



# **Assembly and Operating Instructions**



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## Overview .....

Congratulations! You have purchased the Haunted House in a Box (HIAB). It is a plug-and-play light controller from Animated Lighting that enables you to quickly build an exciting Halloween light show with your creepy props, lighted ghouls, black lights, strobes, spot lights or just about anything spooky that lights up or that you can shine a light on.

## Unpacking Haunted House in a Box .....

### For Haunted House in a Box

1

This is the front of the Haunted House in a Box. This includes a 16-Channel Light Controller and one to four power cord dangle(s) (15A).



2

Here are the components of the Haunted House in a Box. On the left is the Monster Brain (that plays your lighting shows). On the right is the 16 channel light controller and a diagram showing a typical installation. You plug your extension cords for your lighting channels directly into the right side of this unit.



If you have purchased the Haunted House in a Box Accessories Package (optional items) then you should also find:

- 1 Pair of indoor-rated speakers
- 1 Black light
- 1 Strobe light
- 2 Flood lights
- 3 Flood light holders (one for the black light)
- 2 Strings of mini lights

If you have purchased the Trigger/Motion Sensor (optional item) Package you should also find one motion sensor and one trigger.

## Other Parts You Might Need to Supply . . . . .

To complete a Haunted House in a Box installation, you will need to supply extension cords to connect your lights where they are located to the Haunted House in a Box Light Controller. If you did not order the Haunted House in a Box Accessories Package, you will need a pair of powered speakers (or amplifier and speakers) plus your own light strands, flood lights, spot lights, black lights, strobe lights, props, lighting figurines, etc. Finally you may need some zip ties to secure lights to trees and duct tape for securing wires that cross walking paths.

## If Your Display is Outside . . . . .

Locating your display outdoors is fine but keep in mind all components are not weatherproof. The light controller should be mounted in a position where the cord access holes point down so rain cannot enter the enclosure. The small Monster Brain with Music enclosure is not weatherized and has sensitive electronics therefore should be mounted inside a building or waterproof enclosure. Speakers should be mounted out of the direct path of rain (under your house eave is a good place) or use waterproof marine speakers.

## Suggested Configuration . . . . .

Because every location is different, a definitive guide for placing lights and the controller is not possible. Your best bet is to experiment with different placements of the lighting fixtures to get the effect you want. By way of getting you started, here is a suggested configuration for a house with a short walkway to a front door using our optional accessories:

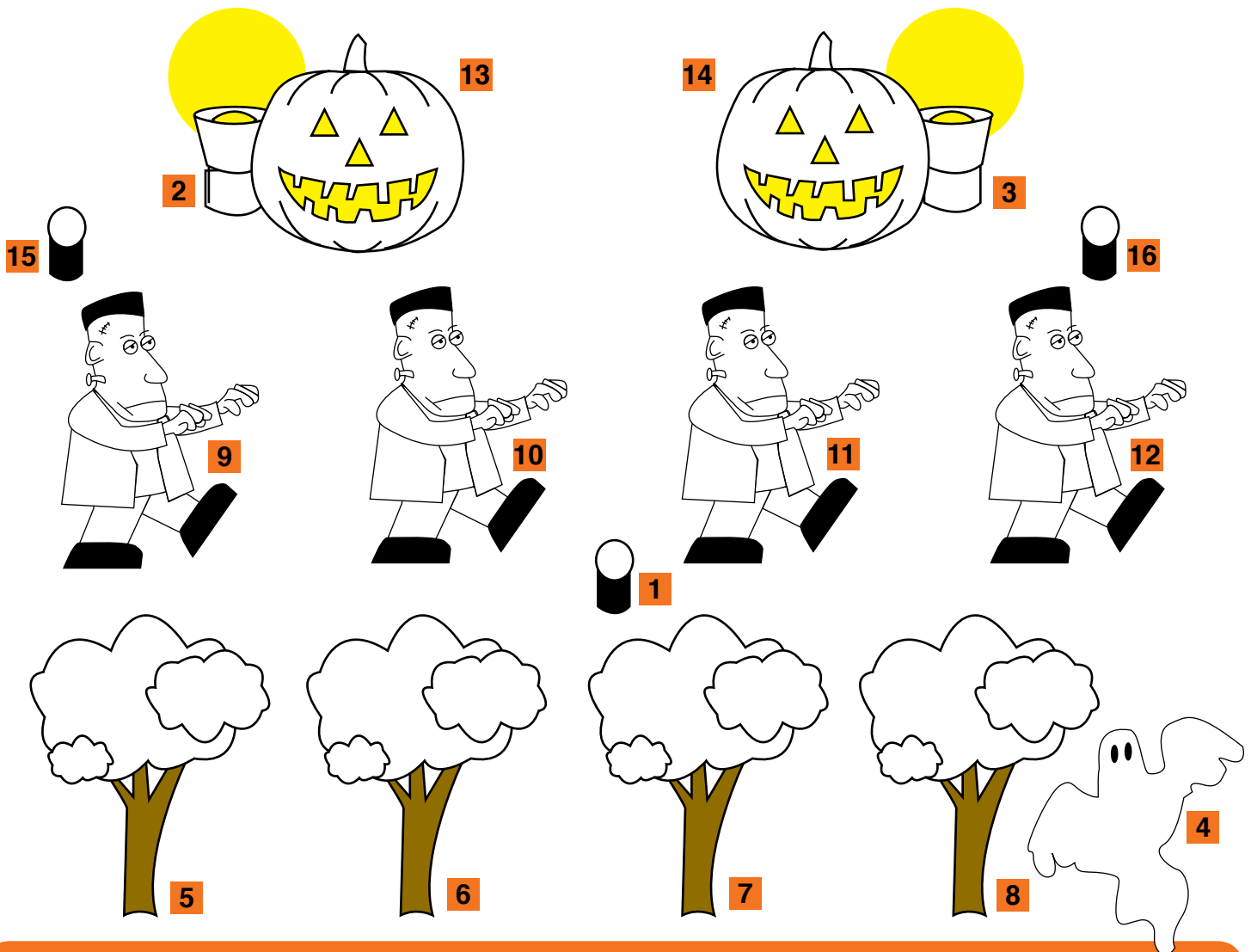
- Place the motion sensor approximately six feet away from the front door on one side of the front walk.
- Place the hand-held trigger either inside the door or at another location where a person can operate it without being seen.
- Place one speaker on each side of the front walk. (Some of the sound effects are in stereo and will sound better if the speakers are spaced apart from each other.)
- String the mini lights in bushes or other areas of each side of the front walk. Optionally, you can line each side of the front walk with the mini lights.
- Flood lights can be placed pointing at the front of the house or down the front walk. You'll probably want to put one flood light on one side of the walk and on the other.
- Put black light and strobe lights near the front door.

## Suggested Light Arrangements . . . . .

The Haunted House in a Box has been pre-programmed based on the following:

Light Channel	Description (Recommendation)
1	<b>Flood Light, Channel A.</b> Placed upwards towards a large object in the back of the display. These two items work best together. If you place the Channel A flood light on the left side of your front door, then it is best to place the Channel B flood to the right side of your front door.
2	<b>Flood Light, Channel B.</b> If you place Channel A flood light on the left side of your front door, then it is best to place Channel B flood light to the right side of your front door.
3	<b>Black Light.</b> Looks very good up against a sheet white ghost.
4	<b>Auxiliary Bank 1, Channel A.</b> Looks best if placed in the front of the display and in sequential order from the left to the right. Any type of light can be used. You can have four bushes with orange mini lights wrapped around them. You can have four light up figurines. Feel free to use your imagination!
5	<b>Auxiliary Bank 1, Channel B.</b> Looks best if placed in the front of the display and in sequential order from the left to the right. Any type of light can be used. You can have four bushes with orange mini lights wrapped around them. You can have four light up figurines. Feel free to use your imagination!
6	<b>Auxiliary Bank 1, Channel C.</b> Looks best if placed in the front of the display and in sequential order from the left to the right. Any type of light can be used. You can have four bushes with orange mini lights wrapped around them. You can have four light up figurines. Feel free to use your imagination!
7	<b>Auxiliary Bank 1, Channel D.</b> Looks best if placed in the front of the display and in sequential order from the left to the right. Any type of light can be used. You can have four bushes with orange mini lights wrapped around them. You can have four light up figurines. Feel free to use your imagination!
8	<b>Auxiliary Bank 2, Channel A.</b> Looks best placed evenly behind Auxiliary Bank 1 as some of the effects play behind two banks.
9	<b>Auxiliary Bank 2, Channel B.</b> Looks best placed evenly behind Auxiliary Bank 1 as some of the effects play behind two banks.
10	<b>Auxiliary Bank 2, Channel C.</b> Looks best placed evenly behind Auxiliary Bank 1 as some of the effects play behind two banks.
11	<b>Auxiliary Bank 2, Channel D.</b> Looks best placed evenly behind Auxiliary Bank 1 as some of the effects play behind two banks.
12	<b>Extra Prop A.</b> Looks best placed behind channels 10 and 11. They work hand and hand with the channels in auxiliary Band 2.
13	<b>Extra Prop B.</b> Looks best placed behind channels 10 and 11. They work hand and hand with the channels in auxiliary Band 2.
14	<b>Extra Prop C.</b> Looks best placed behind channels 10 and 11. They work hand and hand with the channels in auxiliary Band 2.
15	<b>Strobe Light.</b>
16	<b>Strobe Light.</b>

## Suggested Layout .....

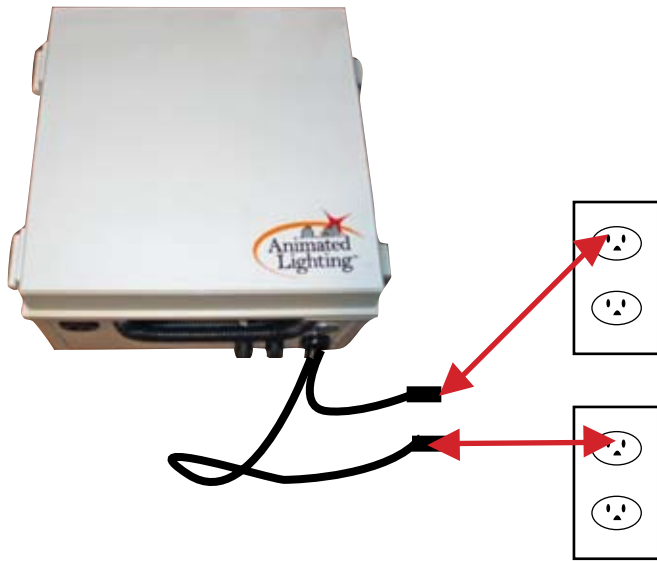


## Splitting Zones Between Objects .....

As long as you don't put too many lights into one channel or overload the entire light controller you can split zones across multiple objects. This means you can put two or more lights on an individual channels with the light controller. If you have more props than you have lighting channels, you can plug your ghoulish ghost and your vicious werewolf into he the same lighting channel. Doing so will cause them to light and fade at the same time so you may have to experiment with the placement location. Try placing them side by side, or on opposite sides of the yard. Choose what looks best to you.

## Important Consideration for Power .....

Your Haunted House in a Box can power a large number of lights, more than a typical wall outlet can provide. There are one to four 120 volt cords coming out of each lighting controller you have purchased. Plug each cord into different wall plugs to distribute the power. In some cases you will have to find wall plugs fed by different circuit breakers from your master power panel.



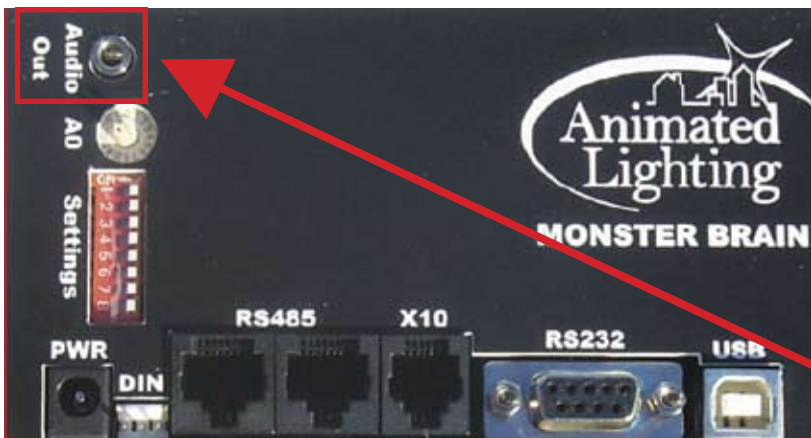
For most homes, you need to use one plug per two hole outlet when connecting your light controller to power. The outlets should be on separate circuits.

## Setting Up the Base System .....

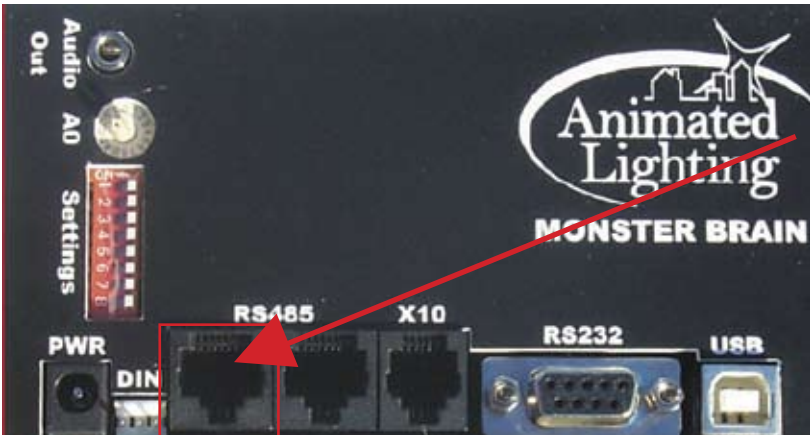
Determine the final location for the light controllers (mindful of the power requirements mentioned above), Monster Brain and speakers.



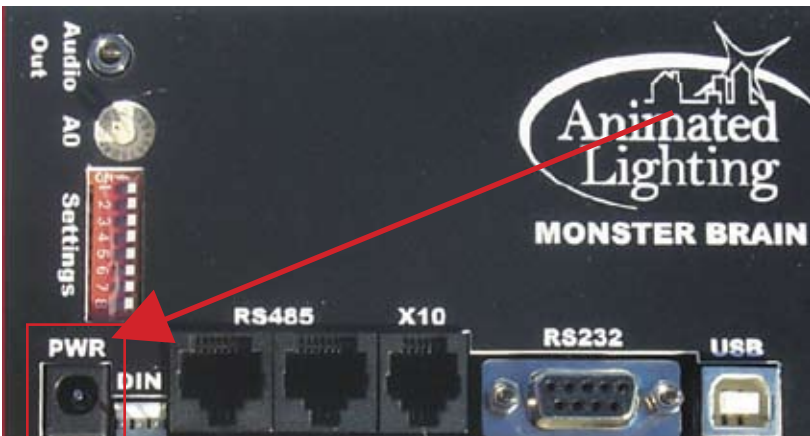
This is the Monster Brain. Make sure it is located inside a building or a weather proof enclosure.



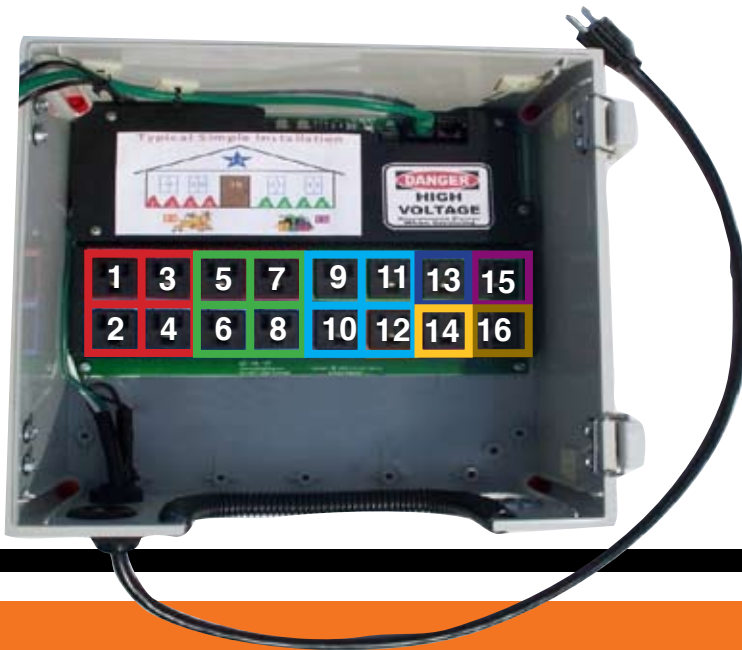
On the back of the Monster Brain, in the upper left corner is a standard 1/8" stereo mini jack for connecting your amplified speakers or use the connection as the input for your external amplifier.



Connect one end of the communications cable here. This is where the Monster Brain communicates with the external light controllers. Both plugs are labeled “RS485” and either plug will work.



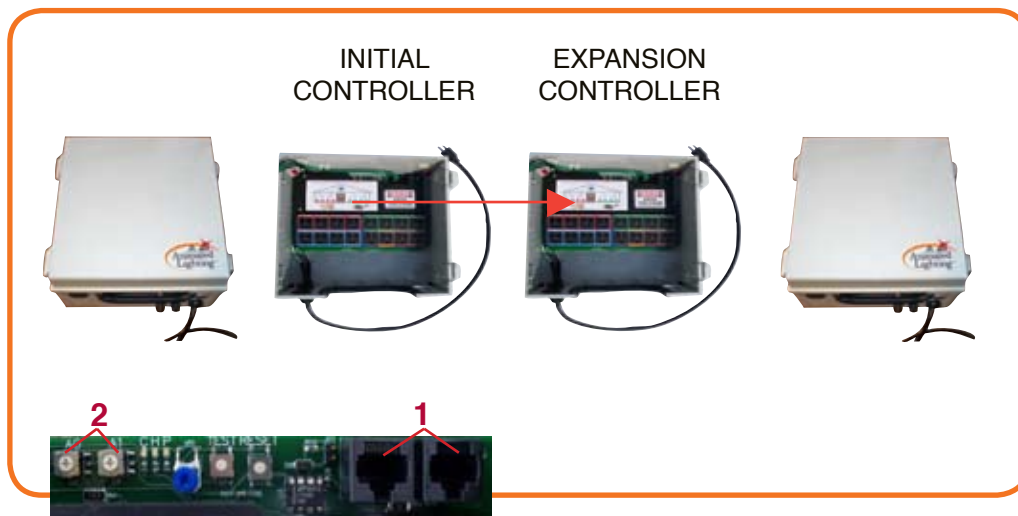
Connect the small plug of the wall transformer here. Do not plug the transformer into the wall outlet yet.



Your light controller enclosure can be located outside but make sure the access holes are pointing down so rain water cannot enter the unit.

## Using the Christmas in a Box Expansion Controller.....

If your display requires more power than one Haunted House in a Box light controller can hold, you can easily add multiple light controllers to your display with the Haunted House in a Box Expansion Light Controller, which is sold separately. You add an expansion controller into your display by “daisy chaining” it to your initial Haunted House in a Box controller with a CAT 5 network cable as shown below.



**1) CONNECTION:** Locate the RJ45 jacks inside each of your light controllers. Connect one end of a CAT5 network cable into the open RJ45 jack of your initial controller. Run the other end of the cable out of the hole in the bottom of the box and into a hole on the bottom of the expansion controller. Plug that end into one of the available RJ45 jacks on your expansion controller.

**2) ADDRESSING:** Locate the two dials on the same board as the RJ45 jacks that say “A1” and “A0” on them. Be sure “A1” is always set to “0.” The other dial (“A0”) should be set sequentially. For example, the first controller should be “0,” the second controller “1,” the third controller “2,” etc.

## Plugging the Haunted House in a Box Light Controllers into Power. ....

A Haunted House in a Box light controller is rated for loads between 15 and 60 Amperes maximum. Most household wall outlets are rated for loads of 15 Amperes maximum. Therefore, unless you have specifically installed an outlet that can handle 30 Amperes, you should locate two over-under outlets on separate circuits to power the light controller. (One power cord per two-hole, over-under outlet.)

**ALWAYS REMOVE POWER FROM CONTROLLERS BEFORE OPENING THE LID COVER TO THE CONTROLLER. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO PLUG IN OR REMOVE CORDS FROM CHANNEL OUTLETS UNTIL POWER TO THE CONTROLLER HAS BEEN REMOVED.**

## Making Connections. ....

The Haunted House in a Box will run on one of two Show Channels if you have the optional Trigger/Motion Sensor package.

**SHOW 0** - Most will use this channel. This is a normal show that plays through the spooky sounds and any other songs added at the time of purchase. One finished, the show will then repeat. Some of you may have purchased the Trigger/Motion Sensor Accessories Package. In this case, the sounds will continuously play, and in the case of a trigger, the continuous sound will be interrupted for a triggered sound.

**SHOW 1** - This show will remain completely silent until triggered. This option will not be used unless the Trigger/Motion Sensor Accessories Package is connected to the Haunted House in a Box Monster Brain.

If you do not have the Trigger/Motion Sensor Accessory Package you will only have one show, which is resident in your SD cards.

## Use for Year-Round . . . . .

The Haunted House in a Box can be used for several events to dazzle your friends and family:

### Christmas



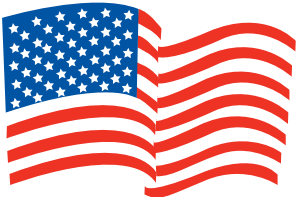
Use your Christmas in a Box “personality cards” to play Christmas lighting shows and songs. Broadcast holiday music that is in perfect rhythm with your lighting effects. You can animate just one object, a small group, or include an unlimited number of trees or columns.

### Parties



Use our Party in a Box “personality cards.” We have the shows and songs to help you and your friends dance the night away!

### Patriotic Holidays



Use our Patriotic “personality cards.” We have lighting shows and songs that help capture the spirit of these holidays!

## Support Issues or for More Details . . . . .

**CALL:** 816.941.0400 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST, M-F excluding holidays)

**EMAIL:** [support@animatedlighting.com](mailto:support@animatedlighting.com)

## Warranty and Disclaimer . . . . .

Please consult [www.animatedlighting.com](http://www.animatedlighting.com) for product warranty and disclaimer information.