
Subject: Lights out, the party's over

Posted by [Paul Artola](#) on Wed, 12 Sep 2007 14:24:27 GMT

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After nearly 30 years of recording, composing, jamming, and general noise making, I have finally joined a band that performs before an audience. We play a typical mix of rock, country, and disco covers to get a crowd tapping their feet and dancing. Our first gig together (the others have been a band for a couple of years, but I just joined them) was this past weekend, playing at a friend's birthday party.

We set up in the backyard and played into the night, but as darkness approached, it was clear that our few lights were not up to the task. So, I ask this group what you suggest we do?

There are 6 of us on the stage, and currently, we are doing our own sound (via Yamaha 01V digital board). We have a pair of Chauvet sound activated color bank lights and a few metal clip-on lamps, but we really need more. The singers up front were mostly in the dark, and the sound activation algorithms were hard to control.

We won't be playing out enough to justify hiring a lighting tech, and since we are hauling our own gear and setting it up, anything that is easy to deal with in that regard is appealing.

Also, we are willing to drop a little money on lights, but I think keeping a total package in the neighborhood of \$1000 is our goal.

Thoughts? Suggestions? Experiences?

Thanks.

- Paul Artola
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