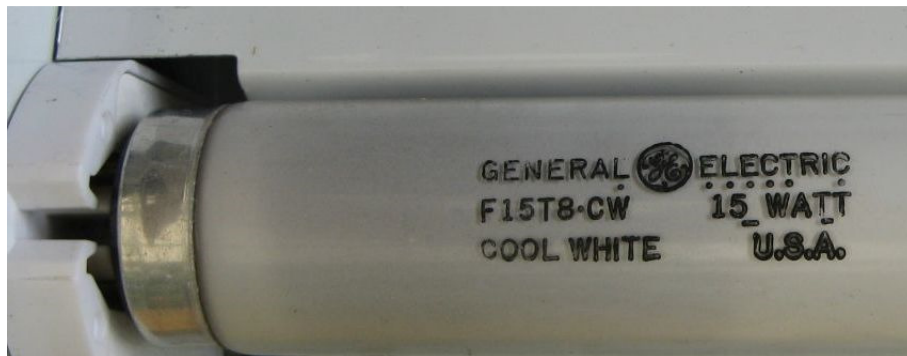
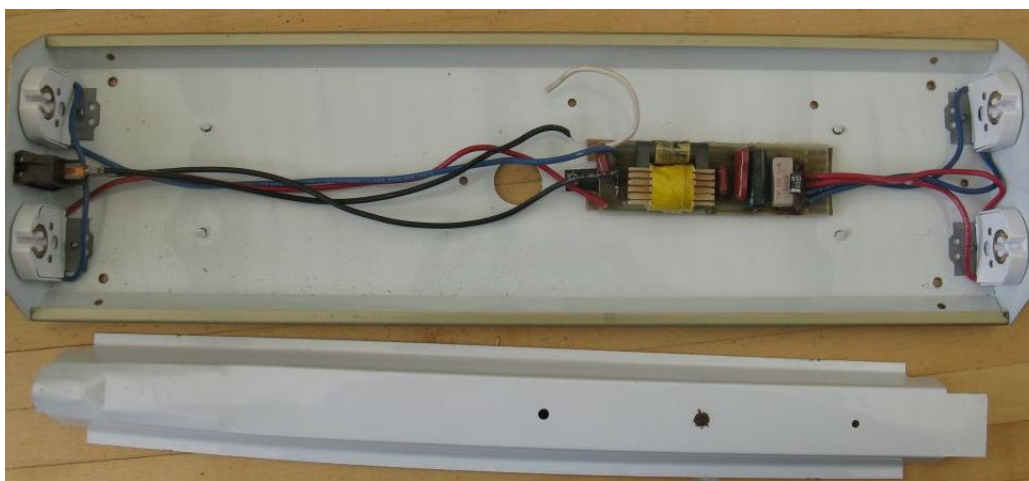


RV Fluorescent Light Retrofit

I have a 19 foot 5th wheel trailer that I use as a portable ham shack. 12 volt power consumption is a constant issue since the battery provides light, powers the water pump, radio gear and furnace. I had two fluorescent fixtures that each had a pair of 15 watt lamps. This comes to a 2.5 am power drain per fixture.



I recently found that LED strips are inexpensive when ordered off eBay. I ordered a five meter strip of 12V LEDs from eBay seller saintaurora for less than \$4.00, postpaid. Converting the existing fixtures to LED was a simple project. First, I removed the fixture and stripped out the innards.



I decided to install three strips and to position them so I could add more strips if needed. These strips have a peel off strip to expose adhesive, so they are easy to install.

I added a SPST switch set up to turn the outer strips off when the fixture was powered up. The single strip provides excellent light, and all three strips really light the place up.



I am pleased with the results and do not need to install more strips. Per the vendor, these strips draw .4 AMP per meter, so my new fixture at full power draws less than half an amp, and just the center strip draws .13 AMP. Such a deal!