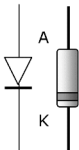


A diode is an electrical one-way valve. It permits current to flow in one direction only.



Its two terminals are designated anode (A) and cathode (K). Current (by convention regarded as flowing from + to -) may flow only in the direction indicated by the arrow in the diode's circuit symbol, i.e., from anode to cathode. There is a small voltage drop across the device.

If a reverse voltage is applied, no current flows, although too high a voltage will destroy the diode.

The following limits apply to this device:

Maximum average forward current = 3A

Maximum reverse voltage = 400V

Typical forward voltage drop = 1V