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Fenix L1 Premium

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- Gear reviews and tests - Lamps and Lanterns -



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Description :

a review of a inexpensive, but high quality 1 AA luxeon I flashlight.

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The Fenix L1 Premium



The Fenix L1P

The Fenix L1 Premium is a very compact flashlight, powered by just a single AA battery. Really pushing the limits on what's possible with a single AA battery. It's equipped with a "R" bin (higher quality; better color and more output) Luxeon I LED, semi regulation circuit, type III finish and anti-reflection coated lens.

When you compare the beam of a [Nuwai Quantum 3](#) or a [Princeton Tec EOS](#) beam, it's less concentrated. More of a flood than a spot, which is something I like more for most of my lighting jobs. The hot spot however, is about the same. The beam is very powerful, especially when you look at the size of the light it itself. The beam is like with most Luxeon lights flawless. This light seems to be slightly whiter than my other Luxeons, but not by a lot. Run time on a single AA alkaline is pretty good too, over 2 hours of bright light and another 2 hours dim output.



Fenix L1P the flashlight kicking out light, the donut hole in the middle is only visible at very very close ranges; 15 cm and closer.

The body is made from 3 parts:

- ▶ the head with the light, lens and circuit permanently fixed.
- ▶ A middle section, which is just a tubular shaped aluminum piece with panels made on the outside.
- ▶ The end, which houses the reversed clickie switch and lanyard hole.



the parts sheath, head, middle section and tail.

The body of the Fenix is made of "aviation grade" aluminum; with a type III hard anodize finish. The type III finish it self gives slightly better grip than a Type II finish. But there are also some rings and flat panels made on the body that give it more grip. It's doesn't give as much grip as my [Nuwai Q3](#), but its certainly enough. It lacks something to prevent it from rolling, the lanyard helps a little, but it's not a perfect solution. It will stand on the head or tail. When you put it on its tail you can use it in a "candle" mode, quite useful if you're indoors and want to light up a small space entirely by indirect light. The lens has an anti-reflection coating to make sure most light will pass through the lens.



fenix L1P on it's tail

The light uses only a single AA Alkaline or Ni-MH battery, making it much cheaper to run than any CR123a powered light. AA's are also a lot easier to get. Ideal for persons that are going to use this light in places where batteries are hard to get. There are also 1.5 volt lithium AA batteries available, if you want better performance in the cold and longer run time. There is a warning that you should not use 3.6V AA lithium batteries in them, i didn't knew anybody made them!

The light comes in a nice gift box, with magnetic closure. The contents are:

- ▶ the light
- ▶ the sheath
- ▶ in a small Zip-loc bag: a lanyard, spare O-rings and a spare rubber boot for the switch. (i have never seen that before, very nice though!)

- ▶ A paper with the features, warning, warranty and other information.

The sheath is made from neoprene, very durable stuff that also has a good padding effect. One of the sturdiest sheaths for any flashlight i have ever seen. The first few days the sheath is a little tight, but it's stretches a little with use. Making it easier to handle after a few days. The walls of the sheath are made pretty high, making it harder to draw the light and to out the light back in. You can make it easier by using a finger to push the light up from the bottom before grabbing the light or just lift the flap and full the lanyard. But that problem appears to be solved with there new sheath, but i can't tell you more about it, because i don't have one. However the new one doesn't appear to have flap closure.

The lanyard is well made too, a little tricky to install, though. The lanyard holes are places side by side on the side of tail cap, allowing the light to stand on it's back. Took me about 5 minutes to install, with the help of some sewing thread.

Good points: relative inexpensive, high quality materials, well designed, uses common AA batteries.

Bad points: the light rolls away easily.

Overall if your looking for a compact, powerful high quality light, that uses cheap and easy to get AA batteries; this is it! Buy it and you will like it. MSRP of the premium model is \$45, so thats a reasonable price for the quality you're getting.

Other reviews of this light can be found [here](#) and [here](#)

manufacture website [here](#)

Any additions or corrections will be posted on the comment section below.