TROUBLESHOOTING

Solar lights won't turn on when it is light!

Solar lights turn on automatically at night and off automatically when it's light. If you want to test your solar light, but you are outside during the day or you are in a lit room, you will need to trick the solar panel into thinking it is dark by covering the solar panel completely.

Reality check...

The Leaf has been designed to work year-round in the UK using solar power alone so long as it is in a good enough location to charge and so long as the weather isn't too dull for too long. We use a simple formula based on how much power the solar panel can produce each day versus how much power the LEDs consume after dark. We then factor in the average amount of sun hours in the UK (not much) and an average customer solar panel location. Sadly, there are two things we can't control. 1. The weather. 2. Where the customer decides to position their light. There will be dull periods in every year where even the best positioned and best performing lights will struggle, so if you are looking for a product that will light up all night, every night, no matter where the panel is placed and no matter what the weather does, then solar lights are probably not for you.

Location, location, location!

We can't control where the customer decides to position their light, but you can! Solar panels positioned in clear south-facing locations always perform best, but we know that is not always desirable even if it is achievable which is why we have added USB charge, Powersaving and two extra battery bays to the Leaf. Most people buy a solar light to light up a specific location and that location might not be a textbook solar-friendly location. So long as the solar panel gets reasonable direct sunlight through-out the day you will get reasonable performance in Autumn, Spring and Summer. If you are looking for reasonably consistent winter performance then you will need an unshaded south-facing spot and/or be prepared to USB charge.

The bottom line

We have been selling and designing solar lights for 16 years now and in our experience solar lights that work are hardly ever faulty! That might seem like we're stating the obvious, but it is so true. Lights that only work for half an hour after dark or lights that only turn on occasionally are just struggling to get enough charge 99% of the time. To test this turn the light off for three days (ensuring at least one sunny day has passed) and then turn it back on and see how long it works for that night - or USB charge if you can.

Another thing to look out for is nearby light. Light coming from another outdoor light or even light coming from inside a house can be enough to stop a solar light from turning on automatically. You can test that by completely covering the solar panel to see if it then turns on.

Ultimately, if your light doesn't work after a few sunny days in a completely unshaded spot, or after a full USB charge and you have tested for nearby light interference, you may well have a very rare fault so please contact your retailer or contact us on the details below.

FLUORO SOLAR USB POST LIGHT

MODEL NUMBER: SC2356

SOLARCENTRE®
44-46 COLDHARBOUR LANE
HARPENDEN
HERTFORDSHIRE
AL5 4UN

WWW.SOLARCENTRE.CO.UK

FLUORO

SOLAR USB POST LIGHT

USER GUIDE

Thank you for choosing the Fluoro Solar USB Post Light. Please read these instructions carefully before using your lights.

IMPORTANT NOTES

Always take care when installing your lights. If you are at all unsure, please contact your retailer or a professional trades person for advice. **Always take care when setting up your post lights if they ground is very hard. We would recommend watering the ground a little and allowing it to soak in to make it easier to put the spike in.**

HOW THE LEAF WORKS

Leaf is one of the most advanced solar panel systems currently available for home solar light setups. During the day the sun's rays are absorbed by the Leaf's solar panel which charges the 18650 Lithium-ion battery. After dark, the battery provides power for the light. Leaf has been designed to work year-round using solar power alone, but you can also fully charge Leaf's battery (or batteries) quickly and easily by using the supplied USB-C cable (see 'USB charging' below).

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Although not essential, we thoroughly recommend fully charging your Leaf battery via USB before enjoying your light for the first time. If you do not have access to a USB charging device, such as a computer or a USB wall plug adapter, we advise installing your lights and leaving them to charge outside for 3 days prior to first use. During this initial charge up period, please ensure that your Leaf is switched off (see diagram below).

LEAF LAYOUT

1. BATTERY BAYS
Your Leaf comes supplied with a single 18650 battery, but you can add one or two more batteries to either double or triple your total charge capacity.

2. POWER SWITCH
Pressing the switch towards II will power the lights at full brightness. Pressing the switch towards I will power the lights at half brightness which doubles runtime. Centring the switch on O will turn the lights off completely, but they will still charge.

3. LIGHT CONNECTOR
5-pin connector to connect your Chester light to your Leaf solar panel.

4. BALL JOINT SOCKET
Socket for ball joint which attaches to your stake or wall/deck mount.

7. USB CHARGE INDICATORS
The charge indicator lights let you know exactly how much charge your Leaf battery has.

6. MODE BUTTON
Pressing this button will change the colour of your Chester between white and warm white.

5. USB CHARGING PORT
Use the supplied USB-C lead to speed charge your Leaf battery by plugging it into the USB port on your computer, or by using a USB wall plug adaptor. Do not leave your Leaf unattended when it is charging by USB.

USB CHARGING
See diagram on previous page. To USB charge the battery simply unscrew the cap on the underside of the Leaf, insert the smaller end of the supplied USB-C cable into the USB charging port and the large end into a USB wall plug adapter or a USB port on your computer. Please note that your computer needs be powered on during USB charging. The Leaf has 5 charge indicator lights which let you know how much charge the Leaf battery has. Charging times vary, but typically takes around 4 hours with a single battery installed. N.B Please do NOT leave your Leaf unattended while it is charging and disconnect the Leaf once you reach 100% charge.

ADDITIONAL BATTERIES
Your Leaf comes with a single Lithium Ion 18650 battery installed, but has two additional battery bays available. These two spare bays give you the option to add one or two additional batteries which will double or triple the total charge capacity of the unit. Please ensure that any additional batteries used match the mAh rating of the battery supplied. You can upgrade all the batteries to a higher mAh so long as all the batteries in use have the same mAh rating. We recommend fully charging the unit by USB when new batteries are added.

SETTING UP YOUR LEAF SOLAR PANEL & FLUORO POST LIGHT

Before you begin, please remember that there is 3m of cable between your Leaf solar panel and the Fluoro Post light.

POSITIONING YOUR SOLAR PANEL
Before positioning your Leaf solar panel please think very carefully about the location you intend to put it in. Your Leaf can be charged quickly via USB so it can work in locations that get little or no sunlight, but a good solar panel location will mean you will hardly ever need to rely on USB charging. Leaf panels that are mounted higher up in south, south-east or south-west facing locations always perform best. Always try to avoid north facing or shaded areas that are obstructed by buildings, trees, fences, sheds, bushes or the shadows that these create.

STAKE MOUNTING YOUR SOLAR PANEL
Before attempting to push the stake into the ground, please ensure that the Leaf panel is not attached and that the ground is not too hard. Never try to install the stake by pushing down onto the Leaf solar panel. Any damage caused to your Leaf as a result of attempting to drive it into hard ground will be obvious to your retailer and is not covered by your warranty. If the ground is too hard, pour water on the desired area to soften the ground and make a hole using a strong metal object before driving your stake into that hole. Once the stake is securely in place, gently slot the Leaf onto it and use the ball socket to tilt the solar panel.

WALL, FENCE OR DECK MOUNTING YOUR SOLAR PANEL
Attach the wall mount to your wall, fence or decking using the supplied screws and screw-plugs. Once your wall mount is in place, attach the Leaf to the mount and use the ball socket to tilt the solar panel.

TILT
Your Leaf solar panel can be tilted vertically and horizontally to achieve the perfect angle to catch sun. To make adjustments, loosen the ball socket, make your adjustments and then tighten the ball socket to secure it in that position.

INSTALLING YOUR FLUORO SOLAR USB POST LIGHT
Choose a location for your post light and check the ground to see if it's hard. We advise watering the ground a little to make it easier to put the spike in. Install the stake into the ground, once you are happy with the height, insert the lamp body into the stake mount.

CONNECTING YOUR LED LIGHT STRING TO THE SOLAR PANEL
Once you Leaf is installed and your light is in place, connect the Fluoro to the Leaf via the 5-pin connector. Please take care to ensure the pins are correctly aligned before pushing in the connector. Once the connector in place, fully tighten the valve to secure the connection.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS
The Leaf is fully automatic so once turned on your lights will come on automatically at night and turn off automatically after 7 hours (unless you turn them off at the switch beforehand). To turn your solar lights on, simply unscrew the screw cap on the underside of the Leaf and press the rocker switch towards II for full power or I for Powersaving mode.

POWERSAVING MODE
Powersaving mode is a good option if you don't have a great solar panel location available or you aren't able to USB charge. Some users might select Powersaving mode simply because they prefer a slightly dimmer light. In Powersaving mode, the Leaf will use half the amount of power as it does in normal full brightness mode. To select Powersaving mode press the power switch towards I. In Standard mode (switch pressed towards II) the light will operate at full brightness.

LIGHTING MODES
The Fluoro includes DualWhite technology which means you can set your light to light up in either White or Warm White. Simply press the mode button to toggle between the two lighting modes and Leaf will remember your setting and light up in your chosen colour each night.

WATER INGRESS
The Leaf screw cap offers an exceptionally high level of protection against water ingress, but this protection is not unlimited. Once your Leaf is setup and you have adjusted any settings, always ensure that the screw cap and cable connector have been fully tightened to avoid water ingress. Please ensure that your Leaf solar panel is correctly installed using either the ground stake or wall mount and not left lying on the ground or anywhere else where water can accumulate. Failure to follow this guidance will invalidate your warranty.

REPLACING THE BATTERY
The supplied 18650 3.7V rechargeable Lithium Ion battery is designed to work for at least a year before it needs replacing. If you are experiencing issues within the first year of using your lights, it is unlikely that replacing the battery will resolve the problem (please see troubleshooting). When it is time to replace your battery remove the screw cap from the underside of the solar panel, locate the battery compartment and remove the battery. Please dispose of the dead battery responsibly and in accordance with your local waste disposal guidelines.