Simplifying Assumptions

In much of what follows, we will make the simplifying assumptions that:

- There is only one source of light
- That light is just a point-source

This will make our work a lot more straight-forward

(We'll think about more complex lighting later on)

3 Types of Light!

It is "convenient" to consider 3 types of light:

- Diffuse: Direct illumination of the surface
- Ambient: All around, background light level
- Specular: Mirrored reflection of the light source

ThreeTypesOfLight

This concept (3 types) is not borne out by reality But it does give us some plausible looking results!

Diffuse Light

To calculate the illumination effect of a light on a surface, we must consider:

- The distance of the surface from light
- The angle of light onto the surface

Let's look at each of these in turn...