

# Re: nichrome wire insulation

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I am building a compact air heater as a hobby project where the air is blown between fine fins of several aluminum heat sinks. The temperature needs to be raised from ~0C to ~37C and needs to handle air flows of up to ~100 L/min. I did an envelope calculation taking into account heat capacity of dry air, and it appears that I would need ~100W, 300W to be safe, for that.

So I want to run a nichrome wire in a spiral pattern along the surface of the aluminum heat sinks. But wouldn't that cause a short? Can I get insulated nichrome which would conduct heat, but not conduct electricity? Any suggestions?

\*\* Yep – buy a few of these:

<http://au.farnell.com/jsp/Passive+Components/Resistors,+Thermistors+&+Potentiometers/WELWYN/WH50+330R+J>

A totally stupid WOFTAM just to heat some air.

..... Phil

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