

EIA Codes for US Made Electronic Components

These are codes often seen stamped on components found in US made vintage tube equipment. This list is circa 1955, and some codes have been reassigned or added since that time.

Code formats were not completely standardized, but a little deciphering will generally yield the info of interest. Note that many makers also stamped OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) part numbers above or below the EIA code, in some cases parts makers or the customer elected not to include the EIA codes, so not all parts have them.

They generally follow the following format: (example)

322 5904

where 322 is the manufacturer code (in this case Tungsol), 59 is the year (1959), and 04 is the week.

One alternate scheme is:

274 940

274 is the EIA code (RCA) 9 is the last digit of the year (in this case 1949). Usually single digit date codes are from the 1940's, but have on occasion shown up in later decades, even up to the 1970's. If one has a general idea of the age of the piece in question, usually the decade can be divined from that.

Another alternate is in the format following:

188-5 69 32

188 is General Electric. 5 is the plant code (in this case, Owensboro, Kentucky). 69 32 is 1969, 32nd week.

And another is like this:

322 6104-1

322 is Tungsol, 6104 is 1961, 4th week, 1 is the shift code (1 would probably be the day shift)

After about 1960, many tube manufacturers went to encrypted alphabetical date codes., such as:

KE

188-5

The reason was purportedly to allow factories to track the dates of manufacture of defective tubes (especially important in the case of OEM customers that might send back entire batches of tubes), but avoid possible consumer complaints about "stale" tubes. This sounds perhaps a little silly since the shelf life of tubes is decades, at least (indefinite in practical terms), but some OEM's might have been a bit irritated by occasional consumer complaints such as "my 1961 model TV has 1959 model tubes in it!"

Tubes made for the US military, or certain OEMs (such as some test equipment manufacturers) that requested it, continued to carry numerical date codes.

In years past, EIA (Electronic Industries Association) also went by the name of RETMA, and the original acronym of RMA (Radio Manufacturer's Association).

This was mostly compiled from a 1955 RETMA code list, some numbers from earlier or later won't appear.

Tubes and CRT's	EIA code
Amperex (USA)	111
Bendix	125
DuMont	158
Eimac (Eitel-McCullough, Inc)	162
Electronic Tube Corp	169
General Electric Co (USA)	188
Hytron (CBS-Hytron)	210
Machlett	231
RCA (Radio Corp of America)	274
Raytheon	280
Superior Tube Co	310
Sylvania (Hygrade Sylvania Corp)	312
Tung-Sol	322
United Electronics	323
Western Electric	336
Westinghouse	337
Zenith Radio Corp (CRT's)	343
Nortn American Philips Corp	423
Taylor (aka Cetron-Taylor)	713
Lewis & Kaufman	738
National Electronics (also Cetron)	749
Penta Laboratories	771
Vacuum Tube Products	781
Varian Associates	809
Litton Industries	879
Electrons, Inc	935

Capacitors	EIA code
Aerovox Corp	102
American Condensor	109
Centralab	134
Chicago Condensor	135
Aerovox Hi-Q Division	163
John E Fast	178
General Electric	188
Mallory	235
Micamold	240
Millen	242
Radio Condensor Company	273
Solar	296
Sprague	303
Gudeman	438
Good-All	446
Barker & Williamson	461
Pyramid	472
United Condensor	516
Electrical Utilities Corp	569
Illinois Capacitor (Condensor)	616
American Radionic	648
Sangamo	658
Ajax	705
Standard Condensor	710
RMC (Radio Materials Corp)	732
Condensor Manufacturers	885

Transformers & Coils	EIA code
Stancor (Chicago-Standard)	138
Coil Engineering	141
Ensign Coil	172
Freed	183
General Radio	194
Jefferson Electric	218
Thordarsen-Meissner	238
Merit Coil & Transformer	239
Standard Coil	305
Essex (Transformer Division)	352
New York Transformer	366
Altec Lansing-Peerless	391
Foster Transformer	394
General Transformer	412
United Transformer Corp (UTC)	418
Radio-Television Products Corp	489
Empire Coil	452
Caledonia	503
Triwec Transformer	524
Midwest Coil & Transformer	549
Standard Winding Co	550
F & V Coil Winding	572
Woodward-Schumacher	606
Central Coil	637
Electrical Windings	682
Grand Transformers	757
Forest Electric	773
Ogden Coil & Transformer	776
Triad	830
Better Coil & Transformer	831
Acro Products (Acrosound)	878
Mohawk	883
American Transformer	892
Tresco	897
Coilcraft	906
Aerocoil	908
Acme Coil & Transformer	928
Magnetic Coil Mfring	933
Northlake	1005
Pacific	1052

Resistors & Potentiometers **EIA code**

Allen-Bradley	106
Centralab	134
CTS (Chicago Telephone Supply)	137
Clarostat	140
Erie	173
IRC (International Resistance Co)	214
Mallory	235
Muter	244
Ohmite	251
Speer	300
Stackpole	304
Ward Leonard	532
Milwaukee Resistor	722
Dale	816
Atlas	932

Speakers (Drivers only, not cabinets) **EIA Code**

CTS (Chicago Telephone Supply)	137
Jensen	220
Magnavox	232
DuKane (Operadio Corp)	252
Quam (Quam-Nichols)	270
Rola	285
Utah	328
Western Electric	336
Altec Lansing Corp	391
North American Philips (Norelco)	423
Oxford	465
Waldom Electronics	555
Electro-Voice	649
Russell Speaker Co	748
Quincy Speaker Mfr Corp	767
Klipsch	843
University	847
Oaktron	934

Other commonly seen manufacturers

Company	Product	Code
Admiral Corp	TV's, Radios	101
Alpha	Wire	733
Amphenol	Sockets, plugs	554
ATR	Vibrators	551
Anaconda	Wire	547
Arvin	Sears radios & TV's	248
Astatic	Phono cartridges	345
Belden	Wire	579
Bell	Amps	708
Bogen	Amps	589
BIC	British imports	409
Cannon	Connectors	440
Cinch	Sockets, connectors	139
Collins	Radio gear	439
Connector Corp	Sockets, connectors	888
Consolidated	Wire	607
Crosley	Radios	152
Drake	RF gear	851
DuKane (Operadio)	Amps	252
Eby	Sockets	160
Empire	Phono cartridges	452
Essex	Wire	175
Gates	RF gear	187
General Cement	Adhesives, Testor's paint	396
General Radio	Test Equip	194
Hallicrafters	Ham & SW gear	199
Hammarlund	Ham & SW gear	201
Harmon-Kardon	Hi-fi gear	794
Hickok	Test Equip	508
International Rectifier	Semiconductors	845
Jackson	Tube Testers	216
E F Johnson	Sockets, ham xcvs	222
Kester	Solder	224
Keystone	Hardware	699
Lenz	Wire	228
Littelfuse	Fuses	230
McIntosh	Hifi gear	793
Methode	Connectors	720
James Millen	Sockets	242
Muntz	Cheap TV's	772
National Co	Ham & SW gear, hifi	245
Newcomb	Amps	437
Packard Bell	TV's radios computers	254
Philco	Radios & TV's	260

Philmore	Hardware	262
Pickering (Stanton)	Phono cartridges	631
Pilot	Hifi tuners & amps	264
Pioneer	Cheap recievers	706
Precision (Grommes)	Hifi & PA amps	871
Radio Craftsmen	Hifi gear	275
J P Seeburg	Jukeboxes	289
Shure Brothers	Phono carts, mics	590
Mark Simpson (MASCO)	PA Amps	295
Simpson Electric	Meters	614
Sonotone	Phono cartridges	787
Tetrad	Phono cartridges	842
Triplett	Test equipment	321
Wells-Gardner	Monkey Wards radios	334
Weston	Test Equipment	338
Zenith	Radios & TV's	343