

# SILKSCREEN POWER

## HOW TO BUILD A PORTABLE EXPOSURE UNIT



This silkscreen exposure unit is extremely lightweight and portable, and was constructed from materials that we found at Home Depot and Mueller's, our friendly neighborhood hardware store. We chose these lights because all the wiring is internal, and you can daisy-chain up to three of them together. With some searching, you can probably source this stuff even more cheaply. Here is what you'll need:

### SUPPLIES:

Hampton Bay Undercabinet lights (3-pack) 2 @	\$28 ea.
28 Qt clear box with lid	\$6
3 feet sticky back Velcro	\$9
2-1 extension cord	\$2
16 x 22" 1/8" thick glass	\$12
Duct Tape	\$5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$84</b>

### TOOLS:

Drill with bi-metal hole saw attachment  
Utility Knife

### HOW-TO

1. Use the attachment to drill a hole at one end of the box for the extension cord to feed out. You may need to use a utility knife to widen the hole.

2. Plan out how your six lights will fit in the box. Cut strips of Velcro to fit one at either end of each light. Stick one side of the Velcro tape into the box, and one side on the lights.

3. Use the cords included with the lights to attach them end to end in groups of three, and run the last cords to the extension cord.



4. Switch all the lights to "on" and plug in the extension cord to test that they all are on and working. You will leave the switches in the "on" position, and plug and unplug the extension cord to use the exposing unit.

5. If you have access to a glass cutter, trim the corners off the glass, so that the lid fits over the glass when it is resting on the lip of the box. (If you can't cut the corners, you just won't have a lid that closes on the box. Not crucial). Run duct tape around all the edges of the glass, then tape the glass to the top of the box.

6. To expose a screen, lay your transparency on the glass and your screen on top. Your image should be oriented how

how you want it to look when printed. Lay your coated screen on top and use books, packages of paper, or other flat, heavy objects to block out the top so no light seeps through.

Run some tests with timing—we have found that with most emulsions, this unit will expose a screen in 8 minutes.

This handout developed by staff in the Andy Warhol Museum's education department

**FINISHED!**