

## Re: Amusing problem about DC polarity

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2006-06/msg02508.html>

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- *From:* Robert Baer <[robertbaer@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:robertbaer@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 12 Jun 2006 02:13:43 GMT
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siliconmike wrote:

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Imagine a black plastic box that takes in DC power but has no polarity markings on its power socket.

The problem is to experimentally determine the correct DC polarity without opening the box and without letting the box die.

How close can we come?

The black box, say is a portable electronic consumer device – say for example a mobile phone or a CD player or a currency counter for that matter.. Working on less than 24 V for example..

Apologies, I should have mentioned that earlier..

Mike.

I had a currency counter that would test open...until you put a coin in for sort / count. And it did not care about polarity..

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