

# SNOWBALL!



# blizzard LIGHTING

Blizzard Lighting, LLC  
[www.blizzardlighting.com](http://www.blizzardlighting.com)  
Brookfield, WI USA  
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# 1. GETTING STARTED

## What's In The Box?

- 1 x Snowball™ DMX Effect Light
- Warranty Card
- This Lovely User Manual

## Getting It Out Of The Box

Brrrrrrrr! Did it just get colder in here?! Now that you've been Snowballed™, you should carefully unpack the box and check the contents to ensure that all parts are present and in good condition. If anything looks as if it has been damaged in transit, notify the shipper immediately and keep the packing material for inspection. Again, please save the carton and all packing materials. If a fixture must be returned to the factory, it is important that the fixture be returned in the original factory box and packing.

## Powering Up!

All fixtures must be powered directly off a switched circuit and **cannot be run off a rheostat (variable resistor) or dimmer circuit, even if the rheostat or dimmer channel is used solely for a 0% to 100% switch.**

*AC Voltage Switch* - Not all fixtures have a voltage select switch, so please verify that the fixture you receive is suitable for your local power supply. See the label on the fixture or refer to the fixture's specifications chart for more information. A fixture's listed current rating is its average current draw under normal conditions. Check the fixture or device carefully to make sure that if a voltage selection switch exists that it is set to the correct line voltage you will use.

***Warning! Verify that the voltage select switch on your unit matches the line voltage applied. Damage to your fixture may result if the line voltage applied does not match the voltage indicated on the voltage selector switch. All fixtures must be connected to circuits with a suitable Ground (Earthing).***

## Getting A Hold Of Us

**If something is wrong, just give us a call or send an email. We'll be happy to help, honest.**

Blizzard Lighting  
W220 N1531 Jericho Ct. Suite E, Waukesha, WI 53186 USA  
support@blizzardlighting.com  
www.blizzardlighting.com  
1.866.493.6025

## SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS



Please read these instructions carefully. They include important information about the installation, usage and maintenance of this product.

- Please keep this User Guide for future use. If you sell the unit to someone else, be sure that they also receive this User Guide.
- ALWAYS make sure that you are connecting to the proper voltage, and that the line voltage you are connecting to is not higher than that stated on the decal or rear panel of the fixture.
- This product is intended for indoor use only.
- To prevent risk of fire or shock, do not expose fixture to rain or moisture.
- Make sure there are no flammable materials close to the unit while operating.
- The unit must be installed in a location with adequate ventilation, at least 20in (50cm) from adjacent surfaces. Be sure that no ventilation slots are blocked.
- ALWAYS disconnect from the power source before servicing or replacing fuse and be sure to replace with same fuse size and type.
- ALWAYS secure fixture using a safety chain. NEVER carry the fixture by its cord. Use its carrying handles.
- DO NOT operate at ambient temperatures higher than 104°F (40°C).
- In the event of a serious operating problem, stop using the unit immediately. NEVER try to repair the unit by yourself. Repairs carried out by unskilled people can lead to damage or malfunction. Please contact the nearest authorized technical assistance center. Always use the same type spare parts.
- NEVER connect the device to a dimmer pack.
- Make sure the power cord is never crimped or damaged.
- Never disconnect the power cord by pulling or tugging on the cord.
- Avoid direct eye exposure to the light source while it is on.

**Caution!** There are no user serviceable parts inside the unit. Do not open the housing or attempt any repairs yourself. In the unlikely event your unit may require service, please contact Blizzard Lighting at support@blizzardlighting.com.

## 2. MEET The Snowball™ DMX Effect

### CONTROL FEATURES

- Way bright output from 4x 3-watt R/G/B/W LEDs
- Variable electronic strobe
- Variable electronic dimmer
- Built-in automated programs via DMX and master/slave
- Built-in sound active programs in standalone and DMX modes

### ADDITIONAL FEATURES

- Lightweight and Compact (It kept its New Years' resolution!)
- LED control panel for easy programming
- Easy mounting tabs
- Cool white case evokes alpine memories (and glows when in use!)

### DMX Quick Reference

Channel	Values	What It Does
1	0 <--> 255	Dimmer
2	0 <--> 255	Red Intensity
3	0 <--> 255	Green Intensity
4	0 <--> 255	Blue Intensity
5	0 <--> 255	White Intensity
6	0 <--> 016 017 <--> 255	Strobe Off Strobe (Slow <--> Fast)
7	0 <--> 255	Color Macros
8	0 <--> 127 128 <--> 255	Beam Rotation (Fixed Position) Beam Rotation (Continuous, Slow <--> Fast)
9	0 <--> 127 128 <--> 255	Sound Active Off Sound Active On

**Figure 1: The Snowball™ Pin-Up Picture**



**Figure 2: The Rear Connections**



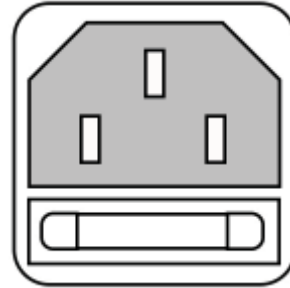
### 3. SETUP



Before replacing a fuse, disconnect power cord. ALWAYS replace with the same type and rating of fuse.

#### Fuse Replacement

With a flat head screwdriver, wedge the fuse holder out of its housing. Remove the damaged fuse from its holder and replace with exact same type fuse. Insert the fuse holder back in its place and reconnect power.



#### Connecting A Bunch of Snowball™ DMX Effects

You will need a serial data link to run light shows using a DMX-512 controller or to run shows on two or more fixtures set to sync in master/slave operating mode. The combined number of channels required by all the fixtures on a serial data link determines the number of fixtures the data link can support.

Fixtures on a serial data link must be daisy chained in one single line. Also, connecting more than 32 fixtures on one serial data link without the use of a DMX optically-isolated splitter may result in deterioration of the digital DMX signal.

The maximum recommended cable-run distance is 500 meters (1640 ft). The maximum recommended number of fixtures on a serial data link is 32 fixtures.

#### Data/DMX Cabling

To link fixtures together you'll need data cables. You should use data-grade cables that can carry a high quality signal and are less prone to electromagnetic interference.

For instance, Belden© 9841 meets the specifications for EIA RS-485 applications. Standard microphone cables will "probably" be OK, but note that they cannot transmit DMX data as reliably over long distances. In any event, the cable should have the following characteristics:

*2-conductor twisted pair plus a shield*

*Maximum capacitance between conductors – 30 pF/ft.*

*Maximum capacitance between conductor & shield – 55 pF/ft.*

*Maximum resistance of 20 ohms / 1000 ft.*

*Nominal impedance 100 – 140 ohms*

## 4. OPERATING ADJUSTMENTS

### DMX Mode

*Allows the unit to be controlled by any universal DMX controller.*

- 1.) The default mode for the fixture is DMX, which appears as *Addr* on the LED Readout. Use the <ENTER> button then the <UP> and <DOWN> buttons to choose a channel between *1* and *512*. Press <ENTER> again to confirm.

### Master/Slave Mode (Auto/Sound Active):

*Allows you to link up to 32 units together without a controller.*

- 1.) Use standard DMX cables to daisy chain your units together via the DMX connector on the rear of the units. It may be necessary to use a terminator at the last fixture. For more information about terminators, see page 8.

- 2.) Choose a unit to function as the Master. Select MAST. The master unit must be the first unit. Finally, chain the units together using DMX cable.

Master            *SLNd*    then    *MASt*    to confirm.

- 3.) Select slave function by using the <UP>/<DOWN> keys to reach SLAV in the Master/Auto menu on the slave units, and they will react in the same as the Master.

Slave            *SLNd*    then    *SLAV*    to confirm.

- 4.) On the master fixture, use the <UP>/<DOWN> keys to reach AUTO, which allows you to select the Master/Slave mode.

Sound active    *SOuN*    then <ENTER> to confirm.

Auto mode        *Auto*    then

*Aw 1 - Aw 15*

1 = Red	2 = Green	3 = Blue
4 = White	5 = Red + Green	6 = Red + Blue
7 = Red + White	8 = Blue + Green	9 = Green + White
10 = Blue + White	11 = R + G + B	12 = G + B + W
13 = R + B + W	14 = R + G + W	15 = R + G + B + W

then <ENTER> to confirm.

*Aw 16* = Red/Green/Blue/White Snap

*Aw 17* = 15 Color Snap

*Aw 18* = Strobe

*Aw 19* = 15 Color Fade

*AwSP* = Rotation Speed (Slow <--> Fast)



## Troubleshooting

Symptom	Solution
Fixture Auto-Shut Off	Check the fan in the fixture. If it is stopped or moving slower than normal, the unit may have shut itself off due to high heat. This is to protect the fixture from overheating. Clear the fan of obstructions, or return the unit for service.
Beam is Dim	Check optical system and clean excess dust/grime. Also ensure that the 220V/110V switch is in the correct position, if applicable.
No Light Output	Check to ensure fixture is operating under correct mode, IE sound active/auto/DMX/Etc., if applicable. Contact service for more information.
Chase Speed Too Fast/Slow	Check to ensure proper setup of speed adjustment.
No Power	Check fuse, AC cord and circuit for malfunction.
Blown Fuse	Check AC cord and circuit for damage, verify that moving parts are not restricted and that unit's ventilation is not obstructed
Slow Movement	Verify that 220V/110V switch is in the correct position, if applicable. Also check that speed channels are set appropriately.
No Response to Audio	Verify that the fixture is in "Sound Active" mode. Adjust Audio Sensitivity, If Applicable.
Fixture Not Responding / Responding Erratically	Make sure all connectors are seated properly and securely. Use Only DMX Cables. Install a Terminator. Check all cables for defects. Reset fixture(s).
Intermittant Lamp	Check lamp for properly installation. Relamp, lamp may have reached end of life.
Remote Doesn't Work	Verify remote control cable is installed properly and securely. Verify remote is correct type (CA-9 or other as applicable.)
Fixture Moving On Its Own	Verify proper mode of operation. Is the fixture in "Auto" mode?

**If your problem isn't listed, or if problems persist, please contact support: [support@blizzardlighting.com](mailto:support@blizzardlighting.com).**

## 5. APPENDIX

### Keeping Your Snowball™ As Good As New

The fixture you've received is a rugged, tough piece of pro lighting equipment, and as long as you take care of it, it will take care of you. That said, like anything, you'll need to take care of it if you want it to operate as designed. You should absolutely keep the fixture clean, especially if you are using it in an environment with a lot of dust, fog, haze, wild animals, wild teenagers or spilled drinks.

Cleaning the optics routinely with a suitable glass cleaner will greatly improve the quality of light output. Keeping the fans free of dust and debris will keep the fixture running cool and prevent damage from overheating.

In transit, keep the fixtures in cases. You wouldn't throw a prized guitar, drumset, or other piece of expensive gear into a gear trailer without a case, and similarly, you shouldn't even think about doing it with your shiny new light fixtures.

Common sense and taking care of your fixtures will be the single biggest thing you can do to keep them running at peak performance and let you worry about designing a great light show, putting on a great concert, or maximizing your client's satisfaction and "wow factor." That's what it's all about, after all!

### Returns (Gasp!)

We've taken a lot of precautions to make sure you never even have to worry about sending a defective unit back, or sending a unit in for service. But, like any complex piece of equipment designed and built by humans, once in a while, something doesn't go as planned. If you find yourself with a fixture that isn't behaving like a good little fixture should, you'll need to obtain a Return Authorization (RA).

Don't worry, this is easy. Just send an email to [support@blizzardlighting.com](mailto:support@blizzardlighting.com), and we'll issue you an RA. Then, you'll need to send the unit to us using a trackable, pre-paid freight method. We suggest using USPS Priority or UPS. Make sure you carefully pack the fixture for transit, and whenever possible, use the original box & packing for shipping.

When returning your fixture for service, be sure to include the following:

- 1.) Your contact information (Name, Address, Phone Number, Email address).
- 2.) The RA# issued to you
- 3.) A brief description of the problem/symptoms.

We will, at our discretion, repair or replace the fixture. Please remember that any shipping damage which occurs in transit to us is the customer's responsibility, so pack it well!

### Shipping Issues

**Damage incurred in shipping is the responsibility of the shipper, and must be reported to the carrier immediately upon receipt of the items. Claims must be made within seven (7) days of receipt.**

## Tech Specs!

<b>Weight &amp; Dimensions</b>	
Length	6.625 inches (168 mm)
Width	6.875 inches (174 mm)
Height	6 inches (152 mm)
Weight	3 lbs (1.5 kg)
<b>Power</b>	
Operating Voltage	110-230VAC, 50-60 Hertz
Fuse	2A 250V
Power Consumption	20W
<b>Light Source</b>	
LED	4x 3-watt Red/Green/Blue/White LED, 60,000 hours
<b>Optical</b>	
Beamz	Gajillions
<b>Thermal</b>	
Max. Operating Temp.	104 degrees F (40 degrees C) ambient
<b>Control</b>	
Protocol	USITT DMX-512
DMX Channels	9
Input	3-pin XLR Male
Output	3-pin XLR Female
Other Operating Modes	Standalone, Master/Slave, Sound Active, Color Preset, Standalone color mixing
<b>Dislikes</b>	
Yellow Snow	
<b>Warranty</b>	2-year limited warranty, does not cover mal- function caused by damage to LED's.



Enjoy your product!  
Our sincerest thanks for your purchase!  
--The team @ Blizzard Lighting