

Rectifier Tube Voltage Drop Chart

This is a chart showing the specifications for 5 volt rectifier tubes that can be used in guitar amps. By having this information on a chart you can choose a rectifier tube that will best suit your playing style. The more of a voltage drop (DCV Drop) you have the more sag or compression you will have. The starting voltage is 425 volts from a diode rectifier and each tube's specs drop from there. Also shown is the current available (DC mA) from the rectifier and the filament current draw (Fil Amps). It is important to pay attention to the filament current draw. Your power transformer may not have enough current supply on the 5 volt winding for the rectifier tube. All specifications were taken from the General Electric Essential Characteristics book. Your actual voltages may vary.

Tube Type	DC mA	PIV	FIL AMPS	Max ACV	DCV	DCV DROP
Diode Rectifier					425	
5AR4 / GZ-34	250	1500	1.9	450	415	10
5V4-GA	175	1400	2	375	400	25
GZ37	350	1000	2.8	450	388	37
5U4-GA	250	1550	3	450	381	44
5U4-G	225	1550	3	450	381	44
5U4-GB	275	1550	3	450	375	50
5Y3-G/GA	125	1400	2	350	365	60
5R4GYB	250	3100	2	900	362	63
5R4G/GY/GYA	250	3100	2	750	358	67