



LiElectro

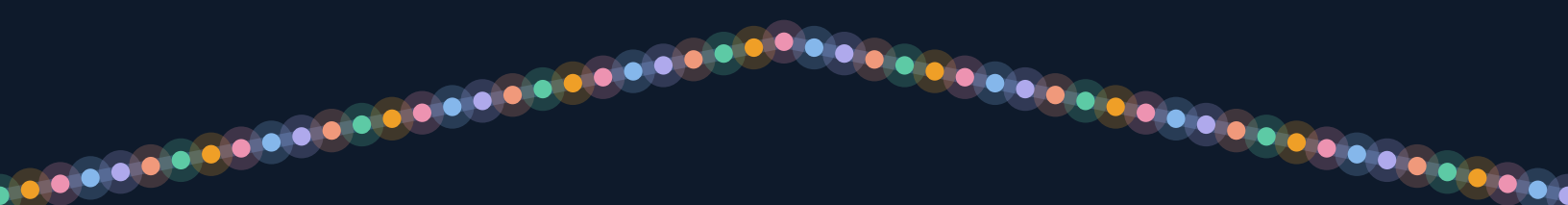
Flash You Need

COMPANION GUIDE | PERMANENT HOLIDAY LIGHTING

The Numbers Behind the Quote

Seasonal costs, running costs, lifespan and DIY prices for anyone shopping Everlights alternatives.

Companion to: Everlights Alternatives: Trimlight, Oelo, Jellyfish Compared
Prices and figures as of October 2026



Read this before you compare quotes

The main article compares brands. This guide covers the money around them: what hanging seasonal lights costs now, what permanent lights add to your power bill, how many years the hardware lasts, and what a DIY kit costs by the foot. Every figure is an estimate built from published numbers as of October 2026, and the math is shown so you can swap in your own.

\$375-444 typical pro seasonal install, single-story home	\$1.57-4.71 monthly power cost, 100-300 ft at 6 hrs a night	\$3-6 vs \$20-40 DIY kit vs pro install, per foot	~23 yrs 50,000-hour LED at 6 hours a night
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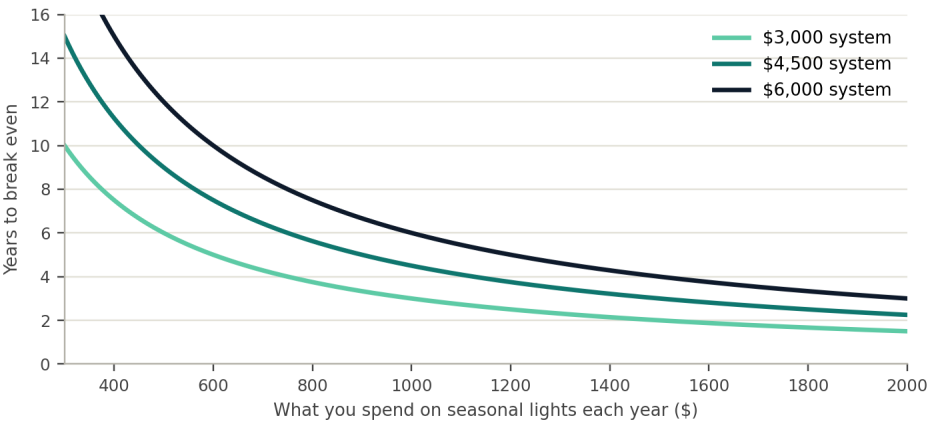
1. What you pay now: the seasonal baseline

Whether permanent lights make financial sense depends on what you spend each December today.

- Professional seasonal install runs \$220 to \$685, with most single-story homes paying about \$375 to \$444. Per foot, that is \$2.50 to \$7.
- Takedown alone costs \$100 to \$400. Full-service packages with removal and storage run \$5 to \$12 per foot per season.
- Professional permanent systems run \$20 to \$40 per foot, which covers the lights and the crew.

Break-even in years (system price divided by your yearly seasonal spend)

Permanent system price	Seasonal spend \$450/yr	Seasonal spend \$1,000/yr	Seasonal spend \$1,500/yr
\$3,000	6.7	3.0	2.0
\$4,500	10.0	4.5	3.0
\$6,000	13.3	6.0	4.0



Simple payback. It leaves out running costs, repairs and any change in what you would have spent on seasonal hanging. Published sources disagree on payback: one says 2 to 3 seasons if you pay \$1,000 to \$2,000 a year now, another says well over a decade at a few hundred dollars a season. The table shows both can be right. The answer depends on your current bill.

2. What permanent lights cost to run

LED roofline systems draw little power. For reference, a DIY system rated at 48W covers 100 ft, 72W covers 150 ft, 96W covers 200 ft and 144W covers 300 ft. Professional pixel systems are commonly quoted at 100 to 250W for a typical home.

Formula: watts / 1,000 x hours per night x 30 days x your rate per kWh.

Monthly cost at the 2026 year-to-date U.S. residential average of \$0.1816 per kWh

System draw	4 hrs / night	6 hrs / night	8 hrs / night
48W (100 ft DIY)	\$1.05	\$1.57	\$2.09
144W (300 ft DIY)	\$3.14	\$4.71	\$6.28
100W (small pro system)	\$2.18	\$3.27	\$4.36
180W (150 ft pro roofline)	\$3.92	\$5.88	\$7.85
250W (large pro system)	\$5.45	\$8.17	\$10.90

Worst case, assuming full brightness every night. Your real bill depends on your rate, brightness setting and nightly hours. Dealer-quoted ranges of \$5 to \$20 a month work as a safe ceiling.

Versus old-school seasonal strings

A classic C9 incandescent bulb uses about 7W. A 150-bulb run draws roughly 1,050W, which is about \$30 a month at 6 hours a night and 16 cents per kWh. The same length in LEDs lands near \$5. Permanent systems run all year, so multiply by the months you actually switch them on.

Three ways to shrink the bill

- Schedule lights for the hours you are home and awake. Going from 8 hours to 4 cuts the cost in half.
- Lower the brightness. The dealer figures above assume every light at full power, so a dimmed run costs less.
- Check your local rate. A cheap-power state like Arizona (about \$0.105 per kWh per one installer) costs roughly 40% less than the national average.

3. How long the hardware really lasts

Rated hours sound huge. Converted to years of nightly use they are easier to judge.

Rated LED life	4 hrs / night	6 hrs / night	8 hrs / night
50,000 hours	34.2 yrs	22.8 yrs	17.1 yrs
100,000 hours	68.5 yrs	45.7 yrs	34.2 yrs

50,000 hours is the common rating across Govee, Trimlight and Jellyfish listings. Oelo advertises 100,000 hours.

Watch the controller. Rated life applies to the LEDs. One Jellyfish dealer FAQ lists the controller at 22,000 hours, which is about 10 years at 6 hours a night (my math). Ask what the controller and power supplies are rated for, and what a replacement costs after the warranty ends.

4. DIY price check: what a kit costs by the foot

DIY kits cost far less per foot than professional quotes. A model announced in September 2026 is included.

Kit	Length	Price	Per foot	Waterproofing
Govee Permanent Outdoor Lights Pro	100 ft	\$439.99	\$4.40	IP67 lights, IP65 control box
Govee Permanent Outdoor Lights Pro	200 ft	\$759.99	\$3.80	IP67 lights, IP65 control box
Govee Permanent Outdoor Lights 2 Pro (new, Sept 2026)	100 ft	\$499.99	\$5.00	IP68 lights
Govee Permanent Outdoor Lights 2 Pro (new, Sept 2026)	200 ft	\$799.99	\$4.00	IP68 lights
Govee Wi-Fi RGBIC Outdoor Permanent String Lights	100 ft	\$329.99	\$3.30	IP67

Per-foot figures are my math (price divided by length). List prices change often, so check the retailer.

What to know before you buy

- Govee Pro lists an operating range of -4F to 140F and 50,000 hours of LED life. Total run length is capped at 200 ft.
- Warranty varies by model and seller: 3 years on some Pro listings, 1 year on the Best Buy string-light model. Confirm before checkout.
- The 2 Pro adds independently controlled dual-layer lighting and works with Matter, Alexa and Google Home.
- One retailer guide puts DIY kits at roughly \$300 to \$600 per 100 ft, so the figures above sit in the usual band.

Where DIY stops making sense

A single-story roofline is a reasonable weekend job. A second story, steep pitch or complicated eaves is worth paying a professional for, because the main risk is a fall.

5. Quote checklist: 9 questions before you sign

- Is the per-foot price a one-time cost? Some installers add yearly fees for maintenance or takedown.
- Is the controller included? Jellyfish-style quotes add \$650 to \$850 on top of the per-foot rate.
- How long is the labor warranty, in writing, and who honors it if the dealer closes?
- Does third-party service void the warranty? Some brands cancel coverage if it was not installed to their instructions.
- Is the warranty transferable? Oelo's 7-year coverage passes to a new owner, so ask whether the others do.
- Who measured the roofline, and does the footage include peaks, gables and returns?
- Is there a surcharge for a second story or steep pitch? Quotes above published ranges are common on complex rooflines.
- Where does the controller mount, and does it need a Wi-Fi signal that reaches that spot?
- Can I try the app before I buy? Everlights reviews cite app connection problems, so test any app first.

Tip: some dealers discount off-season slots. Ask whether a spring or summer install is cheaper than a pre-holiday one.

Sources and notes

Figures were gathered in October 2026 from the pages below. Prices, ratings and warranties change, so confirm with the brand or installer before you buy. Break-even, monthly-cost and lifespan tables are the author's own calculations from the cited inputs, and they are estimates, not quotes.

- eufy US: Christmas Light Installation Cost, 2026 Price Guide (seasonal install ranges, takedown, per-foot pricing)
- eufy US: Permanent Christmas Lights Cost, DIY vs Pro (DIY \$3-6/ft, pro \$20-40/ft, payback commentary, yearly-fee warning)
- Brightify: Christmas Light Installation Cost, 2026 (permanent payback in 2-3 seasons at \$1,000-2,000 yearly spend)
- Lumary: How much electricity do permanent outdoor lights use (wattage by length, EIA 2026 rate of \$0.1816/kWh)
- The Shine Lighting: How much do permanent lights cost to run (C9 versus LED comparison, September 2026)
- Trimlight NW: Actual cost to run permanent LED lighting (100-250W systems, \$5-20 monthly)
- Leading Edge Decorative Lighting: Permanent trim lights guide (APS rate of about \$0.105/kWh)
- Govee US and Best Buy product pages: Permanent Outdoor Lights Pro, Wi-Fi RGBIC string lights (prices, IP ratings, warranty)
- Govee press release: Permanent Outdoor Lights 2 Pro launch, 2026 (pricing, IP68, Matter)
- Oelo: Best Permanent Holiday Lights page (100,000-hour rating)
- Nexwave Lighting FAQ: Jellyfish controller and LED hour ratings
- Jellyfish dealer pricing pages (controller fee of \$650 to \$850)

About LiElectro

LiElectro publishes practical guides on LED lighting: choosing lights, wiring, voltage and smart control. Read the full comparison, Everlights Alternatives: Trimlight, Oelo, Jellyfish Compared, at lielectro.com.

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