



ELECTRONIC TUBE REFERENCE

253A

Rectifier - Half Wave electronic tube

CONSOLIDATED TECHNICAL DATA

1 SECTION
CONSTRUCTION
RECTIFIER

Air-cooled directly heated half-wave mercury-vapor rectifier for high-voltage supplies. Rated for approximately 3.5 kV peak inverse voltage and 250 mA nominal output with a low mercury-vapor forward drop.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

BASE DESIGNATION	—	BASE PINS	2
NOMINAL HEATER	2.5 V / 3 A	PARALLEL HEATER	— / —
HEATING	Direct	SERIES OPERATION	Not specified
CATHODE ARRANGEMENT	Separate cathodes	SECTION CONSTRUCTION	Similar

SECTION RATINGS

SECTION 1 Rectifier	
PEAK INVERSE VOLTAGE	3500 V
NOMINAL OUTPUT CURRENT	250 mA
PEAK FORWARD CURRENT	1 A
FORWARD VOLTAGE DROP	15 V
WARM-UP TIME	10 s
<i>Maximum average anode current 0.25 A; later combined bulletin used.</i>	

Air-cooled half-wave mercury-vapor rectifier with an oxide-coated filament, rated for 3500 V peak inverse anode voltage.



SOURCE OPERATING CONDITIONS

[SOURCE PDF](#)

1956 Western Electric Tubes

Published test conditions and operating points. Values on this page are preserved as reported by this source.

1956 WESTERN ELECTRIC TUBES

Section 1 · Rectifier

OTHER		
PARAMETER	PUBLISHED VALUE	CONDITION / NOTE
Filament Voltage	2.5 V	—
Filament Current	3 A	—
Peak Inverse Anode Voltage	3500 V	—
Maximum Peak Anode Current	1 A	InPhase
Maximum Average Anode Current	250 mA	InPhase
Maximum Averaging Time	5 s	—

CHARACTERISTIC		
PARAMETER	PUBLISHED VALUE	CONDITION / NOTE
Condensed Mercury Temperature Range	20-60 °C	—



SOURCE OPERATING CONDITIONS

[SOURCE PDF](#)

2026 Western Electric 200s

Published test conditions and operating points. Values on this page are preserved as reported by this source.

2026 WESTERN ELECTRIC 200S

Section 1 · Rectifier

OTHER		
PARAMETER	PUBLISHED VALUE	CONDITION / NOTE
MaximumAverageAnodeCurrent	250 mA	—

PARAMETER	PUBLISHED VALUE	CONDITION / NOTE
Maximum Peak Inverse Anode Voltage	3500 V	AmbientTemperature=10to50C
RequiredHeatingTime	10 s	—
LoadCurrent	250 mA	SinglePhaseDoubleHalfWave;1Tube;LoadPotential=1000V

CHARACTERISTIC		
PARAMETER	PUBLISHED VALUE	CONDITION / NOTE
AnodeCathodeVoltageDrop	15 V	Approximate