THE INSULATION RESISTANCE TESTER, AND THE IR LINK

WHAT RANGE DOES AN IR TESTER COVER?

Exams ask which single-purpose instrument does which test, so know this one separately from your multifunction tester.

INSTRUMENT	RANGE TO LOOK FOR
Insulation resistance tester	A megohm range that reads below **1 MΩ** and tops out at **200** or **2000 MΩ**, depending on the instrument

The IR link.

For a line-and-neutral-to-earth test you need the two live conductors joined. A small magnetic link — two magnets and a short wire, about £20 — bridges the line at the main switch to the neutral bar, so you can test the pair against earth with your other lead. Not to be confused with a calibration check card, which does a different job.

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