

[Manuals.plus](#) /

› [Aputure](#) /

› Aputure Lantern Softbox Instruction Manual

Aputure 26 inches

Aputure Lantern Softbox Instruction Manual

Model: 26 inches | Brand: Aputure

1. INTRODUCTION

The Aputure Lantern Softbox is a versatile and efficient light modifier designed for photographers and filmmakers. Its unique spherical design provides soft, even, and omnidirectional light, making it ideal for illuminating large areas or entire rooms. Engineered for rapid deployment, the Lantern can be set up and folded down in seconds, offering convenience and portability for various shooting environments.

This manual provides detailed instructions on the assembly, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your Aputure Lantern Softbox to ensure optimal performance and longevity.



Figure 1.1: Aputure Lantern Softbox with carrying bag.

2. COMPONENTS

The Aputure Lantern Softbox package includes the following items:

- 1 x Lantern Spring Cage
- 1 x Diffusion Fabric
- 1 x Fabric Barn Doors (4-section adjustable light control skirt)
- 1 x Carrying Bag



Figure 2.1: Included components of the Aputure Lantern Softbox.

3. ASSEMBLY AND SETUP

The Aputure Lantern is designed for quick and easy setup. Follow these steps to assemble and prepare your softbox for use:

1. **Unpack Components:** Remove the Lantern spring cage, diffusion fabric, and fabric barn doors from the carrying bag.
2. **Expand the Spring Cage:** Hold the Lantern spring cage by its Bowens mount base. Gently push down on the top section while pulling up on the bottom section until the cage fully expands and locks into its spherical shape. The 12 sturdy support rods will snap into place.
3. **Attach Diffusion Fabric:** Carefully slide the diffusion fabric over the expanded spring cage. Ensure the fabric is evenly distributed and secured around the edges.
4. **Mount to Light Fixture:** Align the Bowens mount on the Lantern's base with the Bowens mount on your compatible LED or studio strobe light fixture (e.g., Aputure 300D Mark II, 120D, 300X). Insert and twist clockwise until it locks securely.

5. **Attach Fabric Barn Doors (Optional):** If light control is desired, attach the 4-section fabric barn doors to the exterior of the Lantern using the hook-and-loop fasteners.

Quick-Setup & Quick-Folding

The Aputure Lantern is one of our fastest soft light modifiers yet. This spherical softbox can pop open and be ready to use in mere seconds.



Figure 3.1: Quick setup and folding demonstration.

12 supports, Sturdy and durable

Constructed with collapsible nylon cover, and lightweight foldable aluminium shaft, it's quite convenient to set up or pack up.



Figure 3.2: Internal support structure of the Lantern.

4. OPERATION

The Aputure Lantern provides a wide, soft, and omnidirectional light spread. Here's how to optimize its use:

4.1 Light Spread

Once assembled and mounted, the Lantern will spread light from your fixture with a 270° beam angle, illuminating the entire room or set. This makes it ideal for overhead lighting, filling large spaces, or creating a general ambient light.



Figure 4.1: Examples of the Lantern's omnidirectional light in different settings.

4.2 Light Control with Barn Doors

The included 4-section fabric barn doors allow for precise control over the light output. Each section can be independently rolled up or down to flag off unwanted light or shape the beam. This feature is particularly useful for directing light away from backgrounds or specific areas of your scene.

Flexible fabric 4-leaf barn doors

The Aputure Lantern is one of the only spherical softboxes on the market with a 4-section fully adjustable light control skirt.



Figure 4.2: Adjusting the fabric barn doors for light control.

5. CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Proper care and maintenance will extend the lifespan of your Aputure Lantern Softbox:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe down the exterior fabric and metal components. For stubborn spots on the diffusion fabric, a slightly damp cloth with mild soap can be used, but ensure it is completely dry before folding and storing.
- **Storage:** Always fold the Lantern back into its compact form and store it in the provided carrying bag when not in use. This protects the fabric and internal frame from damage and dust.
- **Handling:** Avoid applying excessive force when expanding or folding the spring cage to prevent bending or breaking the support rods.
- **Environment:** Do not expose the softbox to extreme temperatures, direct sunlight for prolonged periods, or high humidity, as this can degrade the materials.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter any issues with your Aputure Lantern Softbox, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Softbox does not expand fully.	Support rods are not fully locked into place.	Ensure you push down and pull up firmly on the cage until all 12 rods click into their expanded position.
Difficulty attaching to light fixture.	Bowens mount misaligned or obstructed.	Verify the Bowens mount on the Lantern is correctly aligned with the fixture's mount. Check for any debris obstructing the connection.
Uneven light distribution.	Diffusion fabric not properly stretched or light source not centered.	Adjust the diffusion fabric to ensure it is taut and evenly covers the frame. Confirm your light source is properly seated within the Bowens mount.
Fabric barn doors do not stay in position.	Hook-and-loop fasteners are dirty or worn.	Clean the hook-and-loop fasteners. If severely worn, contact Aputure support for replacement parts.

7. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Value
Product Dimensions (Expanded)	31.89"D x 22.05"H (approx. 81cm D x 56cm H)
Item Weight	2.2 pounds (approx. 1 kg)
Material	Fabric (Nylon cover), Aluminum shaft
Color	Black, White
Beam Angle	270°
Mount Type	Bowens Mount

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Aputure stands behind the quality of its products. The Aputure Lantern Softbox comes with a **12-month satisfying service** from the date of purchase. This warranty covers manufacturing defects and ensures customer satisfaction.

For technical support, warranty claims, or any inquiries regarding your Aputure Lantern Softbox, please visit the official Aputure website or contact their customer service department:

- **Official Website:** www.aputure.com
- **Customer Service:** Refer to the "Contact Us" section on the official website for regional support details.



Figure 8.1: Aputure 12-month satisfying service.

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Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

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