

Application Information

The RT8259 is a high voltage buck converter that can support the input voltage range from 4.5V to 24V and the output current can be up to 1.2A.

Output Voltage Setting

The resistive voltage divider allows the FB pin to sense a fraction of the output voltage as shown in Figure 1.

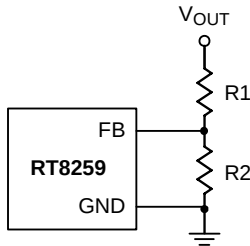


Figure 1. Output Voltage Setting

For adjustable voltage mode, the output voltage is set by an external resistive voltage divider according to the following equation :

$$V_{OUT} = V_{FB} \left(1 + \frac{R1}{R2} \right)$$

Where V_{FB} is the feedback reference voltage (0.8V typ.).

External Bootstrap Diode

Connect a 10nF low ESR ceramic capacitor between the BOOT pin and SW pin. This capacitor provides the gate driver voltage for the high side MOSFET.

It is recommended to add an external bootstrap diode between an external 5V and the BOOT pin for efficiency improvement when input voltage is lower than 5.5V or duty ratio is higher than 65%. The bootstrap diode can be a low cost one such as 1N4148 or BAT54.

The external 5V can be a 5V fixed input from system or a 5V output of the RT8259.

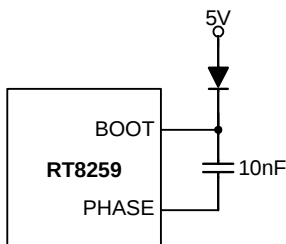


Figure 2. External Bootstrap Diode

Inductor Selection

The inductor value and operating frequency determine the ripple current according to a specific input and output voltage. The ripple current ΔI_L increases with higher V_{IN} and decreases with higher inductance.

$$\Delta I_L = \left[\frac{V_{OUT}}{f \times L} \right] \times \left[1 - \frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN}} \right]$$

Having a lower ripple current reduces not only the ESR losses in the output capacitors but also the output voltage ripple. High frequency with small ripple current can achieve highest efficiency operation. However, it requires a large inductor to achieve this goal.

For the ripple current selection, the value of $\Delta I_L = 0.4(I_{MAX})$ will be a reasonable starting point. The largest ripple current occurs at the highest V_{IN} . To guarantee that the ripple current stays below the specified maximum, the inductor value should be chosen according to the following equation :

$$L = \left[\frac{V_{OUT}}{f \times \Delta I_L(MAX)} \right] \times \left[1 - \frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN(MAX)}} \right]$$

Inductor Core Selection

The inductor type must be selected once the value for L is known. Generally speaking, high efficiency converters can not afford the core loss found in low cost powdered iron cores. So, the more expensive ferrite or mollypermalloy cores will be a better choice.

The selected inductance rather than the core size for a fixed inductor value is the key for actual core loss. As the inductance increases, core losses decrease. Unfortunately, increase of the inductance requires more turns of wire and therefore the copper losses will increase.

Ferrite designs are preferred at high switching frequency due to the characteristics of very low core losses. So, design goals can focus on the reduction of copper loss and the saturation prevention.

Ferrite core material saturates "hard", which means that inductance collapses abruptly when the peak design current is exceeded. The previous situation results in an abrupt increase in inductor ripple current and consequent output voltage ripple.

Do not allow the core to saturate!

Different core materials and shapes will change the size/current and price/current relationship of an inductor.

Toroid or shielded pot cores in ferrite or permalloy materials are small and do not radiate energy. However, they are usually more expensive than the similar powdered iron inductors. The rule for inductor choice mainly depends on the price vs. size requirement and any radiated field/EMI requirements.

Diode Selection

When the power switch turns off, the path for the current is through the diode connected between the switch output and ground. This forward biased diode must have a minimum voltage drop and recovery times. Schottky diode is recommended and it should be able to handle those current. The reverse voltage rating of the diode should be greater than the maximum input voltage, and current rating should be greater than the maximum load current. For more detail, please refer to Table 4.

C_{IN} and C_{OUT} Selection

The input capacitance, C_{IN}, is needed to filter the trapezoidal current at the source of the top MOSFET. To prevent large ripple current, a low ESR input capacitor sized for the maximum RMS current should be used. The RMS current is given by :

$$I_{RMS} = I_{OUT(MAX)} \frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN}} \sqrt{\frac{V_{IN}}{V_{OUT}}} - 1$$

This formula has a maximum at V_{IN} = 2V_{OUT}, where I_{RMS} = I_{OUT}/2. This simple worst-case condition is commonly used for design because even significant deviations do not offer much relief.

Choose a capacitor rated at a higher temperature than required. Several capacitors may also be paralleled to meet size or height requirements in the design.

The selection of C_{OUT} is determined by the required Effective Series Resistance (ESR) to minimize voltage ripple.

Moreover, the amount of bulk capacitance is also a key for C_{OUT} selection to ensure that the control loop is stable. Loop stability can be checked by viewing the load transient response as described in a later section.

The output ripple, ΔV_{OUT}, is determined by :

$$\Delta V_{OUT} \leq \Delta I_L \left[ESR + \frac{1}{8fC_{OUT}} \right]$$

The output ripple will be highest at the maximum input voltage since ΔI_L increases with input voltage. Multiple capacitors placed in parallel may be needed to meet the ESR and RMS current handling requirement. Dry tantalum, special polymer, aluminum electrolytic and ceramic capacitors are all available in surface mount packages. Special polymer capacitors offer very low ESR value. However, it provides lower capacitance density than other types. Although Tantalum capacitors have the highest capacitance density, it is important to only use types that pass the surge test for use in switching power supplies. Aluminum electrolytic capacitors have significantly higher ESR. However, it can be used in cost-sensitive applications for ripple current rating and long term reliability considerations. Ceramic capacitors have excellent low ESR characteristics but can have a high voltage coefficient and audible piezoelectric effects. The high Q of ceramic capacitors with trace inductance can also lead to significant ringing.

Higher values, lower cost ceramic capacitors are now becoming available in smaller case sizes. Their high ripple current, high voltage rating and low ESR make them ideal for switching regulator applications. However, care must be taken when these capacitors are used at input and output. When a ceramic capacitor is used at the input and the power is supplied by a wall adapter through long wires, a load step at the output can induce ringing at the input, V_{IN}. At best, this ringing can couple to the output and be mistaken as loop instability. At worst, a sudden inrush of current through the long wires can potentially cause a voltage spike at V_{IN} large enough to damage the part.

Checking Transient Response

The regulator loop response can be checked by looking at the load transient response. Switching regulators take several cycles to respond to a step in load current. When a load step occurs, V_{OUT} immediately shifts by an amount equal to ΔI_{LOAD} (ESR) also begins to charge or discharge C_{OUT} generating a feedback error signal for the regulator to return V_{OUT} to its steady-state value. During this recovery time, V_{OUT} can be monitored for overshoot or ringing that would indicate a stability problem.

RT8259

Thermal Considerations

For continuous operation, do not exceed the maximum operation junction temperature 125°C. The maximum power dissipation depends on the thermal resistance of IC package, PCB layout, the rate of surroundings airflow and temperature difference between junction to ambient. The maximum power dissipation can be calculated by following formula :

$$P_{D(MAX)} = (T_{J(MAX)} - T_A) / \theta_{JA}$$

where $T_{J(MAX)}$ is the maximum operation junction temperature, T_A is the ambient temperature and the θ_{JA} is the junction to ambient thermal resistance.

For recommended operating conditions specification of the RT8259, the maximum junction temperature of the die is 125°C. The junction to ambient thermal resistance θ_{JA} is layout dependent. For T/SOT-23-6 package, the thermal resistance θ_{JA} is 120°C/W on standard JEDEC 51-7 four-layers thermal test board. The maximum power dissipation at $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ can be calculated by following formula :

$$P_{D(MAX)} = (125^\circ\text{C} - 25^\circ\text{C}) / (250^\circ\text{C/W}) = 0.4\text{W for T/SOT-23-6 packages}$$

The maximum power dissipation depends on operating ambient temperature for fixed $T_{J(MAX)}$ and thermal resistance θ_{JA} . For RT8259 packages, the Figure 3 of derating curves allows the designer to see the effect of rising ambient temperature on the maximum power allowed.

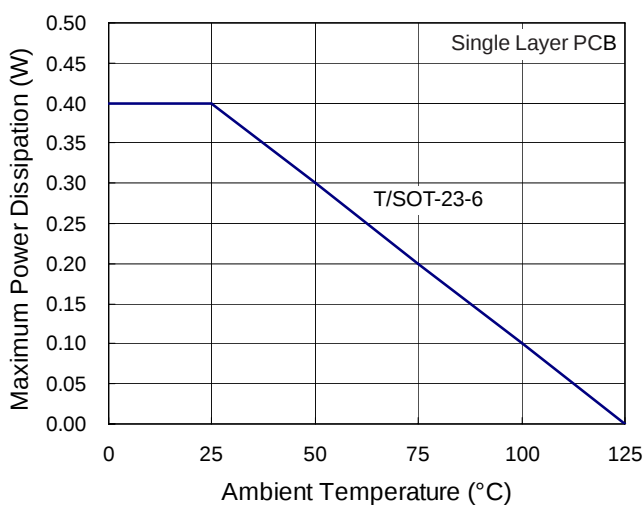


Figure 3. Derating Curves for RT8259 Packages

Layout Consideration

Follow the PCB layout guidelines for optimal performance of RT8259.

- ▶ Keep the traces of the main current paths as short and wide as possible.
- ▶ Put the input capacitor as close as possible to the device pins (VIN and GND).
- ▶ LX node is with high frequency voltage swing and should be kept at small area. Keep sensitive components away from the LX node to prevent stray capacitive noise pick-up.
- ▶ Place the feedback components to the FB pin as close as possible.
- ▶ Connect GND to a ground plane for noise reduction and thermal dissipation.

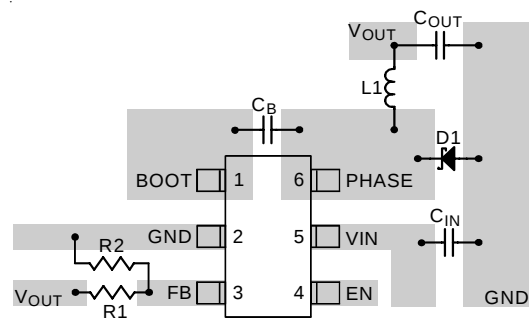


Figure 4. PCB Layout Guide

Table 2. Suggested Inductors for L1

Component Supplier	Series	Inductance (mH)	DCR (mW)	Current Rating (A)	Dimensions (mm)
TDK	SLF7045	4.7	30	2	7 x 7 x 4.5
TAIYO YUDEN	NR8040	4.7	18	4.7	8 x 8 x 4
GOTERND	GTSD53	4.7	45	1.87	5 x 5 x 2.8
GOTERND	GSSR2	4.7	18	5.7	10 x 10 x 3.8

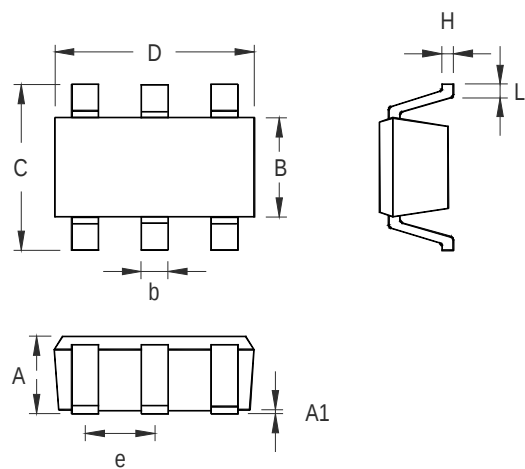
Table 3. Suggested Capacitors for CIN and COUT

Component Supplier	Part No.	Capacitance (mF)	Case Size
MURATA	GRM31CR61E106K	10	1206
TDK	C3225X5R1E106K	10	1206
TAIYO YUDEN	TMK316BJ106ML	10	1206
MURATA	GRM31CR61C226M	22	1206
TDK	C3225X5R1C226M	22	1206
TAIYO YUDEN	EMK316BJ226ML	22	1206

Table 4. Suggested Diode for D1

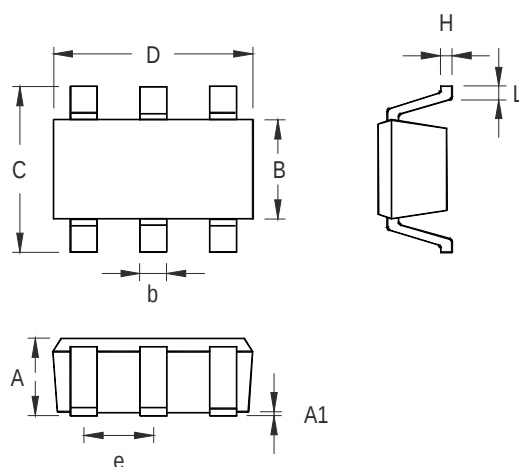
Component Supplier	Series	V _{RRM} (V)	I _{OUT} (A)	Package
DIODES	B230A	30	2	DO-214AC
DIODES	B330A	30	3	DO-214AC
PANJIT	SK23	30	2	DO-214AC
PANJIT	SK33	30	3	DO-214AB

Outline Dimension



Symbol	Dimensions In Millimeters		Dimensions In Inches	
	Min	Max	Min	Max
A	0.889	1.295	0.031	0.051
A1	0.000	0.152	0.000	0.006
B	1.397	1.803	0.055	0.071
b	0.250	0.560	0.010	0.022
C	2.591	2.997	0.102	0.118
D	2.692	3.099	0.106	0.122
e	0.838	1.041	0.033	0.041
H	0.080	0.254	0.003	0.010
L	0.300	0.610	0.012	0.024

SOT-23-6 Surface Mount Package



Symbol	Dimensions In Millimeters		Dimensions In Inches	
	Min	Max	Min	Max
A	0.700	1.000	0.028	0.039
A1	0.000	0.100	0.000	0.004
B	1.397	1.803	0.055	0.071
b	0.300	0.559	0.012	0.022
C	2.591	3.000	0.102	0.118
D	2.692	3.099	0.106	0.122
e	0.838	1.041	0.033	0.041
H	0.080	0.254	0.003	0.010
L	0.300	0.610	0.012	0.024

TSOT-23-6 Surface Mount Package

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