



Film Capacitors

Mounting guidelines

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Mounting guidelines

1 Soldering

1.1 Solderability of leads

The solderability of terminal leads is tested to IEC 60068-2-20, test Ta, method 1.

Before a solderability test is carried out, terminals are subjected to accelerated ageing (to IEC 60068-2-2, test Ba: 4 h exposure to dry heat at 155 °C). Since the ageing temperature is far higher than the upper category temperature of the capacitors, the terminal wires should be cut off from the capacitor before the ageing procedure to prevent the solderability being impaired by the products of any capacitor decomposition that might occur.

Solder bath temperature	235 ±5 °C
Soldering time	2.0 ±0.5 s
Immersion depth	2.0 +0/–0.5 mm from capacitor body or seating plane
Evaluation criteria:	
Visual inspection	Wetting of wire surface by new solder ≥90%, free-flowing solder

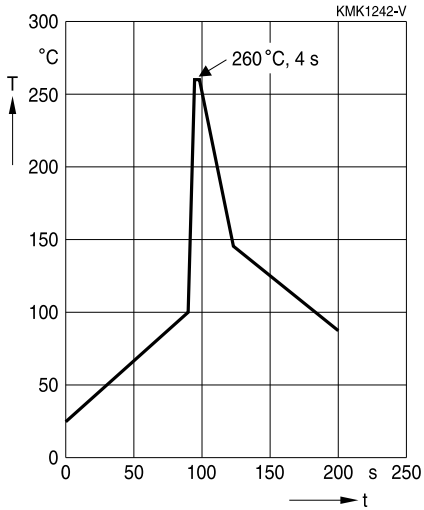
1.2 Resistance to soldering heat

Resistance to soldering heat is tested to IEC 60068-2-20, test Tb, method 1A.

Conditions:

Series	Solder bath temperature	Soldering time
MKT boxed (except 2.5 × 6.5 × 7.2 mm) coated uncoated (lead spacing > 10 mm)	260 ±5 °C	10 ±1 s
MFP		
MKP (lead spacing > 7.5 mm)		
MKT boxed (case 2.5 × 6.5 × 7.2 mm)		5 ±1 s
MKP (lead spacing ≤ 7.5 mm)		< 4 s recommended soldering profile for MKT uncoated (lead spacing ≤ 10 mm) and insulated (B32559)
MKT uncoated (lead spacing ≤ 10 mm) insulated (B32559)		

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Immersion depth	2.0 +0/−0.5 mm from capacitor body or seating plane
Shield	Heat-absorbing board, (1.5 ±0.5) mm thick, between capacitor body and liquid solder
Evaluation criteria:	
Visual inspection	No visible damage
$\Delta C/C_0$	2% for MKT/MKP/MFP 5% for EMI suppression capacitors
$\tan \delta$	As specified in sectional specification

1.3 General notes on soldering

Permissible heat exposure loads on film capacitors are primarily characterized by the upper category temperature T_{max} . Long exposure to temperatures above this type-related temperature limit can lead to changes in the plastic dielectric and thus change irreversibly a capacitor's electrical characteristics. For short exposures (as in practical soldering processes) the heat load (and thus the possible effects on a capacitor) will also depend on other factors like:

- Pre-heating temperature and time
- Forced cooling immediately after soldering
- Terminal characteristics:
 - diameter, length, thermal resistance, special configurations (e.g. crimping)
- Height of capacitor above solder bath
- Shadowing by neighboring components
- Additional heating due to heat dissipation by neighboring components
- Use of solder-resist coatings

The overheating associated with some of these factors can usually be reduced by suitable countermeasures. For example, if a pre-heating step cannot be avoided, an additional or reinforced cooling process may possibly have to be included.

EPCOS recommends the following conditions:

- Pre-heating with a maximum temperature of 110 °C
- Temperature inside the capacitor should not exceed the following limits:
 - MKP/MFP 110 °C
 - MKT 160 °C
- When SMD components are used together with leaded ones, the leaded film capacitors should not pass into the SMD adhesive curing oven. The leaded components should be assembled after the SMD curing step.
- Leaded film capacitors are not suitable for reflow soldering.

Uncoated capacitors

For uncoated MKT capacitors with lead spacings ≤ 10 mm (B32560/B32561) the following measures are recommended:

- pre-heating to not more than 110 °C in the preheater phase
- rapid cooling after soldering

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2 Cleaning

To determine whether the following solvents, often used to remove flux residues and other substances, are suitable for the capacitors described, refer to the table below:

Type	Ethanol, isopropanol, n-propanol	n-propanol-water mixtures, water with surface tension-reducing tensides (neutral)	Solvent from table A (see next page)	Solvent from table B (see next page)
MKT (uncoated)	Suitable	Unsuitable	In part suitable	Unsuitable
MKT, MKP, MFP (coated/boxed)		Suitable	Suitable	

Even when suitable solvents are used, a reversible change of the electrical characteristics may occur in uncoated capacitors immediately after they are washed. Thus it is always recommended to dry the components (e.g. 4 h at 70 °C) before they are subjected to subsequent electrical testing.

Table A

Manufacturers' designations for trifluoro-trichloro-ethane-based cleaning solvents (selection)

Trifluoro-trichloro-ethane	Mixtures of trifluoro-trichloro-ethane with ethanol and isopropanol	Manufacturer
Freon TF	Freon TE 35; Freon TP 35; Freon TES	Du Pont
Frigen 113 TR	Frigen 113 TR-E; Frigen 113 TR-P; Frigen TR-E 35	Hoechst
Arklone P	Arklone A; Arklone L; Arklone K	ICI
Kaltron 113 MDR	Kaltron 113 MDA; Kaltron 113 MDI; Kaltron 113 MDI 35	Kali-Chemie
Flugene 113	Flugene 113 E; Flugene 113 IPA	Rhone-Progil

Table B (worldwide banned substances)

Manufacturers' designations for unsuitable cleaning solvents (selection)

Mixtures of chlorinated hydrocarbons and ketones with fluorated hydrocarbons	Manufacturer
Freon TMC; Freon TA; Freon TC	Du Pont
Arklone E	ICI
Kaltron 113 MDD; Kaltron 113 MDK	Kali-Chemie
Flugene 113 CM	Rhone-Progil

3 Embedding of capacitors in finished assemblies

In many applications, finished circuit assemblies are embedded in plastic resins. In this case, both chemical and thermal influences of the embedding ("potting") and curing processes must be taken into account.

Our experience has shown that the following potting materials can be recommended: non-flexible epoxy resins with acid-anhydride hardeners; chemically inert, non-conducting fillers; maximum curing temperature of 100 °C.

Caution:

Consult us first if you wish to embed uncoated types!