

in series with the starter. This results in a fairly heavy current on initial switch-on, which heats the filaments quickly. When the starter contacts open again, the lamp fires immediately.

FLICKER-FREE FLUORESCENT STARTING

Here is an extremely simple, yet effective modification which will eliminate the annoying flickering when a fluorescent lamp is first switched on.

The modification consists of inserting a diode (P.I.V. about 600 V)

NOTE: The effectiveness of the modification, depends largely upon the characteristics of the starter; try and find one that is quick-acting.

My original unit has been working successfully in my desk lamp for the past three years, and I've had no problems with dc magnetisation of the ballast, or excessive power consumption on switch-on.