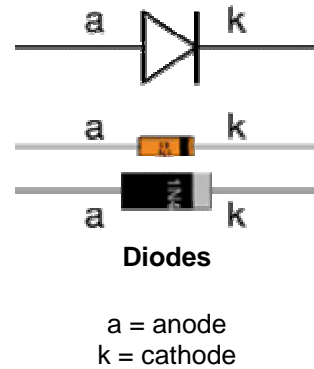


FIELD TESTING DIODES –TESTING A DIODE WITH A MULTIMETER:

The techniques used for each type of meter are very different so they are treated separately:

Testing a diode with a **DIGITAL** multimeter

- Digital multimeters have a special setting for testing a diode, usually labelled with the diode symbol.
- Connect the **red** (+) lead to the anode and the **black** (-) to the cathode. The diode should conduct and the meter will display a value (usually the voltage across the diode in mV, 1000mV = 1V).
- Reverse the connections. The diode should NOT conduct this way so the meter will display "off the scale" (usually blank except for a 1 on the left).



Testing a diode with an **ANALOGUE** multimeter

- Set the analogue multimeter to a low value resistance range such as $\times 10$.
- It is essential to note that the polarity of analogue multimeter leads is reversed on the resistance ranges, so the **black** lead is positive (+) and the **red** lead is negative (-)! This is unfortunate, but it is due to the way the meter works.
- Connect the **black** (+) lead to anode and the **red** (-) to the cathode. The diode should conduct and the meter will display a low resistance (the exact value is not relevant).
- Reverse the connections. The diode should NOT conduct this way so the meter will show infinite resistance (on the left of the scale).