

Re: Flourescent ballast

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As others have said, they are MJE13003s, a common bipolar power transistor.

But since the lamp lit for a few seconds, any replacements are likely to blow as well. There is something else wrong with the ballast.

Why didn't you just take it back where you bought it?

--- sam

Years ago someone at a car boot sale came by a large quantity of Ikea CFLs which were presumably factory seconds as they "dropped like flies", I waited until the seller dropped the price from £2 to 50p – at the time the cheapest in the shops was over £10. A significant proportion of the boot sale CFLs blew due to faulty tubes, as I was in the habit of repairing them I reconstructed a few with small straight tubes secured to the holes where the original tubes entered the casing. with a ty-wrap and wired in.

By the time all the Ikea CFLs I bought had become BER the shop price had fallen to about £6.50p, at this price they were still worth repairing but more recently the Morrisons supermarket (UK) has been selling it's own brand CFLs for £1.99p and a couple of months ago launched a promotion selling Philips CFLs (regular price about £3.50p) at 99p in addition to that they ran a buy one get one free for a while – so the CFLs were going out the door for only 50p each! – I bought a couple of carrier bags full at that price, at that price there's no way I'm going to bother repairing any that fail and the cost of petrol to go and return it would be more than the value of the goods!