



Counterweight Loading Table

Last updated 12/01/26 by CHTJ

The following table contains the approximate number of weights required to balance various items of stage equipment that are commonly flown on the counterweight system. The following table is a guide only – all bars must be tested to be in weight before being flown to grid.

Each weight in the cradle is 10kg, but counterbalances 5kg worth of force on the bar. The safe working load of each counterweight set is 250kg uniformly distributed across the bar (large point loads must be avoided).

Each cradle is loaded with three weights to balance the mass of the barrel itself, the steel flying wires and the other connected accessories. A cradle loaded with three weights is said to be at ‘base’. All numbers below describe the weights needed in addition to base. This is often referred to as ‘base + X’, where X is the number of weights required to balance the item rigged to the bar.

Item	Weights
Base	3
Set & Cloths	
Blinder	+7
Border	+2
Leg (x1)	+2
Split Black (x1)	+3
White Cyc	+3
Housetabs (inc. tab track)	+20
Barrel & chains	+4
Lighting	
Internally Wired Bar (IWB)	+2
ETC Source 4 LED Lustr S2	+2.5
ETC Colorsource PAR	+1
Altman Spectra CYC 200	+2
RJ 613/614SX	+3
RJ 2k PC	+3
Selecon Rama 150mm	+1
CCT Starlette	+1
CCT Minuette	+0.5
PAR64	+0.5