



**ANSI C78.79-2014 (R2020)**

*American National Standard for Electric Lamps—  
Nomenclature for Envelope Shapes  
Intended for Use with Electric Lamps*

Secretariat:

**National Electrical Manufacturers Association**

Approved: January 17, 2020

**American National Standards Institute, Inc.**

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## Foreword

[This foreword is not part of ANSI C78.79.-2014 (R2020)]

This is a revised and re-designated Standard reaffirmed by American National Standards Committee C78 on Electric Lamps.

Suggestions for improvement of this Standard should be submitted to the

Secretary, ASC C78  
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This Standard was processed and approved by Accredited Standards Committee on Electric Lamps, ASC C78. Committee approval of the Standard does not necessarily imply that all committee Members voted for that approval.

The purpose of the revision and re-designation of this horizontal Standard is to include solid state light sources that are functional applications of traditional lamps (incandescent, fluorescent and high intensity discharge lamps). This horizontal Standard was first developed in the 1940's by the Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) C79 under this secretariat. ASC C79 has been disbanded and consolidated into the work program of ASC C78.

The following represents some of the select changes incorporated into this proposed revision/re-designation:

- Change designation from ASC C79 to ASC C78
- A Patent Disclaimer statement
- The statement "glass bulb" replaced with "envelope shapes" for the electric lamp
- Inclusion of relevant normative Standards
- Inclusion of envelope shapes germane to solid state lighting. As an example, the "MRX" (multifaceted reflector, extended).

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## **1 Scope**

This Standard describes a system of nomenclature that provides designations for envelope shapes used for all electric lamps. This system is shown in customary (inch-based) units and SI (metric-based) units. These envelope shapes are intended to be used with ANSI Standardized base and holder systems. These general shapes are not associated with specific base and holder systems; they may be used with one or more of these systems.

The nomenclature system is intended for application with LED lamps and glass bulbs that originate both as parts and as stock. As a part, a bulb is assembled directly into finished lamps without major alterations. As stock, a bulb may be re-worked or altered during lamp assembly, while maintaining its basic identifying characteristics.