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A BRIGHT IDEA



The Smart Light motion detector shines in all the right places

When it comes to RV entry lights, it's fair to say that many of these fixtures could use some updating. With today's technology it's not difficult to imagine a motion-operated porch light. In fact, Starlights did more than imagine it, the company created it. The Smart Light 1000 (MSRP: \$99) not only introduces motion-triggering, it adds other innovative touches. The main feature of the light, other than passive infrared sensors that detect thermal mass movement, is the housing itself, which is tilted so that the light ends up where you need it, not shining into the RV next door.

I found the installation to be straightforward and easy, requiring little more than splicing into existing wires, attaching the housing using the original screw holes and applying a silicone bead. Once the installation was complete, the light provided more-than-ample illumination to the target area. I was also impressed by the ability of the built-in microprocessors to differentiate between the on and AUTO positions via the factory wall switch. In the AUTO mode, the light is triggered when someone approaches within 10 to 25 feet of the sensor, depending how you set the adjustable sensitivity.

On the other hand, the same microprocessor showed signs of needing more refinement. During the test, the multicolored indicator lights were persistently flashing a bright blue light while set in AUTO mode. Even though the light housing is angled down, the blue rays could be an annoyance in a close-quartered campground. The light automatically deactivates during daylight, so it also works as an entry light that can be left on during the day without draining the batteries. I suggest running no less than half sensitivity for the best results.

For more information, call Starlights at (800) 883-5444, or visit www.starlightsinc.com. Circle 218 on Reader Service Card.



STEPPING UP

The E-Z FOLDZ stool is easy-to-use and easy-to-stow

No matter what your motorhome's shape, length or floorplan, there are certain items that are nice to have on board. One such apparatus is a quality step stool. The E-Z FOLDZ folding step stool from B&R Plastics of Denver, Colo., is designed for motorhome use. The simple step stool is built using sturdy plastic materials designed to support up to 300 pounds. The E-Z FOLDZ requires little effort and functions without hesitation. The step puts you 9 inches closer to your target and has a skid-resistant top.

Besides ease of use, the E-Z FOLDZ was designed with storage limitations in mind. I appreciate the fact that the E-Z FOLDZ *only* needs to be folded once to allow stowage aboard any RV by demanding a mere 2 inches of depth; once folded a convenient carry handle is configured. This simple step retails for \$15, but you can find deals on it at most RV supply stores, including Camping World. If you need additional lift you can opt for the two-step model, which retails for \$33. It needs 5 inches of storage depth and is quite a bit larger in stature. ♦

