



ELECTRONIC TUBE REFERENCE

GA21

Nixie electronic tube

CONSOLIDATED TECHNICAL DATA

1 SECTION
CONSTRUCTION
NIXIE

Long-life front-viewing cold-cathode numerical indicator with ten digit-shaped cathodes and 19 mm characters. Manufacturer data specify more than 10,000 hours life when displayed characters are switched at least every 24 hours.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

BASE DESIGNATION	B17A	BASE PINS	17
NOMINAL HEATER	– / –	PARALLEL HEATER	– / –
HEATING	Indirect; cold cathode	SERIES OPERATION	Not specified
CATHODE ARRANGEMENT	Separate cathodes	SECTION CONSTRUCTION	Similar

SECTION RATINGS

SECTION 1 Nixie	
MAXIMUM CATHODE CURRENT	1.8 mA
Cold-cathode glow-display section. Published cathode-current maximum promoted when specified.	

GA21 is a long-life cold-cathode numerical indicator (Nixie) tube with ten cathodes shaped as digits 0–9. It has 19 mm front-viewed digits, a published maximum ignition voltage of 140 V, normal cathode current of 1.4 mA, and a recommended minimum supply of 250 V. The sheet states life expectancy exceeds 10,000 hours when characters are switched at least every 24 hours.

SOURCE OPERATING CONDITIONS

[SOURCE PDF](#)

1965 Nixie Cerberus

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

1965 NIXIE CERBERUS

Section 1 · Nixie

OTHER		
PARAMETER	PUBLISHED VALUE	CONDITION / NOTE
Digit Height	19 mm	Front viewing
Maximum Ignition Voltage	140 V	Published main characteristics
Minimum Cathode Current	1 mA	Published main characteristics
Maximum Cathode Current	1.8 mA	Published main characteristics

CHARACTERISTIC		
PARAMETER	PUBLISHED VALUE	CONDITION / NOTE
Normal Cathode Current	1.4 mA	Published main characteristics
Minimum Supply Voltage	250 V	Lower supply voltages are not recommended unless stabilized
Recommended Anode Resistor	82 k Ω m	At listed minimum supply voltage
Off-Cathode Bias Voltage Minimum	50 V	Off cathodes
Off-Cathode Bias Voltage Maximum	120 V	Off cathodes
Life Expectancy	10000 h	Digits switched sequentially at intervals of no more than 24 h

TUBE TINKER

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