

# INSTALLATION GUIDE

## JUNIOR DRAGSTER LED LIGHT KIT

**IMPORTANT!** No two installation scenarios are the same. Accent lighting is highly subjective. Not everyone shares the same lighting or installation quality goals. Some folks are OK with twisting wires together, others want to solder and heat shrink them. Some folks are OK with running wires where they may be seen or unprotected to save money/time, others want a tidy, clean install so they wrap plastic split-loom around all exposed cables. Some folks are OK with mounting their LED strips to whatever surface they can find, others want to take the time necessary to build out appropriate mounting surfaces to provide the best lighting effect on their vehicle and maximize the longevity of their lighting system. The point is it's not possible to provide all the materials necessary for all installation scenarios on all types of vehicles to meet everyone's quality goals. Our light kits provide the essential components needed for a high-quality, functioning lighting system. Installation of our light kit to your specific vehicle will however likely require additional items to make it look, fit and work the way you want. This is particularly the case with electrical wiring, switching functionality and mounting surfaces for the LED strips. We have created a list of additional items you may need. Here's the link: <https://www.boogeylights.com/other-items-you-might-need/> . While we offer them for sale you can also find these items locally. We urge you to review this information before starting your install.

### **BENCH TEST YOUR LIGHTING COMPONENTS FIRST**

We know this takes a few extra minutes, but we **STRONGLY** suggest you bench test your lights AND your controller / switches on a table before doing anything further. While we test every light strip and controller before shipping, bench testing your lights will eliminate the possibility of any problems with the lights or controller before mounting. It also lets you know everything is working properly. Also, the process of bench testing gives you an opportunity to understand the wiring system without interference from other wires, connectors and cables. You can use any 12vdc battery to do this (e.g. car battery, motorcycle battery, lawn tractor battery or 12vdc power supply). Bench testing takes an extra 10 or 15 minutes. It's simple to do and can potentially save you hours of time and frustration down the road.

Did we mention the importance of bench testing every LED strip and controller first?

**THIS IS A GUIDE. NOT A HOW-TO.** It's simply not possible to provide detailed instructions for all installation scenarios. Far too many variables. The information in this document is intended to be used as a guide. It is not a detailed step-by-step how-to installation manual. We do not spell out every single step along the way. We cover the essential steps related to installing this kit. Beyond that we assume the installer has the skills, knowledge and tools necessary to do the work using the information we provide as a guide. You may need to vary your installation and/or make adjustments based on your vehicle. This is particularly the case with led strip mounting locations, electrical wire routing, electrical connections, electrical load sizing and switching. If you're unsure about how to do the installation – particularly the electrical components – we urge you to seek assistance from someone who has those skills.

**YOU MUST HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING OF 12V POWER.** An essential skill with installation of any Boogey Lights LED products is knowing how to correctly wire the product to a 12vdc circuit. This includes understanding the importance of having a properly sized fuse at the power source, polarity, how to properly seal an electrical connection, using properly sized wire gauge for the load, measuring voltage and measuring the additional amperage draw you're adding. If you are uncertain or unfamiliar with any of these concepts, we urge you to ask someone who has the knowledge to assist you. Electricity is unforgiving.

**WORK AREA.** Make sure you have ample area in which to work and that the area is protected from rain or cold temperatures. The 3M adhesive tape and 3M adhesion promoter works best if applied when the air temperature is above 40 degrees (and of course is DRY).

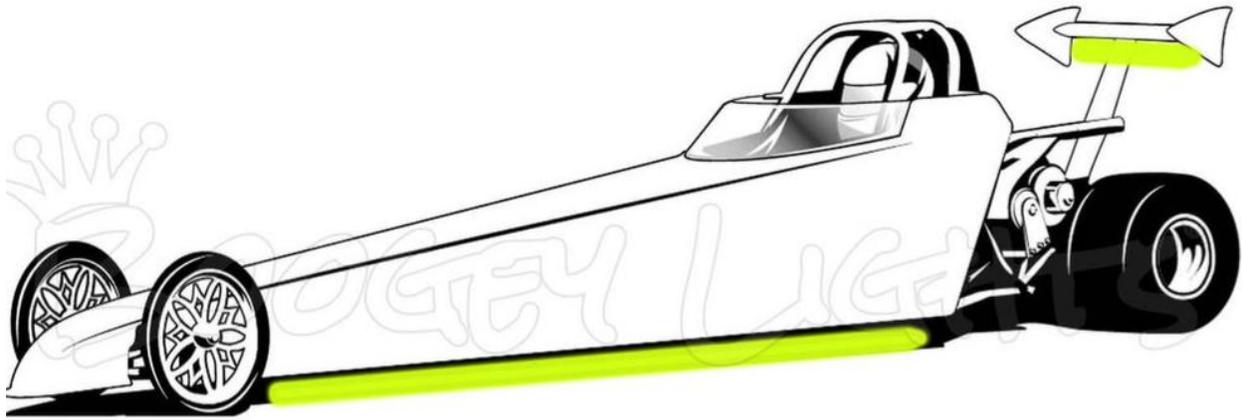
**MOUNTING SURFACE CONSIDERATIONS.** How and where you mount your LED strips will for the most part determine the longevity of your lighting system. If you mount the LED strips to smooth, clean, continuous, straight, flat surfaces as we recommend, you can expect your lighting system to last for many years.

Make sure you have adequate surface area where to affix the LED light strips to the bottom of your car. When deciding on where to mount your lights, keep in mind that the mounting surface needs to be smooth, flat, straight and rigid. The strip itself cannot span multiple mounting surfaces nor can it bend around corners or be installed on top flanges, welds, brackets, gussets or cables. **EVERY INCH OF THE LED STRIP MUST MAKE CONTACT WITH THE MOUNTING SURFACE.** If you don't have a straight, smooth flat mounting surface, we suggest installed some aluminum or plastic flat bar first. Then, mount the LED strip to that aluminum or plastic surface. Also, the mounting surface must be free of grease and other solvents. We suggest mapping out your install before proceeding so you know where each LED strip will go.

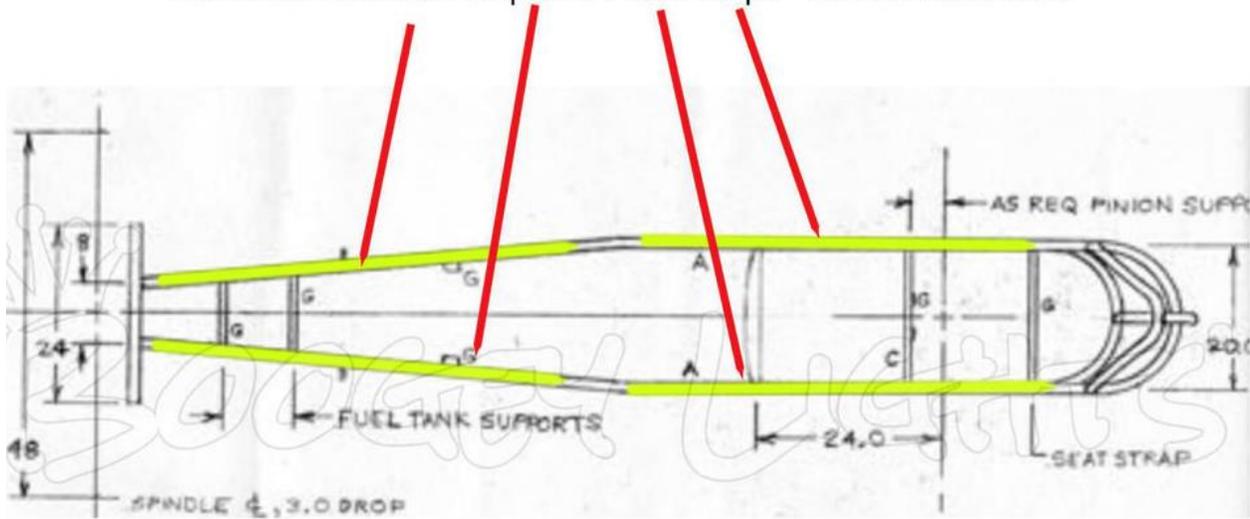
## **MOUNTING LOCATIONS**

The Jr. Dragster light kit we offer is sold in a number of configurations designed to light up under the dragster as well as under the wing. You can purchase just the under-glow, just the under-wing or both. The available kit configurations (number of LED strips and the lengths of those strips) are based on the dragster's frame structure. We assume you know which kit configuration version you purchased and where you intend on mounting those LED strips on your dragster. Some common layout diagrams are below.

## JUNIOR DRAGSTER LIGHTING



This frame structure requires 4 LED strips - two on each side.



(top view looking down on the frame)



This frame structure can use one single LED strip on each side.



This frame structure requires 1 - 3' and 2 - 4' LED lengths.

**LOW PROFILE LED STRIPS.** This light kit uses our LOW PROFILE LED series. Our Low Profile LED strips can be cut every 3 LEDs if needed to fit. Details on how to do this are further along in this guide.

**POWER, SWITCHING.** Boogey Lights® LEDs are 12vdc devices. They require 12vdc power. The LEDs however will accept 18vdc power. We mention this because some Jr. Dragster customers like to use common power tool 18vdc power packs to power our LEDs on their dragster. The LEDs will burn brighter and run hotter (not last as long either) so you'll need to be mindful of heat build up and amperage draw if you're going to run 18vdc. Regardless of whether you use 12v or 18v, you'll need a switching mechanism of some kind. We offer them as an option and if purchased, will be included with your kit. In addition, it's important to fuse the circuit. We include a blade fuse holder with the kit as well.

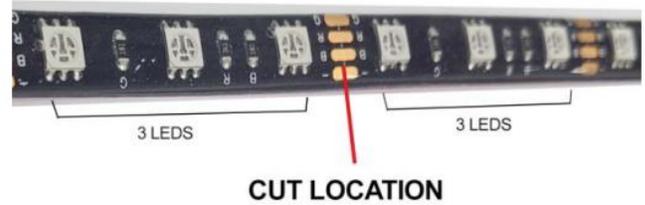
**WIRING.** Our Single Color LED strips have a 2 conductor power lead hard wired to one end of each strip. One conductor is the ground (black) and the other is the 12vdc positive lead (red).

## CUTTING YOUR LEDS

If you need to cut your LED strip you can do so as long as you cut in the proper location – which is every three LEDs as shown in the photo. Cutting incorrectly could damage your lights and is not covered by the warranty. If you cut the strip, be sure to seal the cut end. You can also use silicone found at your local hardware store. If you do need to cut your LED strip, we strongly suggest doing so **BEFORE** you mount the strip to your car.

**NOTE: Heavy Duty LED strips CANNOT be cut. LOW PROFILE only.**

## HI-INTENSITY SURFACE MOUNTED LED STRIPS



The LED strip can be cut one time on the copper solder pad where indicated; between the cluster of 3 LEDs. Important to cut in the center of the copper pads. Once cut, the end must be sealed using silicon, liquid electrical tape or even heat shrink to stop water intrusion from damaging the strip.

## MOUNTING THE LED STRIPS

Once you have your LED strips cut (if necessary) and you know where you are going to attach them, follow these steps:

- The area where you are mounting the LEDs has to be clean: free of all dirt, oil or anything that might affect the LED from sticking. You only get one opportunity to mount the LEDs so it's critical the area be prepared properly.
- Use alcohol to clean the area where you are going to mount the LED strip. Be sure to let the alcohol dry completely before proceeding to the next step. (Note: Do not use acetone or similar cleaner without reading the section "A Word About 3M Tape & 3M Promoter" further on in this document).
- Next, use the 3M Adhesion Promoter supplied with your kit to "paint" on the promoter where you are going to mount the LED strip. See the note below (on page 6) about the proper way to use promoter. **This is an important step. Do not bypass.** Allow the promoter to dry for 30-60 seconds.
- Peel off the red backing tape that protects the 3M adhesive tape on your LED strip. Be careful not to let the tape touch anything. The 3M backing tape on these LED strips are one-use only. They cannot be reused.
- Carefully push the LED strip to the area you have prepared. You will want to apply only enough pressure to the strip to make sure it is firmly mounted. *You only get one opportunity to do this.* Once the LED strip touches a properly prepared surface that has been promoted, that LED strip will be very difficult to remove. Moreover, if you do remove the LED strip, the strip cannot be used again without

Do NOT bend the LED strip in a radius of less than 2 inches.



Do NOT bend the LED strip on a horizontal plane.



adding another layer of 3M adhesive tape to the back. DO NOT press too hard as too much pressure can damage the LEDs and connecting wires in the strip. Also, do not pull, stretch or twist the LED strip. Too much tension on the strip will also damage the LEDs such that some of the LEDs in the strip will not illuminate. The strip must be mounted flat against a single continuous mounting surface, in a straight line. Really important that the ENTIRE STRIP be stuck to the mounting surface and that you NOT attempt to span across multiple mounting surfaces.

- Secure all power leads. Do not leave the power lead cable hanging. Doing so will place too much stress on the LED strip itself causing it to fall off or fail where the power lead connects to the LED strip. Be sure to wrap all power leads in split loom to avoid chaffing.

### **3M Tape & 3M Adhesion Promoter (aka Primer)**

All Boogey Lights® LED strips have 3M Tape backing affixed to them. This 3M Tape is designed to make a more-or-less permanent bond between the LED strip and the surface to which it is attached. When properly prepared, 3M Tape can be affixed to polyethylene, polypropylene, ABS, PET/PBT blends, concrete, wood, glass, metal and painted metal surfaces. To make this bond you must however prepare the surface to which the LED strip will be affixed. You do this by first cleaning the surface with isopropyl alcohol (50/50 mixture with water) and then painting on 3M Adhesion Promoter. YOU CANNOT SKIP THIS STEP. Always apply 3M Adhesion Promoter to any surface Boogey Lights® LED strips will be mounted. The promoter acts as a primer that ensures maximum adhesion. Porous surfaces may require 2 applications of 3M Promoter for uniform coverage and good adhesion. If you are going to add a second coat, allow the first application of promoter to dry before applying the second coat. Our lighting kits include a small bottle of 3M Adhesion Promoter. Simply use a clean, dry cloth to apply it to the mounting surface.

Using Acetone on Heavy Oiled or Greasy Surfaces: For situations where you are affixing Boogey Lights® to a surface where heavy oils or grease are present, a "degreaser" solvent such as acetone may need to be used first. If you use acetone (or any other degreasing solvent) you must still apply the 3M Promoter. Acetone is not a replacement for promoter. In addition, if you use acetone to clean a heavy oiled or greased surface, you will still need to follow up with an alcohol cleaning to help ensure any residue or film from the acetone is removed. This is because acetone (and most other degreasing solvents) will thin the promoter as well as break down the adhesive in the tape greatly reducing the tape's stickiness. Any surface first cleaned with acetone must also be cleaned with alcohol and then thoroughly dried before painting on promoter.

Important Reminder! The 3M adhesive tape on the back of Boogey Lights® LED stripes are one-use only. If you apply them to a surface that has not been properly prepared, the holding power of the 3M adhesive tape will be greatly diminished perhaps making the light strip unusable. If you take the time to properly prepare the surface in accordance with our instructions here, you won't have any problems mounting your LEDs.