



ML-343A  
ML-343AA

DESCRIPTION AND RATINGS

**DESCRIPTION**

The ML-343A and ML-343AA are three-electrode tubes designed for use as modulators, amplifiers, or oscillators in radio-transmitting service. The cathode of each type is a pure-tungsten filament. The anode of the ML-343A is water-cooled and is capable of dissipating 10 kW. The anode of the

ML-343AA is air-cooled and is capable of dissipating 5 kW. The maximum rating of 18 kVdc applies at frequencies up to 4 Mc; operation at 16 Mc is permissible with plate voltage reduced to 5 kVdc.

**GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS**

**Electrical**

Filament Voltage .....	21.5 volts
Filament Current at 21.5 volts .....	57.5 amperes
Filament Starting Current .....	90 amps
Filament Cold Resistance .....	.0317 ohms
Amplification Factor .....	40
Grid-Plate Transconductance .....	6750 uMhos
Interelectrode Capacitances	
Grid-Plate .....	23.5 uuf
Grid-Filament .....	20.0 uuf
Plate-Filament .....	1.9 uuf

**Mechanical**

Mounting Position .....	Vertical anode down	
Type of Cooling .....	<b>ML-343A</b>	<b>ML-343AA</b>
Coolant flow on anode .....	Water	Forced-air
Maximum outgoing water temperature .....	3 gpm	600 cfm
Maximum Water Pressure .....	75 °C	—
Maximum Anode Temperature .....	80 psi	—
Maximum Anode Temperature .....	—	120 °C
Net Weight, approximate .....	4.3 lbs	35 lbs

**MAXIMUM RATINGS**  
 VALUES APPLY TO BOTH TYPES UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

	<b>ML-343A</b>	<b>ML-343AA</b>	
Direct Plate Voltage .....	18,000	18,000	volts
Direct Plate Current .....	2	1.5	amps
Plate Dissipation .....	10,000	5000	watts
Grid Dissipation .....	200	200	watts
R-F Grid Current .....	20	20	amps
Frequency .....	4	4	Mc

The above are maximum ratings which do not apply simultaneously but depend on the type of service specified below.

**TYPICAL OPERATING CONDITIONS**

**Class A Audio Amplifier or Modulator**

Direct Plate Voltage .....	12,500	10,000	volts
Grid Bias .....	-170	-130	volts
Direct Plate Current .....	0.40	0.30	amp
Plate Dissipation .....	5000	3000	watts
Load Impedance .....	12,000	20,000	ohms
Undistorted Output .....	650	400	watts

**Class B Audio Amplifier or Modulator**  
 (for balanced 2 tube circuit)

Direct Plate Voltage .....	12,500	10,000	volts
Grid Bias .....	-200	-150	volts
Direct Plate Current per tube			
No Drive .....	0.25	0.22	amp
Maximum Drive .....	1.3	1.3	amps
Plate Dissipation (per tube) .....	5000	5000	watts
Load Resistance (plate-to-plate) .....	8600	7600	ohms
Load Resistance (per tube) .....	2150	1900	ohms
Approximate Maximum Output—2 tubes .....	18,000	15,000	watts
Recommended Power for Driving Stage .....	750	750	watts

**Class B Radio-Frequency Amplifier**

Direct Plate Voltage .....	15,000	12,500	volts
Direct Plate Current for Carrier Conditions .....	0.70	0.70	amp
Grid Bias .....	-350	-300	volts
Approximate Carrier Watts for Use with 100% Modulation .....	3500	2900	watts

**Class C Radio-Frequency Oscillator or Power Amplifier—Unmodulated**

	<b>ML-343A</b>	<b>ML-343AA</b>	
Direct Plate Voltage .....	18,000	15,000	12,500 volts
Direct Plate Current .....	1.25	1.00	1.25 amps
Grid Bias .....	-600 to -800	-500 to -700	-450 to -600 watts
Nominal Power Output .....	15,000	10,000	10,000 watts
Plate Dissipation .....	10,000	5000	5600 watts

**Class C Radio-Frequency Amplifier—Plate Modulated**

Direct Plate Voltage .....	7500	5000	volts
Direct Plate Current .....	1.0	1.0	amp
Grid Bias .....	-400	-300	volts
Direct Grid Current .....	150	150	mA
Nominal Carrier Power Output .....	5000	3300	watts

**APPLICATION NOTES**

Maximum ratings apply at frequencies of 4 megacycles and less. The maximum plate voltage for the upper frequency limit of 16 megacycles is 5,000 volts. The maximum plate voltage for frequencies between 4 and 16 megacycles should be proportionately reduced.

The cooling facilities for the ML-343AA should be such that the temperature of the anode, indicated by a thermometer having a non-metallic column mounted in the tube thermometer well with the bulb protected from the air stream, is

less than 120°C. The amount of air required will vary from 400 to 600 cubic feet per minute depending upon the anode dissipation and ambient temperature. An air pressure interlock is required for protecting the tube if the air flow is insufficient. The interlock should be adjusted to remove all voltages from the tube in case of failure of the forced air supply. In no case should the rate of flow be such that under prolonged operation at conditions of maximum dissipation the temperature rises above 120°C. The forced air shall be supplied at the bottom so that the air is forced upward through the anode fins.



