

SELECT A FUSE VOLTAGE RATING

The voltage rating of a fuse is specified as the maximum operating voltage. This means the fuse can be used in a circuit operating at this voltage or less. For example; if your fuse was rated at 250VAC, it could be used in a 250VAC circuit or in a lower voltage circuit such as 12VAC, but it must not be used in a circuit operating above 250VAC ie. 300VAC as this exceeds the maximum operating voltage of the fuse. If you were unable to find a suitable 250VAC rated fuse, you could safely use a fuse with a higher maximum operating voltage ie. 500VAC, as this fuse can be used in a circuit of 500VAC or less.

Selecting the voltage:

1. Set the minimum voltage picker to the voltage rating of the fuse, or the voltage rating of the circuit where the fuse is used.
2. The maximum voltage picker can be used to include fuses with a higher voltage rating in the search. This becomes useful if you are unable to find a suitable replacement fuse. Fuses with a higher voltage rating can safely be used in circuits of lower voltage as explained above.

It is not uncommon for the voltage ratings of a product series to decrease as the ampere ratings increase. ie. 3AGFB glass body fuses are rated at 250VAC (10mA to 10A), but then drop to 32VAC (12A to 35A). Therefore, the 3AGFB series fuses can be found when searching in either 250VAC or 32VAC, depending on which ampere rating you select.

Important Note: A fuse should not be used in a circuit where the operating voltage of the circuit exceeds the voltage rating of a fuse as the fuse may not be able to clear an overload or short circuit safely.

Selecting fuses can require technical product knowledge. If you are not sure or unable to find a suitable product, please contact our friendly sales staff. Contact details are featured at the bottom of this page.

VOLTAGE TYPES (VAC / VDC)

Whilst the majority of fuses are designed for use with AC (alternating current) voltages, there are a growing number that are designed for use with DC (direct current) voltages. When selecting a fuse, it is important to know the type of voltage operating in the circuit. Whilst many fuses only have either a VAC or VDC rating, some are rated for use with either type of voltage.

When a fuse is rated for use with both types of voltage, generally the VDC rating will be lower than the VAC rating. Regardless of the voltage type (AC or DC), the fuse must have a voltage rating equal to or higher than the maximum operating voltage in the circuit as per the basic rule explained above in the 'Fuse Voltage Rating' section.

Important Note: It is not recommended to use a VAC rated fuse in a VDC circuit when no VDC rating has been provided for the fuse and visa-versa. Always use a fuse that is rated for the type of voltage operating in the circuit.