

# Re: Capacitor notation

---

*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.basics/2006-07/msg00740.html>

---

- *From:* Jamie <[jamie\\_kallpa\\_not\\_valid\\_after\\_kallpa\\_@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:jamie_kallpa_not_valid_after_kallpa_@xxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Sun, 16 Jul 2006 20:54:20 -0700
- 

Peter Hucker wrote:

I have two capacitors lying here, with the following inscriptions:  
<http://www.hucker.plus.com/temp/caps.jpg>

One is blue and circular and reads:

B  
102K  
2KV

The other is green and a rounded rectangular shape and reads:

104K100V

The blue one reads approx 1nF on my meter, the green one reads approx 100nF.

This makes sense if you take the three numbers (102 or 104) read the same way as resistors – 1, 0, then 2 (or 4) zeroes. I.e. 1000 or 100000, and the units to be pF. So what does the K mean? I originally thought it was a multiplier (1000), but it seems unnecessary, unless the units without the K are in fF!

Also, what is the B on the blue one? I assume it's not to indicate the colour ;-)

lets see, i'll take wack at it.

0.001 Uf at 10% ?

that's just a guess,. i just ordered some caps the other day, the K was on the top of me head.

—  
Real Programmers Do things like this.  
[http://webpages.charter.net/jamie\\_5](http://webpages.charter.net/jamie_5)