

BK PRECISION®

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Instruction Manual

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114B Analog Multimeter

SAFETY



An electrical shock causing 10 mA of current to pass through the heart will stop most human heartbeats. Voltage as low as 35 volts dc or ac rms should be considered dangerous and hazardous since it can produce a lethal current under certain conditions. Higher currents are even more dangerous. Observe the following safety precautions:

1. Never apply input voltages greater than those listed in the "SPECIFICATIONS" section. Personal injury or damage to the instrument may occur.
2. This meter is not recommended for high voltage industrial use; for example, not for measurements of 440 V AC or 600 V AC industrial power mains. The unit is intended for use with low energy circuits to 750 V AC or 1000 V DC or high energy circuits to 250 V DC or AC. Accidental misuse by connection across a high voltage, high energy power source when the meter is set up for mA measurement may be very hazardous.
3. Turn equipment off before making test connections in high voltage circuits. Discharge high voltage capacitors after removing power.
4. When making voltage or current measurements in high voltage equipment, never touch equipment, meter, or test leads while power is applied.
5. If possible, familiarize yourself with the equipment being tested and the location of its high voltage points. However, remember that high voltage may appear at unexpected points in defective equipment.
6. Be careful to avoid touching a high voltage point. Remember that ac line voltage may be present in equipment under test (for example, at on-off switch, fuses, transformer, etc.), any time the equipment is connected to an ac outlet, even if it is turned off.
7. When removing the cover for servicing or battery replacement, remove test leads and make sure that the input is disconnected from any high voltage.
8. Use the time proven "one hand in the pocket" technique while handling an instrument probe. Be particularly careful to avoid contacting a nearby metal object that could provide a good ground return path.

9. When using a probe, only touch the insulated portion. Never touch the exposed tip portion.
10. Use an insulated floor material or a large, insulated floor mat to stand on, and an insulated work surface on which to place equipment; make certain such surfaces are not damp or wet.
11. When testing ac powered equipment, remember that ac line voltage is usually present on some power input circuits such as on-off switches, fuses, power transformers, etc., any time the equipment is connected to an ac outlet. This is true even if the equipment is turned off.
12. Some equipment with a two-wire ac power cord, including some with a polarized power plug, is the "hot chassis" type. This includes most recent television receivers and audio equipment. A plastic or wooden cabinet insulates the chassis to protect the customer. When the cabinet is removed for servicing, a serious shock hazard exists if the chassis is touched. To make measurements in "hot chassis" equipment, always connect an isolation transformer between the ac outlet and the equipment under test. The **BK Precision** Model TR-11 0 or 1604 Isolation Transformer, or Model 1653 or 1655 AC Power Supply is suitable for most applications. To be on the safe side, treat all two-wire ac powered equipment as "hot chassis" unless you are sure it has an isolated or earth ground chassis.
13. On instruments or any equipment with a three-wire ac power plug, only use a 3-wire outlet. This is a safety feature to keep the housing or other exposed elements at earth ground.
14. Never work alone. Someone should be nearby to render aid if necessary. Training in CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) first aid is highly recommended.

SPECIFICATIONS

Accuracy specifications apply from + 18 °C to +28 °C

DC VOLTS

Ranges: 0-300mV, 3V, 12V, 30 V, 120 V, 300 V, 1200 V
 Sensitivity: 20,000 ohms per volt
 Accuracy: ± 3% of full scale

AC VOLTS

Ranges: 0-12V, 120V, 300V, 1200V
 Sensitivity: 9,000 ohms per volt
 Accuracy@50/60Hz: ± 4% of full scale
 Frequency Response: (±1 dB) 12 V range: 40 Hz to 100 kHz
 120 V range: 40 Hz to 10 kHz
 300 V range: 40 Hz to 5 kHz
 1200 V range: 40 Hz to 1 kHz

DC CURRENT

Ranges: 0-50µA, 3mA, 30mA, 300mA, 12A
 Accuracy: ± 3% of full scale
 Burden Voltage: Less than 600 mV

RESISTANCE

Ranges: RX1, 0 to 2 kohms, mid scale 20 ohms
 RX10, 0 to 20 kohms, mid scale 200 ohms
 R X 1k, 0 to 2 Mohms, midscale 20 kohms
 R X 10k, 0 to 20 Mohms, midscale 200 kohms
 Accuracy: ± 3% of full scale
 Maximum Open Circuit Voltage: R X 1, X 10, X 1 k ranges: 3V
 R X 10k range: 9 V
 Maximum Short Circuit Current: R X 1 range: 150 mA
 RX 10 range: 15 mA
 R X 1k range: 150 µA
 R X 10K range: 100 µA

dB MEASUREMENT (dB scale)

Ranges: . -10 dB to +23 dB on 12 V AC range
+10 dB to 43 dB on 120VAC range
+18 dB to 51 dB on 300 V AC range
+30 dB on +63 dB on 1200 V AC range
0 dB Reference: 1 mW across 600 ohms

BATTERY TEST (good - bad scale)

Range: 1.5 V range for battery test only
Load: 7.5 ohms
Battery Drain: 200mA

TRANSISTOR LEAKAGE TEST (I_{CEO} scale)

Ranges: 0 to 150 μ A on RX1k range
0 to 15 mA on R X 10 range
0 to 150 mA on R X 1 range
Accuracy: \pm 5% of scale arc
Maximum Applied Voltage: 3 V, voltage measured on LV scale

TRANSISTOR GAIN MEASUREMENT

Range: 0 to 1,000 measured on h_{FE} scale with range switch set to R X 10
Accuracy: \pm 3% of scale arc
Test Leads : Special, supplied

GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

Movement: Jeweled pivots, 50 μ A full scale
Scale Length: 3-1/2 inches, mirrored scale
Polarity: +or-, polarity reversal switch
Power Source: Batteries: Two 1.5 V AA and one 9 V
Overload Protection: 250 volt ceramic fuse. Not for high energy power measurements above 250 volts.
Operating Temperature: 0 to + 40 °C
Dimensions: (H x W x D). 5-3/4" x 3-7/8" x 1-3/8" (147 x 99 x 35 mm)
Weight: 11 oz. (308 g) with batteries
Accessories Supplied: Batteries
Test leads, 1 red and 1 black
Transistor test leads
Instruction manual.
Optional Accessories: Carrying case, LC-29B

CONTROLS and INDICATORS

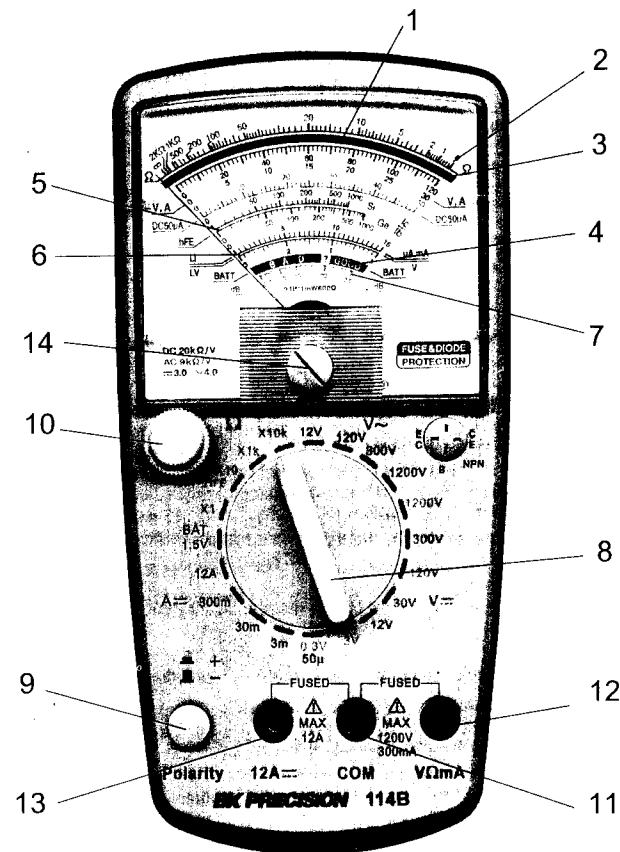


Fig. 1 Controls and indicators

1. Scale Mirror
Helps eliminate measurement errors caused by parallax when viewing scale
2. Ω Scale
Measurement scale for resistance readings.
3. DCV, A & ACV Scale
Measurement scale for DC volts, DC amperes and AC volts .
4. BATT. 1.5V Scale
Scale for measuring condition (good/??/bad) of 1.5 volt batteries.
5. h_{FE} Scale
Scale for measuring transistor gain.
6. I_{CEO} , LV and LI Scale
Measurement scale for transistor leakage.
7. dB Scale
Measurement scale for decibels (dB).
8. Function/Range Selector
Rotary switch to select measurement range and function.
9. DC+, DC- (Polarity) Switch
Polarity selector for DC voltage and current.
10. 0 Ω . ADJust
Zero ohms adjust before taking resistance measurements (leads shorted).
11. COM Jack
Input for black, negative polarity (common or reference) test lead.
12. V Ω mA Jack
Input for red, positive polarity, test lead for most measurements except 12 A range.
13. DC12A Jack
Red, positive polarity test lead input for current measurements up to 12 A.
14. Meter Zero
Mechanical adjustment to set pointer of meter to exact zero position when power is off.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS



WARNING

Be sure to read thoroughly understand and follow the practices given in the SAFETY section of this manual to reduce the risk of electrical shock.

GENERAL CARE and OPERATING TIPS

1. Make sure batteries are in good condition; see the MAINTENANCE section of this manual for battery replacement instructions.
2. Always view the meter pointer so that its reflection in the scale mirror is directly behind it. This eliminates parallax errors.
3. When the meter leads are removed, the pointer should be at exact zero. If needed, adjust the pointer to read zero by tapping the meter face gently while adjusting the mechanical zero screw.
4. The greatest accuracy is achieved when readings are in the upper part of the meter scale. As a general rule, select the next lower range when readings are less than half scale.
5. After completing your measurements, set the **Function/Range** switch to **ACV** and remove leads from the meter. Never leave the **Function/Range** switch in the Ω position to conserve battery power.

DC VOLTAGE MEASUREMENTS



CAUTION

Never try to measure voltages greater than 1200 V. Higher voltages could damage the meter and/or increase the risk of electrical shock. To prevent instrument damage, always set the Function/Range selector to a range higher than the maximum voltage you expect to measure. If the voltage is unknown, start with the highest range.

1. Plug black test lead into the **COM** jack and red test lead into the **V Ω mA** jack.
2. Set Polarity selector to DC+ or DC - as determined by polarity of voltage you intend to measure.

3. Set **Function/Range** switch to desired **V $\overline{=}$** range. If range is unknown, select 1200 V.
4. Connect black test lead to point of reference (common), red test lead to desired measuring point. The common should never exceed 600 V (DC + AC peak) with respect to earth ground.
5. Read voltage at related scale. For best accuracy, try to get a reading of at least 1/3 scale deflection.

AC VOLTAGE MEASUREMENTS

CAUTION

Never try to measure voltages greater than 1200 V. Higher voltages could damage the meter and/or increase the risk of electrical shock.

To prevent instrument damage, always set the Function/Range selector to a range higher than the maximum voltage you expect to measure. If the voltage is unknown, start with the highest range.

1. Plug black test lead into the COM jack and red test lead into the **V Ω mA** jack.
2. Set **Function/Range** switch to desired **V \sim** range. If range is unknown, select 1200 V.
3. Connect black test lead to point of reference (common), red test lead to desired measuring point. The common should never exceed 600 V (DC + AC peak) with respect to earth ground.
4. Read voltage at related scale. For best results, try to get a reading of at least 1/3 scale deflection.

RESISTANCE MEASUREMENTS

CAUTION

Never apply a voltage to the input terminals when the resistance function is selected to avoid damage to the meter. Before taking a resistance measurement, make sure circuit under test is electrically "cold", power off and any capacitors discharged.

1. Plug black test lead into the **COM** jack and red test lead into the **V Ω mA** jack.
2. Set **Function/Range** switch to desired ohms/resistance range.
3. Short leads together firmly and verify that pointer rests on exact zero ohms. If needed, adjust the 0 Ω ADJ control to assure pointer rests on zero. Repeat this check each time range is changed. If pointer cannot be zeroed, one or both batteries may be weak. See the MAINTENANCE section of this manual to check and/or replace the batteries.
4. Connect test leads across component or circuit being measured. Obtain correct resistance value by multiplying scale reading by X factor (X1/X10/etc) of range selected. For best accuracy, select a range that gives a reading as close as possible to the zero end of the scale.

NOTE

When making resistance measurements, be aware that the open circuit voltage between the - COM and + terminals is high enough to forward-bias typical semiconductors. This voltage is about 3V in the **X1**, **X10**, **X1K** ranges and about 9V in the **X10K** range.

OUT-OF-CIRCUIT DIODE TESTS

The resistance function of this meter can be used to check the forward/reverse resistance ratio of diode devices. This is not a "fool-proof" test, but it's reasonably reliable in most cases. Also, see Transistor Tests for more semiconductor checks.

1. Remove diode or similar device being tested from circuit.
2. Select desired resistance range, typically **X1K**.

3. Connect test leads across diode, then reverse connections Resistance ratio should be at least 10,000:1. near infinity in one direction and low resistance in other direction.
 - . If meter reading is near infinity in both directions, the diode device is probably open.
 - . If meter reading is very low in both directions, the diode device is probably shorted

TRANSISTOR MEASUREMENTS

This meter provides three transistor measurement: leakage, amplification factor and bad/good condition. These measurements are made with the use of transistor test socket, resistance function and transistor scales of this meter Both NPN and PNP transistors can be tested.

Transistor h_{FE} test

1. Set the Function/Range selector to R X 10, with two test probe plugged in **COM** and **V Ω mA** jack, short the leads and make 0 Ω **ADJ** knob.
2. If you are testing an NPN transistor insert the transistor to lower three holes of the socket with black marking NPN, as the fig.2 shown, and get reading on blue h_{FE} scale: it reads $I_c/I_b = h_{FE}$

Transistor I_{CEO} test

1. Set the Function/Range selector to a appropriate Ω range, make zero ohm adjustment, insert the C and E leads to the transistor test socket, as shown in Fig.3, read the leakage current value on **LI** scale according to the short circuit current of various resistance range.
2. The I_{CEO} could also be measured by using test leads instead of test socket. Contact **Black** probe to C lead of NPN transistor or E of PNP transistor, and connect **Red** probe to E of NPN or C of PNP transistor, also read I_{CEO} on **LI** scale.



Fig. 2 h_{FE} test



Fig.3 I_{CEO} test

Bad / good judgment

- . Transistor bad, open: Zero (0) reading in both states, with base open or closed.
- . Transistor bad, collector-to-emitter short: High reading in both states, with base open or closed.

Note

Germanium Transistors Note: The leakage current in these transistors always flows to the collector. This causes an error in the amplification factor reading. To compensate for this error, subtract the reading on the I_{CEO} scale from the reading on the h_{FE} scale.

DC CURRENT MEASUREMENTS

WARNING

- . Always connect meter in series with load when measuring current. If you incorrectly connect it in parallel with the load, it provides a low impedance path, almost a short, shunting the load. This high current path could damage the meter and/or equipment under test.
- . Always select a range high enough to pass the current you plan to measure. If current value is unknown, or in doubt, start with the + 12V range. Never exceed the current range selected or range of the related jack.
- . Only use this meter to measure dc currents; never try to use it to measure ac current.

1. Plug black test lead into the COM jack.
2. Plug rest test lead into appropriate jack for current level that you intend to measure. Use the DC+12A jack for current levels greater than 0.3 A (300 mA) but not exceeding 12 A.
3. Set the Function/Range switch to appropriate range.
4. Remove power from circuit under test. it must be electrically "cold". Open circuit at a point that does not exceed 600 V (DC + AC peak) from earth ground, or chassis of the equipment under test.

- Connect meter in series with line opened; red test lead to positive (+) side, black test lead to negative (-) side of this line.
- Apply power to circuit and obtain current value by reading related scale at meter. For best accuracy, make sure range selected gives a reading of at least 1/3 scale deflection.
- Turn power off and restore circuit to its original condition.

dB MEASUREMENTS

The dB function of this meter is actually an ac voltage measurement scaled to read in dB. Zero dBm, labeled as 0 dB at this meter, equals 0.7746 V rms (1 mW into 600 ohms). If the measurement is taken across an impedance other than 600 ohms, use the following table to determine the meter correction factor. Algebraically add the correction factor (in dB) to the meter reading (in dB) for the correct value in dBm.

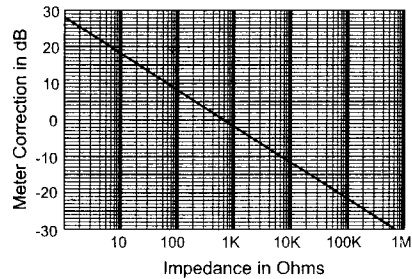
- Connect black test lead to COM jack and red test lead to + jack. 0

- Select the desired ACV range. The dB scale is calibrated for a direct reading on the 12 V AC range. Other ranges can be used by adding an appropriate factor as shown in the following chart.

ACV RANGE	12	120	300	1200
ADD dB	0	20	28	40

ACV/dB Range Compensation

- Read value shown on dB scale and add any compensation factors as determined by your operating range and/or impedance if its value is not 600 ohms.



MAINTENANCE

⚠ WARNING

To avoid personal harm and/or damage to the equipment, remove test leads before changing batteries, or fuse, or servicing meter.

BATTERY REPLACEMENT

This meter uses three batteries: two 1.5V "AA" batteries for the X1, X10, X1 K ranges and one 9 V battery for the X10K range. The Fig.4 below shows the location of the batteries and two protective fuses.

Test batteries when you are near the full adjustment limit of 0Ω ADJ in any of the resistance ranges. Be sure to replace low or discharged batteries promptly. Low batteries leak corrosive acid.

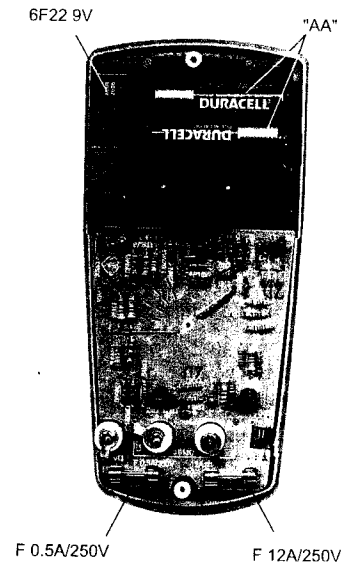


Fig.4 Battery and fuse replacement