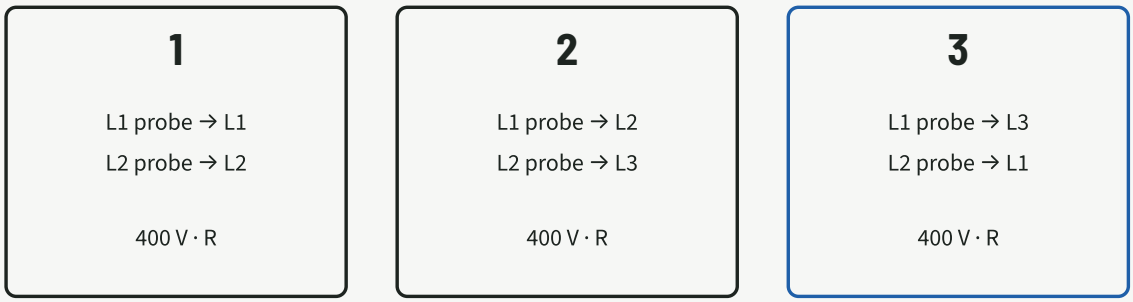
PHASE ROTATION, WHILE YOU'RE TESTING SUPPLY POLARITY

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE PHASES ARE IN THE WRONG ORDER?

Phase rotation is its own test in Guidance Note 3, but you're already at the supply with your probes out, so it makes sense to do it now. It checks the three phases arrive in the right **order**: L1, then L2, then L3. Get it wrong and three-phase motors run **backwards**.



the third pair is the one people get backwards — L3 then L1

The phases peak one after another, 120° apart, so walking round L1→L2→L3→L1 the indicator's right-hand (R) light shows every time. A left-hand light means something is in the wrong place.

- **An approved voltage indicator** with L/R lights does it, as above.
- **A multifunction tester** with a phase-rotation function: three leads on L1, L2 and L3, and it shows the sequence — as 1-2-3, a rotating disc, or simply a pass. Read your own meter's instructions.
- Guidance Note 3 also names a rotating-disc instrument or an indicator-lamp type.

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