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## A1DESIGNS

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## A1DESIGNS

Neon is hand made from straight lengths of glass, that are heated over a flame and blown into whilst being bent to shape. It's not made by machine or mass produced, it is an art form.

## ▶ NEON FACTS

Neon letters can be made as small as 50 - 60mm high and come in a range of around 35 colours. Neon tubes come in 8mm, 10mm, 15mm 18mm and 20mm diameter tubing.

Neon can be either low voltage (990V) or high voltage (up to 10kv). Neon signs run cool to the touch.

A neon sign can be installed at a height that people can touch - it is safe, but regulations apply.

A neon sign does not require a fireman's switch if it is "portable" i.e. you can unplug it and either pick it up or unhook it and remove it from the building, or if its low voltage, or if its fixed to a wall where the power supply is less than 100W and fed from a readily accessible socket.

A fireman's switch is easy to install, it allows the fireman to isolate the neon running at high voltage and stops them feeling a charge when spraying water over a premises.

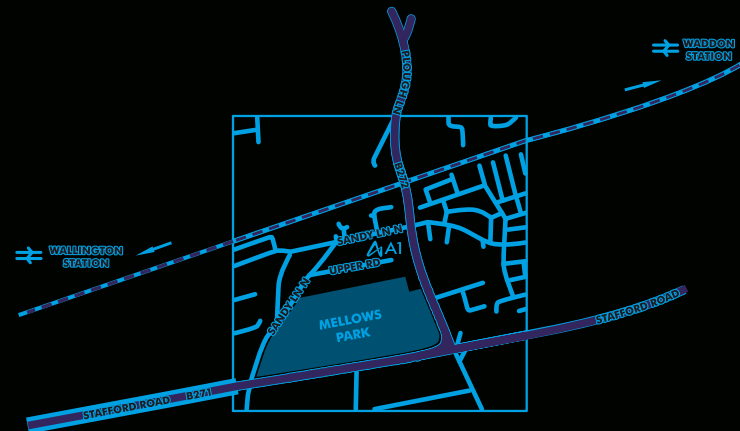
A neon transformer's electrical current is less dangerous than the supply in your home.

Neon tubes can be easily unwired and replaced with an identical replacement section, you do not need to replace the whole sign. Neon is technically only an orange/red colour, tubes of other colours have argon gas in them.

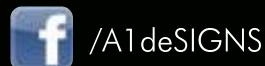
Neon tubes can be recycled, all elements can be re-used.

Neon cannot be beaten for impact and has a natural light that attracts the eye and is pleasant to look at.

## ▶ HOW TO FIND US



NEON SIGNS  
GENERAL SIGNAGE  
VISUAL MERCHANDISING  
COLD CATHODE LIGHTING  
MAINTENANCE



# OUR CAPABILITIES IN HOUSE INCLUDE

- ▶ **NEON MANUFACTURE**  
(Flashing, spelling, dimming and much more)
- ▶ **VINYL GRAPHICS**  
(Window Etch, Lettering etc)
- ▶ **DIGITAL PRINTING**  
(Up to 1600mm)
- ▶ **CNC ROUTER**  
(Wood, Acrylics, Composites etc)
- ▶ **UV BONDING OF ACRYLIC & GLASS**  
(Cabinets, displays, cases etc)
- ▶ **MIG/TIG WELDING**  
(Metal Frames etc)
- ▶ **ACRYLIC FABRICATION**  
(Letters, Boxes etc)



- ▶ **METAL/COMPOSITE FABRICATION**  
(Letters, trays, boxes)
- ▶ **AGEING OF MATERIALS**  
(Wood, rusted steel, tarnished metals etc)
- ▶ **ELECTRICAL WIRING**  
(Pat testing, light bulb wiring)
- ▶ **INSTALLATION CREW**  
(PASMA, IPAF Certified, CSCS, NVQ qualified sign making)
- ▶ **LED LIGHTING/LIGHT BULBS/ FAIRGROUND LIGHTS AS PART OF A PROJECT**

# TOP 6 MYTHS ABOUT NEON SIGNS

## #1 NEON SIGNS DON'T LAST VERY LONG

In Los Angeles, neon has been found still running after 77 years of constant use. When constructed properly using quality components, neon can last in excess of 40,000 hours.

## #2 NEON USES A LOT OF POWER

Neon Signs are calibrated to the amount of power required for the glass that's being run; the amount of light you get for the amount of power is in excess of 50 - 60 Lumens per watt (Depending on colour). This is a similar or better efficiency than a great number of LED products, neon also doesn't need a filter to prevent bright spots.

## #3 NEON SIGNS POSE A SHOCK OR FIRE HAZARD

In the past neon signs have been installed or manufactured badly by sign companies that did not know what they were doing or used cheap imports, it was not helped by the fact that people leave a half working sign running. This led to greater controls and transformers now come with short circuit/open circuit and overload protection to prevent any of the above, along with regulations for their manufacture, cheap imports don't meet these safety standards.

## #4 NEON CONTAINS HARMFUL GASES

Neon and argon are inert gases, non-toxic and can be found in the air we breathe on a daily basis. The gases used in the tubes are fractionally distilled from the very same air we breathe.

## #5 NEON IS UNJUSTIFIABLY EXPENSIVE

Neon is a hand made piece, manufactured by an artisan that has spent many years practising and perfecting their techniques. When looked at from this point of view, neon is incredibly cheap for what it is, as many other hand made custom products command very high prices.

## #6 NEON CONTAINS LARGE AMOUNTS OF MERCURY

Badly manufactured neon can contain more mercury than is necessary to efficiently light the tube, especially when imported from countries with no controls, but a well manufactured tube should contain about the same amount of mercury as a fluorescent lamp. Tubes can be recycled just like a fluorescent lamp.