WHY THE TEST SEQUENCE IS IN THAT ORDER

WHY TEST CONTINUITY BEFORE INSULATION RESISTANCE?

Q11Knowledge
On initial verification, why is continuity tested before insulation resistance?

1. **a**So you know every conductor is continuous before you test between them
2. **b**So you know the conductors are well insulated before high voltages are used
3. **c**So a cpc is in place to protect people during high-voltage testing
4. **d**So every protective device is known to trip if there's a short circuit

- **b and c are traps** for people with a little knowledge. The giveaway is **"high voltage"**. High voltage means **above 1000 V AC or 1500 V DC**. An insulation tester uses 500 V DC (sometimes 1000 V DC), which is still **low voltage**.
- **d** answers a different question: what continuity of protective conductors **and** insulation resistance prove **together**. A continuous cpc allows **automatic disconnection**, and good insulation means no short circuits.
- **a is right**. Once you know every conductor is **continuous along its whole length**, you know the insulation test is checking the **whole length** of the circuit too.

> **Think like a Level 3**Why test cpc continuity? A Level 2 answer is "to check the cpc is continuous". The Level 3 answer is "**without it, there's no automatic disconnection of supply**". Know the bottom-line reason for every test.

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