

FLUORESCENT LAMP TROUBLESHOOTING CHART

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Lamp will not light	1. Burned-out tube.	1. Replace with new fluorescent tube of correct dimensions and wattage.
	2. Defective starter.	2. Replace starter with new one of appropriate wattage.
	3. Defective ballast, sometimes accompanied by the odor of burning insulation.	3. Replace ballast; before replacing, consider cost of new ballast in comparison to value of lamp fixture.
	4. Defective switch.	4. Replace switch.
	5. Tube not seated correctly in sockets.	5. Reseat tube in sockets.
	6. No power to lamp.	6. Check power circuit.
Lamp glows dimly	1. Defective tube.	1. Replace tube. If lamp has been flashing on and off repeatedly for extended period, also replace starter.
	2. Defective starter.	2. Replace starter with one of correct wattage.
Tube ends lit but middle dim or dark	1. Wiring incorrect.	1. Check wiring.
	2. Shorted starter.	2. Replace starter with new one of appropriate wattage.
	3. Tube burned out.	3. Replace tube.
Spiraling or flickering lamp	1. Tube burned out.	1. Replace with new fluorescent tube of correct dimensions and wattage.
	2. Defective or wrong starter.	2. Replace starter with one of appropriate wattage.
	3. Low line voltage.	3. Check voltage; it must be within 10 percent of 120 volts.
	4. Wrong ballast.	4. Replace ballast.
Lamp flashes on and off repeatedly	1. Defective tube.	1. Replace tube and starter.
	2. Defective starter.	2. Replace starter with one of appropriate wattage.