

Source: [KBhPHYS201CircuitsIndex](#)

## 1 | Calculations Surrounding a Circuit

### Basics of Combining Resistors

#### Series

If you have two resistors...

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With the first having a resistance of  $A\Omega$  and the second  $B\Omega$ .

The total resistance would simply be  $(A + B)\Omega$ .

- Same as equivalent of “electricity!” go through the first then the second

#disorganized

#### Parallel

Smaller area |--|||-- | Bigger area |===|||===

$$R_2 = R_1 \times \frac{A_1}{A_2}$$

$$R_{eq} = R_1 \times \frac{A_1}{A_1 + A_2}$$

$$\frac{1}{R_{eq}} = \frac{A_1 + A_2}{A_1 R_1}$$

$$\frac{1}{R_{eq}} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{A_2}{A_1 R_1}$$

$$\frac{1}{R_{eq}} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2}$$

Resistance equation for series :pointup:

#disorganized

Calculate resistance

### Calculating Current in a Circuit.

#### Traditional Kickoff's's Laws approach

A circuit!

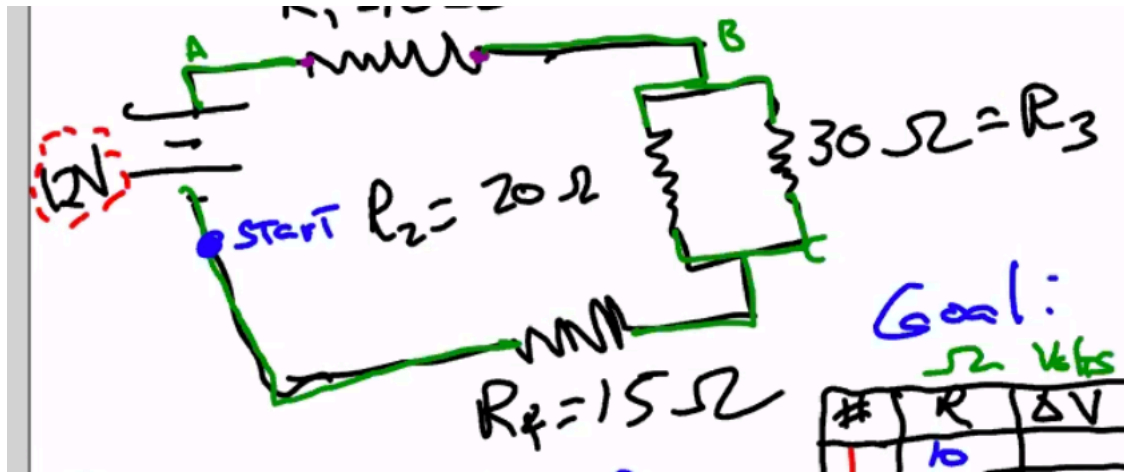


Figure 1: Screen Shot 2020-09-14 at 10.38.44 AM.png

**Kirkoff's First Law** Sum of voltage in any closed loop should add up to 0

As in, the sum of all voltage changes from Start  $\Rightarrow$  Start will add up to 0.

**Kirkoff's Second law** Net current flowing into a node is 0

With a current  $i_0$ , when it flows into a junction like B, the current  $i_0$  splits into  $i_2$  and  $i_3$

So, to calculate the resistance and current at every point o

START at start

- +12
- $-I_1 * 10$  (per  $I = \frac{\Delta V}{\text{resistance}}$ )
- $-I_2 * 20$
- $-I_1 * 15$
- = 0

$I_1 - I_2 - I_3 = 0$ , per Kierbab's Second Law.

**Through a resistor, the Current does NOT change, the Voltage drops.**

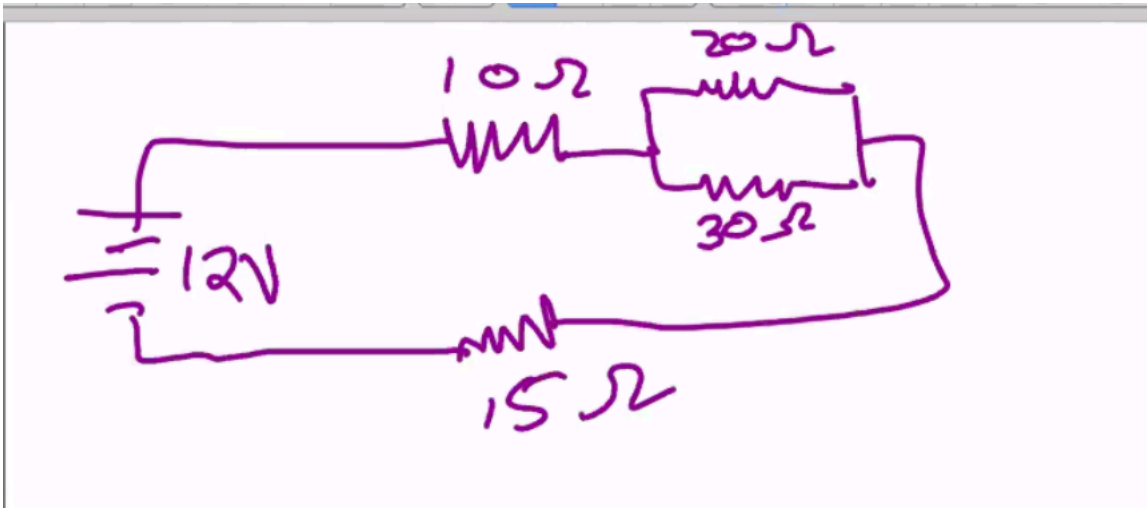
**“Combine Resistors” Method**

Figure 2: Screen Shot 2020-09-14 at 11.02.45 AM.png

**Parallel Resistors as Single Resistors** Per the previous resistors rules, that  $\frac{1}{R_{eq}} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2}$ , we could treat the  $20\Omega$  and  $30\Omega$  in parallel as a single resistor of  $12\Omega$ .

Now the circuit becomes even simpler:



Figure 3: Screen Shot 2020-09-14 at 11.05.49 AM.png

**Sequence Resistors as Single Resistors** Per the sequence resistors rules, that total resistance is  $(A + B)\Omega$ , we could combine these three resistors as a  $37\Omega$  resistor.

**Combined Current** We know that  $12V/37\Omega = 0.324Amps$  is the current that returns to the battery and what the battery starts with, for if we treat the circuit as a single resistor, the 12 volts would only be working against.

From there, once we have a current for beginning and end, we could work our way up backwards by calculating the final voltage.

- Multiples batteries can't be solved with the combined resistor method
- So, first guess the current flow
  - Each batteries' current will flow back to itself
  - When currents meet, they will combine

- Use currents identified before + Kirkoff's second law
- Use Kirkoff's first law to find loops (and hence equations) that, together, **covers all components**
- If resulting currents is negative, that means that you drew the current in the wrong direction, or you are charging a battery
  - Either way, if the signs are preserved to solve the rest of the equation, you should be fine numerically
  - Just update your graph to reflect the actual currents' directions

LED longer leg is positive