



AVX  
Dielectric Comparison Chart

# Capacitor Dielectric Comparison Chart



Characteristics		Multi-Layer Ceramics							Multi-Layer Glass-K									
		NPO	Stable	HiK	Ceramic Discs	Internal Barrier Layer	Reduced Titanates	Multi-Layer Glass	"T" Characteristic	"U" Characteristic	"V" Characteristic	Mica	Polyester	Poly-carbonate	Poly-propylene	Poly-styrene	Solid Tantalums	Aluminum Electrolytics
Capacitance	Range, mfd	1pF – .01µF	1pF – 2.2µF	.001 – 10µF	1pF – 0.1µF	.01 – .22µF	.01 – 1.0µF	0.5pF – .01µF	270pF – .02µF	.012 – .039µF	.022 – .1µF	1pF – .09µF	.001 – 10µF	.001 – 10µF	47 – .047µF	100pF – .027µF	.01 – 1000µF	0.5 – 10µF
	Min. Tol. Avail. %	±0.5%	±5%	±20%	Same as Multi-layers	±20%	±20%	±0.5%	±5%	±10%	±10%	±0.5%	±5%	±1%	±0.5%	±0.5%	±5%	±20%
	Std. Tol. %	±5%, ±10%	±10%	+80%, -20%	Same as Multi-layers	+80%, -20%	+80%, -20%	±1%, ±5%	±5%, ±10%	±5%, ±10%	±5%, ±10%	±5%, ±10%	±1%, ±5%	±10%	±10%	±5%	±5%	±20%
Voltage Range	Typical, VDC	50 – 200	50 – 200	25 – 100	50 – 10,000	50	3 – 50	50 – 2000	25 – 50	25 – 50	25 – 50	50 – 500	100 – 600	100 – 600	100 – 600	30 – 600	6 – 125	3 – 500
Temperature	Range, °C	-55°C, +125°C	-55°C, +125°C	+10°C, +85°C and -55°C, +85°C	-55°C, +85°C	-55°C, +85°C	-55°C, +85°C	-75°C, +200°C	-75°C, +200°C	-75°C, +200°C	-75°C, +200°C	-55°C, +125°C	-55°C, +125°C	-55°C, +125°C	-55°C, +85°C	-55°C, +70°C	-55°C, +125°C	-40°C, +85°C
	T.C. %Δ C	±0.3%	±15%	+22%, -56% and -22%, -80%	Same as Multi-layers	±30%	±10%, ±30%	±1.65%	+2%, -10%	-2%, -15%	+20%, -45%	-.4%, +1.8%	±12%	±2%	±2.5%	±1%	±8%	±10%
I.R.	<1.0 mfd	10 <sup>5</sup> MΩ	10 <sup>5</sup> MΩ	10 <sup>4</sup> MΩ	Same as Multi-layers	10 <sup>4</sup> MΩ	10 MΩ	10 <sup>5</sup> MΩ	10 <sup>4</sup> MΩ	10 <sup>4</sup> MΩ	10 <sup>4</sup> MΩ	10 <sup>2</sup> MΩ	10 <sup>4</sup> MΩ	10 <sup>5</sup> MΩ	10 <sup>5</sup> MΩ	10 <sup>4</sup> MΩ	10 <sup>2</sup> MΩ	N.A.
	>1.0 mfd MΩ –mfd	N.A.	2,500	1,000	N.A.	N.A.	0.1	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	10 <sup>3</sup>	10 <sup>4</sup>	N.A.	N.A.	10	100
Dissipation Factor	Percent At 1KHz, %	0.1%	2.5%	3.0%	0.1% to 4.0%	5.0%	5% to 10%	0.2%	1.0%	1.5%	3.0%	0.1%	2%	1.0%	0.35%	.1%	8% to 24%	8% (at 120 Hz)
Dielectric Absorption	Percent Typical, %	0.6%	2.5%	N.A.	Same as Multi-layers	N.A.	N.A.	.05%	0.1%	0.1%	1.3%	0.3% – 0.7%	0.5%	0.35%	.05%	.05%	N.A.	N.A.
Frequency Response	Freq. Response 10 = Best, 1 = Poorest	9	8	8	8	3	2	9	8	8	8	7	6	6	6	6	5	2
	Max. Freq. (MHz) For Δ C = ±10%	100	10	10	Same as Multi-layers	10	1	100	100	75	10	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	.002	N.A.
Stability (1000 Hrs.)	Typical Life Test, %Δ C	0.1%	10%	20%	Same as Multi-layers	20%	20%	0.5%	5%	10%	20%	0.1%	10%	5%	3%	2%	10%	10%
Polarity	Single Cap	N.P.	N.P.	N.P.	N.P.	N.P.	N.P.	N.P.	N.P.	N.P.	N.P.	N.P.	N.P.	N.P.	N.P.	N.P.	P	P

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# Basic Capacitor Formulas



## I. Capacitance (farads)

English:  $C = \frac{.224 \text{ K A}}{T_D}$

Metric:  $C = \frac{.0884 \text{ K A}}{T_D}$

## II. Energy stored in capacitors (Joules, watt - sec)

$E = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$

## III. Linear charge of a capacitor (Amperes)

$I = C \frac{dV}{dt}$

## IV. Total Impedance of a capacitor (ohms)

$Z = \sqrt{R_s^2 + (X_C - X_L)^2}$

## V. Capacitive Reactance (ohms)

$X_C = \frac{1}{2 \pi fC}$

## VI. Inductive Reactance (ohms)

$X_L = 2 \pi fL$

## VII. Phase Angles:

Ideal Capacitors: Current leads voltage 90°

Ideal Inductors: Current lags voltage 90°

Ideal Resistors: Current in phase with voltage

## VIII. Dissipation Factor (%)

$D.F. = \tan \delta$  (loss angle) =  $\frac{E.S.R.}{X_C} = (2 \pi fC) (E.S.R.)$

## IX. Power Factor (%)

P.F. = Sine  $\delta$  (loss angle) = Cos  $\phi$  (phase angle)

P.F. = (when less than 10%) = DF

## X. Quality Factor (dimensionless)

$Q = \text{Cotan } \delta$  (loss angle) =  $\frac{1}{D.F.}$

## XI. Equivalent Series Resistance (ohms)

$E.S.R. = (D.F.) (X_C) = (D.F.) / (2 \pi fC)$

## XII. Power Loss (watts)

Power Loss =  $(2 \pi fCV^2) (D.F.)$

## XIII. KVA (Kilowatts)

$KVA = 2 \pi fCV^2 \times 10^{-3}$

## XIV. Temperature Characteristic (ppm/°C)

$T.C. = \frac{C_t - C_{25}}{C_{25} (T_t - 25)} \times 10^6$

## XV. Cap Drift (%)

$C.D. = \frac{C_1 - C_2}{C_1} \times 100$

## XVI. Reliability of Ceramic Capacitors

$\frac{L_0}{L_t} = \left( \frac{V_t}{V_0} \right) \times \left( \frac{T_t}{T_0} \right)^Y$

## XVII. Capacitors in Series (current the same)

Any Number:  $\frac{1}{C_T} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} \dots \frac{1}{C_N}$

Two:  $C_T = \frac{C_1 C_2}{C_1 + C_2}$

## XVIII. Capacitors in Parallel (voltage the same)

$C_T = C_1 + C_2 \dots + C_N$

## XIX. Aging Rate

A.R. = %  $\Delta C$ /decade of time

## XX. Decibels

$db = 20 \log \frac{V_1}{V_2}$

## METRIC PREFIXES

Pico	X 10 <sup>-12</sup>	Deca	X 10 <sup>-1</sup>
Nano	X 10 <sup>-9</sup>	Kilo	X 10 <sup>-3</sup>
Micro	X 10 <sup>-6</sup>	Mega	X 10 <sup>-6</sup>
Milli	X 10 <sup>-3</sup>	Giga	X 10 <sup>-9</sup>
Deci	X 10 <sup>-1</sup>	Tera	X 10 <sup>-12</sup>

## SYMBOLS

K	= Dielectric Constant
A	= Area
T <sub>D</sub>	= Dielectric thickness
V	= Voltage
t	= time
L <sub>0</sub>	= Operating life

f	= frequency
L	= Inductance
$\delta$	= Loss angle
$\phi$	= Phase angle
X & Y	= exponent effect of voltage and temp.

L <sub>t</sub>	= Test life
V <sub>t</sub>	= Test voltage
V <sub>0</sub>	= Operating voltage
T <sub>t</sub>	= Test temperature
T <sub>0</sub>	= Operating temperature
R <sub>S</sub>	= Series Resistance

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