



## ELECTRONIC TUBE REFERENCE

## 255B

Rectifier - Half Wave electronic tube

CONSOLIDATED TECHNICAL DATA

## 1 SECTION

CONSTRUCTION

## RECTIFIER

Air-cooled directly heated half-wave mercury-vapor rectifier for high-power DC supplies. Rated for approximately 20 kV peak inverse voltage and 2 A nominal output with a low conducting voltage drop.

## GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

|                     |                   |                      |               |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| BASE DESIGNATION    | —                 | BASE PINS            | —             |
| NOMINAL HEATER      | 5 V / 19 A        | PARALLEL HEATER      | — / —         |
| HEATING             | Direct            | SERIES OPERATION     | Not specified |
| CATHODE ARRANGEMENT | Separate cathodes | SECTION CONSTRUCTION | Similar       |

## SECTION RATINGS

|                                                                                                                                                                            |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| SECTION 1 Rectifier                                                                                                                                                        |         |
| PEAK INVERSE VOLTAGE                                                                                                                                                       | 20000 V |
| NOMINAL OUTPUT CURRENT                                                                                                                                                     | 2 A     |
| PEAK FORWARD CURRENT                                                                                                                                                       | 16 A    |
| FORWARD VOLTAGE DROP                                                                                                                                                       | 10 V    |
| WARM-UP TIME                                                                                                                                                               | 120 s   |
| 20 kV PIV applies at 15–30 C ambient or 30–40 C forced-air temperature; 10 kV at 15–40 C ambient. Peak current shown is quadrature-operation maximum; average maximum 4 A. |         |

Air-cooled half-wave mercury-vapor rectifier with an oxide-coated filament, rated for 20000 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              | 5 V             | —                |
| Filament Current              | 19 A            | —                |
| Peak Inverse Anode Voltage    | 20000 V         | —                |
| Maximum Peak Anode Current    | 8 A             | InPhase          |
| Maximum Average Anode Current | 2 A             | InPhase          |
| Maximum Averaging Time        | 30 s            | —                |
| Maximum Peak Anode Current    | 6 A             | Quadrature       |
| Maximum Average Anode Current | 4 A             | Quadrature       |

| CHARACTERISTIC                      |                 |                  |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| PARAMETER                           | PUBLISHED VALUE | CONDITION / NOTE |
| Condensed Mercury Temperature Range | 25-40 °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

| OTHER                              |                 |                            |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| PARAMETER                          | PUBLISHED VALUE | CONDITION / NOTE           |
| Maximum Peak Inverse Anode Voltage | 20000 V         | AmbientTemperature=15to30C |
| Maximum Peak Inverse Anode Voltage | 10000 V         | AmbientTemperature=15to40C |
| MaximumAverageAnodeCurrent         | 4 A             | QuadratureOperation        |
| MaximumAverageAnodeCurrent         | 2 A             | InPhaseOperation           |
| MaximumInstantaneousAnodeCurrent   | 8 A             | InPhaseOperation           |
| RequiredHeatingTime                | 120 s           | —                          |
| ForcedAirFlow                      | 6 ft3/min       | For20kVPIV;1inNozzle       |