

Take Control & Save[®]

A Cooperative Effort for Energy Efficiency

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Finding the right compact fluorescent light bulb color

Color and mood

Compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs are now available in a variety of shades of light, from warm white to cool white to daylight. The color of a CFL can make a significant impact in your perception of the bulb and influence the “mood” of your room. When CFLs were first made available, bulbs had a yellowish colored light similar to incandescent bulbs, but are now offered in a variety of “cooler” color shades with white or bluish colored light, so you can customize the mood of your rooms.

Choosing a color that fits your needs

Light color is measured on a temperature scale referred to as Kelvin (K). A lower Kelvin rating indicates a warm, yellowish light and a higher Kelvin rating produces a cooler, bluish light.

Look for the Kelvin rating on the CFL package before you purchase a bulb to be sure it matches the color and mood you would prefer for your rooms. For a yellowish light, look for bulbs rated at 2700-3000 Kelvin; for a whiter light, look for bulbs rated at 3500-4100 Kelvin; and for a bluer white light, look for bulbs rated at 5000-6500 Kelvin.¹

See the photos and chart for examples of different Kelvin rated CFL bulbs.

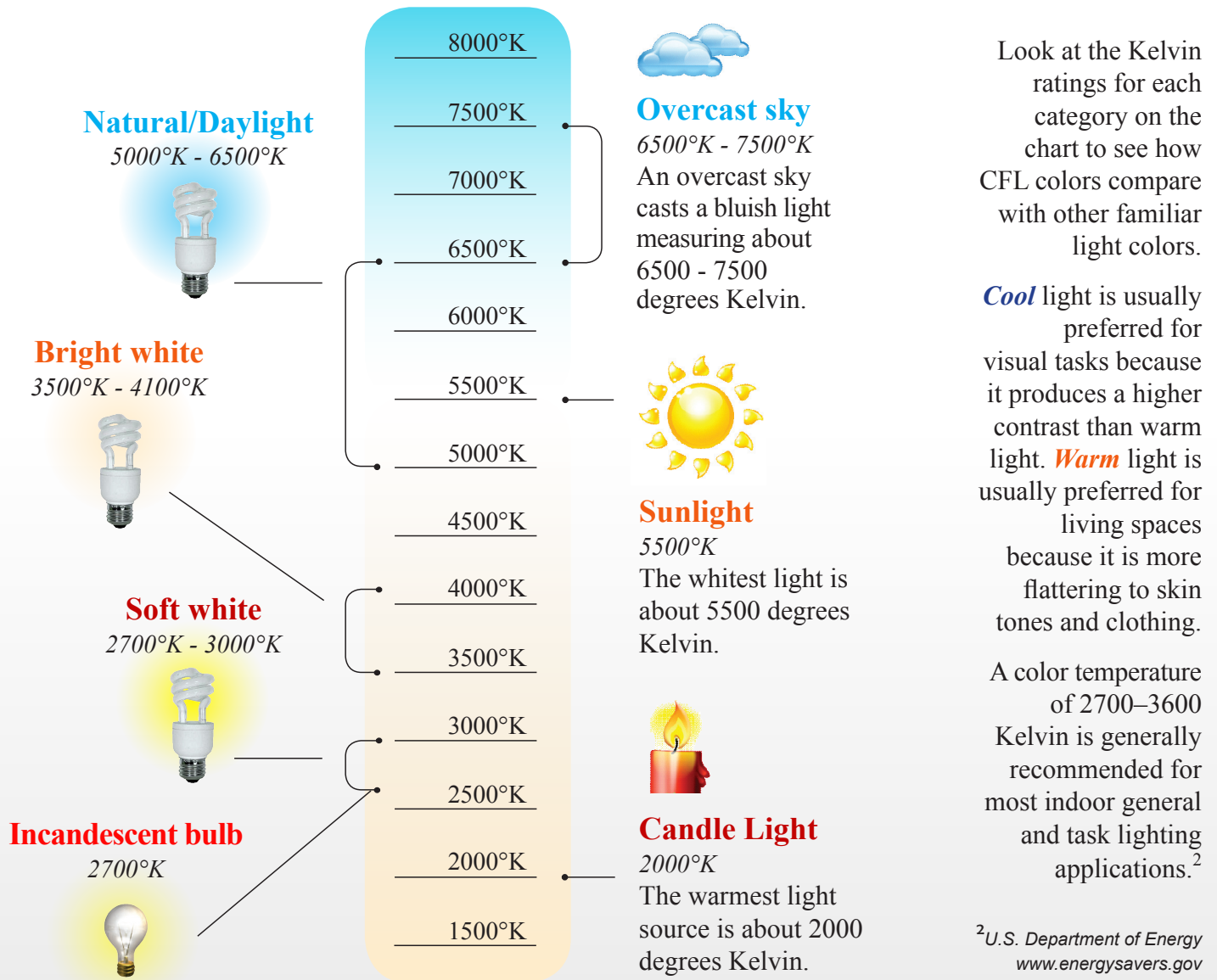
Three lamps are shown side-by-side, each with a different shade of light. The first lamp on the left has a warm, yellowish glow. The middle lamp has a cooler, whiter glow. The lamp on the right has a bright, bluish-white glow. Each lamp is on a table with a small plant in front of it.

Warm White, Soft White The standard color of incandescent bulbs.	Cool White, Bright White Good for kitchens and work spaces.	Natural or Daylight Good for reading.
2700K - 3000K	3500K - 4100K	5000K - 6500K

Source: US Environmental Protection Agency, ENERGY STAR program

¹Energy Star; http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=cfls.pr_cfls_color

Color temperature comparisons



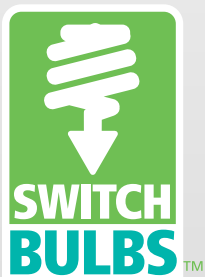
Look at the Kelvin ratings for each category on the chart to see how CFL colors compare with other familiar light colors.

Cool light is usually preferred for visual tasks because it produces a higher contrast than warm light. **Warm** light is usually preferred for living spaces because it is more flattering to skin tones and clothing.

A color temperature of 2700–3600 Kelvin is generally recommended for most indoor general and task lighting applications.²

²U.S. Department of Energy
www.energysavers.gov

Source: Feit Electric, www.feit.com



Take Control & Save with CFLs!

One ENERGY STAR[®] qualified CFL will save approximately \$30 over its lifetime and pay for itself in about six months. A CFL bulb uses 75 percent less energy and lasts about 10 times longer than an incandescent bulb.³ Your local electric cooperative may also offer incentives for free or reduced-cost CFL bulbs. For information on more energy-saving ideas contact your local electric cooperative or visit www.TakeControlAndSave.coop.

³Energy Star; http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=cfls.pr_cfls

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