Capacitors Made Easy

Capacitance value conversion

0.000001µF	=	0.001nF	=	1pF
0.00001µF	=	0.01nF	=	10pF
0.0001µF	=	0.1nF	=	100pF
0.001µF	=	1nF	=	1000pF
0.01µF	=	10nF	=	10000pF
0.1µF	=	100nF	=	100000pF
1µF	=	1000nF	=	1000000pF
10µF	=	10000nF	=	10000000pF
100µF	=	100000nF	=	100000000pF

Capacitor Identification

The unit of capacitance is expressed in Farads.
But as values are typically very small multipliers are generally used. i.e.

Pico (p)	=	10^{-12}
Nano (n)	=	10^{-9}
Micro (µ)	=	10^{-6}

Values may be written on the capacitor in various ways

A) As the Value

3n3	=	3.3nF	=	3.300pF

B) Using the multiplier as the decimal point

n22	=	0.22nF	=	220pF

C) With no multiplier, usually = pico

10	=	10pF

D) With 3 figures - 1st two as significant number 3rd as multiplier

103 = 10×10^3 = 10.000pF = 10nF = 0.01uF

E) On Electrolytic and Tantalum capacitors in units of uF with the max working voltage

47µ 16V or 47/16