

Another battery solution for an Avometer

I was delighted to read Barry Grumwald's article (Circuit Notebook, November 2011), in which he described an arrangement for replacing the 15V battery in an Avo Mk8 multimeter. I recently bought one of these much-loved meters (Avometer 8, Mk6), in which the battery compartment is quite differently shaped. Unfortunately, his solution of using five CR2032 cells does not fit.

Nonetheless, I was inspired to explore a similar solution, using 10 SR41W silver oxide cells. These fit snugly inside a 33mm length of PVC tubing (11mm OD, 8mm ID), supported by an 8mm thick 33 x 13mm wooden packing piece, as shown in the accompanying photo. The 10 cells fit snugly between the battery clips, which do not need any modification.

While my solution is more expensive, current is only drawn from



the batteries during actual measurements, so they should last for close to their shelf life.

**James Goding, VK3DM,
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Another battery solution for an old multimeter

In your November 2011 magazine J. Grumwald advised how he had used five CR2032 cells to replace the unobtainable 15V battery in his Avo Mk8 multimeter.

I have a beautiful Salford "Select-

est" model Super 50 multimeter which is over 50 years old but still looks and performs like new. I had the same problem as J. Grumwald in that the Selectest was designed to use an Eveready B.121 15V battery for the high Ohms range. I am not sure but possibly this was also the battery used in the Avo.

These batteries are no longer available but I have found what I believe to be a simpler solution in a Varta V74PX 15V battery (readily available) which is about the same size as the original B.121. The only difference is that the B.121 had pointed ends which located in holes in the spring terminals in the meter and the V74PX has normal ends, as seen in standard 1.5V batteries. I have satisfactorily got over this problem by adding a little blob of solder on each end of the battery to engage the holes.

**Barry Blackman,
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