

LOSS CONTROL DATA GUIDE

Fluorescent Lights Can Be Hazardous

Overheated fluorescent lights can cause fires!

Overheating of the ballast could result in the following:

- Ignition of nearby combustible materials.
- Explosion of the ballast due to the generation of gases inside.
- Molten compounds from within the ballast dripping on stock, equipment or furnishings.

Ballast overheating can result from:

- High line voltage.
- Poor lamp maintenance.

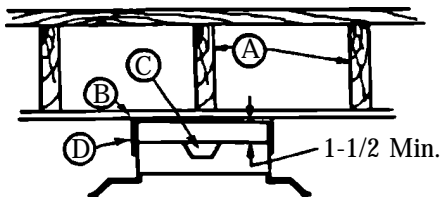
- High temperature around the fixture.
- Improper installation.

Unsafe installations:

- Recessed fixtures (older installations).
- Unvented areas subject to high temperatures.
- Recessed fixtures covered with insulation.
- Mounting fixtures in contact with combustible materials.
- Operational fixtures without protected ballasts.

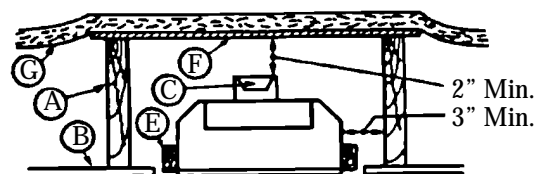
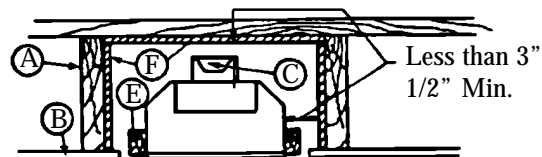
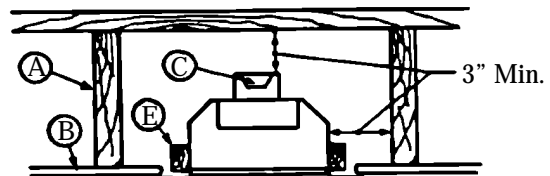
(Note: Recessed fixtures should not be enclosed unless the fixture is specifically designed for such an installation).

Recommended installation for surface mounted fixtures without ballast protection

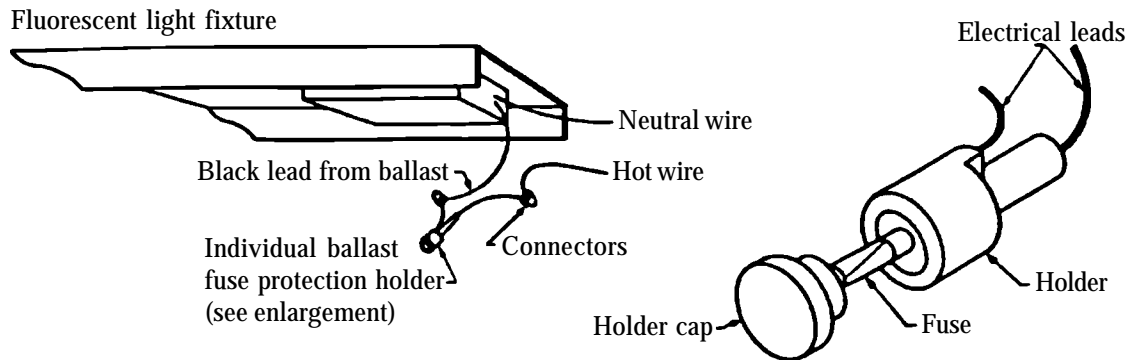


- (A) Joists
- (B) Ceiling
- (C) Ballast
- (D) Mounting bracket
- (E) Mounting strip (wood acceptable)
- (F) 3/8" Gypsum wallboard or equivalent
- (G) Noncombustible insulating batts or blankets

Minimum recommended clearance between recessed fixtures and combustible construction without ballast protection



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Individual dual element ballast fuse protection can prevent overheating of fluorescent light fixtures

Older fixtures without ballast protection should be equipped with individual dual element fuses as described above.

Fixture design and installation

- Use only UL listed fixtures with a Class P (Protected) ballast.

- Recommended clearances between fixtures and combustible construction materials must be observed.
- Recessed fixtures should not be covered with building insulating material.
- High temperature environments must be avoided in the vicinity of fluorescent fixtures.
- Flickering lamps should be replaced promptly.
- The installation of fluorescent light fixtures must be in compliance with local and national electrical codes.

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