

Temperature Rating Copper Lugs

FAQ What is the temperature rating of tin-plated copper compression lugs?

In general, tin-plated copper compression lugs, installed on appropriate copper conductor and under normal conditions of use, are rated in the industry for use up to 300°F (149°C) actual operating temperature.

In typical applications with 75-90°C (167-194°F) rated wire systems, the lugs will normally experience a moderate temperature rise (due to self-heating because of their own resistance) when carrying normal rated amperage. With correct selection and sizing, proper installation (cleanliness, compression, bolt-down torque, etc.) and under normal usage conditions (amperage, ambient temperature, pad conductivity, cleanliness, etc.) the resulting operational lug temperature will remain well below the 300°F (149°C) capability of standard tin-plated copper compression lugs.

For operation above 300°F (149°C), nickel-plated copper lugs are suggested, which are rated up to 650°F (343°C).

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