

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Edison screw lampholders**

**Douilles à vis Edison pour lampes**



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INTERNATIONAL  
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INTERNATIONALE

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# INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## EDISON SCREW LAMPHOLDERS

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International Standard IEC 60238 has been prepared by subcommittee 34B: Lamp caps and holders, of IEC technical committee 34: Lamps and related equipment.

This consolidated version of IEC 60238 consists of the eighth edition (2004) [documents 34B/1151/FDIS and 34B/1170/RVD], its amendment 1 (2008) [documents 34B/1381/FDIS and 34B/1397/RVD] and its amendment 2 (2011) [documents 34B/1577/FDIS and 34B/1593/RVD].

The technical content is therefore identical to the base edition and its amendments and has been prepared for user convenience.

It bears the edition number 8.2.

A vertical line in the margin shows where the base publication has been modified by amendments 1 and 2.

In this edition the new requirements for creepage distances and clearances have been adopted which are currently circulated by SC34D to amend the IEC 60598 family of luminaire standards.

Additionally guidances for requirements in IEC 61058-1 applicable to switches in lampholders (see Annex B) and for special requirements in appliance standards (see Annex C) have been included.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendments will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

Withdrawn

# EDISON SCREW LAMPHOLDERS

## 1 General

### 1.1 Scope

This International Standard applies to lampholders with Edison thread E14, E27 and E40, designed for connection to the supply of lamps and semi-luminaires\* only.

It also applies to switched-lampholders for use in a.c. circuits only, where the working voltage does not exceed 250 V r.m.s.

This standard also applies to lampholders with Edison thread E5 designed for connection to the supply mains of series connected lamps, with a working voltage not exceeding 25 V, to be used indoors, and to lampholders with Edison thread E10 designed for connection to the supply mains of series connected lamps, with a working voltage not exceeding 60 V, to be used indoors or outdoors. It also applies to lampholders E10 for building-in, for the connection of single lamps to the supply. These lampholders are not intended for retail sale.

As far as it reasonably applies, this standard also covers lampholders other than lampholders with Edison thread designed for connection of series-connected lamps to the supply.

NOTE This type of lampholder is for example used in Christmas tree lighting chains.

As far as it reasonably applies, this standard also covers adapters.

This standard also covers lampholders which are, wholly or partly, integral with a luminaire or intended to be built into appliances. It covers the requirements for the lampholder only. For all other requirements, such as protection against electric shock in the area of the terminals or of the lamp cap, the requirements of the relevant appliance standard shall be observed and tested after building into the appropriate equipment, when that equipment is tested according to its own standard. Such lampholders as well as lampholders provided with a snap-on outer shell, for use by luminaire manufacturers only, are not for retail sale.

This standard applies to lampholders to be used indoors or outdoors in residential as well as in industrial lighting installations. It also applies to candle lampholders. In locations where special conditions prevail, as for street lighting, on board ships, in vehicles and in hazardous locations, e.g. where explosions are liable to occur, special constructions may be required.

NOTE 1 This standard does not apply to three-light lampholders E26d.

NOTE 2 This standard is based on the following data relative to lamps for general lighting service:

- caps E14 are used for lamps with a current not exceeding 2 A;
- caps E27 are used for lamps with a current not exceeding 4 A;
- caps E40 are used for lamps with a current not exceeding 16 A.

NOTE 3 If the nominal voltage of the supply does not exceed 130 V, the maximum current for caps E40 is 32 A (see 4.5 and 5.3).

NOTE 4 Where lampholders are used in luminaires, their maximum operating temperatures are specified in IEC 60598.

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\* Requirements for lampholders suitable for semi-luminaires are under consideration.

## 1.2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

NOTE With regard to IEC 60598-1, the references cited in this document are liable to change.

IEC 60061 (all parts), *Lamp caps and holders together with gauges for the control of interchangeability and safety*

IEC 60061-1: *Lamp caps and holders together with gauges for the control of interchangeability and safety – Part 1: Lamp caps*

IEC 60061-2: *Lamp caps and holders together with gauges for the control of interchangeability and safety – Part 2: Lampholders*

IEC 60061-3: *Lamp caps and holders together with gauges for the control of interchangeability and safety – Part 3: Gauges*

IEC 60068-2-20:1979, *Environmental testing – Part 2: Tests – Test T: Soldering*

IEC 60068-2-32:1975, *Environmental testing – Part 2: Tests – Test Ed: Free fall*

IEC 60068-2-75:1997, *Environmental testing – Part 2: Tests – Test Eh: Hammer tests*

IEC 60112:1979, *Method for determining the comparative and the proof tracking indices of solid insulating materials under moist conditions*

IEC 60227 (all parts), *Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V*

IEC 60245 (all parts), *Rubber insulated cables – Rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V*

IEC 60335-1:2001, *Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 60352-1:1997, *Solderless connections – Part 1: Wrapped connections – General requirements, test methods and practical guidance*

IEC 60399, *Barrel thread for lampholders with shade holder ring*

IEC 60417-DB:2002\*\*) *Graphical symbols for use on equipment*

IEC 60529:1989, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code) \**  
Amendment 1 (1999)

IEC 60598 (all parts and sections), *Luminaires*

IEC 60598-1: *Luminaires – Part 1: General requirements and tests*

IEC 60664-1:1992, *Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage systems – Part 1: Principles, requirements and tests \*\*\*)*

Amendment 1 (2000)

Amendment 2 (2002)

IEC 60695-2-10:2000, *Fire hazard testing – Part 2–10: Glowing/hot-wire based test methods – Glow-wire apparatus and common test procedure*

\*) A consolidated edition 2.1 (2001) exists including edition 2.0 (1989) and its amendment 1(1999).

\*\*) “DB” refers to the IEC on-line database.

\*\*\*) A consolidated edition 1.2 (2002) exists including edition 1.0 (1992) and its amendment 1 (2000) and amendment 2 (2002).