

Drawing Circuit Diagrams

- Before building an actual circuit, it is a good idea to draw a circuit diagram
- There are some conventions to follow when drawing circuit diagrams:
 - Connecting wires are ALWAYS drawn as straight lines with a ruler
 - Corners in a circuit are ALWAYS drawn at 90° angles
 - Standard symbols are used to represent all circuit components

Use Table 11.2 on page 450 to find the symbols for the following components.

Symbol	Component	Function
	cell	Electrical source, longer side is positive terminal, shorter side is negative
	switch	Opens and closes the circuit
	light bulb	Converts electricity to light and heat (a load)
	resistor	Converts electricity to heat (a load)
	ammeter	Measures current through a device, connected in series
	voltmeter	Measures voltage across a device, connected in parallel
	conducting wire	Conductor, allows electrons to flow

Practice

Draw a circuit diagram that consists of a 3-cell battery, an open switch and a resistor. Draw arrows outside the circuit to show the direction of electron flow.

