

# MRF173CQ



The RF MOSFET Line  
80W, 175MHz, 28V

M/A-COM Products  
Released - Rev. 07.07

Designed for broadband commercial and military applications up to 200 MHz frequency range. The high-power, high-gain and broadband performance of this device makes possible solid state transmitters for FM broadcast or TV channel frequency bands.

N-Channel enhancement mode MOSFET

- Guaranteed performance at 150 MHz, 28 V:  
Output power = 80 W  
Gain = 11 dB (13 dB typ.)  
Efficiency = 55% Min. (60% typ.)
- Low thermal resistance
- Ruggedness tested at rated output power
- Nitride passivated die for enhance
- ed reliability
- Low noise figure — 1.5 dB typ. at 2.0 A, 150 MHz
- Excellent thermal stability; suited for Class A operation

## MAXIMUM RATINGS

Rating	Symbol	Value	Unit
Drain-Source Voltage	$V_{DSS}$	65	Vdc
Drain-Gate Voltage	$V_{DGO}$	65	Vdc
Gate-Source Voltage	$V_{GS}$	$\pm 40$	Vdc
Drain Current — Continuous	$I_D$	9.0	Adc
Total Device Dissipation @ $T_C = 25^\circ\text{C}$ Derate above $25^\circ\text{C}$	$P_D$	220 1.26	Watts W/ $^\circ\text{C}$
Storage Temperature Range	$T_{stg}$	-65 to +150	$^\circ\text{C}$
Operating Temperature Range	$T_J$	200	$^\circ\text{C}$

## THERMAL CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristic	Symbol	Max	Unit
Thermal Resistance, Junction to Case	$R_{\theta JC}$	0.8	$^\circ\text{C}/\text{W}$

## ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS ( $T_C = 25^\circ\text{C}$ unless otherwise noted)

Characteristic	Symbol	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
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## OFF CHARACTERISTICS

Drain-Source Breakdown Voltage ( $V_{DS} = 0\text{ V}$ , $V_{GS} = 0\text{ V}$ ) $I_D = 50\text{ mA}$	$V_{(BR)DSS}$	65	—	—	V
Zero Gate Voltage Drain Current ( $V_{DS} = 28\text{ V}$ , $V_{GS} = 0\text{ V}$ )	$I_{DSS}$	—	—	2.0	mA
Gate-Source Leakage Current ( $V_{GS} = 40\text{ V}$ , $V_{DS} = 0\text{ V}$ )	$I_{GSS}$	—	—	1.0	$\mu\text{A}$

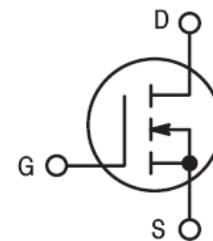
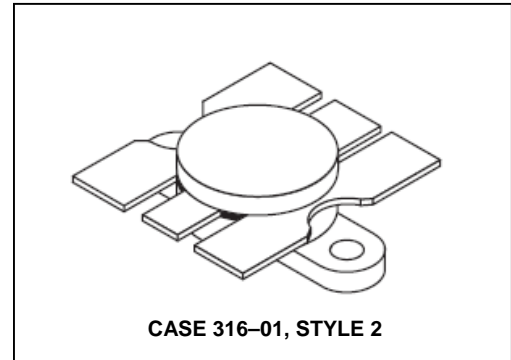
## ON CHARACTERISTICS

Gate Threshold Voltage ( $V_{DS} = 10\text{ V}$ , $I_D = 50\text{ mA}$ )	$V_{GS(th)}$	1.0	3.0	6.0	V
Drain-Source On-Voltage ( $V_{DS(on)}$ , $V_{GS} = 10\text{ V}$ , $I_D = 3.0\text{ A}$ )	$V_{DS(on)}$	—	—	1.4	V
Forward Transconductance ( $V_{DS} = 10\text{ V}$ , $I_D = 2.0\text{ A}$ )	$g_{fs}$	1.8	2.2	—	mhos

(continued)

NOTE — **CAUTION** — MOS devices are susceptible to damage from electrostatic charge. Reasonable precautions in handling and packaging MOS devices should be observed.

## Product Image



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**ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS — continued** ( $T_C = 25^\circ\text{C}$  unless otherwise noted)

Characteristic	Symbol	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
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**DYNAMIC CHARACTERISTICS**

Input Capacitance ( $V_{DS} = 28\text{ V}, V_{GS} = 0\text{ V}, f = 1.0\text{ MHz}$ )	$C_{iss}$	—	110	—	pF
Output Capacitance ( $V_{DS} = 28\text{ V}, V_{GS} = 0\text{ V}, f = 1.0\text{ MHz}$ )	$C_{oss}$	—	105	—	pF
Reverse Transfer Capacitance ( $V_{DS} = 28\text{ V}, V_{GS} = 0\text{ V}, f = 1.0\text{ MHz}$ )	$C_{rss}$	—	10	—	pF

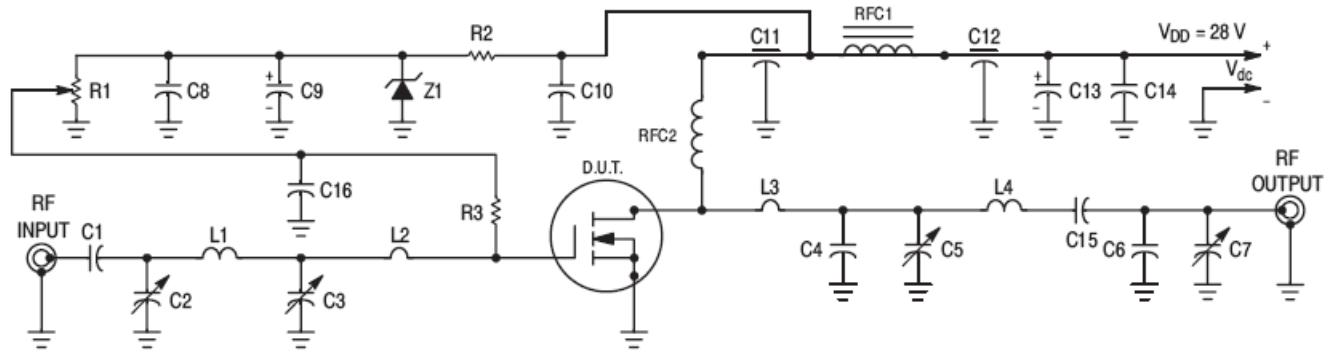
**FUNCTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS**

Noise Figure ( $V_{DD} = 28\text{ V}, f = 150\text{ MHz}, I_{DQ} = 50\text{ mA}$ )	NF	—	1.5	—	dB
Common Source Power Gain ( $V_{DD} = 28\text{ V}, P_{out} = 80\text{ W}, f = 150\text{ MHz}, I_{DQ} = 50\text{ mA}$ )	$G_{ps}$	11	13	—	dB
Drain Efficiency ( $V_{DD} = 28\text{ V}, P_{out} = 80\text{ W}, f = 150\text{ MHz}, I_{DQ} = 50\text{ mA}$ )	$\eta$	55	60	—	%
Electrical Ruggedness ( $V_{DD} = 28\text{ V}, P_{out} = 80\text{ W}, f = 150\text{ MHz}, I_{DQ} = 50\text{ mA}$ ) Load VSWR 30:1 at all phase angles	$\psi$	No Degradation in Output Power			
Series Equivalent Input Impedance ( $V_{DD} = 28\text{ V}, P_{out} = 80\text{ W}, f = 150\text{ MHz}, I_{DQ} = 50\text{ mA}$ )	$Z_{in}$	—	1.35-j5.15	—	Ohms
Series Equivalent Output Impedance ( $V_{DD} = 28\text{ V}, P_{out} = 80\text{ W}, f = 150\text{ MHz}, I_{DQ} = 50\text{ mA}$ )	$Z_{out}$	—	2.72-j149	—	Ohms

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C1, C15 — 470 pF Unelco  
C2, C3, C5 — 9–180 pF, Arco 463  
C4, C6 — 15 pF, Unelco  
C7 — 5–80 pF, Arco 462  
C8, C10, C14, C16 — 0.1  $\mu$ F  
C9, C13 — 50  $\mu$ F, 50 Vdc  
C11, C12 — 680 pF, Feed Through  
L1 — #16 AWG, 1–1/4 Turns, 0.3" ID  
L2 — #16 AWG Hairpin 1" long

L3 — #14 AWG Hairpin 0.8" long  
L4 — #14 AWG Hairpin 1.1" long  
RFC1 — Ferroxcube VK200–19/4B  
RFC2 — 18 Turns #18 AWG Enameled, 0.3" ID  
R1 — 10 k $\Omega$ , 10 Turns Bourns  
R2 — 1.8 k $\Omega$ , 1/4 W  
R3 — 10 k $\Omega$ , 1/2 W  
Z1 — 1N5925A Motorola Zener

Figure 1. 150 MHz Test Circuit

## TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS

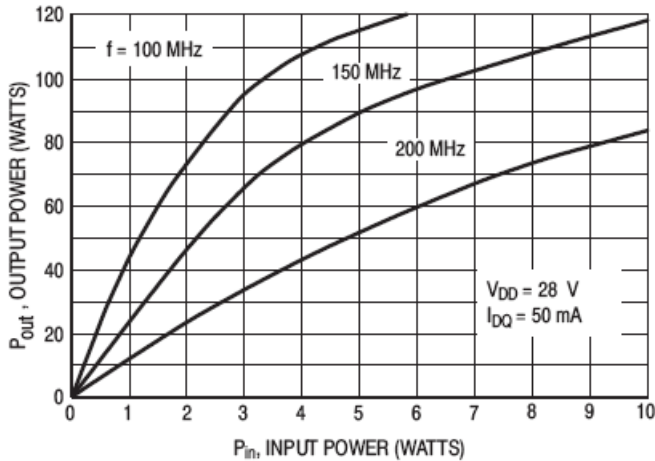


Figure 2. Output Power versus Input Power

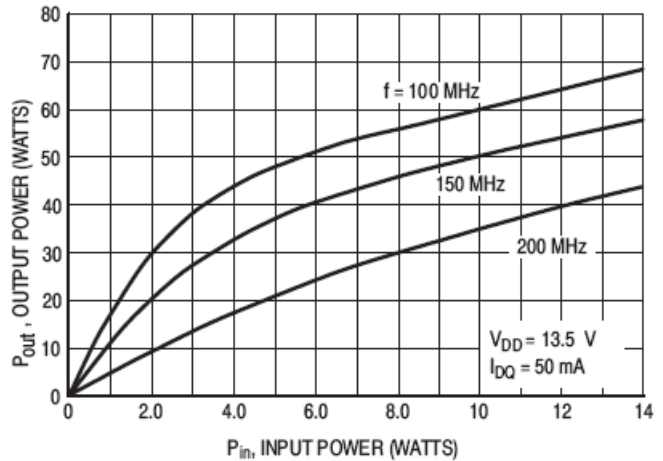


Figure 3. Output Power versus Input Power

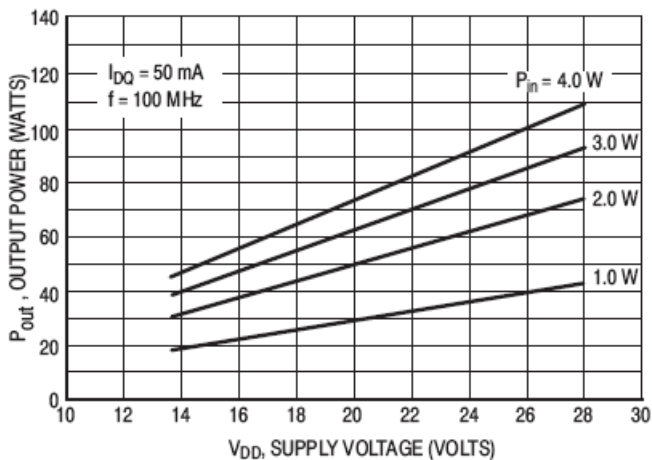


Figure 4. Output Power versus Supply Voltage

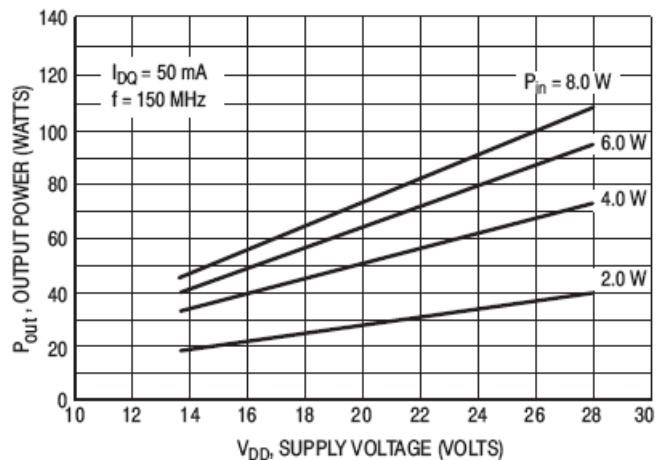


Figure 5. Output Power versus Supply Voltage

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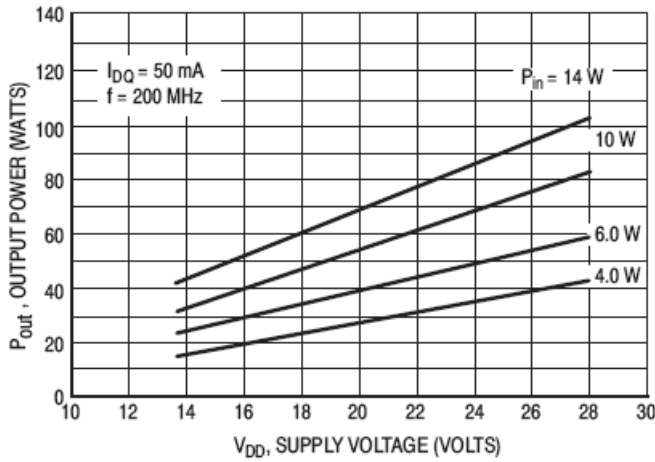


Figure 6. Output Power versus Supply Voltage

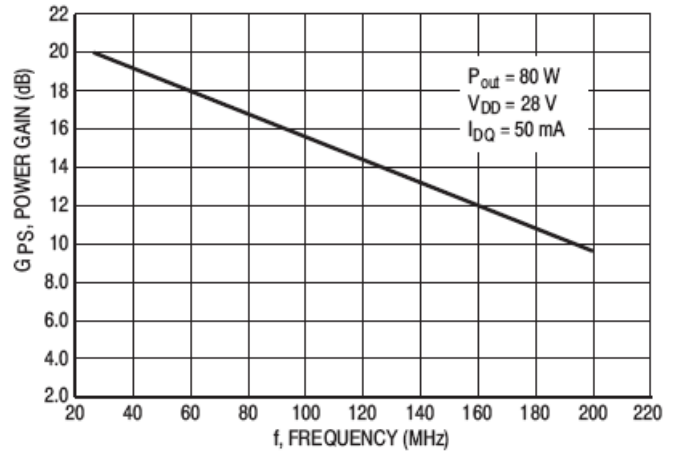


Figure 7. Power Gain versus Frequency

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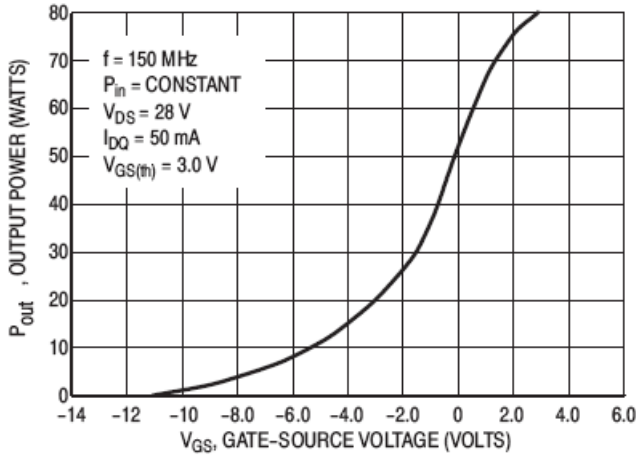


Figure 8. Output Power versus Gate Voltage

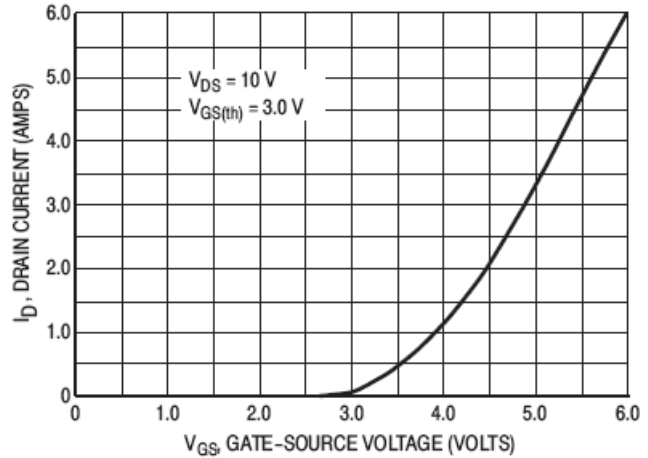


Figure 9. Drain Current versus Gate Voltage

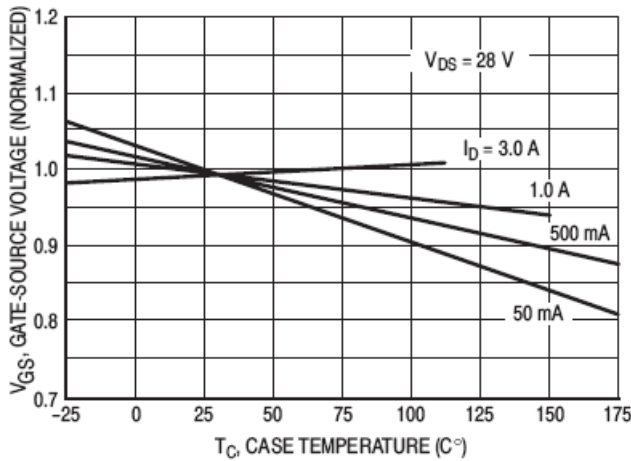


Figure 10. Gate-Source Voltage versus Case Temperature

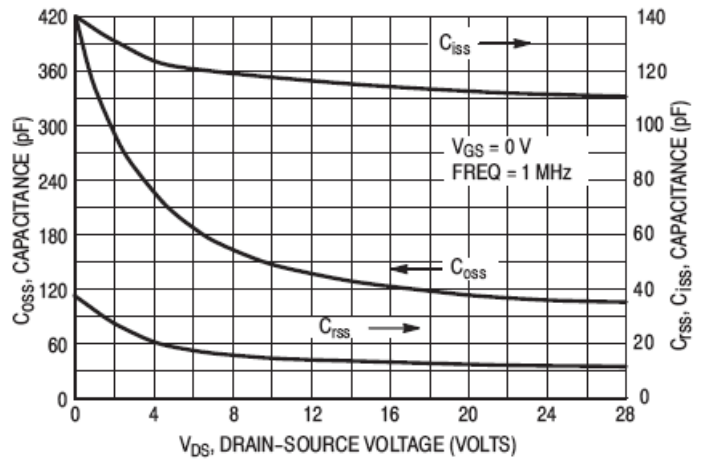


Figure 11. Capacitance versus Drain Voltage

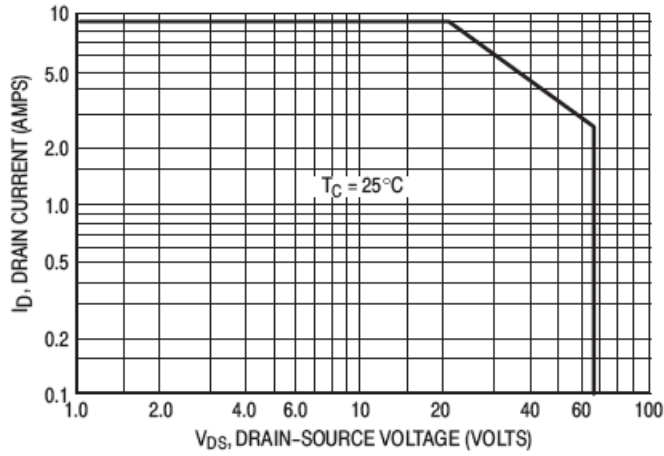


Figure 12. DC Safe Operating Area



## DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

The MRF173CQ is a RF MOSFET power N-channel enhancement mode field-effect transistor (FET) designed for VHF power amplifier applications. M/A-COM RF MOSFETs feature a vertical structure with a planar design, thus avoiding the processing difficulties associated with V-groove power FETs.

M/A-COM Application Note AN211A, FETs in Theory and Practice, is suggested reading for those not familiar with the construction and characteristics of FETs.

The major advantages of RF power FETs include high gain, low noise, simple bias systems, relative immunity from thermal runaway, and the ability to withstand severely mismatched loads without suffering damage. Power output can be varied over a wide range with a low power dc control signal, thus facilitating manual gain control, ALC and modulation.

## DC BIAS

The MRF173CQ is an enhancement mode FET and, therefore, does not conduct when drain voltage is applied. Drain current flows when a positive voltage is applied to the gate. See Figure 9 for a typical plot of drain current versus gate voltage. RF power FETs require forward bias for optimum performance. The value of quiescent drain current (IDQ) is not critical for many applications. The MRF173CQ was characterized at IDQ = 50 mA, which is the suggested

minimum value of IDQ. For special applications such as linear amplification, IDQ may have to be selected to optimize the critical parameters.

The gate is a dc open circuit and draws no current. Therefore, the gate bias circuit may generally be just a simple resistive divider network. Some special applications may require a more elaborate bias system.

## GAIN CONTROL

Power output of the MRF173CQ may be controlled from its rated value down to zero (negative gain) by varying the dc gate voltage. This feature facilitates the design of manual gain control, AGC/ALC and modulation systems. (see Figure 8.)

## AMPLIFIER DESIGN

Impedance matching networks similar to those used with bipolar VHF transistors are suitable for MRF173CQ. See M/A-COM Application Note AN721, Impedance Matching Networks Applied to RF Power Transistors. The higher input impedance of RF MOSFETs helps ease the task of broadband network design. Both small-signal scattering parameters and large-signal impedances are provided. While the s-parameters will not produce an exact design solution for high power operation, they do yield a good first approximation. This is an additional advantage of RF MOS power FETs.



## PACKAGE DIMENSIONS

