KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER BIG IDEA: ELECTROMAGNETS TOPIC: VOLTAGE AND RESISTANCE

Key Word	Definition
Potential difference (voltage)	The amount of energy shifted from
	the battery to the moving charge,
	or from the charge to circuit
	components, in volts (V).
Resistance	A property of a component, making
	it difficult for charge to pass
	through, in ohms (Ω).
Electrical conductor	A material that allows current to
	flow through it easily, and has a
	low resistance.
Electrical insulator	A material that does not allow
	current to flow easily, and has a
	high resistance.

We use circuit symbols to draw diagrams of electrical circuits, with straight lines to show the wires. The diagram shows some common circuit symbols. We can calculate resistance using the formula:

Resistance (Ω) = potential difference (V) ÷ current (A).

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Units

Potential difference = Volts (V) Current = Amps (A) Resistance = Ohms (Ω)

In a series circuit, voltage is shared between each component.



Resistance is a measure of how easy or difficult it is for charges to flow through components

Components with resistance reduce the current flowing and transfer energy to the surroundings.

We can model voltage as an electrical push from the battery, or the amount of energy per unit of charge transferred through the electrical pathway.





