Lamping *glass lighting*

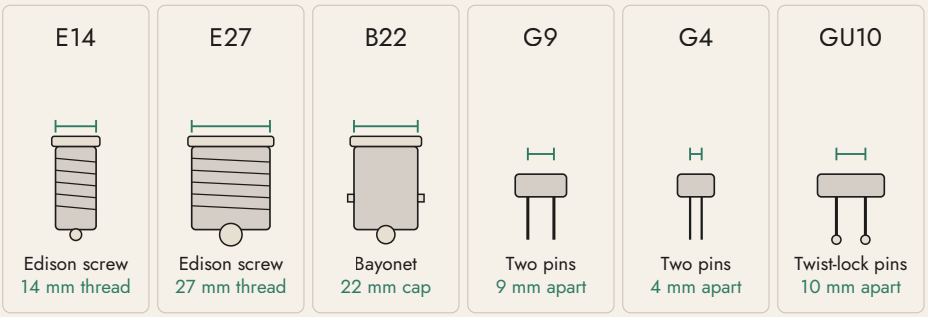
How to read a lamp cap, the checks before a lamp is chosen or changed in a glass fitting, LED replacement, heat in closed glass and colour through coloured glass. It gives no wattage limit: the maker states it.

Compliance guidance. Rating, heat and electrical points come from the documents named, read on 6 November 2026, or are left for the luminaire maker and a competent electrician to confirm. The rating marked on the luminaire is the limit. This is guidance, not legal or engineering advice.

AT A GLANCE

Cap	What the code means	Often seen in	Check with the maker
E14	Edison screw, 14 mm thread	Candle holders and small pendants (common)	Rating per holder, lamp length, closed glass, dimming
E27	Edison screw, 27 mm thread	Larger globes and pendants	As E14; lamp diameter in the glass
B22, B15	Bayonet, about 22 mm or 15 mm cap	Older UK fittings	Push and twist: support a glass arm
G9	Two pins, 9 mm apart	Small cups and wall lights	Rating, size, closed glass
G4	Two pins, 4 mm apart	Small cups and wall lights	Supply: often low voltage; driver
GU10	Two pins, 10 mm apart; push and twist	Spots; rare in glass fittings	Rating, heat, beam

The letter is the cap type and the number a size in millimetres. The cap does not fix voltage, rating or heat. ‘Often seen in’ is general practice, not sourced: the maker states the caps each fitting uses.



Letter = cap type. Number = size in mm. The cap says nothing about voltage, wattage or heat.

Six lamp caps with the key dimension drawn to the same scale: screw thread diameter for E caps, pin spacing for G caps. Schematic outlines. Original drawing by Make Bespoke Studio.

EIGHT CHECKS BEFORE A LAMP IS CHOSEN OR CHANGED

1 Cap and number of holders. 2 Maximum rating per holder, marked on the luminaire. 3 Lamp length and diameter against the glass. 4 Weight. 5 Supply (mains or low voltage) and driver. 6 Closed or enclosed glass: the lamp supplier confirms in writing. 7 Dimming: the lamp and the control match. 8 Light output (lumens), colour temperature and colour rendering. Match light output, not watts, when replacing a filament or halogen lamp, and do not specify halogen capsule lamps for new work.

SPECIFICATION WORDING

LAMP SCHEDULE

Light source for each fitting tag: [LED lamp], cap [E14], [5] per fitting, rated [230 V], [2,700] K, colour rendering index [90] minimum, [470] lm each, dimming [trailing-edge] compatible with [control and protocol]. Lamp length not more than [ ] mm and diameter not more than [ ] mm for the glass supplied. The lamp is to be listed on the shop drawing and on the care sheet.

RATING, CLOSED GLASS AND HEAT

The maker is to state on the shop drawing the maximum lamp rating per holder [W], the lamp types and caps the fitting was assessed with, and whether a closed or enclosed lamp is permitted in each glass element. No lamp above the marked rating, and no change of lamp type, without the written approval of the maker and [designer]. The lamp supplier is to confirm in writing that the lamp suits operation in the closed glass [element], and the maker is to state the temperature at the lamp holder [ ] with that lamp. No halogen capsule lamps.

COLOUR THROUGH GLASS AND LIT APPROVAL

Glass colour [ref] is to be approved lit, with the specified lamp [type, K, CRI], at the dimming levels [ ], on a sample [ref] before production. The maker is to supply a measured transmittance curve for the approved sample on request. The lamp colour is not to be changed after approval without a new approval.

TERMS USED

Lamp base (cap)

The standard fitting at the end of a lamp. E14 (small Edison screw) is common in chandeliers, E27 is the larger screw, G9 is a small pin type, and GU10 is a spotlight twist-lock.

Maximum lamp rating

The most power a lamp may draw in a holder, marked on the luminaire or given in its papers. It is a limit set by the maker for heat and safety.

Enclosed use

A lamp running inside closed glass or a sealed housing, where heat cannot escape freely. The lamp must be made for it.

Luminous flux

The amount of visible light a lamp gives out, in lumens. Compare lamps by lumens, not watts.

Transmittance

The share of light, at each wavelength, that passes through a glass. A measured curve shows what a coloured glass does to a lamp.

STANDARDS AND SOURCES

- BS EN IEC 60598-1:2024+A11:2024: BSI Knowledge: Current, published 31 Mar 2025; clauses not read; confirm the edition your supplier tested to.
- IEC 60061-1 (lamp caps); BS EN 62560:2012+A11:2019: sheets listed in amendment 63 (2022); BS EN 62560 Current per BSI (31 Mar 2019).
- SI 2021/1095 Schedules 1, 3, 4, 8; SI 2016/1101 Sch 1; SI 1989/635 reg 5: read on legislation.gov.uk, 6 Nov 2026.
- HSE HSG38 Lighting at work (1997), paras 76 to 80: read 6 Nov 2026.
- Electrical Safety First, Best Practice Guide 9 (2014); US DOE PNNL-SA-51901 (2007): retrofit LED lamps; LED heat. Dated: see unverified.

Full guide: https://makebespoke.com/trade/technical/lamping-glass-lighting. Make Bespoke Studio coordinates manufacture through its partner workshops. Figures are guidance only and your specification governs; some may be superseded, so contact the studio to verify.