

Keysight U1241C/ U1242C Handheld Digital Multimeter

Quick Start
Guide

Safety Notices

CAUTION

A CAUTION notice denotes a hazard. It calls attention to an operating procedure, practice, or the like that, if not correctly performed or adhered to, could result in damage to the product or loss of important data. Do not proceed beyond a CAUTION notice until the indicated conditions are fully understood and met.

WARNING

A WARNING notice denotes a hazard. It calls attention to an operating procedure, practice, or the like that, if not correctly performed or adhered to, could result in personal injury or death. Do not proceed beyond a WARNING notice until the indicated conditions are fully understood and met.

Safety and EMC Information

The U1241C/U1242C complies with safety and EMC requirements.

Refer to Declaration of Conformity at <http://www.keysight.com/go/conformity> for the latest revision.

Use with standard or compatible test probes.

Safety symbols

	Earth (ground) terminal
	Equipment protected throughout by double insulation or reinforced insulation
	Caution, risk of danger (refer to this manual for specific Warning or Caution information)
CAT III 1000 V	Category III 1000 V overvoltage protection
CAT IV 600 V	Category IV 600 V overvoltage protection

For further safety information details, refer to the *Keysight U1241C/U1242C Handheld Digital Multimeter User's Guide*.

Standard Accessories

The following accessories are shipped standard with the U1241C/U1242C multimeters:

- Test leads (red and black)
- IR-to-USB cable
- Four 1.5 V AAA batteries
- Printed copy of the Certificate of Calibration

If any item is missing or damaged, keep the shipping materials and contact the nearest Keysight Sales Office.

NOTE

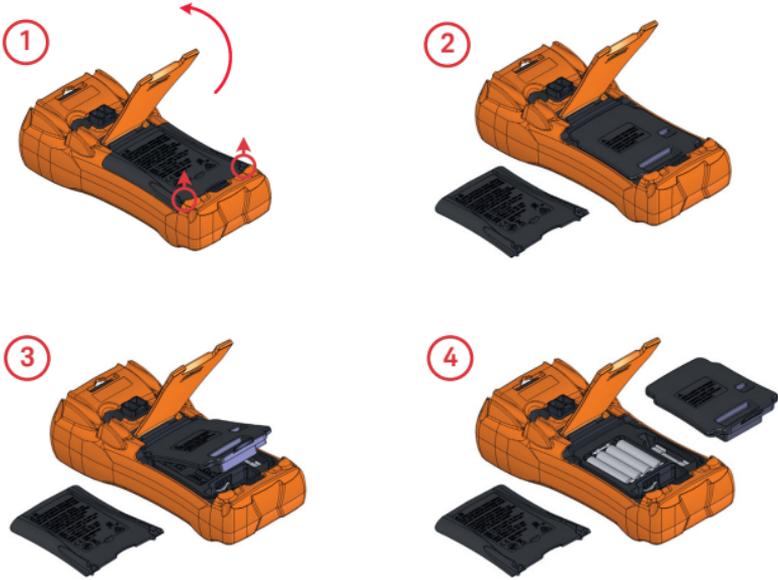
- The descriptions and instructions in this guide apply to the U1241C and U1242C Handheld Digital Multimeters.
 - The model U1242C appears in all illustrations.
 - All related documents and software are available for download at www.keysight.com/find/hhTechLib.
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NOTE

Your multimeter is capable of receiving remote commands and performing remote data logging. To use these features, you will need an IR-to-USB cable (included in the shipment) or an IR-to-Bluetooth[®] adapter (U1117A, purchased separately), and the Keysight Handheld Meter Logger Software (downloadable from www.keysight.com/find/hhmeterlogger).

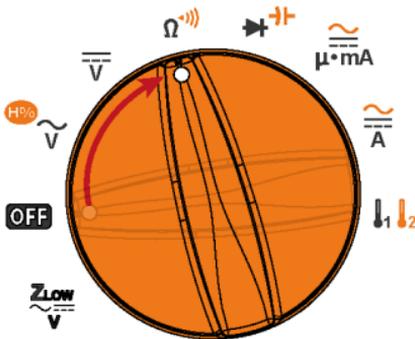
Install or Change the Batteries

The multimeter is powered by four 1.5 V AAA batteries (included in the shipment).

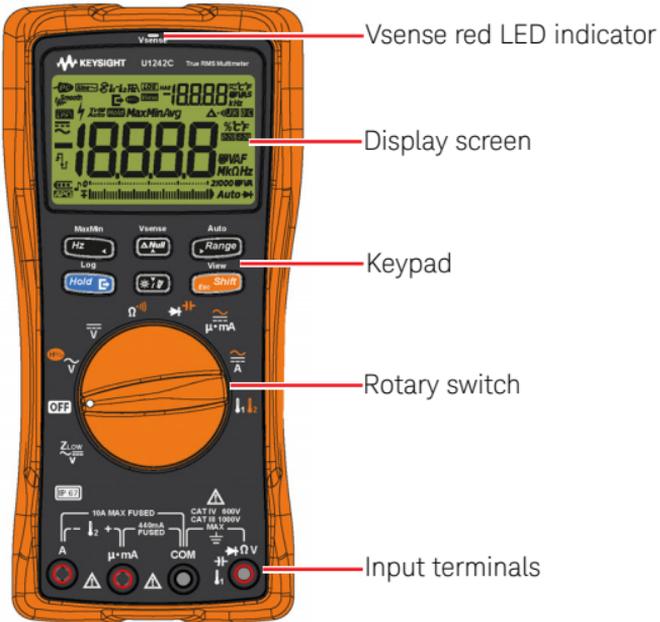


Turn On the Multimeter

Turn the rotary switch from the **OFF** position to any other position to start making measurements.



The Multimeter at a Glance



Using the Rotary Switch

Legend	Measurement function	Model	
		U1241C	U1242C
	Z _{LOW} (low input impedance) AC/DC V for checking stray voltages	–	✓
	AC V/ Harmonic ratio ^[a]	✓	✓
	DC V	✓	✓
	Resistance/ Continuity	✓	✓
	Diode/ Capacitance	✓	✓
	AC or DC μA and mA	✓	✓
	AC or DC A	✓	✓
	T1 temperature/ T2 and T1-T2 temperature ^[a] or AC/DC mV (when enabled from the Setup “CoUP” menu)	✓	✓

[a] For U1242C only.

WARNING

Remove the test leads from the measuring source or target before changing the rotary switch position.

Refer to the *U1241C/U1242C User's Guide* for a complete list and description of all rotary switch labels.

Using the Keypad

Legend	Key response when pressed for:	
	Less than 1 second	More than 1 second
	Enables the frequency test mode.	Starts, stops, and exits the Max/Min/Avg recording.
	Sets the Null/Relative mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sets a manual range. - Switches between environment temperature compensation (ETC) and non-ETC for temperature measurements. 	Toggles on/off non-contact voltage detection (Vsense).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes the Vsense detector sensitivity. 	Enables autoranging.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Freezes the present reading in the display (TrigHold mode). - Automatically freezes the present reading once the reading is stable (AutoHold mode; when enabled from the multimeter's Setup mode). 	
	Press  again to exit this mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stores a record of the measured signal and exports it via the multimeter's optical communication port. - Restarts the Max/Min/Avg recording. 	Starts and stops data logging.
	Turns the backlight on/off.	Turns the flashlight on/off.

Legend	Key response when pressed for:	
	Less than 1 second	More than 1 second
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Switches between the regular and shifted (icon printed in orange) functions. - Enables the Scan mode for temperature measurements (U1242C only). 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enters and exits the data log review mode (with the Hold mode disabled). - Exits the TrigHold or AutoHold mode. - Enters the Setup mode (while turning the rotary switch from OFF to on), and exits the Setup mode.

Using the Input Terminals

WARNING To avoid damaging this device, do not exceed the input limit.

Rotary position	Input terminals	Overload protection
		
		1000 Vrms
	 Ω V 	
	 	
		1000 Vrms for short circuit <0.3 A
		
	 $-$  $+$	
	μ •mA  	440 mA/1000 V, fast-acting fuse
	A  	11 A/1000 V, fast-acting fuse

Hazardous Signal Warnings

Hazardous voltage indication

The multimeter will display the hazardous voltage  symbol as an early precaution when the measured voltage is:

Measurement	DC	AC
V (mV)	$\geq +30$ V or +OL (voltage overload)	≤ -30 V or -OL ≥ 30 V or OL

This symbol will also be displayed when the input signal exceeds the limitation of measuring circuit as frequency dependence.

Hazardous current indication

The multimeter will display the  symbol as an early precaution when the measured current has reached the maximum fuse rating as follows:

Measurement	DC	AC
A	$\geq +11$ A or +OL (current overload)	≤ -11 A or -OL ≥ 11 A or OL
μ A/mA	≥ 440 mA or +OL	≤ -440 mA or -OL ≥ 440 mA or OL

CAUTION

If your measuring current is > 10 A ~ 19.999 A, you will need to lower the current within a 30 seconds time limitation to avoid blowing the multimeter's fuse.

Input warning

The multimeter emits a continuous beep and the red LED indicator lights up when:

- the test lead is inserted into the **A** or **μmA** input terminal but the rotary switch is not set to the correct current position. The secondary display will show **A-Er** or **$\mu\text{A-Er}$** until the test lead is removed. The beeping will stop automatically after 5 seconds even if the test lead is not removed.

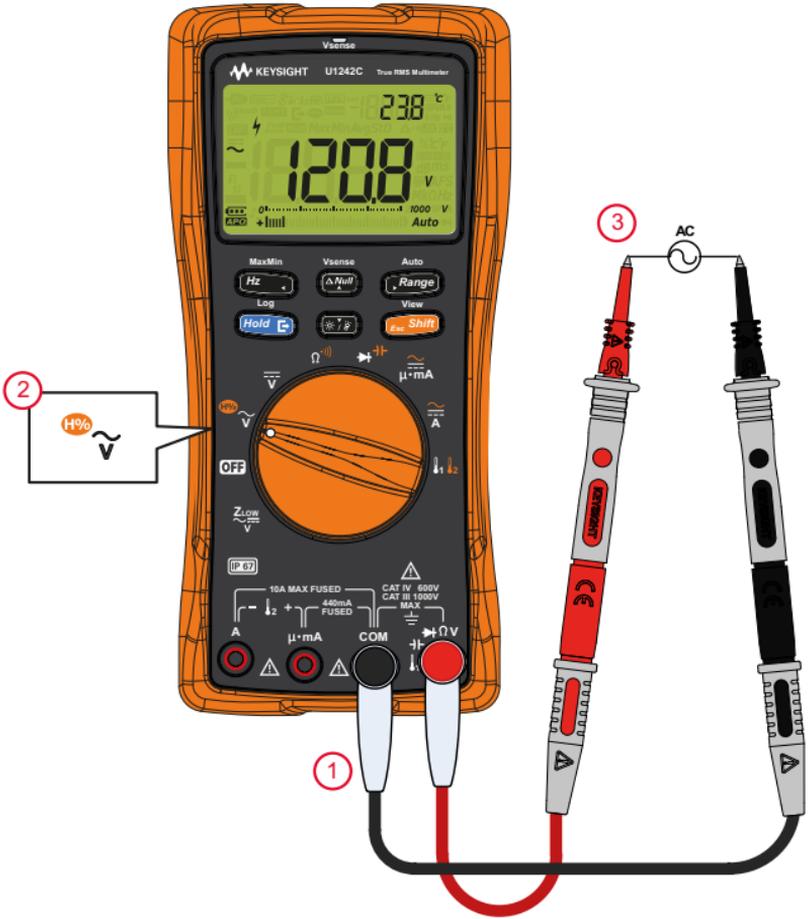


- the rotary switch is set to the current measurement position but no lead is inserted into its respective input terminal. The secondary display will show **LEAd**, and the warning alert will stop after 3 seconds approximately.



Voltage Measurements

Measuring AC voltage



Measuring harmonic ratio (U1242C only)

The harmonic ratio function indicates the deviation of non-sinusoidal to sinusoidal waveform from the range of 0% to 100%, which indicates the presence of harmonics. A higher harmonic ratio means more harmonics are present on the signal.



AC V (true rms)



AC V (averaging sense)^[1]



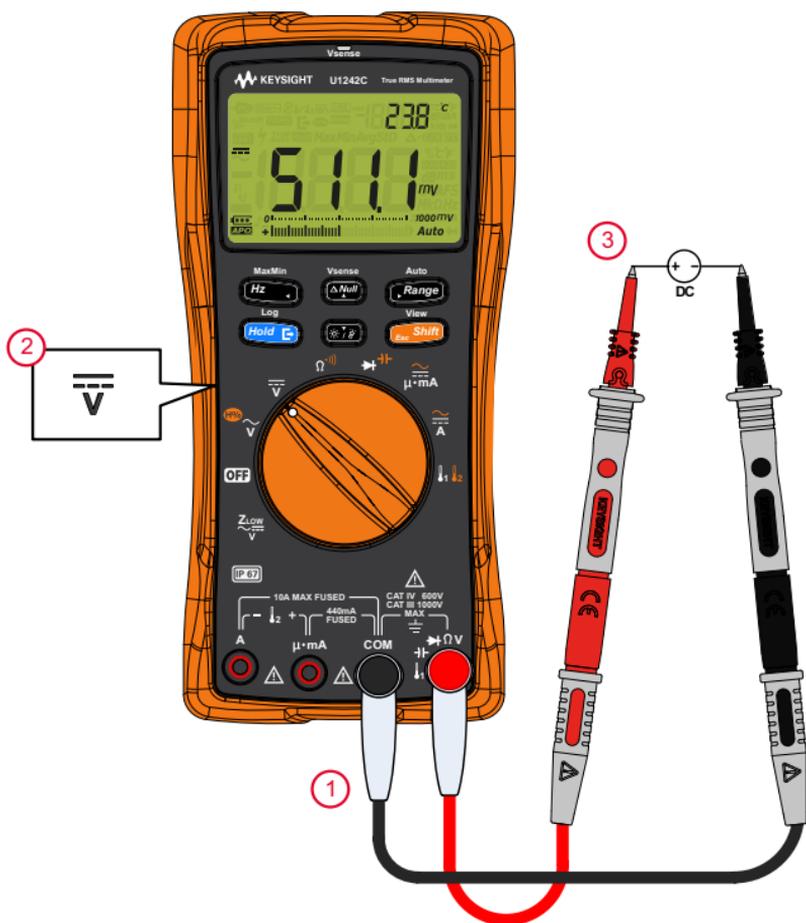
Harmonic ratio with
AC V (true rms)



Harmonic ratio with
AC V (averaging sense)

[1] Averaging sense AC measurements apply to sine wave inputs when measuring linear loads.

Measuring DC voltage

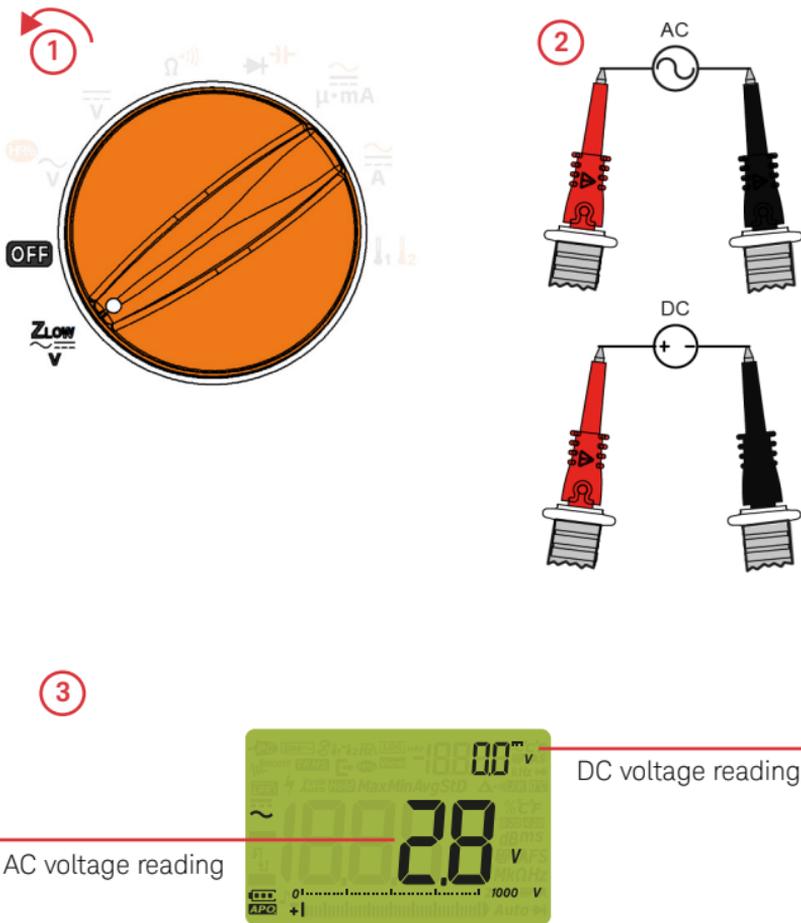


Using Z_{LOW} for voltage measurements (U1242C only)

Use the low input impedance (Z_{LOW}) function to remove stray/induced voltages from your measurements.

CAUTION

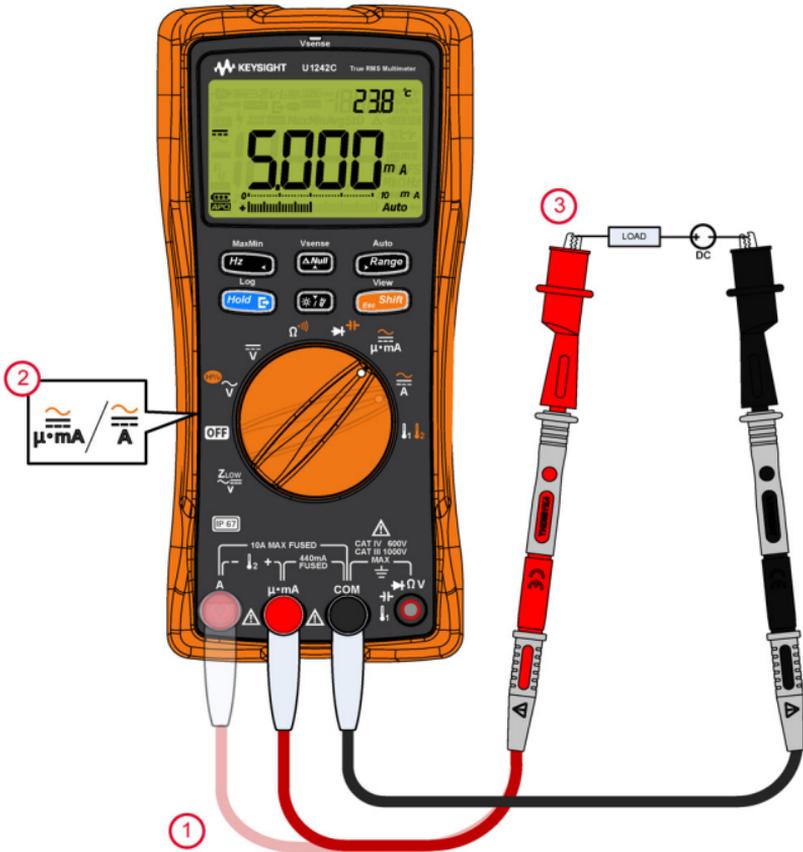
Do not use the Z_{LOW} function to measure voltages in circuits that could be damaged by this function's low impedance ($\approx 2\text{ k}\Omega$).



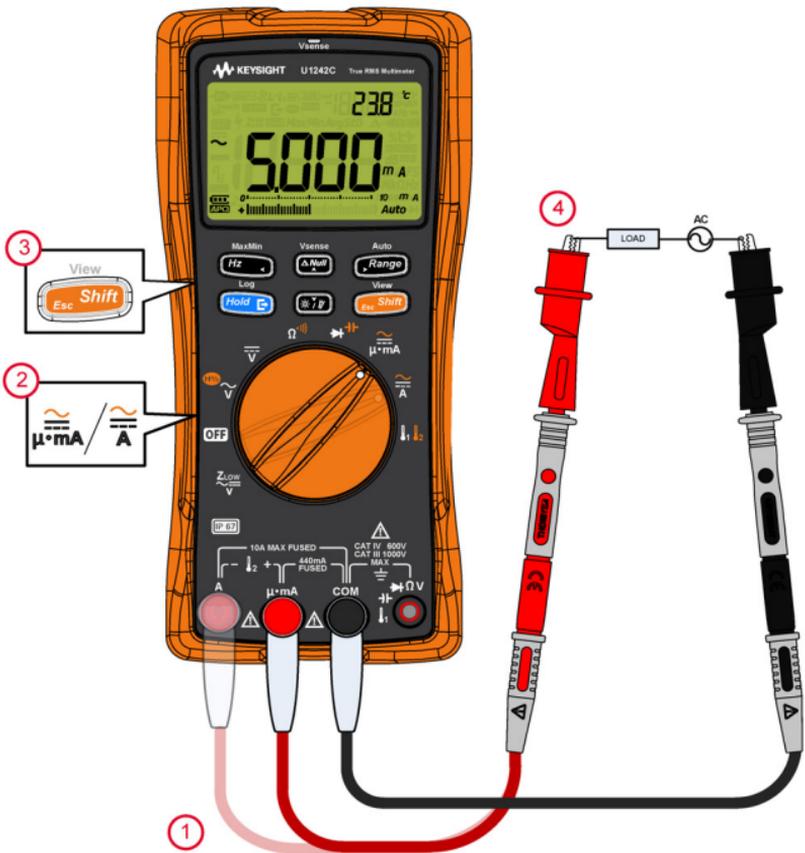
Current Measurements

WARNING Never attempt an in-circuit current measurement where the open-circuit potential to earth is >1000 V.

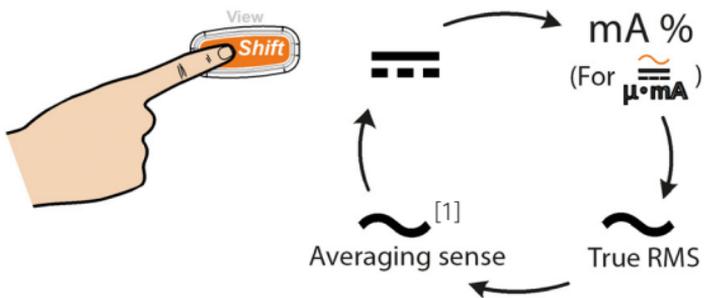
Measuring DC current



Measuring AC current



Cycling through different current measurements

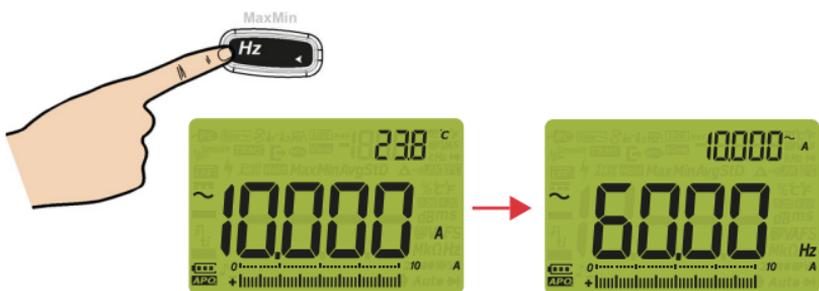


[1] For U1242C only.

Measuring voltage frequency



Measuring current frequency

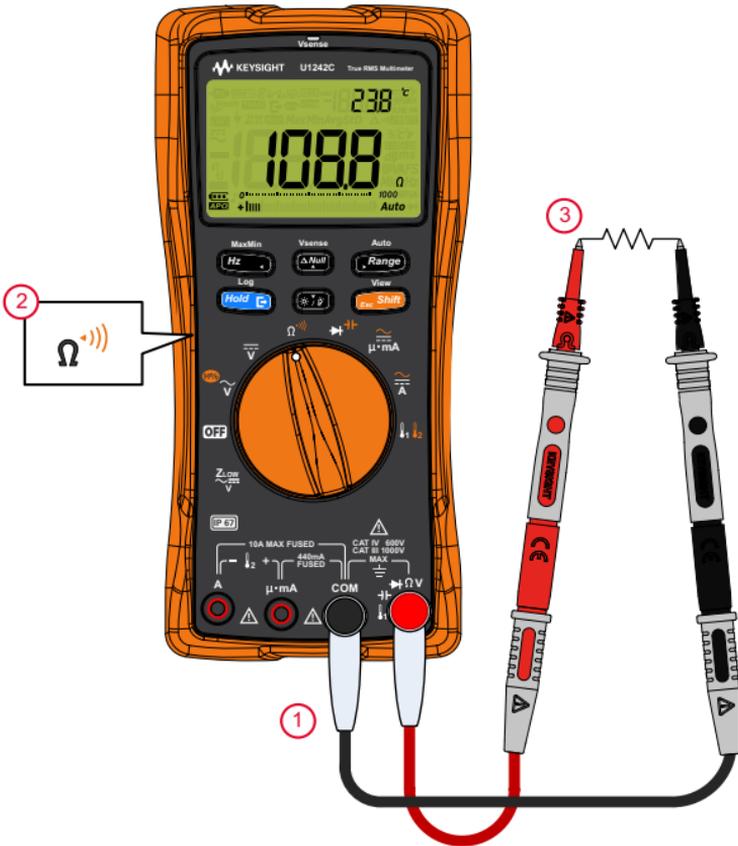


Using a low pass frequency filter (\overline{Hz}) for frequency measurements

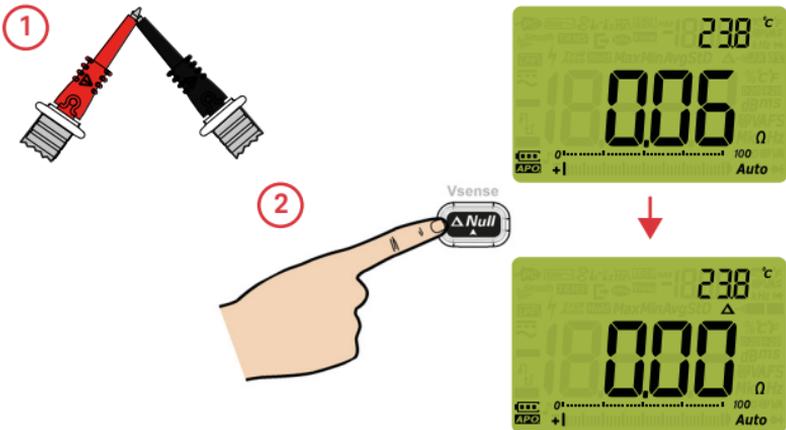
The filter blocks unwanted frequency (~ 1 kHz) while the multimeter continues measuring voltage/current via the selected averaging sense or true rms function.



Resistance Measurement



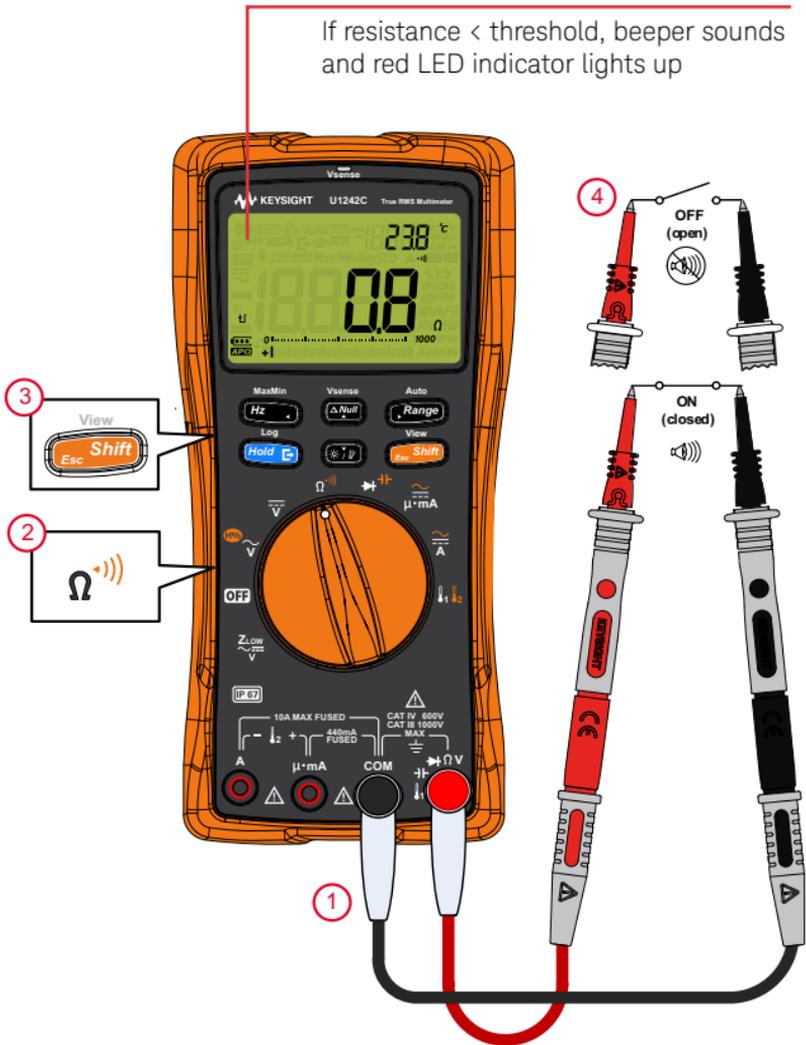
Removing test lead resistance



Continuity Test

CAUTION

To avoid possible damage to the multimeter or to the equipment under test, disconnect circuit power and discharge all high-voltage capacitors before measuring continuity. Use the DC voltage function to confirm that the capacitor is fully discharged.

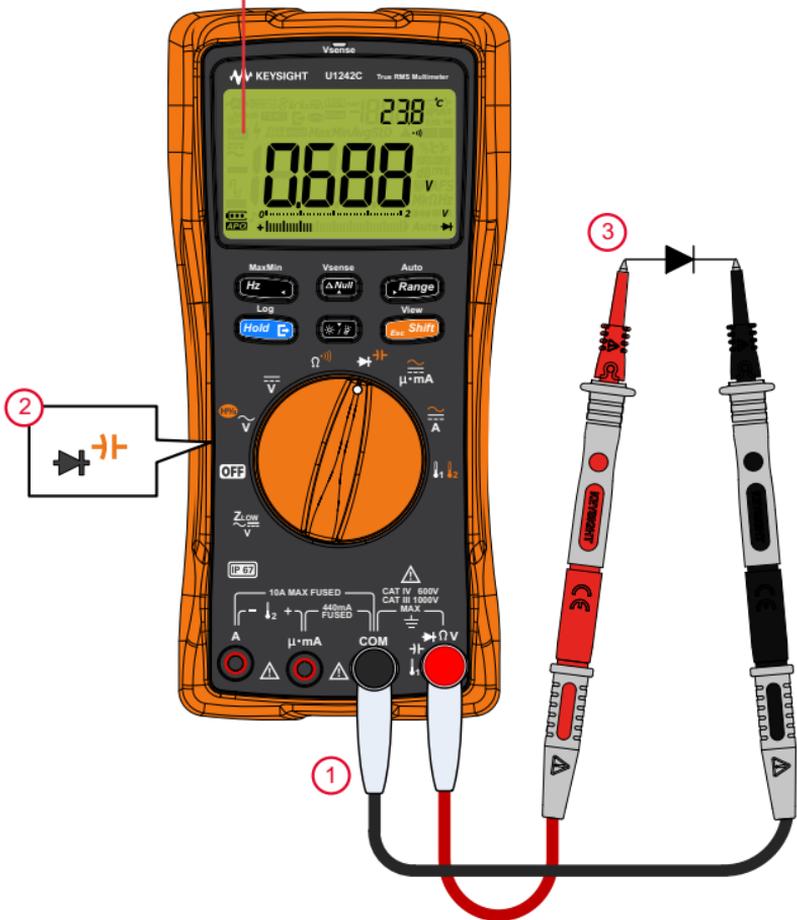


Diode Test

Forward bias

Beeper will emit:

- one beep (for 0.3 V to 0.8 V)
- continuous beep (for <0.05 V)



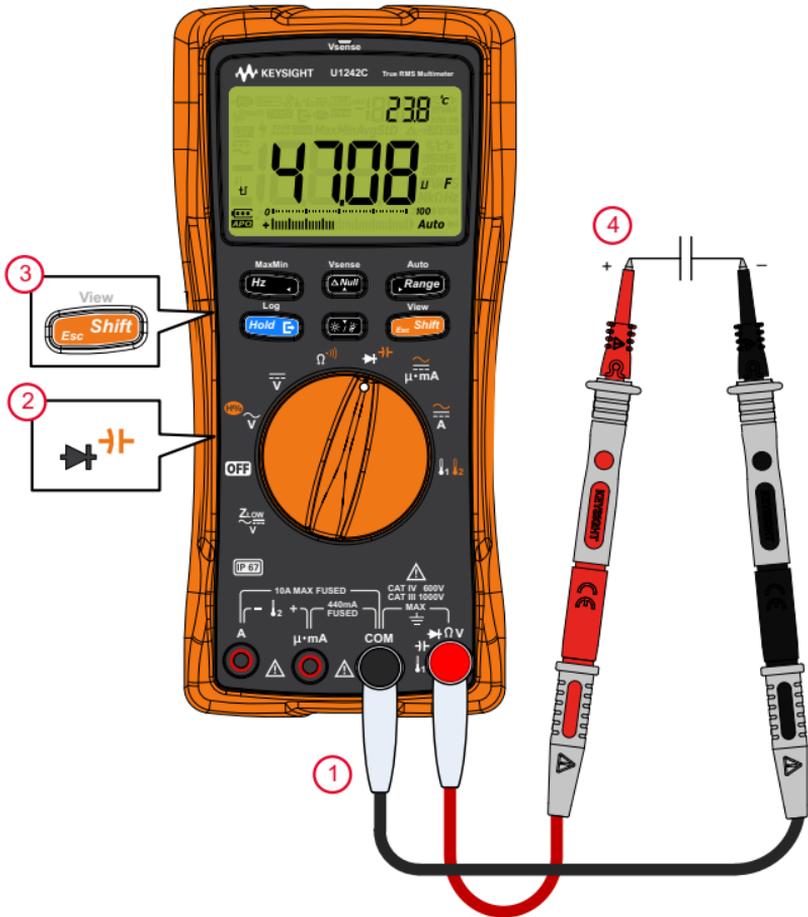
Reverse bias



Capacitance Measurement

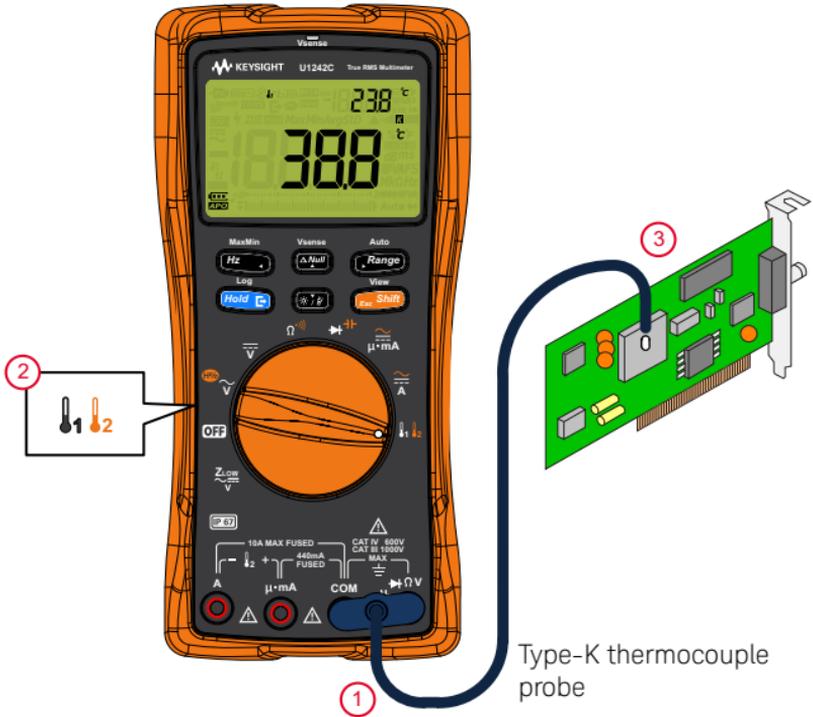
CAUTION

To avoid possible damage to the multimeter or to the equipment under test, disconnect circuit power and discharge all high-voltage capacitors before measuring capacitance. Use the DC voltage function to confirm that the capacitor is fully discharged.

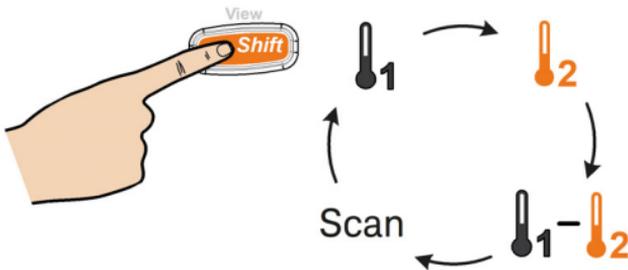


Temperature Measurement

WARNING Do not connect the thermocouple to electrically live circuits. Doing so will potentially cause fire or electric shock.



Cycling through different temperature measurements (U1242C only):



Non-Contact Voltage Detector (Vsense) (U1242C only)

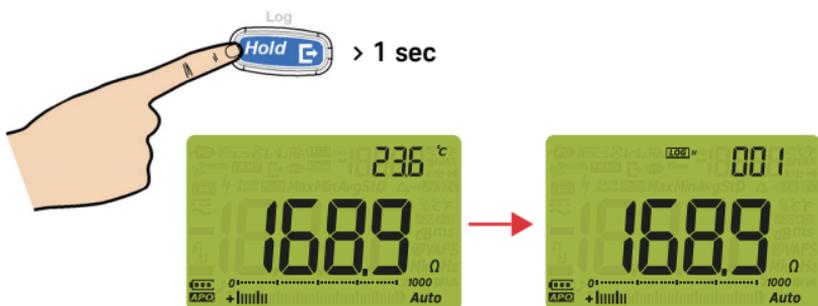
WARNING

- Voltage could still be present even if there is no Vsense alert indication. Do not rely on the Vsense detector with shielded wires. Never touch live voltage or conductor without the necessary insulation protection, or power off the voltage source.
- The Vsense detector may be affected by differences in socket design, insulation thickness, and insulation type.



Measurement Data Recording and Review

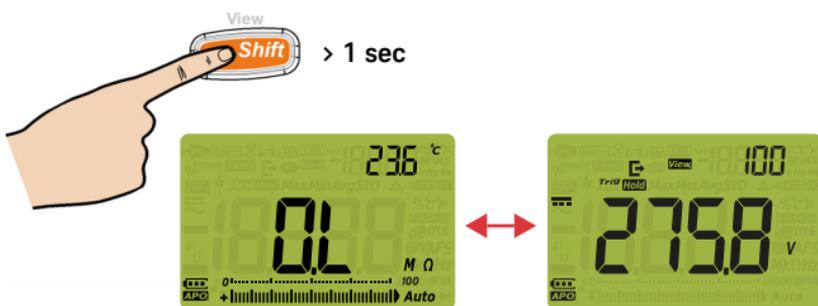
Recording measurement data (manual log)



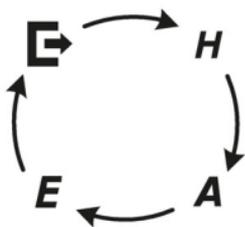
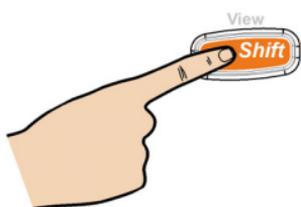
NOTE

Refer to the *U1241C/U1242C User's Guide* for other data recording options.

Viewing the recorded data



Cycling through previously stored records



Export logging data



Manual logging data



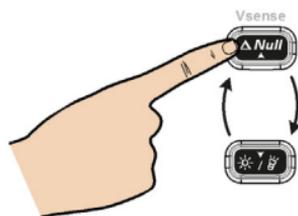
Event logging data



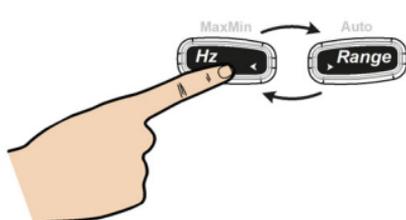
Interval logging data

Viewing stored entries

Viewing next and previous stored entries



Viewing first and last stored entries



Clearing stored entries



Clear the last stored entry



↓ > 1 sec

Clear all stored entries



This information is subject to change without notice. Always refer to the Keysight website for the latest revision.

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