

THE METROPOLE

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Are compact fluorescent light (CFL) tri-lights available? Are other adaptations necessary?

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Yes, CFL tri-lights are readily available. Like their single wattage CFL siblings, CFL tri-lights will always be more economical to operate than incandescent tri-lights are.

Consider, for example a CFL tri-light that is equivalent to a 30-70-100 Watt incandescent bulb. The CFL tri-light provides equivalent <u>light-output</u> at all three levels. However, electricity consumption is only 13-18-28 Watts.

Also, the tri-light CFL's estimated life is 10,000 hours. A tri-light incandescent bulb would have an 80% <u>shorter</u> lifetime. The CFL's longer lifetime allows users to recoup its extra cost (via lower electricity costs) within the first year or so. After that, all savings are free and clear.

Is additional adaptation necessary? This depends on individual lamps. In the adjoining example, the lamp originally had an 8-inch "harp" (shown side-by-side for comparison). Because the adjoining CFL is taller and wider than an incandescent bulb, a 10-inch harp is necessary.

Is the replacement costly and/or complicated? Really, it is neither of the above. Is any re-wiring necessary? No, it is not. Although the replacement-kit comes with a new base, you need not use it. Users need only

lift the two small caps at the base of each harp-arm, squeeze the old harp inwards, and lift it from the base. Installation of the new harp is simply the reverse of removing the old harp.



Where are replacement harps available? How much do they cost? What is the brand name? You can find them at Canadian Tire and Home Hardware, and, no doubt, at many variety stores. Costs should be between \$5 and \$8. As for brand name, the adjoining 12-inch example is from Toronto's Atron Electro Industries. Atron's harps start at 7 inches (18 cm) and rise by 1-inch increments to 12 inches (30 cm).