

## 1. Function

In addition to headlamps that light the road ahead of you when you drive at night, lights play a crucial role in ensuring a safe environment in cloudy, rainy, snowy, or foggy weather, as well as at dusk and at night by actively letting pedestrians and other drivers around you know where your vehicle is and its direction of travel.

### 2. Construction

Light bulbs have the following construction (incandescent bulbs)

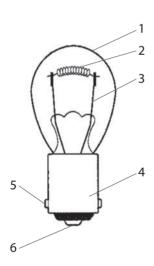


Fig.1 Image of incandescent bulb

1. Glass sphere	Soft glass is used.
2. Filament	This is a wire that has been wound into a coil, and primarily consists of tungsten.
3. Lead	This is also called the lead wire, and is made of nickel or dumet wire.
4. Metal base	Typically made of metal, but also made of plastic in some cases.
5. Pin	This pin keeps an inserted bulb from popping out of the socket.
6. Contact	This is the positive (+) electrical contact with the socket. The negative (-) contact is the metal portion of the metal base.

# 3. Types of bulbs

1) Three types of light bulbs are used in automobiles: incandescent bulbs, halogen bulbs, and HID bulbs.

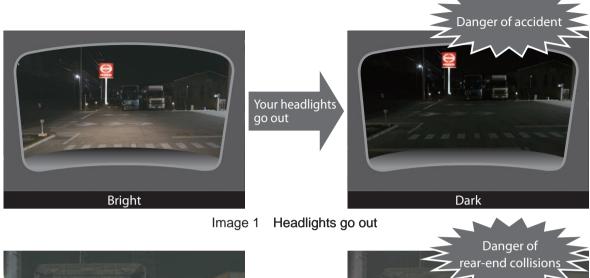
Name	Images	Characteristics	
Incandescent bulbs		These bulbs are used in a variety of lamps including tail lights, and blinkers.	
Halogen bulbs		These bulbs are used in headlights and fog lamps. They are filled with halogen gas, and produce a brighter light than incandescent bulbs.	
HID bulbs		This type of bulb is used in headlights, and produces light from sparks (electric discharges) that are discharged between electrodes inside the bulb. These bulbs are brighter, last longer, and consume less power than halogen bulbs.	

#### 2) HID bulbs come in two types: D2S and D2R

Name	Socket, appearance	Characteristics	Applications
D2R	Black Stripe	These bulbs are exclusively for lamps with reflectors. These bulbs come with black stripes to prevent light dispersion.	
D2S		These bulbs are exclusively for projector lamps.	

## 4. The importance of maintenance, and replacement timing

- 1) The importance of maintenance
  - •You will not be able to operate at night if your headlight goes out.(See Image 1)
  - Non-functioning brake lights and turn lamps can lead to serious accidents.(See Image 2)



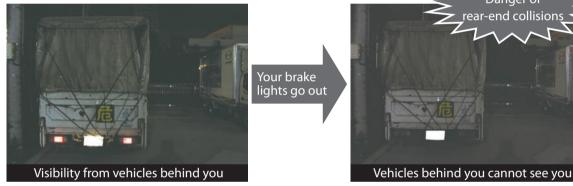


Image 2 Brake lights go out

2) Replacement timing ... Daily inspections and early replacements

The life cycle of light bulbs can vary widely depending on how frequently they are used and operating conditions. As such, it is important that you inspect these on a daily basis.

Towards the end of their life cycle, the glass lens will become darkened, reducing the bulb's brightness. If your light starts to get darker, it is time to replace your bulb.

- 3) Points to keep in mind when replacing light bulbs
  - (1) Always use bulbs with the prescribed specifications.

Check the bulb's nominal voltage and wattage labeling, and replace it with a genuine bulb with the prescribed specifications.

Using light bulbs with the wrong specifications can lead to diminished performance, shorter light bulb life cycle, blown fuses from current surges, and the lens melting from excessive heat.

(2) Replace both at the same time.

Where the lamps come in pairs, such as the headlights and tail lights, if one of the bulbs dies, the other one will also be near the end of its life cycle, so both should be replaced at the same time.