

# CONTINUITY TESTER

I found the circuit in an electronics lab when I was at college. I built one and have found it immensely useful ever since.

It has far more uses than the usual testing of fuses &c and even gives a pretty good guide to the state of capacitors.

There's no need to get hung up on the speaker impedance as over the years I've used everything from  $8\Omega$  to piezo transducers.

Mine has got an  $80\Omega$  one along with a socket so I can use this a high(ish) impedance test speaker.

Basically the higher the tone it makes the lower the resistance it's testing. Very high resistances will produce a series of pips and it's surprising how it can be pipping every couple of seconds on things that other meters have read as infinity.

When testing capacitors for leakage a large one will initially emit a high note which gradually reduces in pitch and finally becomes a series of pips, or in an ideal world, it will shut up completely. Smaller ones may emit one pip and very small ones nothing at all. A constant low note or series of pips shows that it's leaking.

