

TIP 103 — Adding a Work Light for the Mill/boB

Adding Lighting to Your Mill

We've had a few submissions over the years for adding illumination to the lathe work area, but this is the first one we have received for adding lighting to the mill. Customer boB (his nom de plume) was already using a flexible neck lighting source but wanted to another lamp on the mill itself. Please note that this tips works only if you have a headstock spacer in place (P/N 1297 or P/N 1299). Following are the steps boB used to install his new light source.

"I was using a small LED flexible neck spotlight to illuminate the work area but wanted to add a light to the mill. Here is how I did it:

The photos were taken with the same exposure settings to show how much the light brightens the work area.

Parts:

Ikea Omlopp 2-5/8" LED spotlight - \$10*

Ikea Ansluta LED driver (power supply) \$10*

This fits under the mill headstock with the headstock spacer block.

I used double-stick foam tape to secure the LED to the headstock.

The Ansluta will power up to 6 LEDs; I have more connected as general area lighting."

***NOTE:** All prices USD as of 2021.

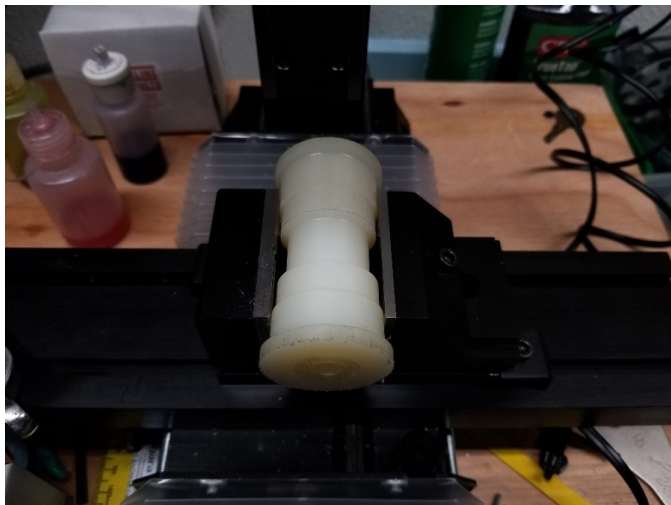


FIGURE 2—This photo shows the work piece on the mill without illumination.



FIGURE 3—This photo shows the part on the mill with the new light illuminating the work surface.



FIGURE 1—This photo shows the light installed under the headstock and spacer block.