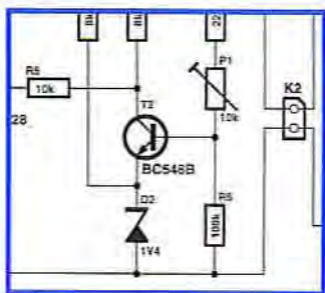


1.4-volt zener diode

Dear Jan — I would like to point out that diode D2 is drawn incorrectly in the circuit diagram of the Simple Solar Charger from the April 2007 issue. The cathode of a diode is indicated by a coloured ring. Because zener diodes for low voltages are not operated in reverse-biased mode, the ring marker should be at the negative side of the circuit, i.e., the other way around than with zener diodes with a higher voltage.

Hans F. Kiefer (Germany)



The very property you mention is discussed extensively in the text (did you read it?). None the less, the device is a zener diode and should be represented as shown in the circuit diagram.