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# Princeton Tec Aurora

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- Gear reviews and tests - Lamps and Lanterns -



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**Description :**

Popular 5mm LED headlamp

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If you have read the Princeton Tec EOS review, you may notice that the appearance of the Aurora is rather similar. Like the EOS, the Aurora uses 3 AAA batteries and has multiple modes. Unlike the EOS, the Aurora uses 5mm LED's, puts out a dimmer yet wider flood, and has a longer burn time.



A hinge near the base allows the light to be aimed where you want it.



Notice that the switch is not recessed, and could be turned on by pressing against something in your pack. The first press of the switch brings you to full power, the second to medium, the third to low, and then two blinking modes. It appears to my eye that the medium is about 2/3rds power and low is 1/3rd, or about the power of one LED. Dimming is accomplished with a PWM (pulse width modulation) circuit, so some people may notice a flicker on medium or low. Battery change is accomplished by use of a coin or screwdriver.



Here are a series of beamshot on my desk, at almost 10 feet.



**Aurora beamshot**



**EOS beamshot**



**Mini-Mag beamshot**

As you can see, the Aurora has the best flood of the group. The EOS is the brightest, but the Aurora is no slouch either, and the extra brightness and throw of the EOS has its tradeoff in decreased runtime. The EOS has 2.5 or more hours of runtime on high (almost three in my testing) and the Aurora is advertised at 50 hours, but the actual time at which you will want to change your batteries will come much sooner. This is because the EOS is flat-regulated and the Aurora is not. The EOS will maintain totally constant light output (That is, not changing more

## Princeton Tec Aurora

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than a lumen or two) until it "drops out of regulation" after which it gives lesser light for some time. The Aurora will begin to decrease right away, and in that sort of light Princeton Tec considers runtime to end around the time that you can no longer read a newspaper at one meter. If you want an affordable, light (2.7 ounces) headlamp for reading, walking paths and other close-up activities, this may be the light for you.

[Princeton Tec](#)