

OSRAM 1979-1994 Date Codes

This 3-cipher system is believed to have been in use from 1979 and generally consists of two letters and a number. It was superseded in 1994 by a new internationally standardised system.

1st Digit – Factory Identification

a	Berlin Wedding	Germany	Special Lamps
b	Manchester, NH	USA	American HID (ex-Sylvania)
C	Wipperfürth	Germany	Radium – Linestra, Halogen, Special HID
e	Madrid	Spain	Incandescent
f	Milan	Italy	Incandescent
h	Molsheim	France	GLS, Reflectors, Decorative Incandescent
i	Eichstätt	Germany	Tungsten Halogen, Special HID, Xenon
k	Osasco	Brazil	Incandescent, Fluorescent, NAV, HQI
l	Rome	Italy	Incandescent
m	Portugal	Portugal	Incandescent
n	Treviso	Italy	Incandescent
o	Shaw	England	SOX, SON, MBF, HMI, GLS Vac, Specials
q	Berlin Spandau	Germany	NAV, HQL, HQI, Special GLS, PAR38
r	Augsberg	Germany	Linear & Compact Fluorescent
t	Tesla factory	Slovakia	GLS, Reflectors etc.
u	Maybrook, NY	USA	Dulux, Halostar MR16
v	Vienna	Austria	Incandescent
w	Herbrechtingen	Germany	Miniature incandescent, glass halogen, neon
z	Bari	Italy	Special Fluorescent, Vacuum GLS
N	Philips	Any	PAR38, T12 LFL
P	Thorn	Any	Various
U	Narva	Any	Various
A3	Shaw	England	SOX, SON, MBF, HMI, GLS Vac, Specials
D5	SIVI	Italy	Special Incandescent
03	BLV	Germany	Halogen
04	Leuci	Italy	Special Incandescent

2nd Digit – Year Code

The year codes are repetitions from of the 1953-1979 system, omitting letter c. The code is printed as a small letter for the first half of the year, or a capital letter for the second half of the year according to the table below.

s	1979	n	1983	h	1987	z	1991
m	1980	b	1984	a	1988	y	1992
r	1981	d	1985	w	1989	e	1993
u	1982	t	1986	x	1990	f	1994

3rd Digit – Month or Quarter Code

The digits 0 through 9 are applied to indicate the month or quarter of production according to the table below, bearing in mind the case of the 2nd digit which indicates the first or second half of the year:

1	January	July	7	Quarter 1
2	February	August	8	Quarter 2
3	March	September	9	Quarter 3
4	April	October	0	Quarter 4
5	May	November		
6	June	December		

Examples:

qS6	Spandau	1979	December
za3	Bari	1988	March
iy7	Eichstätt	1992	Quarter 1
hN0	Molsheim	1983	Quarter 4
A3Y3	Shaw	1992	September