

# SHUNTED VS. NON-SHUNTED SOCKETS



Most people don't realize that they may have the wrong type of socket in the fixture they are looking to change over from a fluorescent bulb to an LED bulb. The socket, also called a lamp-holder, or tombstone come in two types - Shunted and Non-Shunted - each is designed for a specific bulb/socket/ballast circuit.

## SHUNTED AND NON-SHUNTED SOCKETS

The main difference between sockets is the way the electrical currents flow through the ballast, a part in the socket circuit that regulates the electric current and provides voltage to the lamp.

**Shunted sockets** receive electricity through a single point and spread it to two points of contacts. There is **one path** in a shunted lamp holder, and the **current only flows one way**.



In a **non-shunted socket** the voltage is received on every point of contact, and the **current flows through multiple paths**.

## HOW TO IDENTIFY A SHUNTED OR NON-SHUNTED SOCKETS

In a **shunted socket**, the contacts are connected inside the socket, which creates a continuous arc between both electrodes. A **non-shunted socket** is just the opposite. There isn't continuity in a **non-shunted socket** because there aren't any internal connections between contacts.

1

To identify, you need to use a voltage meter and test the contacts for continuity.



2

Set your voltage meter to "continuity" and touch one probe to a neutral or ground contact and the other probe to a hot wire, screw terminal, or outlet slot.



3

If the meter beeps, rings, lights up, or issues another alert, it means you have a shunted socket.



4

In some cases, you might also be able to check if a socket is shunted or non-shunted by counting the number of holes in the socket.



### CONTACT MITRONIX FOR ALL OF YOUR NON-SHUNTED SOCKET NEEDS

At Mitronix, we specialize in supplying sockets for a variety of lighting solutions. We understand that homeowners, manufacturers, and commercial properties have diverse needs and exact specifications, which is why we're here to help. When your requirements call for non-shunted sockets or any other type of sockets, Mitronix is the industry-leading supplier you want for all of your socket needs. Contact us to speak with one of our team members today.