

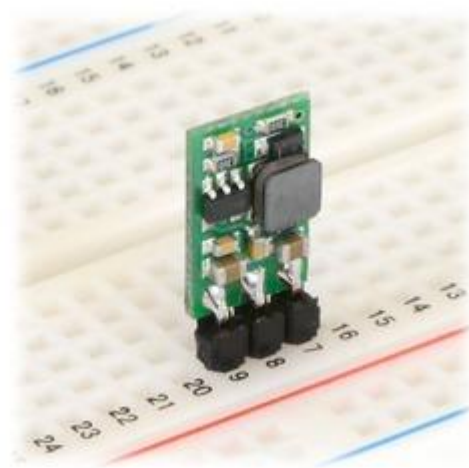
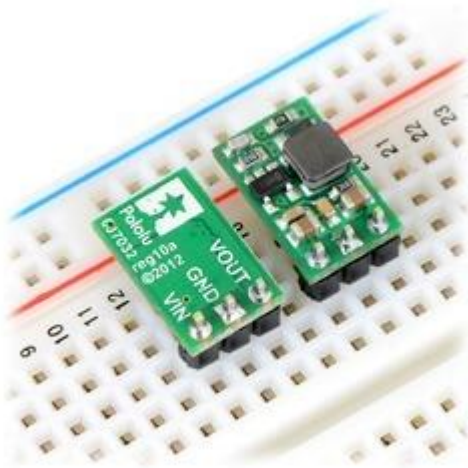
POLOLU 5V STEP-UP VOLTAGE REGULATOR

U3V12F5

USER'S GUIDE

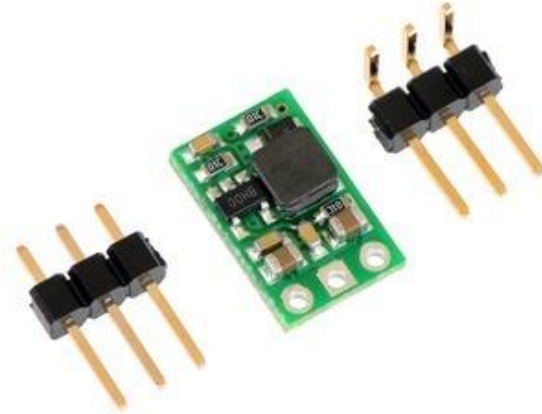
CONNECTIONS

The boost regulator has three connections: input voltage (VIN), ground (GND), and output voltage (VOUT).



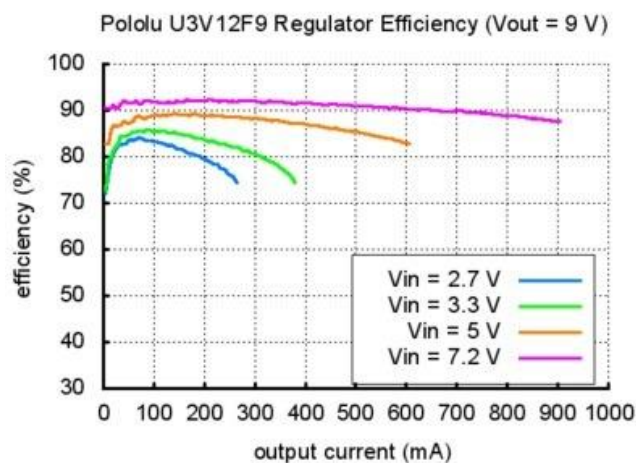
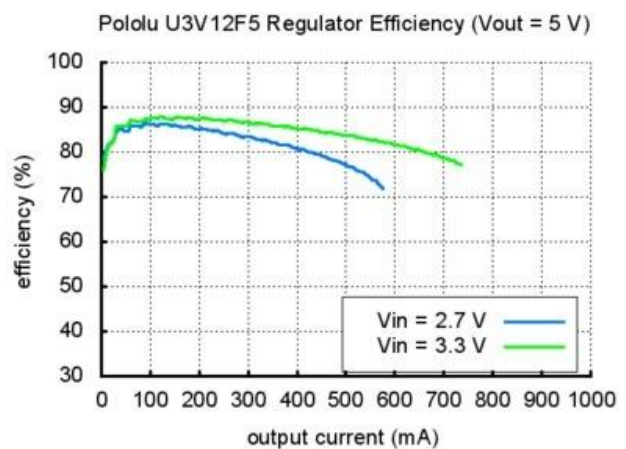
The input voltage, VIN, must be at least 2.5 V and should not exceed the output voltage, VOUT. Please be wary of destructive LC spikes that might cause the input voltage to exceed VOUT (see below for more information).

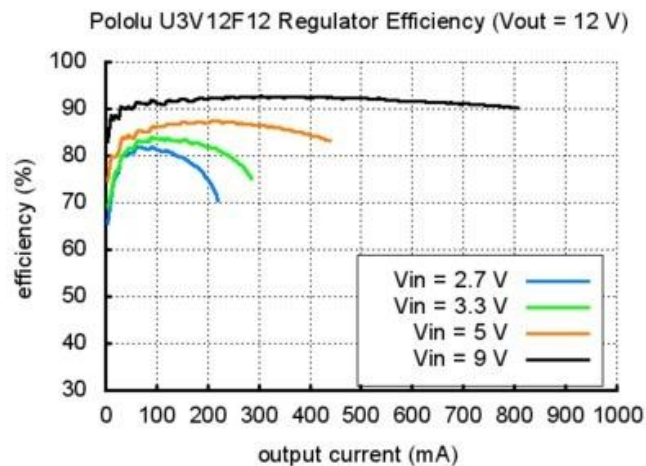
The three connections are labeled on the back side of the PCB, and they are arranged with a 0.1" spacing along the edge of the board for compatibility with solderless breadboards, connectors, and other prototyping arrangements that use a 0.1" grid. You can solder wires directly to the board or solder in either the 3×1 [straight male header strip](#) or the 3×1 [right-angle male header strip](#) that is included.



TYPICAL EFFICIENCY AND OUTPUT CURRENT

The efficiency of a voltage regulator, defined as $(\text{Power out})/(\text{Power in})$, is an important measure of its performance, especially when battery life or heat are concerns. As shown in the graphs below, this switching regulator typically has an efficiency of 80 to 90%.





The maximum achievable output current is approximately proportional to the ratio of the input voltage to the output voltage. If the *input* current exceeds the switch current limit (typically somewhere between 1.4 and 2 A), the output voltage will begin to drop. Additionally, the maximum output current can depend on other factors, including the ambient temperature, air flow, and heat sinking.

LC VOLTAGE SPIKES

When connecting voltage to electronic circuits, the initial rush of current can cause damaging voltage spikes that are much higher than the input voltage. In our tests with typical power leads (~30" test clips), input voltages above 10 V caused voltage spikes in excess of 20 V. You can suppress such spikes by soldering a 33 μ F or larger electrolytic capacitor close to the regulator between VIN and GND..