Thinking about pixels? (They don't plug and play)



Les Willis WillisChristmasShow.com



My background

- Electrical Engineer Retired
- Programmer
- Many years experience with
 - Computers
 - Networking
 - DIY





My lighting background

- Always have had a static light display
- 2015 Season I did my first light animation to music (using dumb RGB and incandescent)

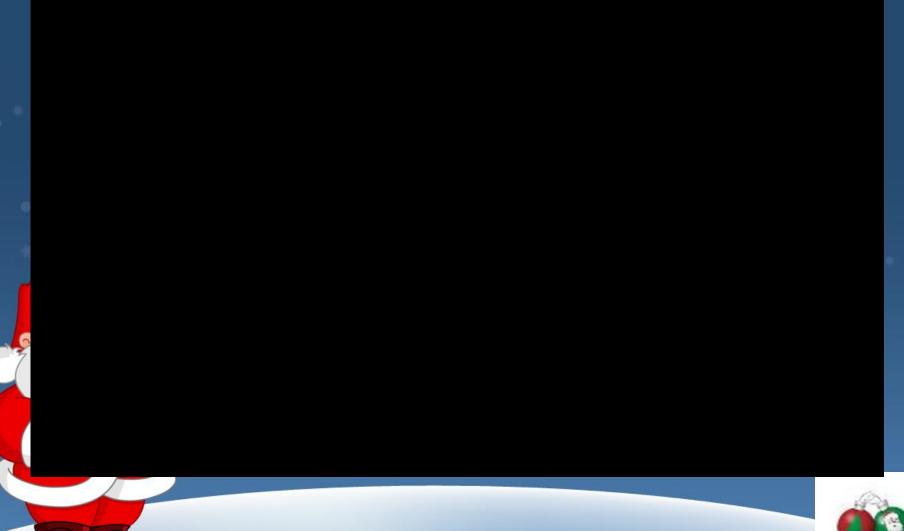


- Great Christmas Light Fight
- 2016 took the full plunge into smart RGB pixels





I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day





What do we mean by pixels

- Individually addressable
- Contain 3 LEDs (Red, Green, Blue)
- Millions of color combinations
- Require special controllers
- Low DC voltage



Objective

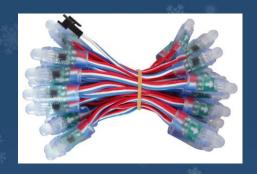
To help understand the various specifications when it comes to smart nodes/pixels. So that you can make an informed decision regarding your pixel choices.





Smart pixel examples









- Pixels
- Bullet nodes
- Beads
- Ribbons
- Floods

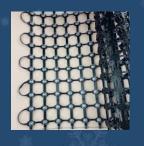




Smart pixel examples









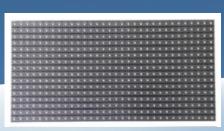




- Fairy lights
- C9's
- P10's









There are no standards (but lots of options)

- LED driver circuits
- Shapes and sizes
- Node Spacings
- Power consumption
- Connectors
- Voltages





LED Driver Circuits

WS2801 / WS2803
WS2811 / WS2812 / TM1804 / TM1803 / TM1809 / TM1812 / SM16715 / INK1003
TLS3001 / TLS3002 / CY3005
LPD6803 / D705 / LPD1101 / USC6909 / UCS6912
GE Color Effects (GECE)

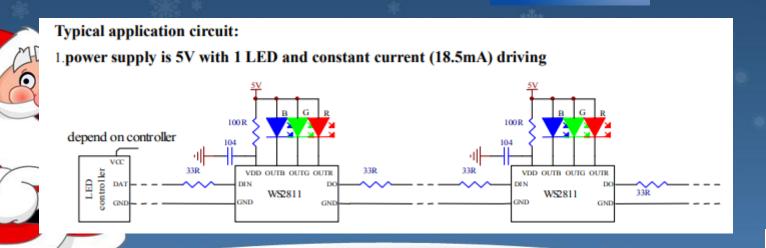


LPD880X APA 102 1903 SM16716 LX1203"



WS2811/2812

The number refers to the integrated circuit (IC) being used to control the LEDs





Styles and spacings

- Spacing between pixels for straight runs
- Drops/Icicles and Peace stakes
 - Spacing between drops
 - Spacing along drops
- Length of pigtails
- Wire color (Green, Black, White, RWB)



Connectors

- Various controllers 3 and 4 pin
- Xconnect 13.5 mm
- Ray Wu 13.5 mm
- Paul Zhang 18 mm
- LOR/DIY 15 mm
- JST style









Connectors



Voltages – 5V and 12 V are most common but pay attention

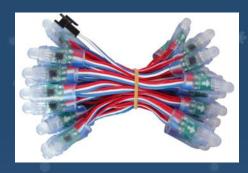








Confirm your product specifications!



Product Specifications

Node Voltage: 12V DC

Regulator

Node Color: RGB

Node Protocol: WS2811

Node Spacing: 10cm / ~4"

Lead Length: 150mm / ~6"

Node Type: Smart Bullet

Nodes Per. String: 50



Example for Drops

Addressable 6 nodes*10 clusters LED Pixel Icicles; DC12V(regulated type) or DC5V input WS2811 controlled; all black wire; IP68; 60 nodes/set; with 13.5mm 3 core black color pigtail

Main Spec:

input voltage: DC12V input or DC5V input

IC type: WS2811,256gray scale;24bit for RGB color

LED type: 8mm round hat fosted led,each led is 0.7W when at full white color

wire: all black color wire;20AWG total nodes: 6 nodes*10 drops =60 nodes

max power: 42W/set

Protection Level: IP68;epoxy resin filled

Standard connection: 6-6-6-6-6-6-6-6 (they are the number of pixels for each cluster)

strandard spacing: 4inch(10cm) spacing between nodes of each drop/clauster; 3 foot (92cm) spacing between each

drop/clauster

control methord: SPI signal input; each led works as one pixel, so total 50pixels for each sets, and tatal 150 dmx channels. all pixels are connected in series, there is a signal coming back from each drop's end to the start of next drop.

input end: 3 foot (92cm) long 3pin black wire 13.5mm male connector

output end: 0.2m long 3pin black wire 13.5mm female connector



Questions?

