



ELECTRONIC TUBE REFERENCE

5B24

Rectifier - Full Wave electronic tube

CONSOLIDATED TECHNICAL DATA

2 SECTIONS

CONSTRUCTION

RECTIFIER-RECTIFIER

Directly heated mercury-vapor full-wave rectifier for battery chargers and power supplies serving magnetic chucks and small motors. Its mercury discharge provides high-current rectification with relatively low forward voltage drop.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

BASE DESIGNATION	—	BASE PINS	—
NOMINAL HEATER	2.5 V / 18 A	PARALLEL HEATER	— / —
HEATING	Direct	SERIES OPERATION	Not specified
CATHODE ARRANGEMENT	Separate cathodes	SECTION CONSTRUCTION	Similar

SECTION RATINGS

SECTION 1 Rectifier	
PEAK INVERSE VOLTAGE	1000 V
NOMINAL OUTPUT CURRENT	3 A
PEAK FORWARD CURRENT	18 A
FORWARD VOLTAGE DROP	15 V
WARM-UP TIME	300 s
Representative row for two rectifier anodes; average current is 3 A per anode.	

SECTION2 Rectifier	
PEAK INVERSE VOLTAGE	1000 V
NOMINAL OUTPUT CURRENT	3 A
PEAK FORWARD CURRENT	18 A
FORWARD VOLTAGE DROP	15 V
WARM-UP TIME	300 s
<i>Second physical rectifier section; electrical properties populated from applicable published ratings.</i>	

The 5B24 is a mercury-vapor high-voltage full-wave rectifier for battery charging and power supplies for magnetic chucks and small motors.



SOURCE OPERATING CONDITIONS

[SOURCE PDF](#)

1968 General Electric Co

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

1968 GENERAL ELECTRIC CO

Section 1 · Rectifier

CHARACTERISTIC		
PARAMETER	PUBLISHED VALUE	CONDITION / NOTE
InitialFiringVoltageMaximum	20 V	—
RecurrentFiringVoltageMinimum	8.5 V	—
Maximum Frequency	60 Hz	—

1968 GENERAL ELECTRIC CO

Section 2 · Rectifier

CHARACTERISTIC		
PARAMETER	PUBLISHED VALUE	CONDITION / NOTE
InitialFiringVoltageMaximum	20 V	—
RecurrentFiringVoltageMinimum	8.5 V	—
Maximum Frequency	60 Hz	—

TUBE TINKER

An independent reference for electronic tubes, vacuum tubes,
and their source documents.

[Catalog](#) [Tube types](#) [Full books](#) [Blog](#) [Feedback & corrections](#)

© 2026 Tube Tinker