and alternators on 6V, 8V, 12V +/-Chassis vehicles.

A-Plate™ – A hidden, 6 position fuse panel that holds other products without drilling any holes!

Automatic USB Charge Port – Charge and run your smart phone, tablet, GPS navigation system, or other USB devices with your 6V or 12V electrical system while you drive. Logo Lites USB Charge Port is A MUST HAVE DEVICE!

Brake & Run – Add-on LED running and brake lights to increase visibility and safety on your antique car or truck.

LED Turn Signals – Stylish and super-bright add-on turn signals for Model A Fords and other vehicles.

LED Extender – Add extra LED signals for your trailer for just for additional visibility.

Brake & Run, LED Turn Signals, and LED Extender all use the same kind of Logo Lites signal lights, which are available in several mounting options. Learn more about the signal light mounting options available on the Type 23 Signal Lights page before ordering.

Tech Tip

Anti-freeze Warning - If you are using Anti-Freeze in the cooling system of your Model A, be sure to use Antifreeze formulated for older cars. Components in anti-freeze that is formulated for newer cars with Aluminum radiators may degrade the solder in the old radiators in our Model A's causing failure of the cooling system Always look for anti-freeze that is labeled “for older cars” or cars made before 1998 or cars with copper radiators. DO NOT use antifreeze that is formulated with organic acid technology (OAT).