

**BK PRECISION®**

# **Instruction Manual**

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**Model 310 Digital Milli-Ohm Meter**

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# SAFETY RULES

The meter has been designed with safety in mind. However, no design can completely protect against incorrect use. Electrical circuits are dangerous and lethal through lack of caution or poor safety practice. The following rules should reduce the danger:

- Read the User's manual carefully and completely before using the instrument. Fully understand the instructions before using this product. Follow the instructions for every test. Take all the necessary precautions. Do not exceed the limits of this instrument.
- The circuit to be tested must be de-energized and isolated before connections are made to it.
- Do not use test leads, probes or crocodiles/alligators clips that are dirty, damaged or have broken or cracked insulation. Such accessories should be removed and repaired immediately.
- Always disconnect the test leads before replacing any fuse. Always replace the fuse with the type specified and ensure that they are correctly fitted.
- Double check the switch settings and leads connections before measuring. Make a sketch to ensure proper operation and principle of measurement is correct and well understood.
- Do not touch any exposed wiring, connections or other "live" parts of an electrical circuit. If in doubt, check the circuit first for voltage before touching it.
- **This instrument should only be used by a competent, suitably trained person which understand fully this test & measurement procedure.**



**Warning, risk of electric shock.**



**Caution, refer to this manual before using the Meter.**

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The meter digital milli-ohmmeter is a battery operated instrument which supply a low current to the circuit under test, with which, stable, accurate measurement of low resistance can be made, still, over a wide range of values.

Resolution on the lowest range is  $100\mu\Omega$  and on the highest range,  $1\Omega$ .

The meter has 5 measuring ranges, from  $200.0m\Omega$  to  $2000\Omega$ .

Measurements are displayed on a  $3\frac{1}{2}$  digit custom liquid crystal display with large digits.

This instrument is powered from batteries only.

It has a regulated DC constant current source with current of  $1mA$   $10mA$  and  $100mA$ .

The instrument supply that current to the resistance being measured through the  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  terminals ( $C_1$  being +,  $C_2$  being -).

The voltage drop across the resistance under test is measured by the potential terminals  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  ( $P_1$  being +,  $P_2$  being -).

Should the current regulation drop out, the  $R_c$  LED will lit, indicating that the resistance in the current circuit is too high. (Lowering the current by selecting a higher resistance range can solve the regulation.)

Should the  $R_p$  LED lit, that mean that the voltage measured on the resistance is too high, and therefore over-range.

The resistance is measured precisely when the  $R_p$  and  $R_c$  LEDs do not lit. If anyone of these LEDs lit, then the measurement can be inaccurate.

The meter has a built-in custom  $2\frac{3}{2}$  digit liquid crystal display

can be viewed in most lightning conditions. This display indicates the differences conditions (Hold, m, buzzer, polarity condition of load, + or -, automatic decimal point change).

The ranges are selected by a 5 position rotary switch, and a test is initiated by pressing the ON push-button.

The instrument takes measurements for 10 seconds if the "ON" "TEST r<sub>e</sub>" presentative" button is depressed for less than 2 seconds. If the same push button is pressed for more than 3 seconds, the test will carry on for 60 seconds.

The tester switch "OFF" completely when the rotary switch is in the "OFF" position.

The tester "Hold" the last reading before stopping the test.

The tester is fuse protected and has a crowbar between C<sub>1</sub> and C<sub>2</sub>.

This crowbar is activated by voltage. If the voltage is too high, that crowbar will blow the fuse automatically to interrupt the circuit.

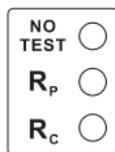
The voltage between P<sub>1</sub> and P<sub>2</sub> is also protected for over voltage but does not have a fuse.

The tester has a temperature shut down. The temperature sensing is done on the current regulation transistor.

Should this over-temperature let lit, allow the instrument to cool down for a while before proceeding further.

# FRONT PANEL LAYOUT

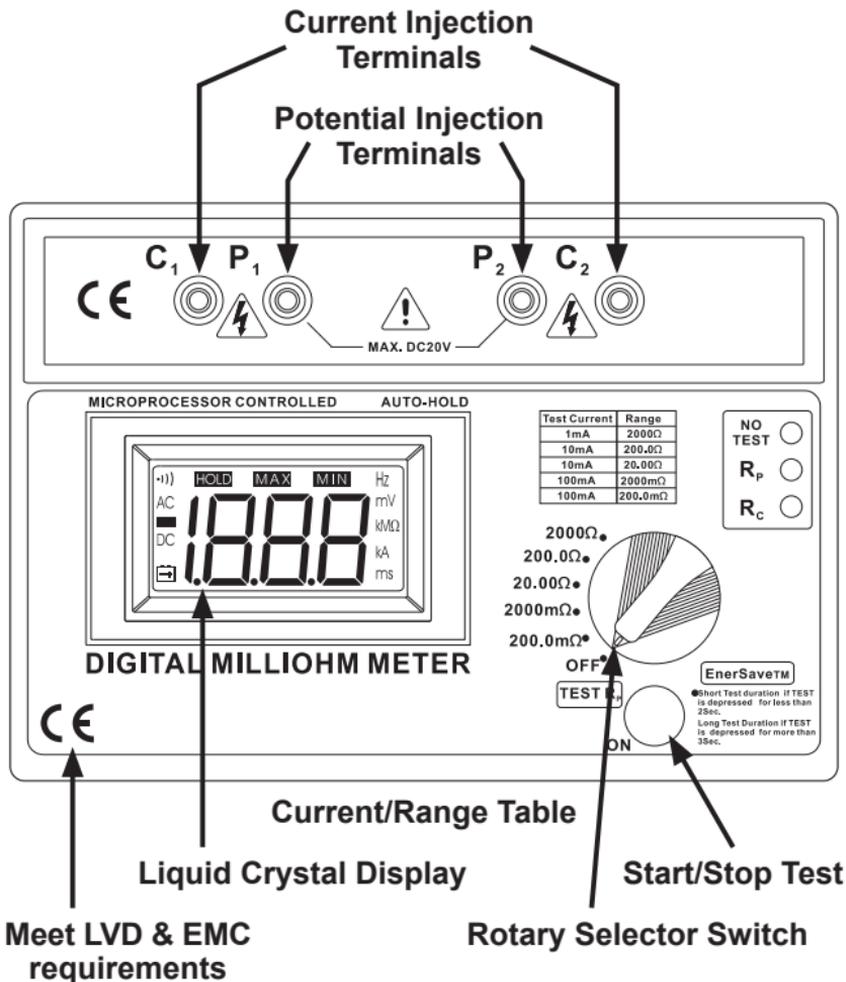
If NO TEST LED lit, the current source is stopped.



Over Temperature indicator. Lit = Over-temperature or test stopped.

Resistance between the current leads too high (fuse!).

Resistance between the potential leads too high.



# PREPARATION FOR USE

When unpacked, the tester should be inspected for any visible signs of damage, and the preliminary checks described in the user's manual should be performed to ensure that it is operating correctly. If there is any sign of damage, or if the instrument does not operate correctly, return it to your nearest supplier.

## PRELIMINARY CHECKS

### Check the battery

- If the battery symbol is shown on the LCD, then replace with new batteries before proceeding.

### Check the current regulation:

- Connect the current leads to  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ .
- Select a range, and short the current test leads. The  $R_C$  LED should go off, indicating that the current regulation is ok.

### Check the voltage measurement:

- Connect the potential leads to  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ .
- Short the  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ . The display should indicate 0000.
- Remove the short from  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  and  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ . Touching the potential test leads  $P_1$  to  $C_1$  and  $P_2$  to  $C_2$ , the  $R_P$  LED should lit, indicating an over-voltage or over-range.

This proving test can be repeated on all the ranges if need be.

You can also check the polarity indication of the milli-voltmeter by touching the potential test leads  $P_1$  to  $C_2$  and  $P_2$  to  $C_1$ , the  $R_P$  LED should lit, indicating an over-voltage or over-range. The - indicator should be indicating - on the LCD, showing the polarity change.

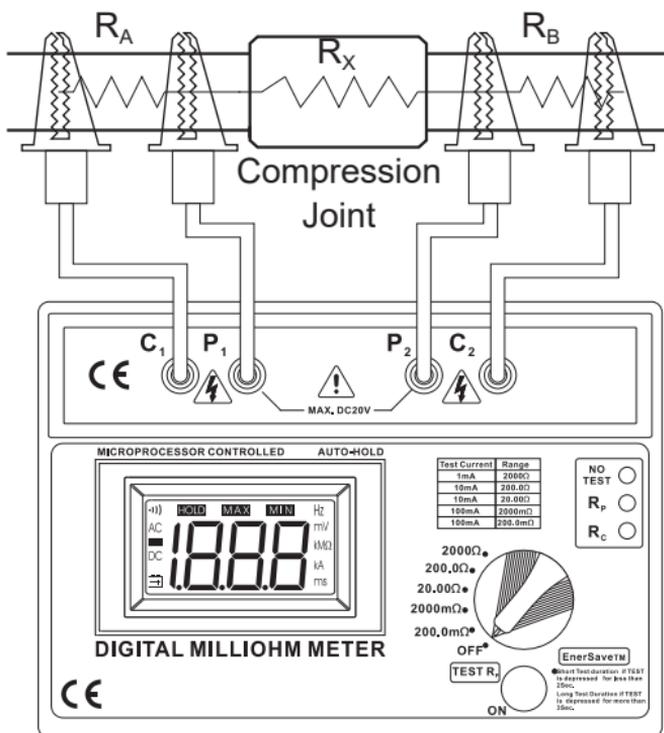
Total check can be done by shorting all the test leads together  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$ ,  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$ . The display should indicate close to 0000 (depending of the crocodiles clips used and how they are shorted). Both  $R_C$  and  $R_P$  LED should be OFF, indicating that everything work ok.

## PRECAUTIONS

- Always ensure that the circuit to be measured is switched "OFF", isolated and completely de-energized before connecting the test Leads.
- If it is probable that the instrument's protection has been impaired due to electrical, mechanical or environmental damage, it must not be used. It should be returned to your nearest distributor or agent for checking and repair.
- To prevent damage to the liquid crystal display, the minimum storage temperature of  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  must be observed. It should also be noted that below  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$  the operation of the LCD will be sluggish.
- If the exterior of the instrument requires cleaning, it should be done with a sponge and a mild solution of detergent and water.
- Other mechanical cleaning agents must not be used.

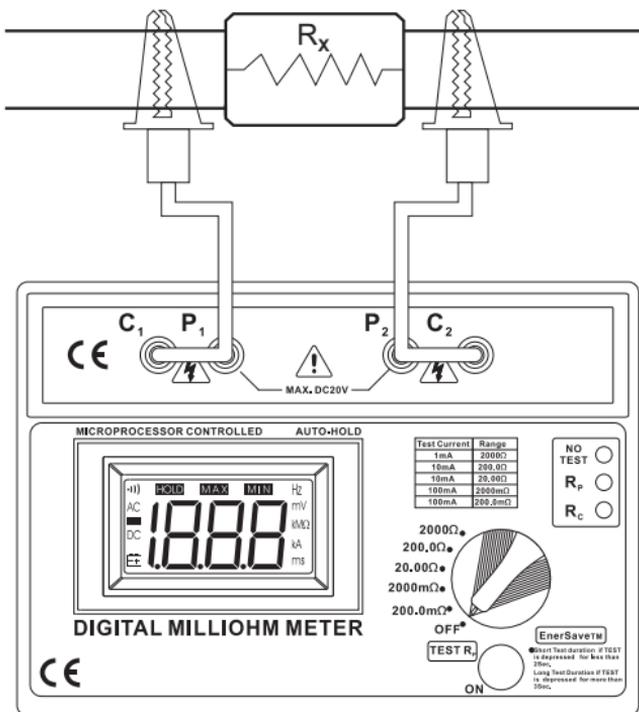
# MEASURING

- Perform the preliminary checks before proceeding with measurement and ensure that the precautions listed are observed.
- Connect the test leads (color coded) to the instrument as shown.
- The current test leads must always be outside of the potential test leads.
- Please note that the shorter the potential test leads, the better long potential test leads will pick up noise.
- Screened test leads are recommended for better environmental noise rejection.



# SIMPLIFIED MEASUREMENT

The 4 wires measurement has many advantages. The errors due to the resistance of the test leads and the contacts as well as  $R_A$  and  $R_B$  are eliminated. However, in some cases, for example when using the high resistance range ( $2000\Omega$ ) the four wires method is not necessary to still have a good percentage of accuracy (compared to the full scale). The simplified method of two wires can be used without too much problems.  $C_1$  and  $P_1$  can be shorted as well as  $C_2$  and  $P_2$ .



# APPLICATIONS

The meter Digital milli-ohmmeter, with its measuring range of  $100\mu\Omega$  to  $2000\Omega$ , is suitable for a wide range of applications such as:

- Measuring the winding resistance of electric motors, generators and transformers.
- Bond testing in mines, aircraft, railways, ships, domestic and industrial wiring installations.
- Measuring the ring main continuity testing in industrial and domestic wiring installations.
- Measuring resistance in electronic equipment such as shunts, pcb tracks, switch and relay resistance.
- Checking compression joints on overheads lines.
- Testing and maintenance of switchboard /sub-station equipment on such items as fuses, joints, contacts and bonds.

## TEST LEADS

The test leads supplied with the instrument are suitable for connecting to conductors up to 17mm in diameter or bus bars 17mm tick. There will be, instances where the item being measured require larger jaws, and the user is advised to make up his own leads. There will be occasions when longer leads are required due to the geometry of the item being tested. Some guidance notes should assist in the assembly of such leads:

**Length of the potential leads should be as short as possible.** Insulated 16/0.2mm, tinned copper wire is recommended. The two potential leads should have the same length to minimize inaccuracies due to unbalance.

## SUPPLIED POTENTIAL TEST LEADS

P<sub>1</sub>+ test lead is of Red color, shrouded, 4mm safety plug which at one end have a crocodile (alligator) clip for connection to the resistance to be measured. The other end plugs into the meter (4mm shrouded) color coded sockets.

P<sub>2</sub>- test lead is of Blue color, shrouded, 4mm safety plug which at one end have a crocodile (alligator) clip for connection to the resistance to be measured. The other end plugs into the meter (4mm shrouded) color coded sockets.

## SUPPLIED CURRENT TEST LEADS

C<sub>1</sub>+ test lead is of Green color, shrouded, 4mm safety plug which at one end have a crocodile (alligator) clip for connection to the resistance to be measured. The other end plugs into the meter (4mm shrouded) color coded sockets.

C<sub>2</sub>- test lead is of Black color, shrouded, 4mm safety plug which at one end have a crocodile (alligator) clip for connection to the resistance to be measured. The other end plugs into the meter (4mm shrouded) color coded sockets.

## THERMAL EFFECTS

Temperature can have a significant effect on the performance of a digital milli-ohmmeter due to the temperature coefficient of the resistance under test and thermal EMF's across the dissimilar conductors.

Most conductors have a large temperature coefficient of resistance.

For example: 0.4%/°C for copper. A copper conductor that has a resistance of 10.00mΩ at 20°C will increase to 10.40mΩ at 30°C. This change should be taken into account when making measurements.

A current going through a resistance will also elevate its temperature. So duration of the test can change the resistance.

When measuring the resistance of item, such as current shunts, which have joints of dissimilar conductors, thermal EMF can affect the accuracy of the measurement. This condition can be detected if the reading alters when the leads are reversed. To compensate for this effect, the average of the two readings should be taken as the true measurement.

## FUSES REPLACEMENT

There are three fuses:

- **Power Supply Fuse**

The power supply fuse is situated under the tester. Open the battery compartment and replace the fuse with the same type (0.5A / 250Vac, 5 x 20mm)

- **Current Circuit Fuse**

Fuse protection is provided on the current terminals.

This fuse is situated under the Printed Circuit Board. To access it, you need to unscrew the four mounting screws which are holding the front panel. Two of these screws are

located under the foots, and the two others are located inside the battery compartment.

The fuse is automatically blow by the crowbar, should voltage be present on the resistance under test. This is to prevent damage to the instrument.

It is indicative of this fuse being blown is the  $R_c$  LED stays "on". (0.5A / 250Vac, 5 x 20mm)

- **Potential Circuit Fuse**

Fuse protection is provided on the potential terminals.

This fuse is situated under the Printed Circuit Board. To access it, you need to unscrew the four mounting screws which are holding the front panel. Two of these screws are located under the foots, and the two others are located inside the battery compartment.

The fuse is automatically blow by the crowbar, should voltage be present on the resistance under test. This is to prevent damage to the instrument.

If the preliminary tests does not lit  $R_p$  this is indicative of this fuse being blown. (0.5A / 250Vac, 5 x 20mm)

## **INPUT LIMITS & PROTECTIONS**

The maximum continuous voltage which can be applied across the potential and current leads is around 10.7V. Applying more than that voltage will automatically blow their respective fuses.

However, the crowbar trigger can be factory adjusted for your application.

We have specially selected that method to stop damaging the instrument, should it be misused.

# SPECIFICATIONS

<b>Measuring Ranges</b>	0-200.0m $\Omega$ in steps of 100 $\mu\Omega$ 0-2000m $\Omega$ in steps of 1m $\Omega$ 0-20.00 $\Omega$ in steps of 10m $\Omega$ 0-200.0 $\Omega$ in steps of 100m $\Omega$ 0-2000 $\Omega$ in steps of 1 $\Omega$
<b>Accuracy</b>	$\pm 0.5\%$ of reading $\pm 2$ digits over the Operating temperature range, $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $+55^{\circ}\text{C}$ , with the supplied test leads.
<b>Test Current</b>	1mA : 2000 $\Omega$ range 10mA : 200 $\Omega$ / 20 $\Omega$ ranges 100mA: 2000m $\Omega$ / 200m $\Omega$ ranges
<b>Test Current Accuracy</b>	$\pm 0.1\%$
<b>Protection Fuses</b>	Supply = 0.5A, 5 x 20mm Current = 0.5A, 5 x 20mm Voltage = 0.5A, 5 x 20mm
<b>Safety</b>	LVD EN 61010-1 EMC EN 61326-1

## MECHANICAL

Case Height: 110mm  
Case Width: 250mm  
Case Depth: 190mm  
Drop Test: EN 61010, Clause 8.3  
Weight: 1.563kg

## Rated environmental conditions

- (1) Indoor Use
- (2) Pollution Degree 2
- (3) Altitude up to 2000 meter
- (4) Relative humidity 80% max.
- (5) Ambient temperature  $0^{\circ}\text{C}\sim 40^{\circ}\text{C}$

## **SPARES & ACCESSORIES**

At the date of printing this user's manual, accessories were not yet available. Please contact the factory for further information. Spares are available from your nearest distributor.

## **LIMITED ONE-YEAR WARRANTY**

B&K Precision warrants to the original purchaser that its products and the component parts thereof, will be free from defects in workmanship and materials for a period of one year from date of purchase from an authorized B&K Precision distributor.

B&K Precision will, without charge, repair or replace, at its option, defective product or component parts. Returned product must be accompanied by proof of the purchase date in the form of a sales receipt.

To obtain warranty coverage in the U.S.A., this product must be registered by completing the warranty registration form on [www.bkprecision.com](http://www.bkprecision.com) within fifteen (15) days of purchase.

**Exclusions: This warranty does not apply in the event of misuse or abuse of the product or as a result of unauthorized alterations or repairs. The warranty is void if the serial number is altered, defaced or removed.**

B&K Precision shall not be liable for any consequential damages, including without limitation damages resulting from loss of use. Some states do not allow limitations of incidental or consequential damages. So the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

This warranty gives you specific rights and you may have other rights, which vary from state-to-state.

B&K Precision  
22820 Savi Ranch Parkway  
Yorba Linda, CA 92887  
[www.bkprecision.com](http://www.bkprecision.com)  
714-921-9095

## **CLEANING & STORAGE**

Periodically wipe the case with a damp cloth and detergent: do not use abrasives or solvents.

If the meter is not to be used for periods of longer than 60 days, remove the batteries and store them separately.

## **BATTERY & FUSE REPLACEMENT**

### **Battery Replacement**

- The tester continuously monitors the battery voltage and indicates when the batteries need to be replaced.
- The tester's battery is situated under the tester.
- Disconnect the test leads from the instrument and remove the battery cover and the batteries.
- Replace with eight 1.5V AA batteries, taking care to observe correct polarity.
- Replace battery holder and the battery cover.

### **Fuse Replacement**

- The fuse is located under the battery holder.
- To replace fuse, open the battery cover. Then remove and replace the fuse located under the battery holder.
- Only replace with same fuse specification. (500mA)

CAT IV - Is for measurements performed at the source of the low voltage installation.

CAT III - Is for measurements performed in the building Installation

CAT II - Is for measurements performed on circuits directly connected to the low-voltage installation.

Due to our policy of constant improvement and development, we reserve the right to change specifications without notice.

## SERVICE INFORMATION

### Warranty Service:

Please return the product in the original packaging with proof of purchase to the address below. Clearly state in writing the performance problem and return any leads, probes, connectors and accessories that you are using with the device.

### Non-Warranty Service:

Return the product in the original packaging to the address below. Clearly state in writing the performance problem and return any leads, probes, connectors and accessories that you are using with the device. Customers not on open account must include payment in the form of a money order or credit card. For the most current repair charges please visit [www.bkprecision.com](http://www.bkprecision.com) and click on "service/repair".

Return all merchandise to B&K Precision with pre-paid shipping. The flat-rate repair charge for Non-Warranty Service **does not** include return shipping. Return shipping to locations in North American is included for Warranty Service only. For overnight shipments and non-North American shipping fees please contact B&K Precision.

B&K Precision  
22820 Savi Ranch Parkway  
Yorba Linda, CA 92887  
[www.bkprecision.com](http://www.bkprecision.com)  
714-921-9095

**Include with the returned instrument your complete return shipping address, contact name, phone number and description of problem.**

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