

Figures 116 to 118 illustrate the starting process:

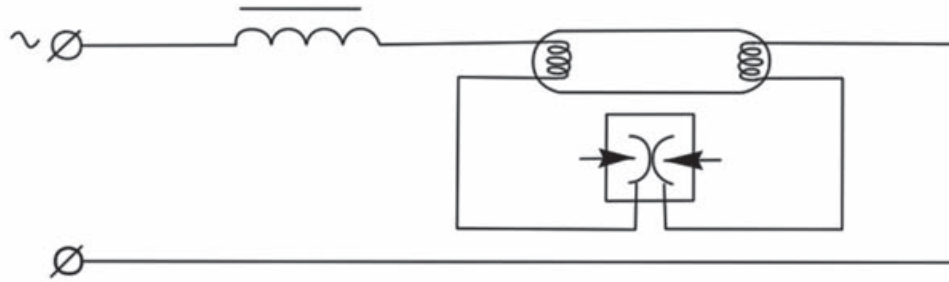


Figure 116

The heat from the discharge in the starter causes the bi-metallic electrodes to bend together.

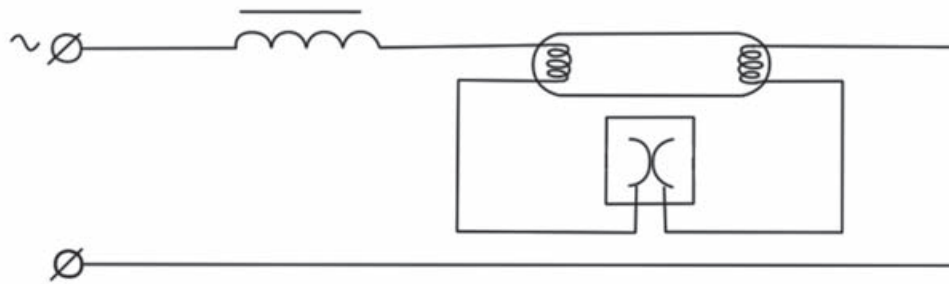


Figure 117

The bi-metallic electrodes touch and a current flows through the circuit preheating the electrodes of the lamp.

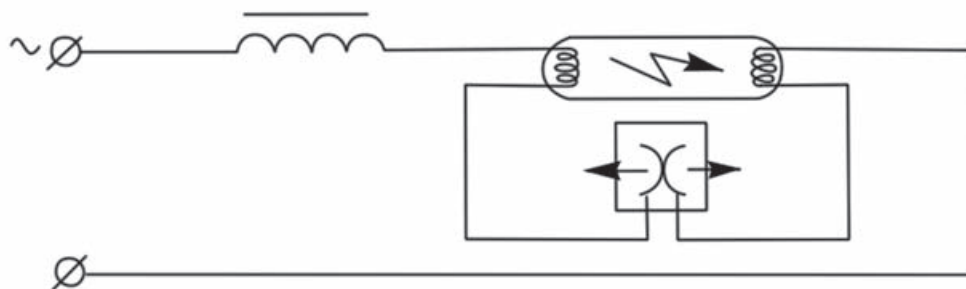


Figure 118

The electrodes cool and separate, causing a voltage peak which ignites the lamp.

In addition to the ballast and the starter most fluorescent lamps circuits have a capacitor connected across the supply terminals to ensure a high power factor for the circuit.