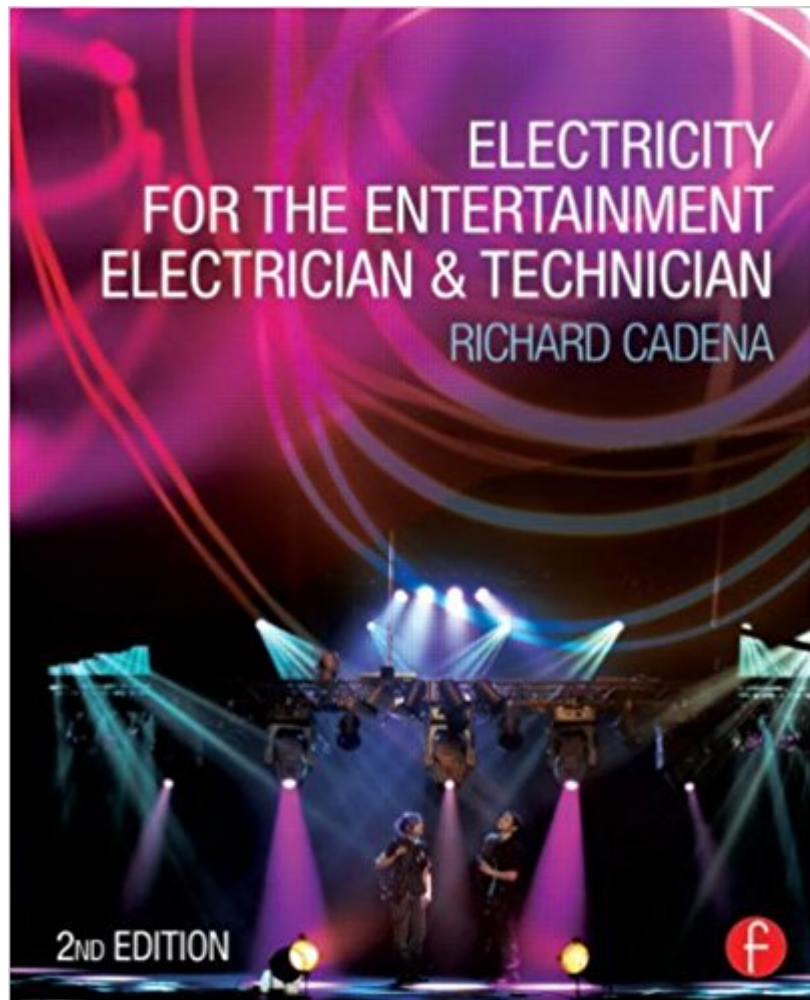




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# Electricity For The Entertainment Electrician & Technician



## Synopsis

The application of electricity for the theatre, concert stage, television studio, or any other production environment differs from that of a residence or commercial building. *Electricity for the Entertainment Electrician & Technician* is the only reference on the market that covers these differences, explaining what entertainment electricians and technicians need to know and why. It not only reinforces the fundamentals of electricity, power distribution, and electrical safety, but also explains the latest developments in technology for the live entertainment professional and aspiring professional. Written by an Entertainment Technician Certification Program (ETCP) Recognized trainer, this reference supports practicing electricians and technicians, and provides new technicians the assistance needed for a successful career in the entertainment industry. Fully updated, the second edition contains new information on systems, protocols, regulations, and safety standards, both domestic and international. Additional resources, including conversion tables, voltage spreadsheets, articles from Lighting & Sound International, Lighting & Sound America, and Protocol, and animations and illustrations depicting electricity and electric power distribution developed for the author's workshops, can be found on the companion website [www.entertainmentelectricity.com](http://www.entertainmentelectricity.com).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Richard Cadena is a freelance lighting designer, lighting consultant, and the author of *Automated Lighting: The Art and Science of Moving Light*, *Lighting Design for Modern Houses of Worship*,

Electricity for Entertainment Electricians & Technicians, and Focus on Lighting Technology. He has worked on concert tours, television, and theatre, and he has designed dozens of lighting systems for permanent installations and concert tours. He has written many articles about lighting for Lighting & Sound America, Lighting & Sound International, Protocol, PLSN, CX, and Technologies for Worship magazines, and he is the founder of the Academy of Production Technology. He is also an ETCP Recognized Trainer, and he is currently the technical editor for PLASA.

Many, many years ago I was an aspiring sound engineer with one big problem: the lighting gear. Back then a dimmer pack would wreak havoc with the PA system, creating unwanted buzzes and noise. Thanks to a high school electronics class, I learned enough about AC "mains" power distribution to start building my own power systems that isolated the audio from the lighting, and (mostly) curing the buzz problem. Much of that good knowledge was wiped away by a formal education in electrical engineering, and I let the licensed electricians handle the power stuff from thereafter. Now I'm retired and doing audio, video and even lighting for fun. And since the rental companies will turn over a generator and high current cables over to anyone with cash, I figured it was time to have a book that just might avert disaster as us old guys play with high voltages. This book is a must-have reference for people who are involved in community theater, houses of worship, low budget films and other situations where safe and solid electrical power is needed, but where a qualified electrician might not be in the budget. Before reading this book, I had never noticed the company switch in the local theater, and now I know how to use one safely. For those of us who only have dim memories of AC theory, it's a one-stop shop for all those answers that we used to know by heart. It would make a fine textbook for an adult continuing education class.

As a studio lighting guy turned Technical Director I quickly found out there was a lot I didn't really know about electricity. Once you leave behind engineered drops of 20-60A stagepins, the world gets complicated quite a bit. And, for liability's sake, most electricians won't go into too great of detail. But - you NEED to know this stuff if you're planning full shows from the ground up. Enter this book - well written, straight up tells you when to involve someone with more knowledge, and easy to comprehend. A great addition to any show professional's library!

This is an absolutely A+ book for any lighting technician who's interested in the principles behind what we're doing, or who hopes to do any technical troubleshooting at all. Cadena picks up where Harry Box leaves off--this book has very minimal (one chapter) practical set skills, but goes into

great detail explaining the WHY. It also has a couple pages of example problems at the end of each chapter, with the solutions at the back, just like high school. If you're a neck-down kinda guy, you don't need and won't enjoy this book. If you geek out on understanding WHY we figure-eight feeder (aka, why coiled feeder sucks more juice without doing any more work/lighting) or HOW power factor comes to exist, rather than just understanding you need to overbuild the distro, this book is for you. I don't expect to ever sit down with a calculator and run trig to understand the degree of phase shift from a ballast while on set, but I do think wrapping my head around this stuff has made me a much better technician, and will help me problem solve the ever-increasing complexity that is entertainment power.

Excellent for learning electrical basics. Helped me understand what I need for my audio system.

Met Richard Cadena personally, and he is a leader in safety in our industry. This book gives you the knowledge you need to operate your lighting rig appropriately and safely. It includes the history of the industry, and many interesting facts to keep you interested and understand why certain practices are now standard. Great man, Great book. Look forward to more from him.

A terrific book to explain all aspects of entertainment lighting.

Well laid out. Clear and precise. I plan on using for teaching a community college course.

Wonderful book for nephew that works with sound equipment for concerts, plays, and conferences.

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