

Intro to DC Electronics

Jan-2023



WARNING

WARNING

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Rules of thumb, assumptions and mixed-quality analogies to come!



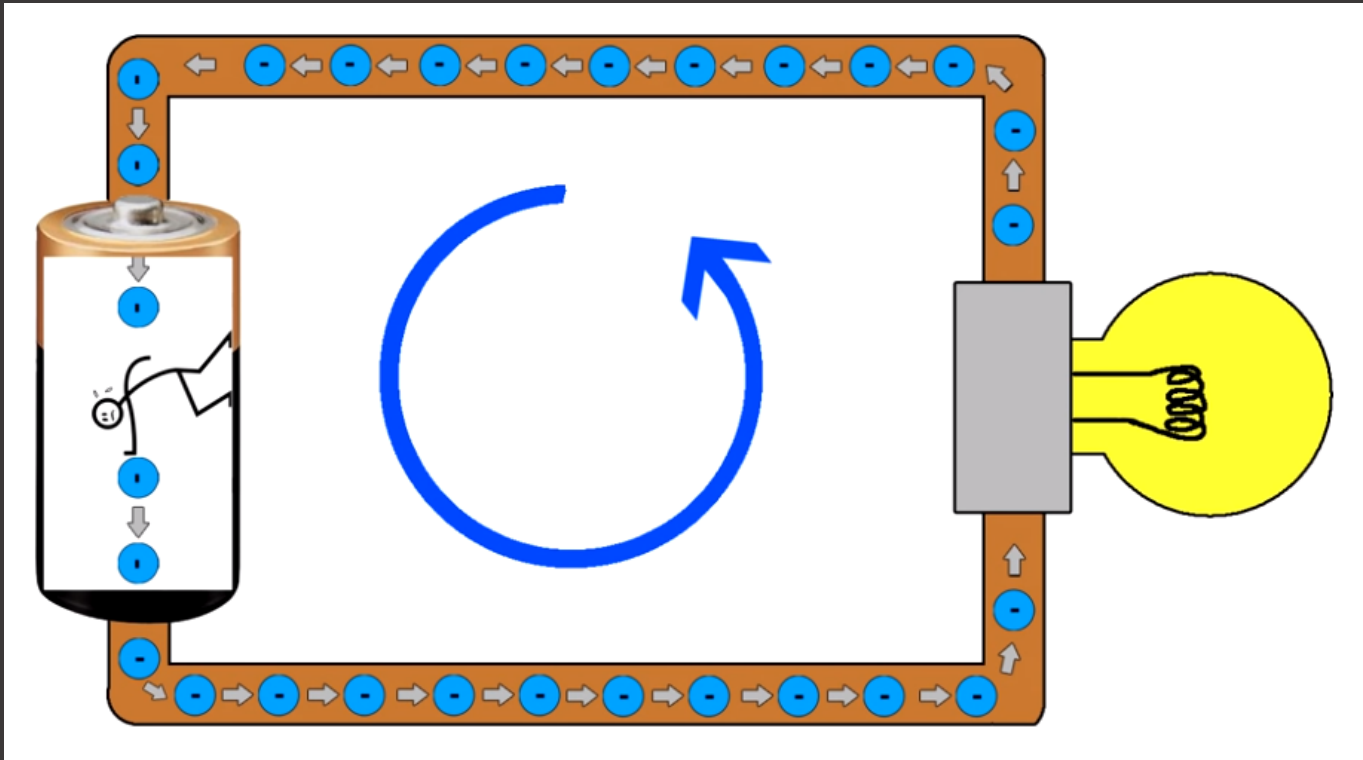
BAD ANALOGIES

**JUST BECAUSE ONE ARGUMENT RESEMBLES ANOTHER,
DOESN'T MEAN THAT CATS CAN FLY IN SPACE.**

Plumbing Analogy

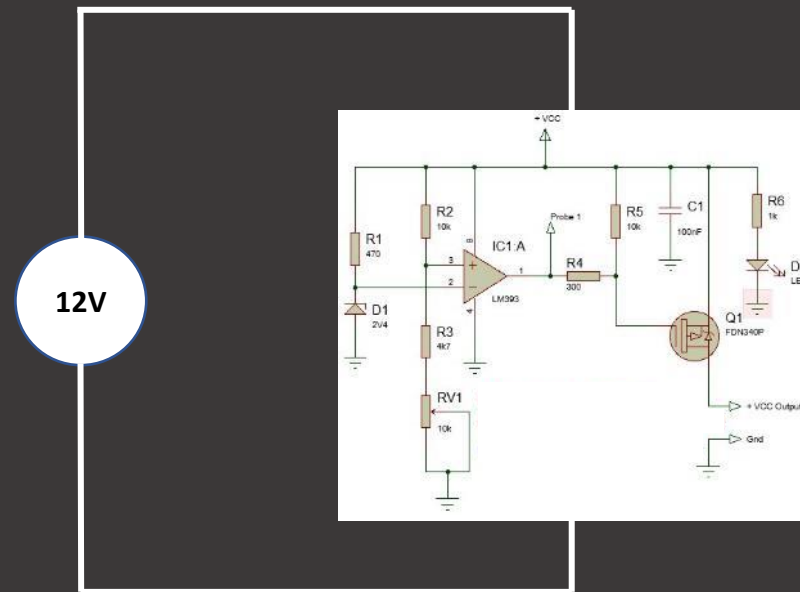


What is Voltage?



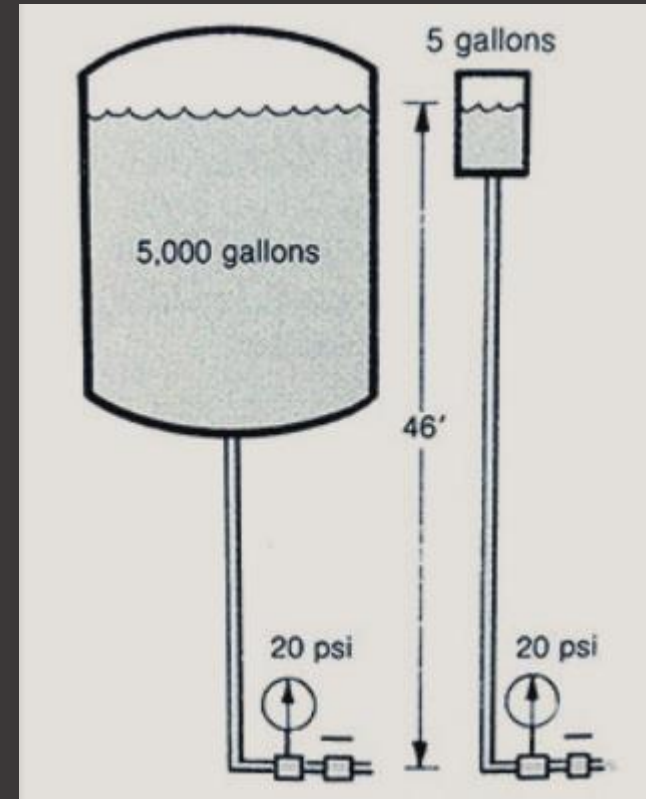
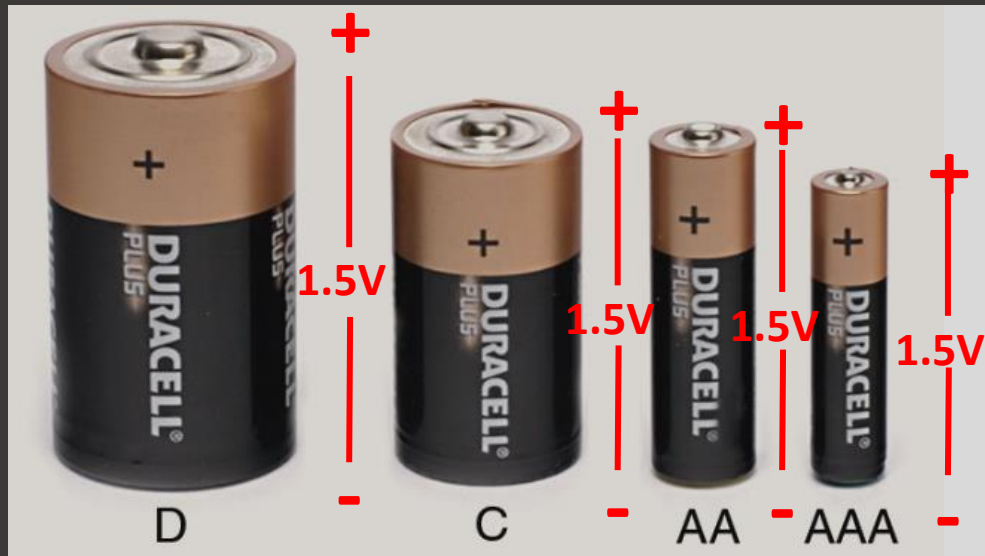
Voltage is the pressure (pushing force)
Pushes electrons through a circuit

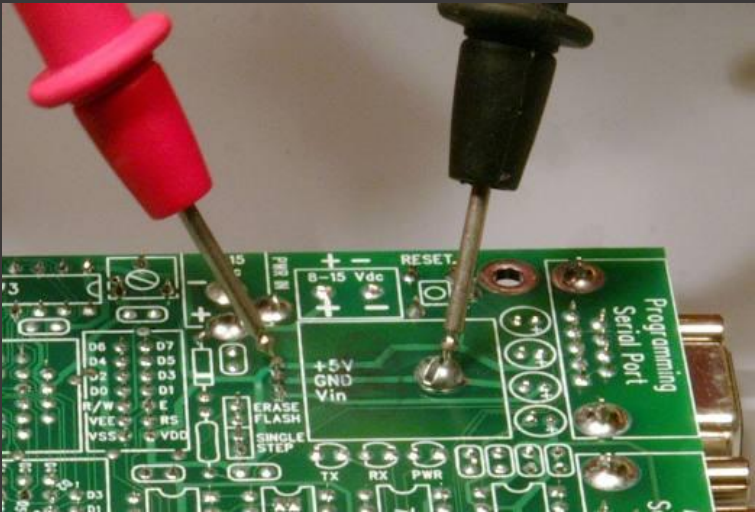
Powering a Complex Circuit



Voltage is applied across any circuit to power it

Voltage



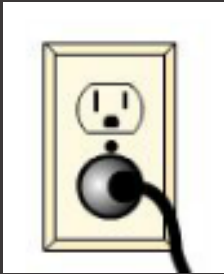


- Positive minus negative
- Convention - red minus black

Common Voltages

Volts DC:

9V or 9VDC or 9V DC



110 volts AC
110V or
110V AC or
110VAC

12V DC or
12V

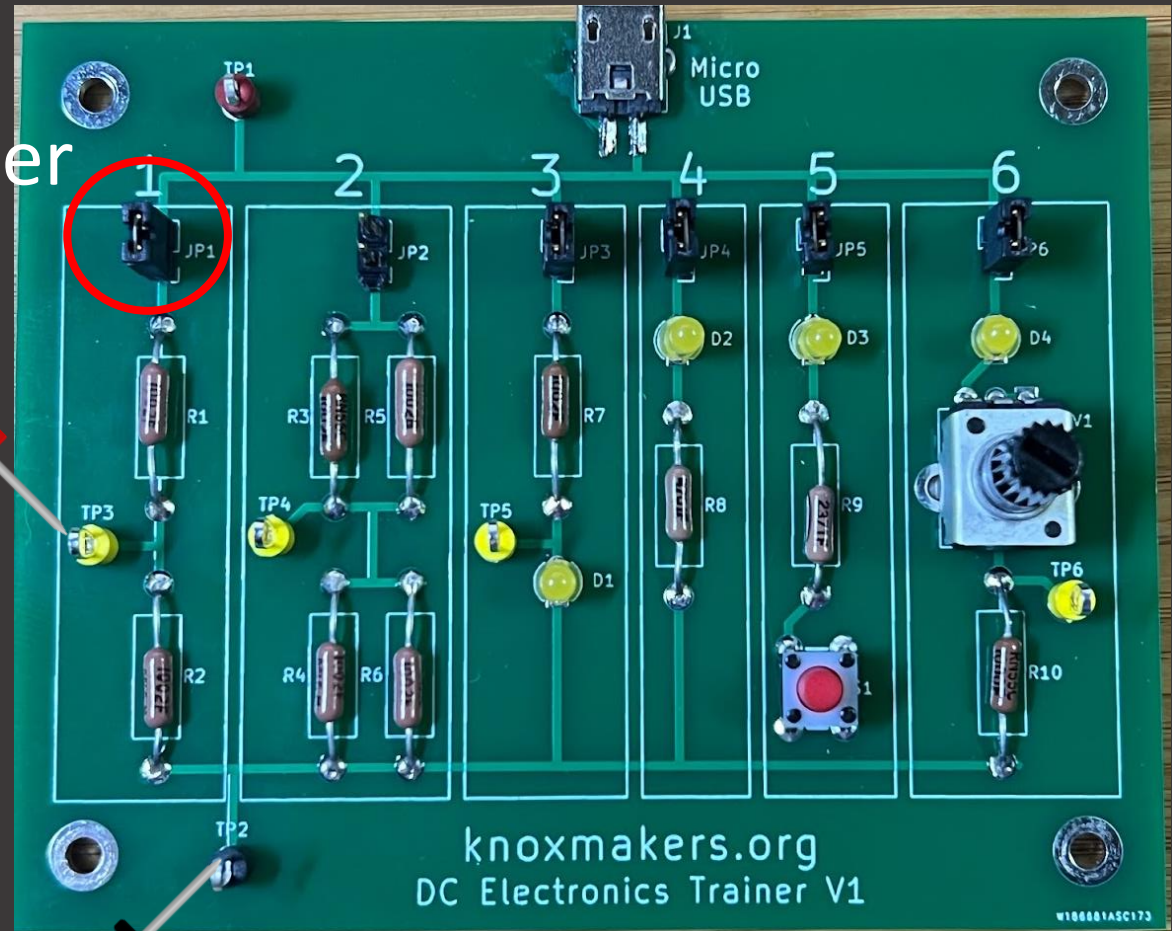
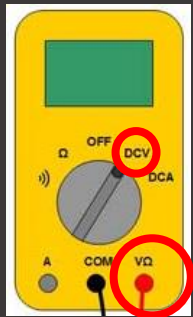


Let's Try It!

5V DC

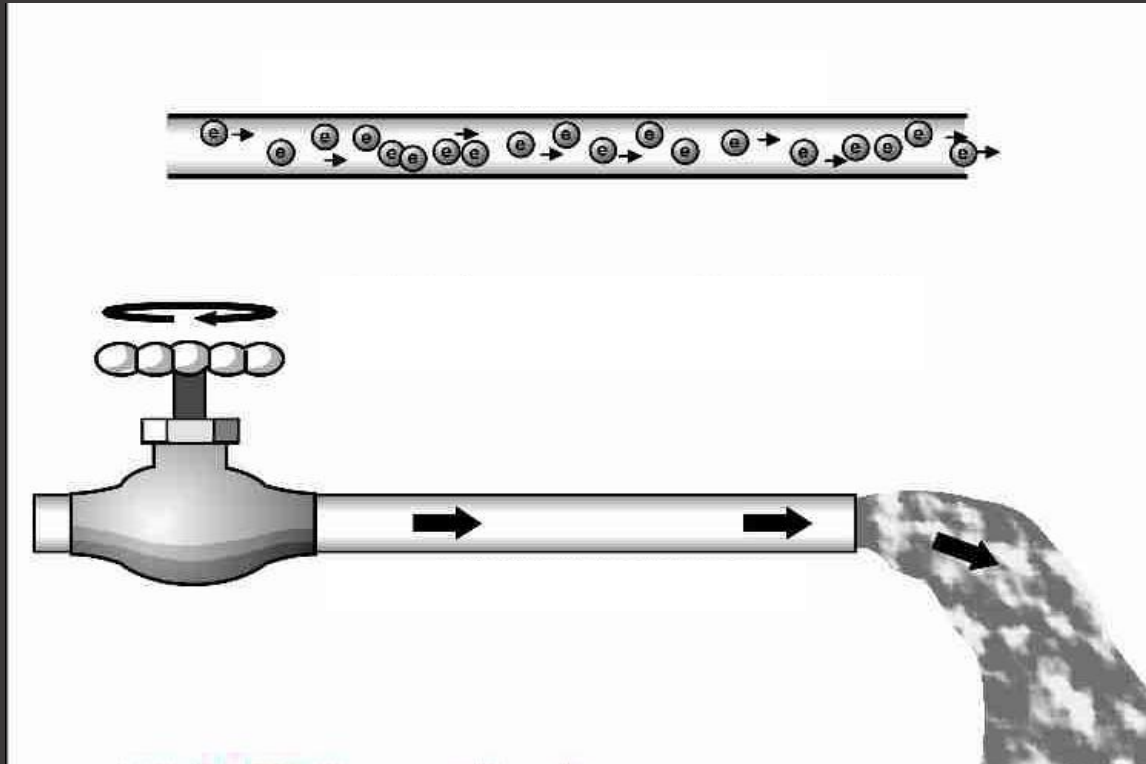
Jumper

2.5V DC



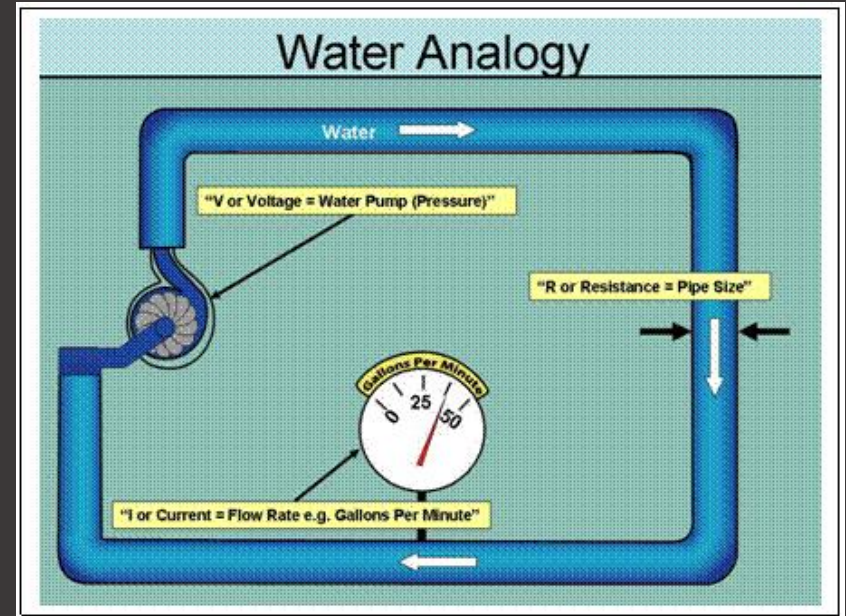
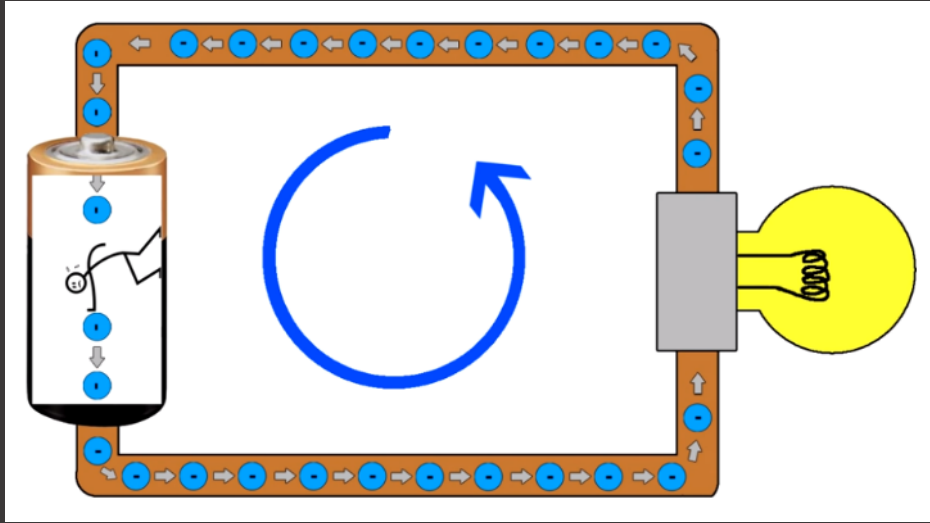
Ground

Current



Current is the flow of electrons
Similar to the flow of water

Current

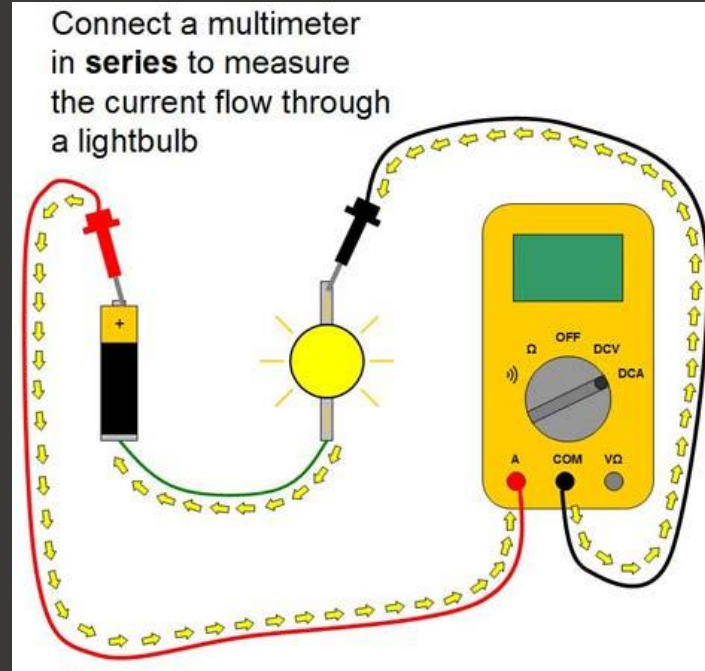


Current flows *THROUGH* a conductor

Measured in amps

1A (1 amp) = 6.25×10^{18} electrons per second

Measuring Current

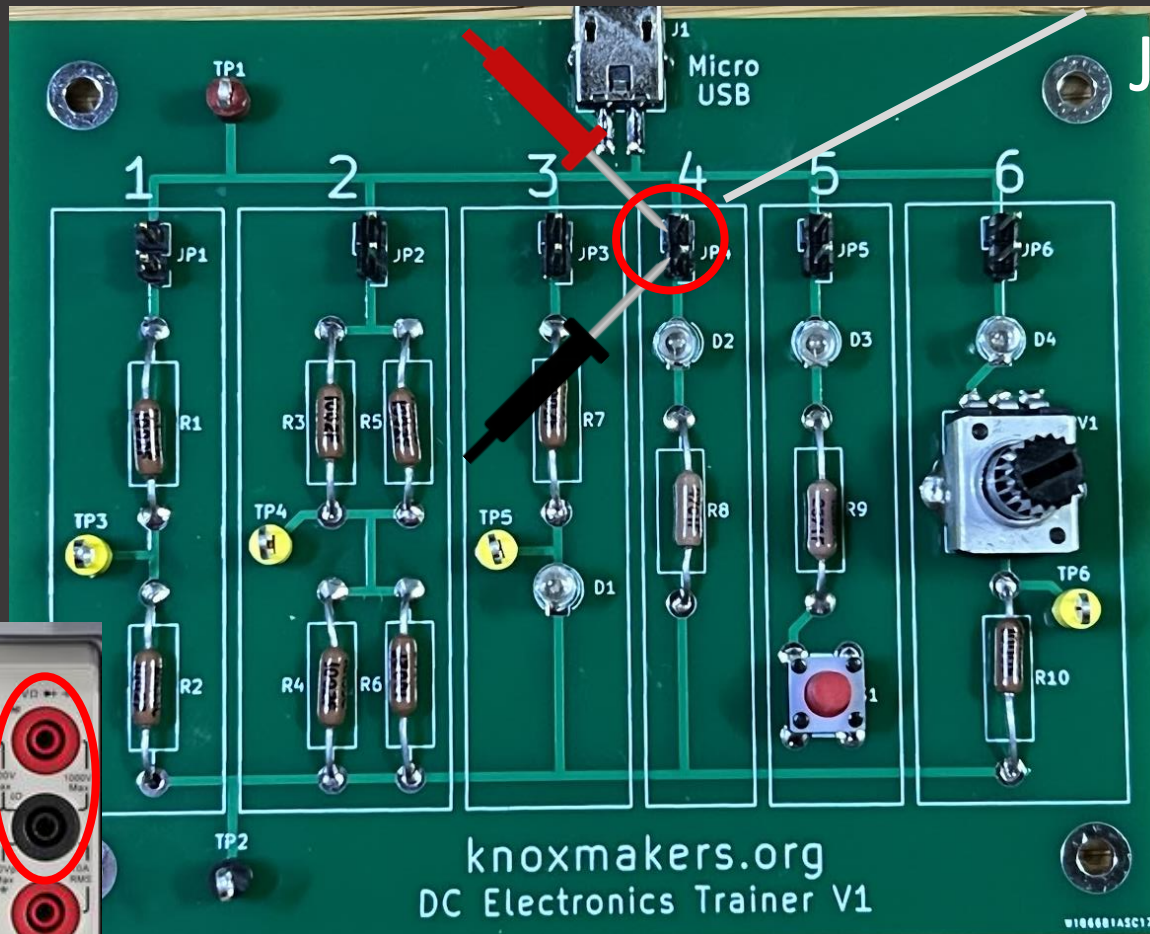


Current can be measured by passing it through a multimeter

Let's Try It!

~0.5mA DC

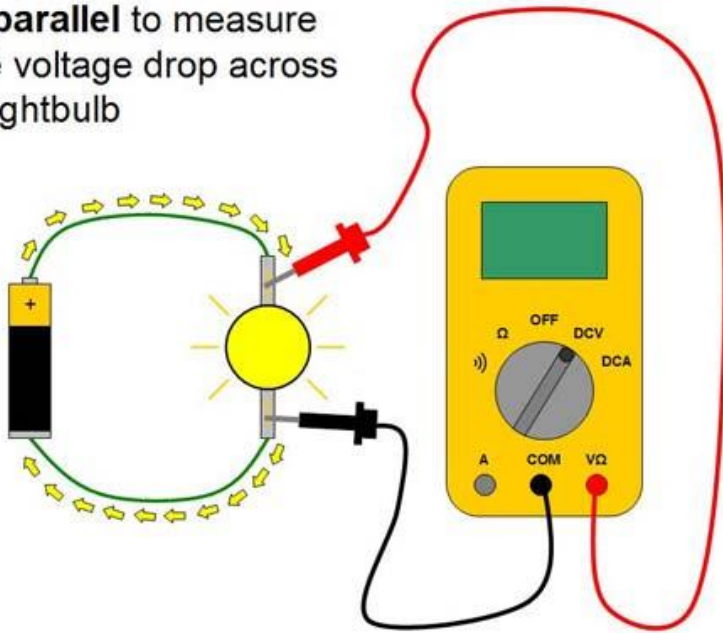
Remove Jumper



“Voltage Across” – “Current Through”

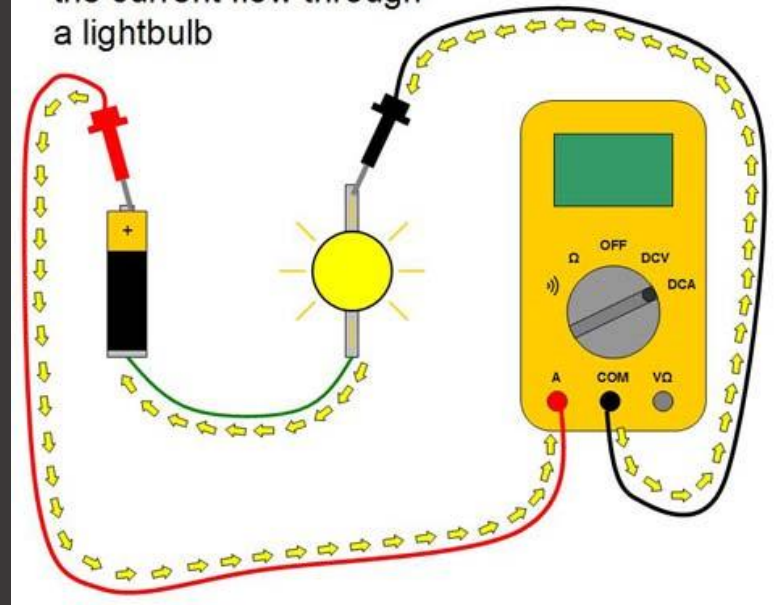
Voltage

Connect a multimeter in **parallel** to measure the voltage drop across a lightbulb

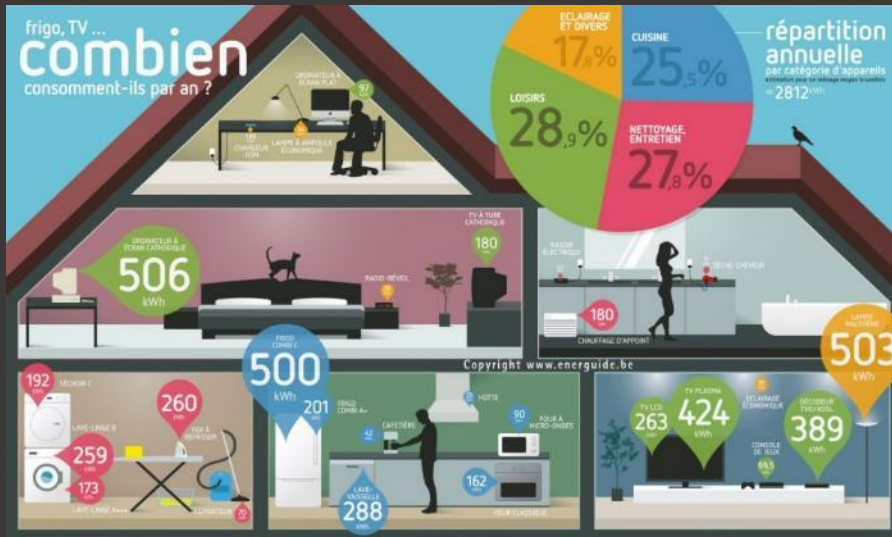


Current

Connect a multimeter in **series** to measure the current flow through a lightbulb



Power



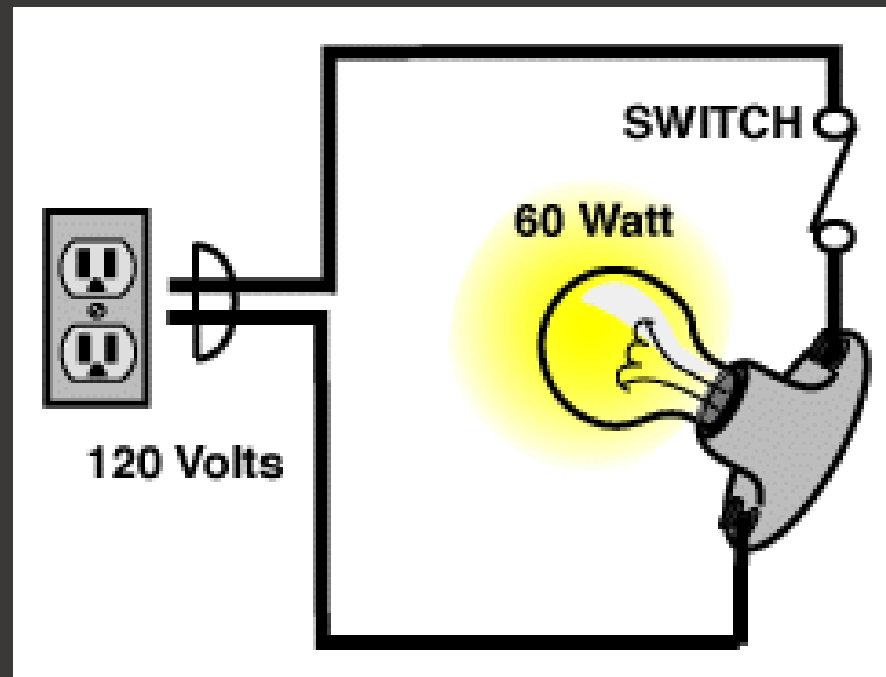
Power = Watts =
Amount of energy
used at a particular
point in time



Energy =
Power x Time = W x hr
Total energy used over
a period of time

Calculating Power

Power = Voltage x Current

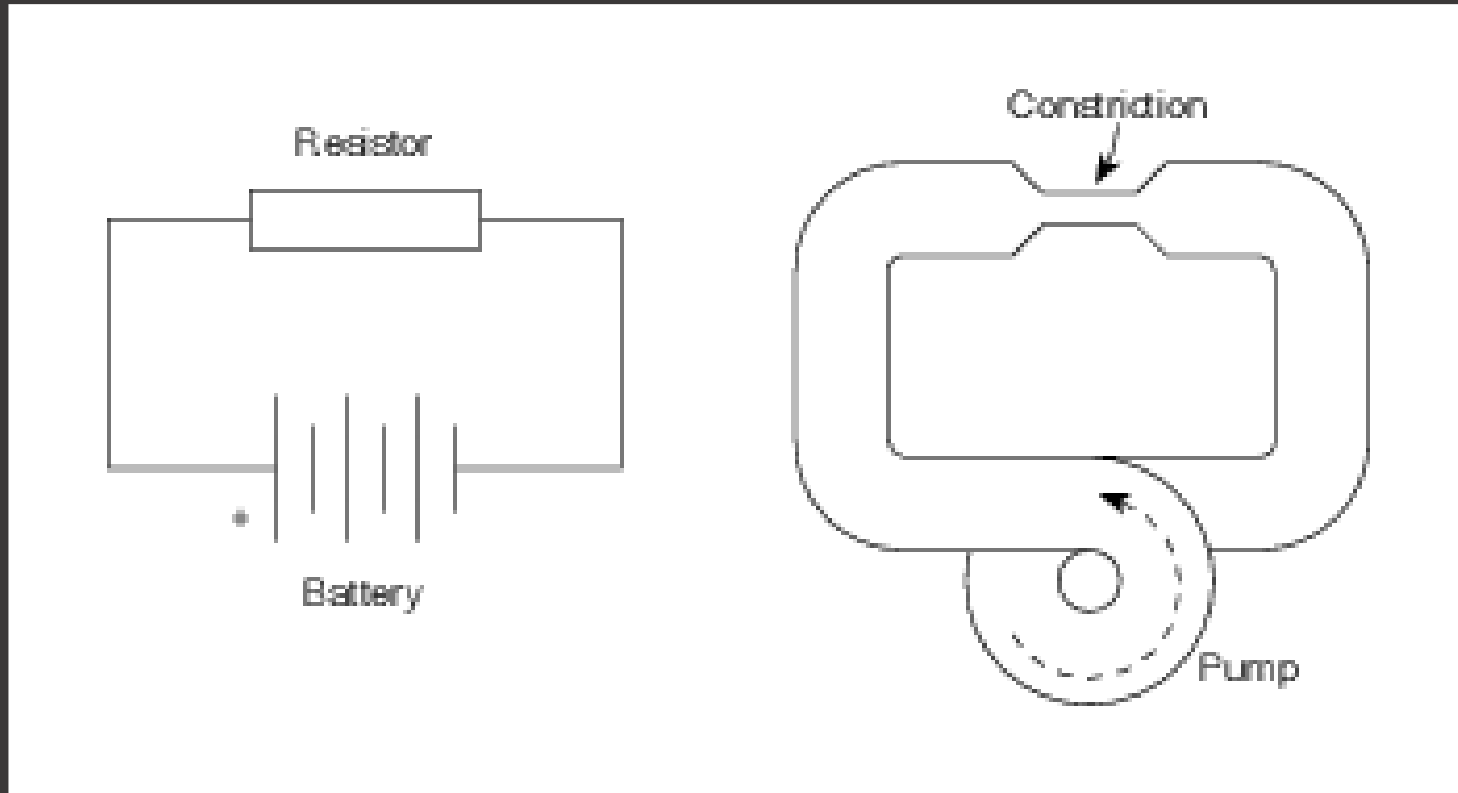


$$120V \times 0.5A = 60W$$

Resistors – A minute to learn, a lifetime to master



Resistors – Resist the flow of current



Resistance – measured in Ohms (Ω)

All Shapes and Sizes

Surface Mount Resistors



Leaded Resistors



High Power & TO Type Resistors



High Voltage Resistors



Current Sense / Shunt Resistors



Precision Resistors



Custom Resistors



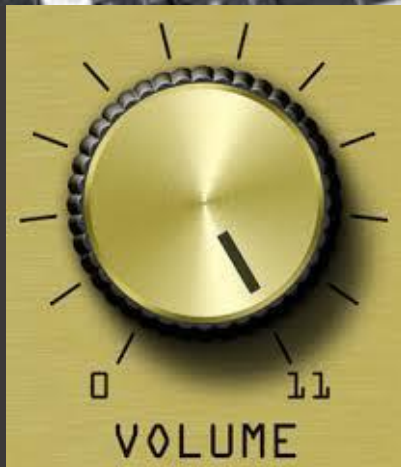
Wirewound Resistors



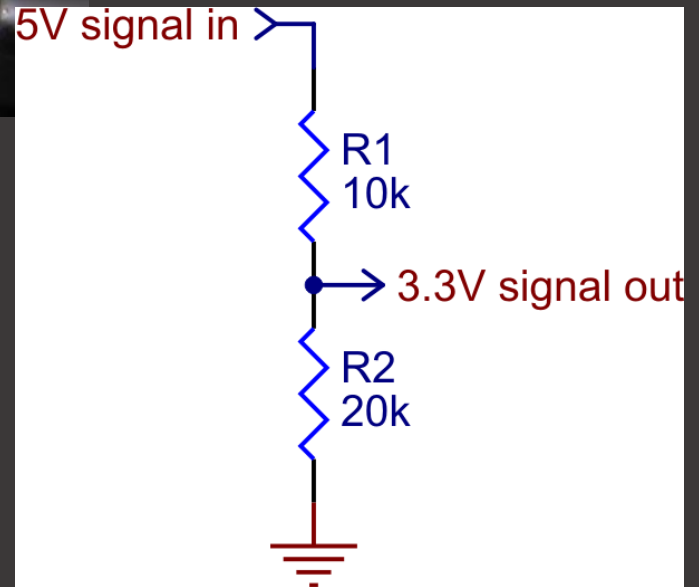
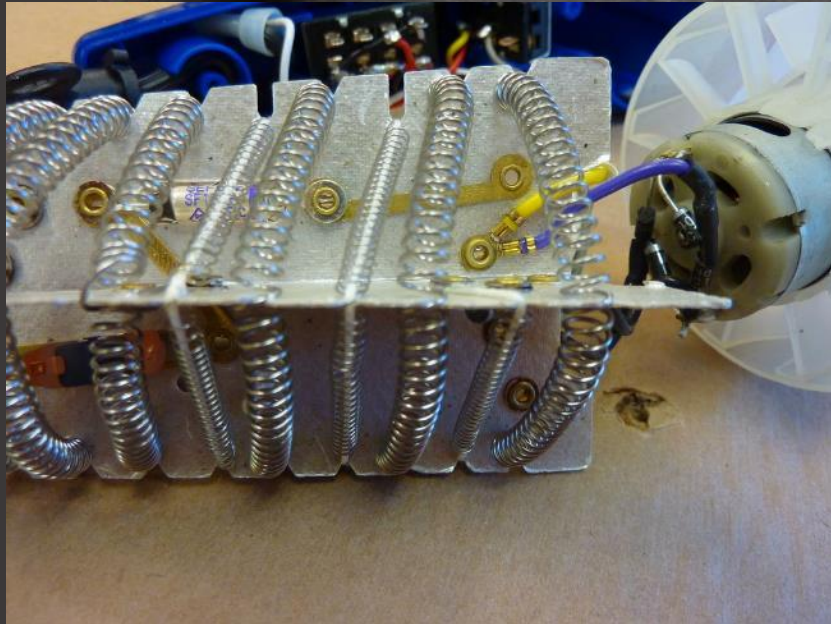
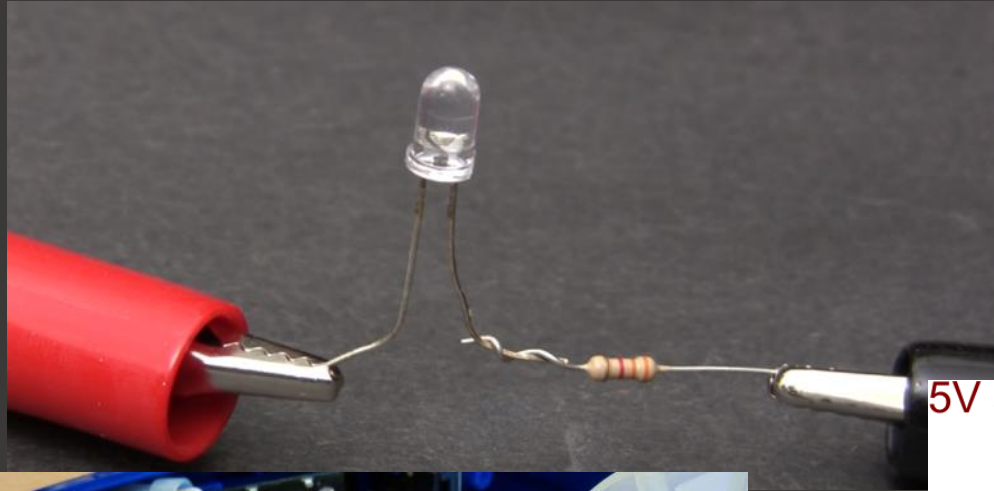
Pulse Withstanding Resistors



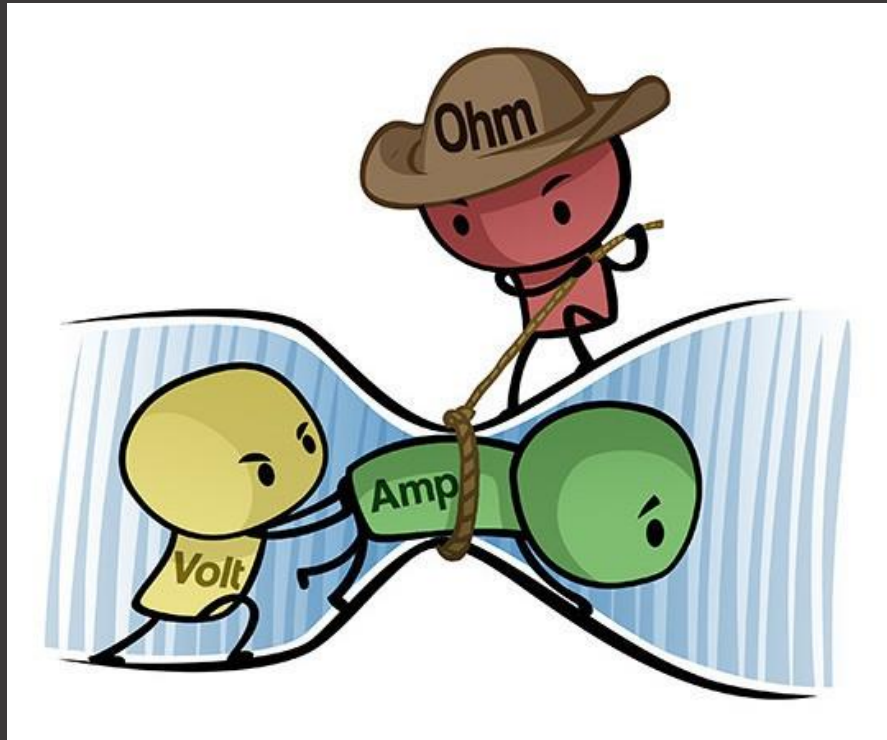
We use resistors every day



Resistors – Simple but useful!



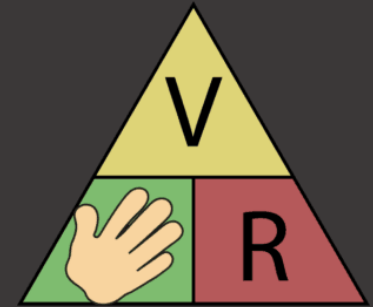
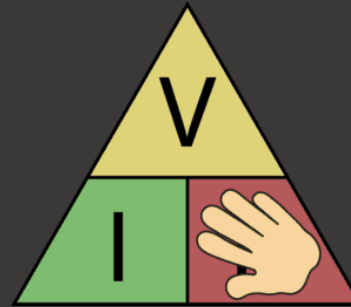
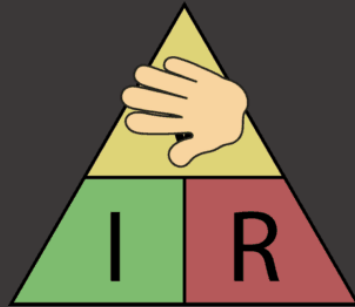
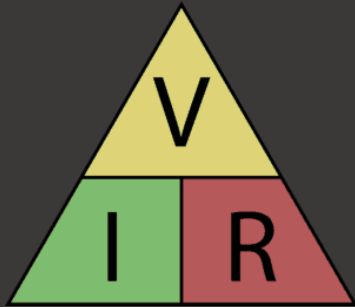
Ohm's Law



$$V = I * R$$

Special Relationship between voltage,
current, resistance

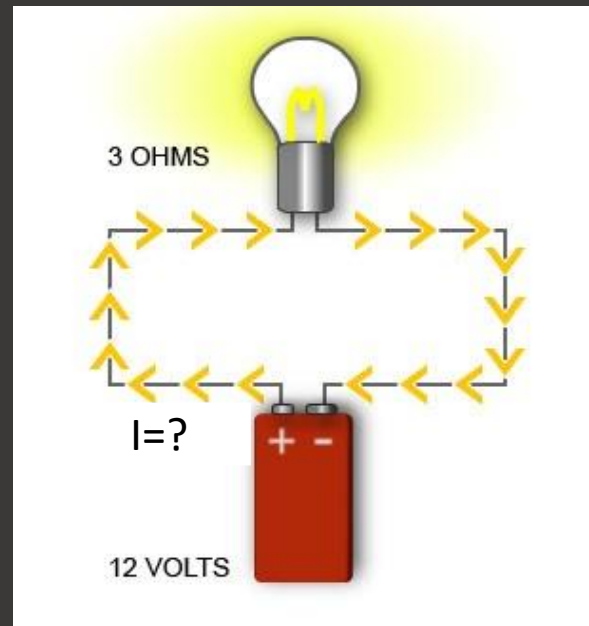
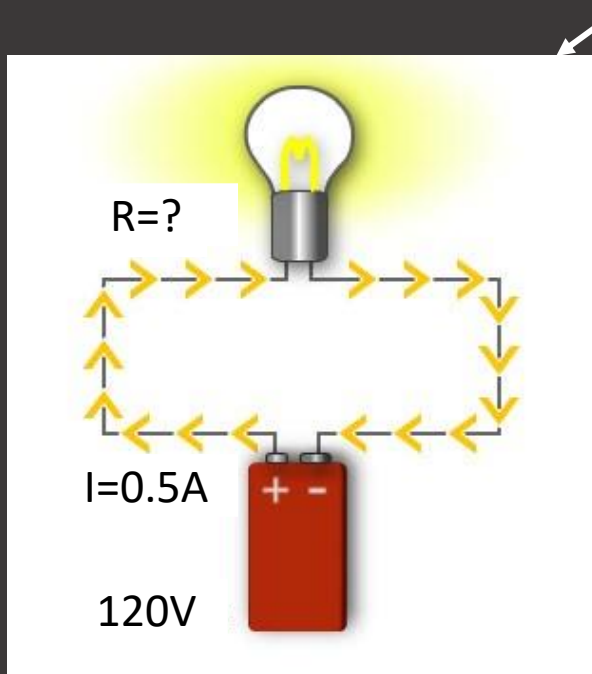
Ohm's Law



$$V = I * R$$

$$R = V / I$$

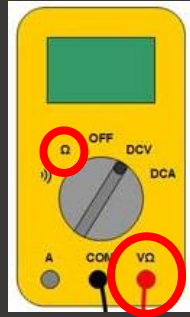
$$I = V / R$$



Let's Try It!

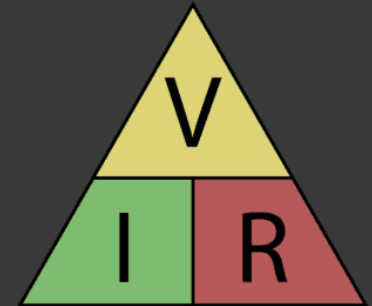
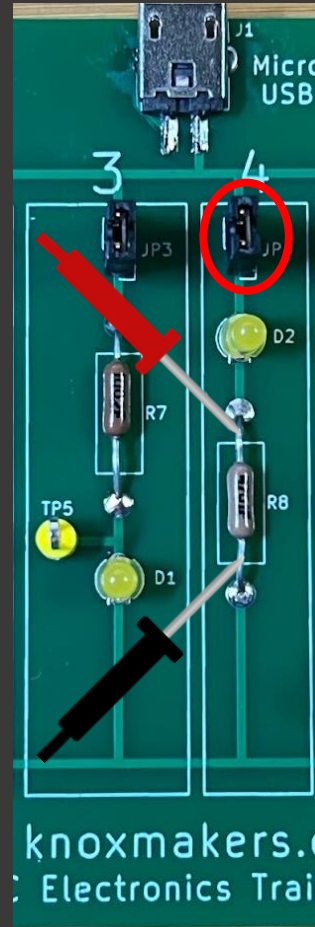
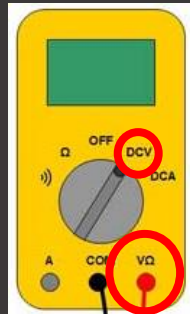
Remove jumper,
measure R

$$R = 500\Omega$$



Place jumper,
measure V

$$V = 2.3V$$

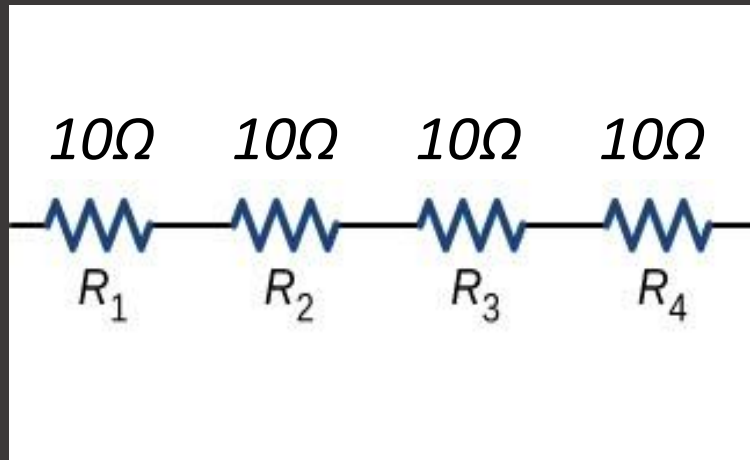


$$V = I * R$$

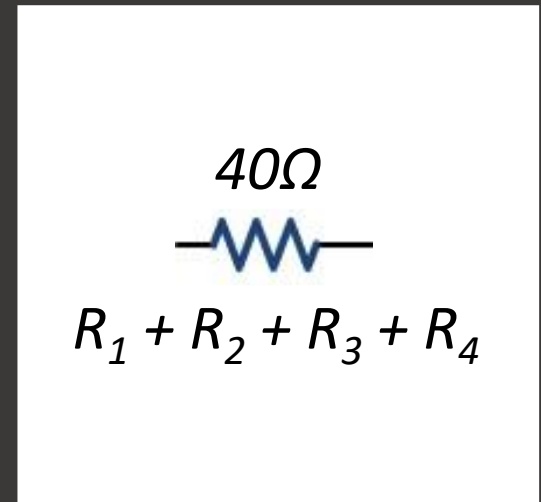
$$R = V / I$$

$$I = V / R$$

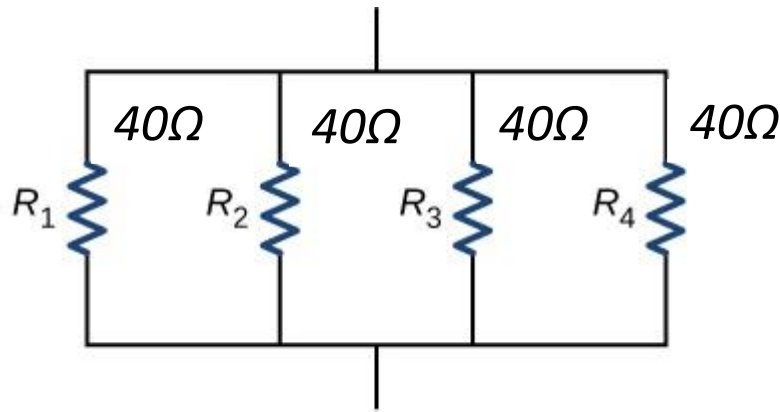
Resistors in Series



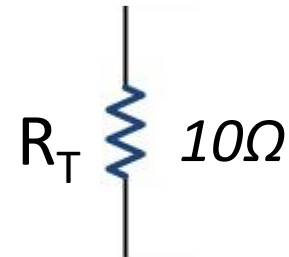
=



Resistors in Parallel



=

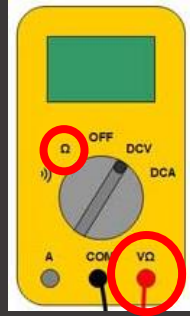


$$R_T = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3} + \frac{1}{R_4}}$$

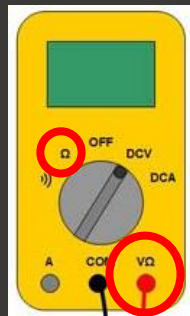
Let's Try It!

Remove jumpers,
measure each R

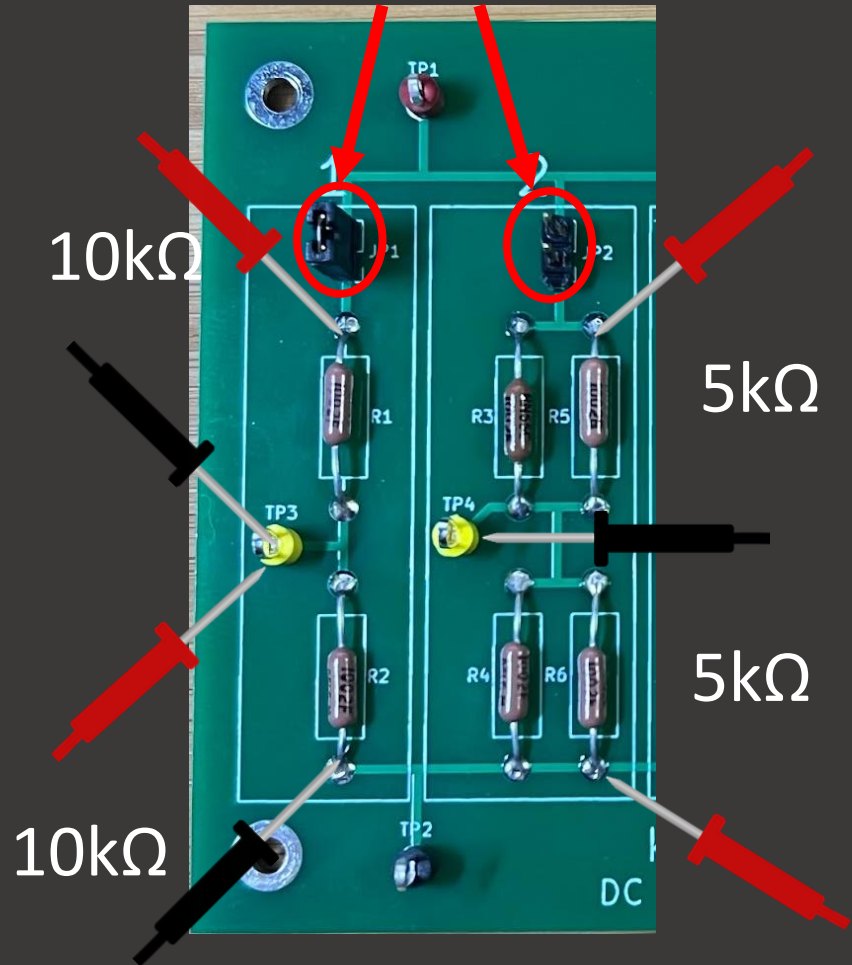
$$R_1 = R_2 = 10\text{k}\Omega$$



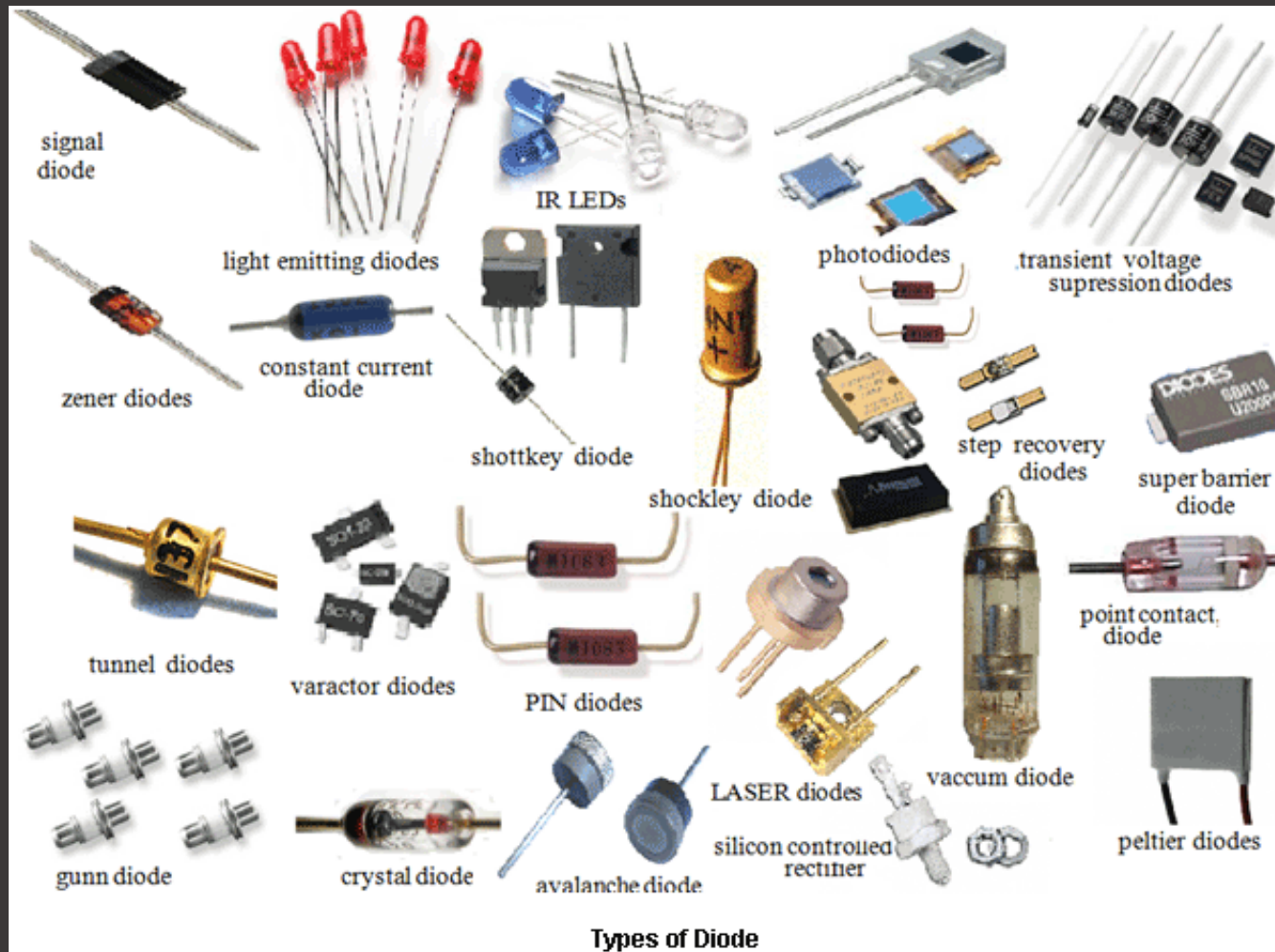
$$R_3 // R_5 = 5\text{k}\Omega$$
$$R_3 = R_5 = 10\text{k}\Omega$$



Remove
Jumpers!



Diodes/LEDs

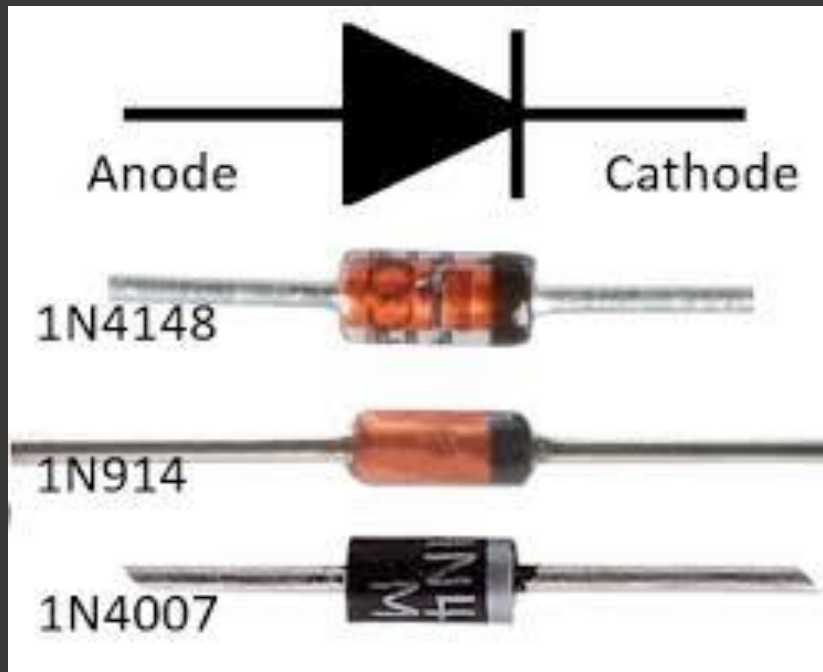


Diodes – Everyday Uses

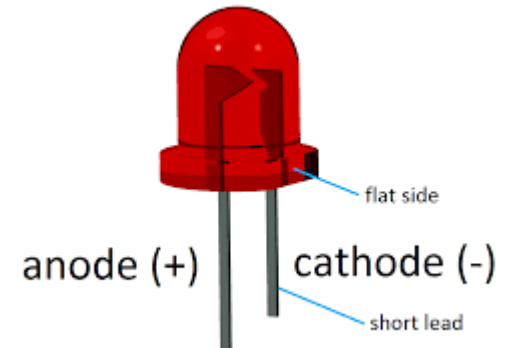


Diodes – One-Way Gate

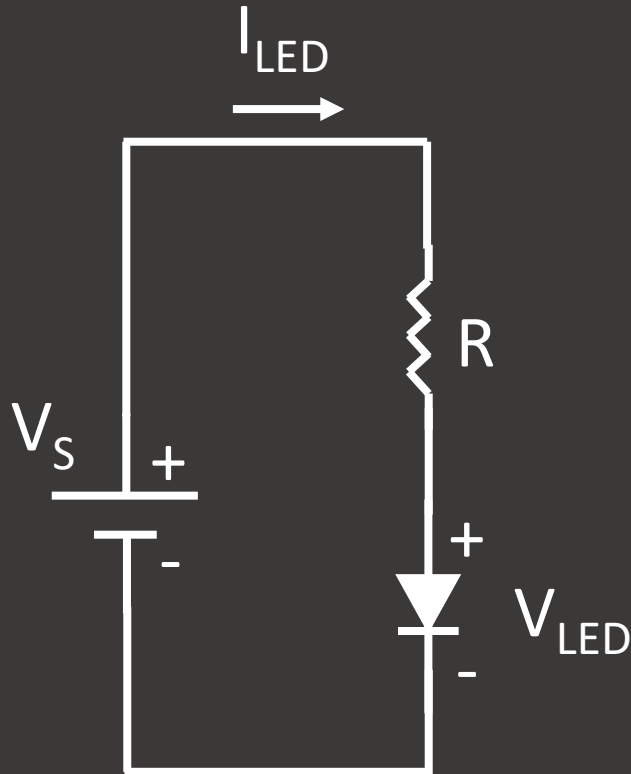
Current Flow



LED



How to use a diode

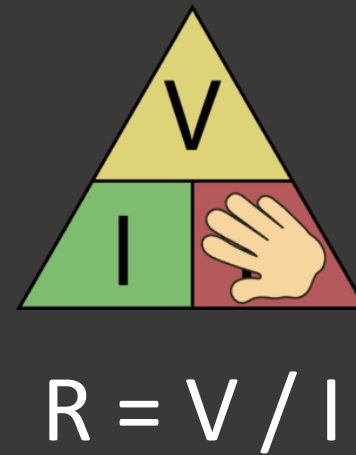
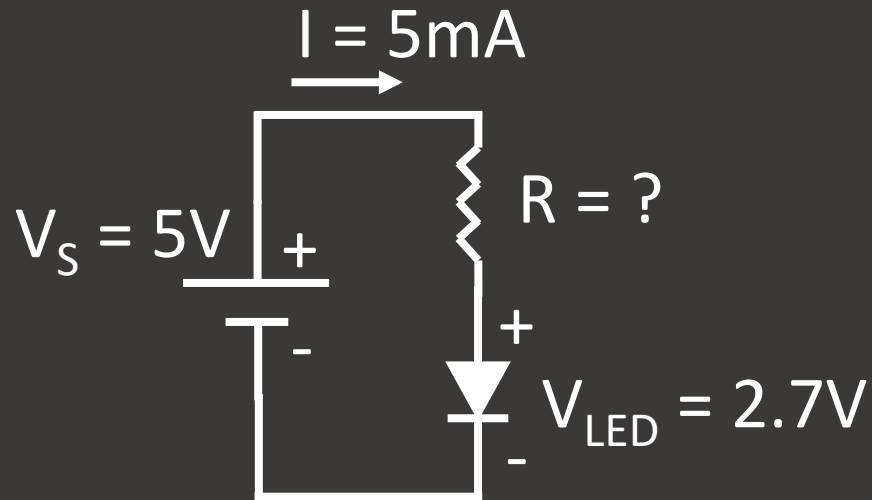


$$V_S \geq V_{LED} + 1V$$

$$I_{LED} \sim 10-20mA$$

$$V_{LED} \sim 1.8-3.3V$$

Practical Circuit



$$\begin{aligned} R &= (5V - 2.7V) / 0.01A \\ &= 2.3V / 0.005A \\ &= 460\Omega \end{aligned}$$



Switches



Capacitors



Radial Ceramic Capacitor



Three Terminal Capacitor



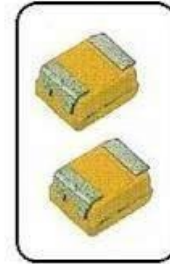
Wierd Ended Electrolytic Capacitor



Surface Mount Electrolytic Capacitor



Motor Run Capacitor



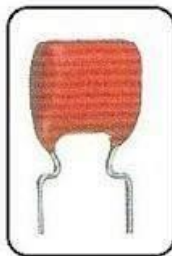
Solid Chip Tanta



Surface Mount Ceramic Capacitor



Suppressor Capacitor



Polyster Capacitor



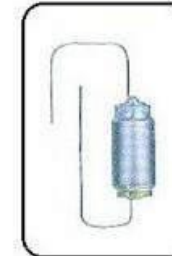
Polyproplyne Capacitor



Memory Back-up Capacitor



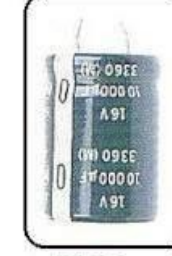
Trimmer Capacitor



Polysterene Capacitor



Aluminium Electrolytic Capacitor

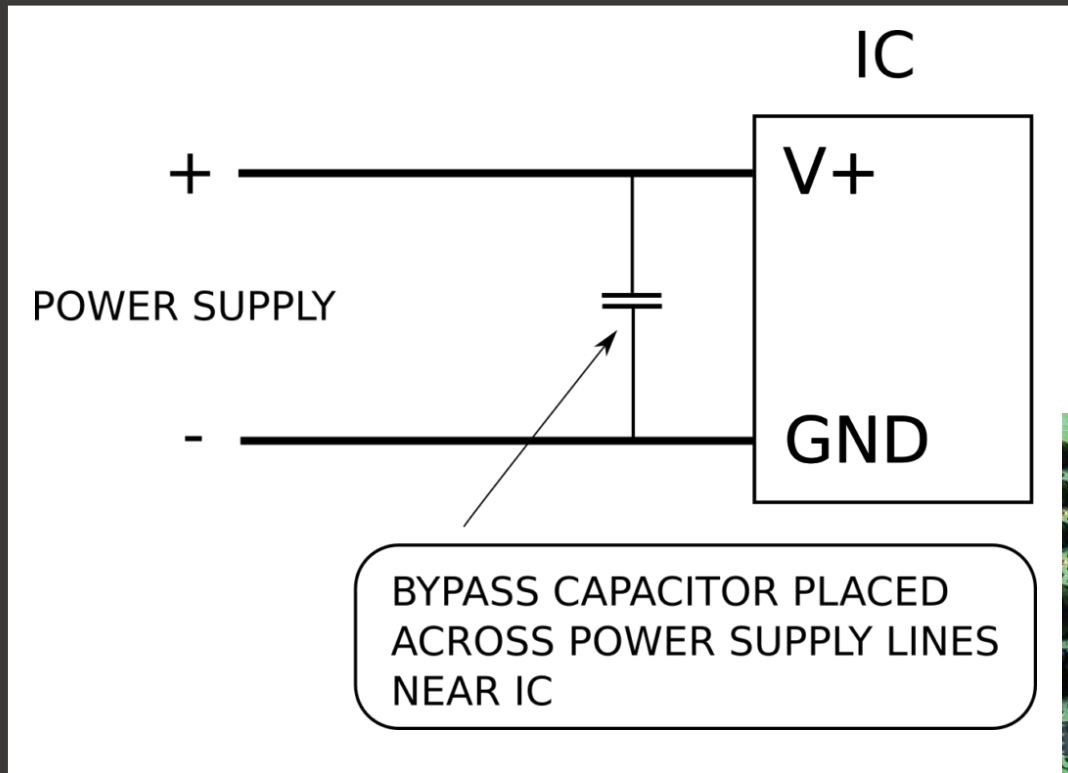


PCB Mount Electrolytic Capacitor

Similar to Batteries



“Supply Bypass” Capacitors



Further Reading

Falstad Circuit Simulator – Runs in Browser

Kahn Academy – Introduction to EE

Mattermost Channel

YouTube Videos

All About Circuits

- <https://www.allaboutcircuits.com/education/>

Sparkfun – learn.sparkfun.com