Source: KBhPHYS201IntroToElectrostaticsLN

1 | The Electroscope

Screen Shot 2020-08-24 at 7.31.10 PM.png

About how this works…

1. Bring in some external charge near the electromitor (the ball-y part)
2. The rod becomes polarized, pushing the $+$ protons down towards the “gold leaves”
    - If the rod is not close enough to cause electron flow but is close enough to polarize…
        - Gold leaves temporarily push apart because positive repels positives
        - When charged rod removed, leaves come back
    - If the rod is close enough to cause e^- to flow out of the electromitor, making the whole rod more positive instead of a temporary polarization…
        - Gold leaves permanently (until somebody/the air discharges it, anyways) separated
        - When charged rod removed, leaves stay put