Making corner turns with RibbonFlex tape light

Although RibbonFlex LED tape lighting is thin and flexible, it is not designed to make sideways or lateral bends and turns. But like a making a decorative ribbon bow for a gift, you can easily create soft bends and small loops that will make the tape lighting change direction sideways. These techniques are helpful when installing tape lighting above kitchen cabinets and in coves and tray ceilings. For lateral turns that require the tape lighting to be installed flat on a surface, use SureLock connectors or solder small wire leads. The photos below show various installation options including recommendations for under cabinet installations.

This soft-bend loop technique is good for cove corners and above cabinet installations.

Note: When installing above cabinets, you’ll find the tops have uneven surfaces. Simply mount RibbonFlex on any rigid material (e.g., thin lattice or corner guard molding, etc.) and lay on top of the cabinets. Try different positions until you see the desired illumination effect.

The same loop technique shown with RGB color changing LEDs

Turning a corner with a SureLock Corner Connector

Using a SureLock Wire Lead Connector to make a turn

Soldering wires to make a corner turn
For tips on soldering, go to armacostlighting.com/documents/soldering-RibbonFlex.pdf.
90-degree corner bend shown under kitchen cabinet

Note how the tape light is installed on the cabinet lip. RibbonFlex tape lighting has a wide 120 degree beam angle, and by installing on the lip it will eliminate bright spots on reflective surfaces.

Final installation shown from previous photo

Note soft radius bend. Do not flatten to create a sharp bend that could pinch internal tape light circuitry.

To avoid seeing LED bright spots on reflective counter tops, install tape lighting flat against the back side of your cabinet lip.