

# OSRAM Date Codes 1970-1994

This system consists of two letters and a number. The first letter indicates the factory at which the lamp was made – this is always a lower case letter. The second gives the year of manufacture – if it is a lower case letter it indicates the first six months of that year; if it is a capital letter it indicates the second six months. The number in the code indicates the number of months after January or July, depending on whether the year letter is small or capital. The number can be from 0 to 5, but higher numbers are often seen and are mistakes – e.g. if the number 8 is seen, it means 8 months after January or July.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Letter – Factory Identification

a	Berlin	Germany	Special Lamps
b	Manchester, NH	USA	American HID Lamps (ex-Sylvania)
c	Wipperfürth	Germany	Radium factory - Studio Halogen, Specials
d	Berlin	Germany	Incandescent Projectors (now closed)
e	Madrid	Spain	Incandescent
f	Milan	Italy	Incandescent
h	Molsheim	France	GLS, Decorative Incandescent
i	Eichstatt	Germany	Tungsten Halogen, Special HID, Xenon
k		Brazil	Incandescent
l	Rome	Italy	Incandescent
m	Portugal	Portugal	Incandescent
n	Treviso	Italy	Special Incandescent (now closed)
o	Manchester	England	SOX, SON, Mercury, MEI, Special HID
q	Spandau	Germany	SON, HQL, HQI, Special GLS, PAR38
r	Augsberg	Germany	Linear & Compact Fluorescent
t	Tesla factory	Slovakia	GLS, Reflectors etc.
u	Maybrook, NY	USA	Compact Fluorescent
v	Vienna	Austria	Special Incandescent
w	Herbrechtingen	Germany	Miniature incandescent, glass halogen, neon
z	Bari	Italy	Special Fluorescent, Vacuum GLS
	Drammen	Norway	GLS
N	Philips	Any	PAR38, T12 LFL
	Booyens	South Africa	Automotive (Closed 1974)
	Alberton	South Africa	Automotive, Mercury, SON, T8 (closed '93)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter – Year Code

f = 1994	e = 1993	y = 1992	z = 1991	x = 1990
w = 1989	a = 1988	h = 1987	t = 1986	d = 1985
b = 1984	n = 1983	u = 1982	r = 1981	m = 1980
s = 1979	f = 1978	k = 1977	p = 1976	g = 1975
e = 1974	v = 1973	y = 1972	z = 1971	x = 1970

This date code applies to all lamps made by Osram GmbH, and also WOTAN branded lamps for the UK market. The Shaw (Manchester) factory in England did not start using this code until 1992, before this date all lamps made at Shaw were branded with the Osram-GEC Code. In 1995 this code was superseded by a new system which now applies to all Osram factories.