

Megger[®]

LCR131

Component tester

User Manual

MeterCenter (800) 230-6008

LCR131

Parameters Measured	L/C/R/D/Q
Measuring Circuit Mode	Inductance (L) -Defaults to series mode Capacitance/ Resistance (C/R) -Defaults to parallel mode
Displays	L/C/R: <i>Maximum</i> display 19999 D/Q: Maximum display 999 (Auto Range).
Ranging Mode	Auto & Manual
Measuring Terminals	3 terminals with sockets
Test Frequency Accuracy: ±0.1 %	120Hz= 120 Hz 1KHz =1010 Hz
Backlit display	Excluded
Tolerance mode	1%, 5%, 10%
Test Signal Level	0.6Vrms approx.
Measuring Rate	1 time/second, nominal
Response time	Approx. 1 second/ DUT (device under test)(@ manual range)
Auto Power-Off	5 minutes approx. without operation
Temperature Coefficient	0.15 x (Specified Accuracy) / °C (0-18°C or 28-40°C)
Operation Temperature	0°C to 40°C; 0-70% R.H.
Storage Temperature	-20°C to +50°C; 0-80% R.H.
Low Battery Indication	Approx. 6.8V
Protective Fuse	0.1A/250V Fuse (input protective)
Standard Accessories	Test alligator clips (pair) DC 9V Battery. User manual
Optional Accessories	Carrying case RS232 package SMD Tweezers DC Adaptor (EA112: AC120V) / (EA55: AC220V).
Dimensions (L/W/H)	184/ 87/ 41 mm
Weight	330 grams

LCR131 COMPONENT TESTER

USER MANUAL



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Safety

Read "SAFETY INFORMATION" before using this meter.

□ NOTE

This meter is a hand-held, battery-operated instrument for testing inductance, capacitance and resistance. If this device is damaged or has any parts missing, contact the retailer immediately.

This manual contains information and warnings which must be followed to ensure safe operation as well as to ensure the meter remains in a safe condition. Some common international electrical symbols used in this manual are shown in the table below:



	DC - Direct Current
	See Explanation In The Manual

Table 1-1. International Electrical Symbols

Before using the meter, read the following safety information carefully. In this manual, "**WARNING**", is reserved for conditions and actions that pose hazard(s) to the user; "**CAUTION**", is reserved for conditions and actions that may damage your meter.

□ SAFETY INFORMATION

To ensure that you use this device safely, follow the safety guidelines listed below:

- This meter is for indoor use, altitude up to 2,000 m.
- The warnings and precautions should be read and well understood before the instrument is used.
- Use this device only as specified in this manual; otherwise, the protection provided by the meter may be impaired.
- When measuring in-circuit components, first de-energize the circuits before connecting to the test leads.
- Discharge capacitors before testing.
- The power for the meter is supplied with a single standard 9V battery. It is also possible to use external power using a 12V DC adaptor conforming to IEC 60950.

Introduction

This 19,999-count L/C/R hand-held meter is a special microprocessor-controlled meter for measuring functions of inductance, capacitance and resistance. Extremely simple to operate, the instrument not only takes absolute parallel mode measurements, but is also capable of series mode measurement. The meter provides direct and accurate measurements of inductors, capacitors and resistors with different testing frequencies. It is possible to select between auto and manual ranging.

Front panel pushbuttons maximize the convenience of function and feature selection such as data hold; maximum, minimum and average record mode; relative mode; tolerance sorting mode; frequency and L/C/R selection.

The test data can be transferred to PC through an optional full isolated optical RS232C interface and CP-09 software.

A tilt stand provides position flexibility for viewing and operating the meter. The rubber over-molded case both protects the meter in harsh environments, and improves grip in the hand. While single 9V battery operation is standard for the meter, a standard DC 12V power adaptor can also be used as an optional power input.

Front Panel Illustration

1. LCD display
2. Power ON/OFF button
3. RS232 selector
4. Dissipation factor and Quality factor selection button
5. Test frequency selection button
6. Inductance, Capacitance and Resistance function selection button. Parallel and series mode selection button
7. Tolerance mode selection button
8. Data hold, Maximum, Minimum and Average reading selection button
9. Range selection button
10. Relative mode and Calibration selection button
11. DC 12V adaptor input
12. Input sockets and Terminals

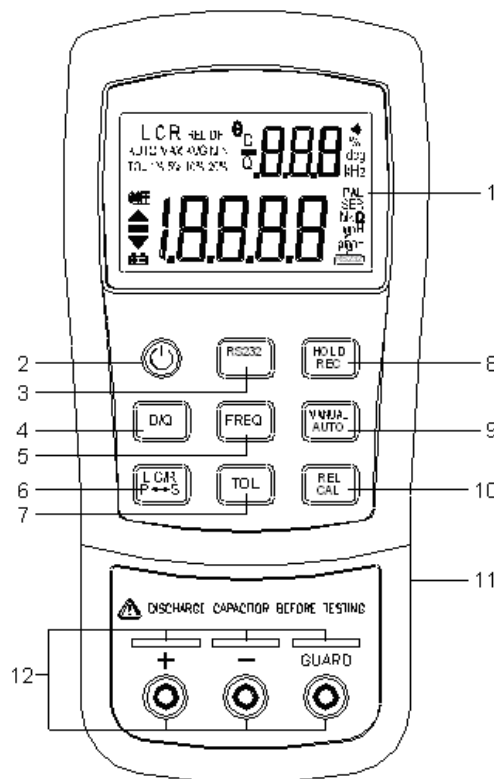


Figure-1. Front panel for LCR131.

LCD Display Illustration

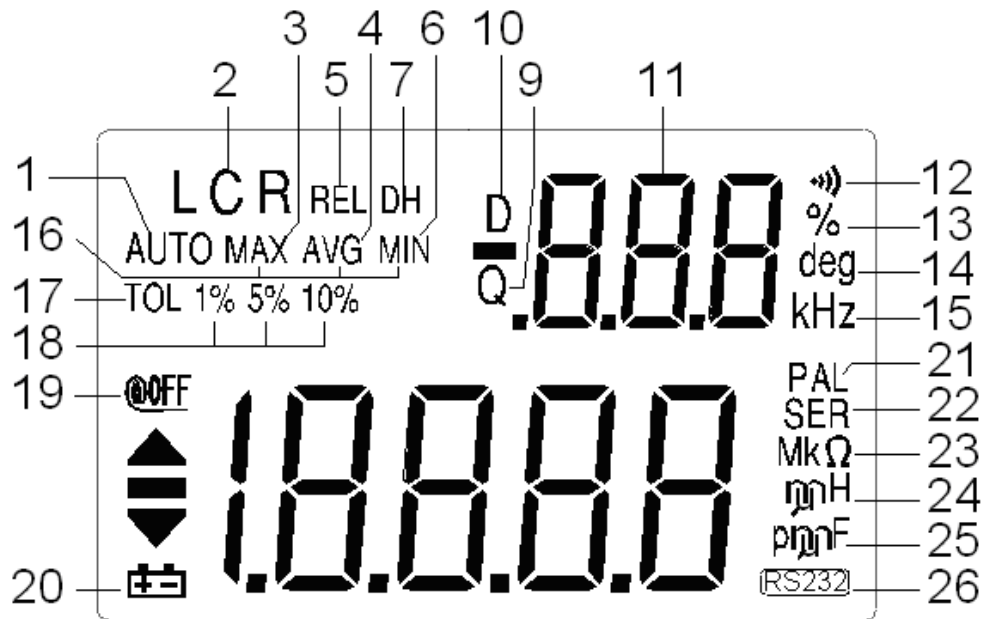






Figure 2. LCD Display.

1. **AUTO:** Auto-ranging indicator
2. **LCR:** L, C or R function indicator
3. **MAX:** Maximum reading indicator
4. **AVG:** Average reading indicator
5. **REL:** Relative mode indicator
6. **MIN:** Minimum reading indicator
7. **DH:** Data hold indicator
9. **Q:** Quality factor indicator
10. **D:** Dissipation factor indicator
11. **0.00** : Secondary display
12. **••••** : Beeper tone indicator for tolerance mode
13. **%:** Tolerance (percentage) indicator
14. **deg:** Phase Angle degree indicator (Model-A only)
15. **kHz:** Frequency indicator
16. **MAX AVG MIN:** Recording mode indicators
17. **TOL:** Tolerance mode indicator
18. **1%5%10%:** Tolerance sorting (percent) indicator
19. **OFF:** Auto power- off indicator

20. : Low battery indicator
21. **PAL**: Parallel mode indicator
22. **SER**: Series mode indicator
23. **MkΩ**: Resistance (Ohm) indicator
24. : Inductance (Henry) indicator
25. : Capacitance (Farad) indicator
26. : RS232 indicator

Special Indication Characters

SrL : Indicates short connectors

OPn : Indicates open connectors

CAL : Indicates calibration mode

FUSE : Indicates damaged or open fuse

How To Operate

Caution

- ◆ When measuring within a circuit, the circuit must be de-energized before connecting the test leads.
- ◆ Instruments used in dusty or dirty environment should be wiped and cleaned regularly.
- ◆ Do not expose instrument to direct sunlight or other heat sources for long periods.
- ◆ Ensure the instrument is disconnected from any circuit and powered "OFF" before removing battery cover.

Note:

For achieving optimum precision for all L, C and R measurements throughout all ranges, the instrument should be internally calibrated before each use.

□ Inductance Measurement

1. Press the "**POWER**" button to turn on the meter.
2. Press "**L/C/R**" button to select inductance measurement.
3. Insert an inductor into component receptacle socket or connect the test clip to the component leads as required.
4. Press "**FREQ**" button to select testing frequency.
5. Press "**D/Q**" button to select Q factor for secondary display.
6. Read the display readings for inductance value and quality factor.

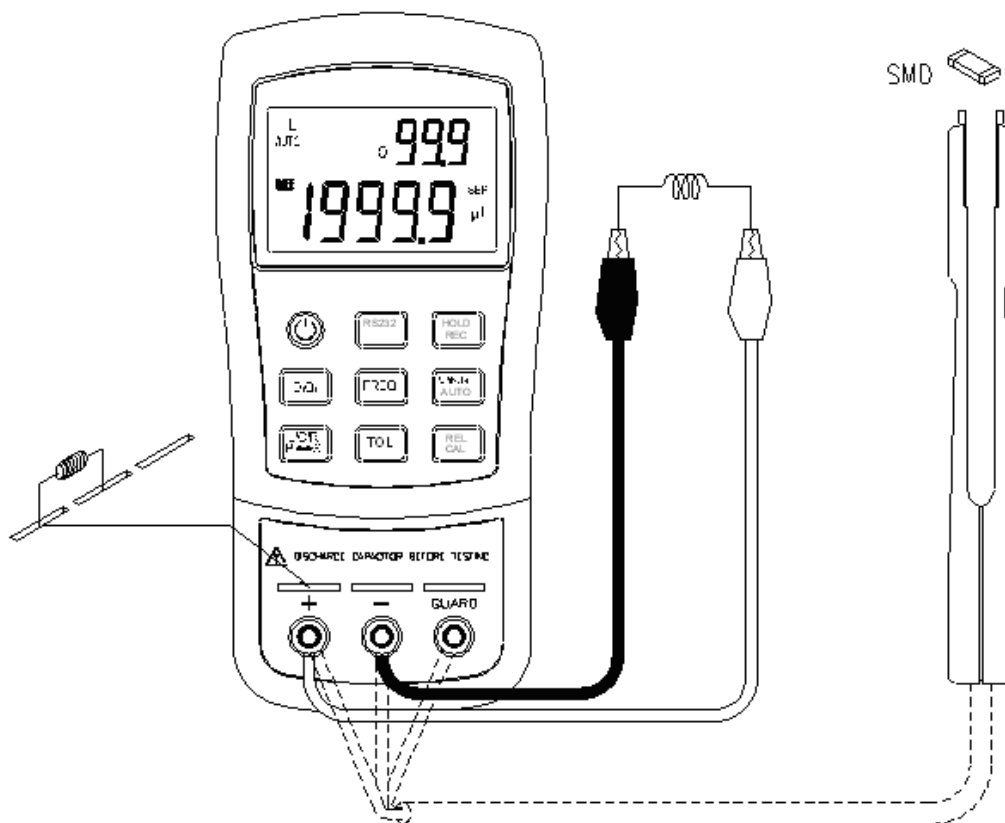


Figure-3. Inductance Measurement.

□ Capacitance Measurement

1. Press "**POWER**" button to turn on the meter.
2. Press "**L/C/R**" button to select capacitance measurement.
3. Insert a capacitor into the component receptacle socket or connect the test clip to the component leads as required.
4. Press "**FREQ**" button to select testing frequency.
5. Press "**D/Q**" button to select D factor for secondary display.
6. Read the display readings for capacitance value and dissipation factor.

⚠ Warning

To avoid electrical hazards, discharge all capacitors before measuring.

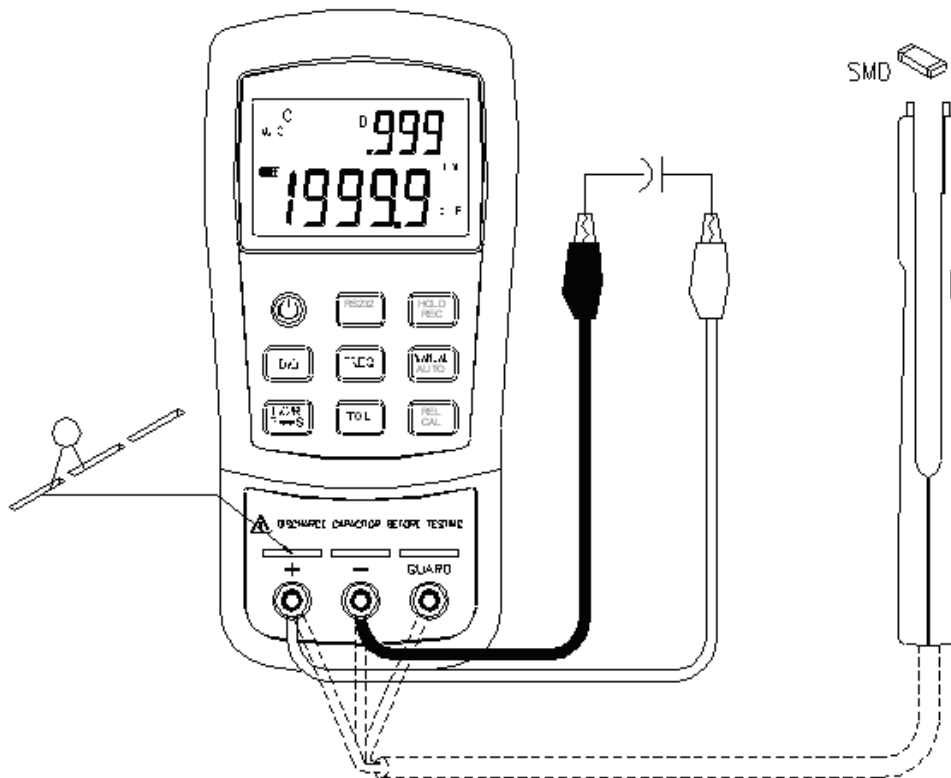


Figure-4. Capacitance Measurement.

□ Resistance Measurement

1. Press "**POWER**" button to turn on the meter.
2. Press "**L/C/R**" button to select Resistance measurement.
3. Insert a resistor into the component receptacle socket or connect the test clip to the component leads as required.
4. Press "**FREQ**" button to select testing frequency.
5. Read the display readings for resistance value.

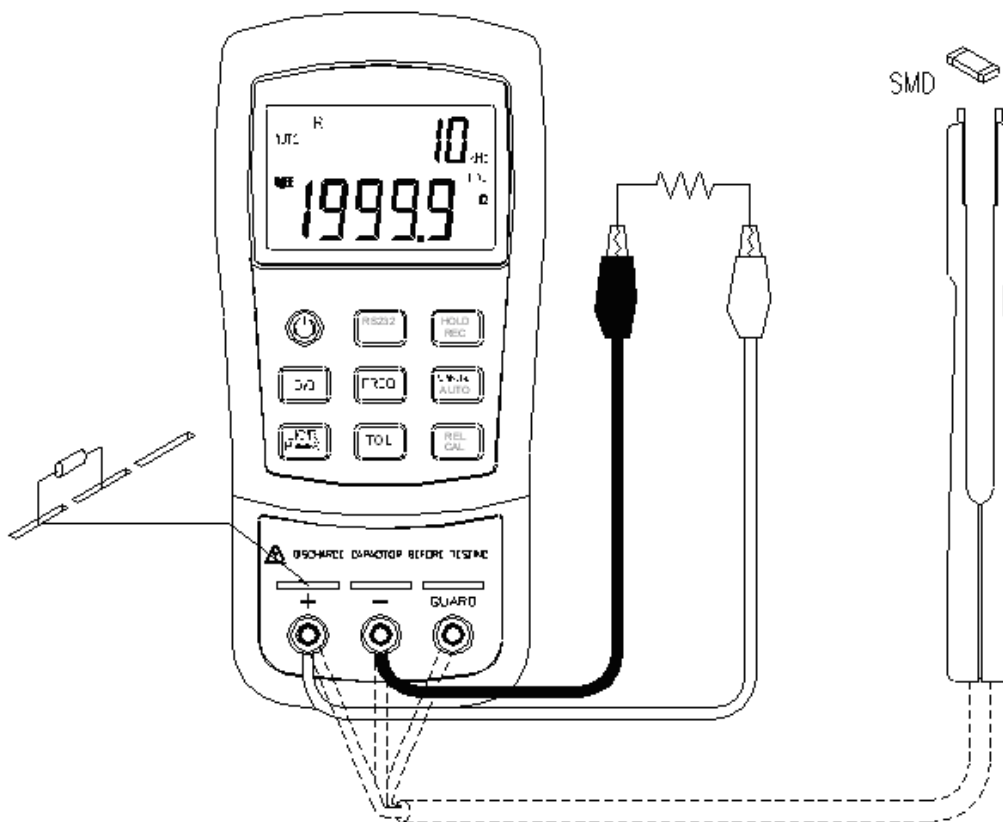


Figure-5. Resistance Measurement.

Operating Instructions

□ Data Hold

This data hold function allows the operator to freeze the display. To enter this mode, press the "**HOLD**" pushbutton; press again to release.

□ Static Recording™

Press the "**REC**" pushbutton for more than one second to enter the static recording mode. The maximum and minimum readings are then stored in memory, while a beeping tone is produced when a new tested value has been recorded. Push the same button to cycle through the current maximum, minimum and average readings.

The **MAX**, **MIN** or **AVG** indicators on LCD will turn on to indicate which value is shown.

To exit this mode, press and hold the pushbutton for more than one second.

Notes:

1. Static recording captures only stable values and updates the memory; it will not record any "**OL**" (overload) value for any of the **L/C/R** functions. In addition, the meter will not record values below 50 counts in Capacitance measurement.
2. Static recording is only available in manual ranging; however, activation while in auto-ranging will automatically set meter to manual ranging and cause calibration prompts to be displayed in the relevant ranges.

□ Dissipation Factor / Quality Factor

The "**D/Q**" value can be displayed alternately by pressing the "**D/Q**" button when the meter is set to Inductance or Capacitance mode. It does not apply to resistance measurement.

□ Test Frequency

Default testing frequency is 1KHz. Push "**FREQ**" key to select the desired test frequency.

□ L/C/R Function Selector

Press "**L/C/R**" pushbutton to select the desired L, C or R function.

□ Relative

Press the "**REL**" key to enter the relative mode and store the display reading as a reference value. It will then display all subsequent readings relative to the reference value. Press "**REL**" button again to exit the relative mode.

Notes:

1. The relative mode can not be activated if the display value is either "**OL**" or "**0000**".
2. Relative mode is only available in manual ranging; however, activation while in auto-ranging will automatically set the meter to manual ranging and cause calibration prompts to be displayed in the relevant ranges.
3. The relative mode cannot be activated if the meter is set at auto-ranging with data hold activated.

□ Tolerance

There are 1%, 5% and 10% tolerance range. To enter this tolerance mode, insert the appropriate component as a standard value into the socket or connect the component to the test probes, then press the "**TOL**" pushbutton to set this value, as the standard reference tolerance. Similarly, any value which appears on the LCD display, such as **DH** or **MAX/MIN/AVG**, can be used as a standard value to sort components. Press this button again to cycle through 1%, 5% and 10% tolerance as required.

This function is designed for convenient component sorting. An audible tone of "Be-Be-Be" will sound whenever the component under test exceeds the setting tolerance. Conversely, a single tone of "Be" indicates the component is within the setting tolerance.

Notes:

1. The tolerance mode can not be activated if the display is either "OL" or "0000"; nor can it be activated where capacitance value is below 10 counts.
2. Tolerance mode is only available in manual ranging; however, activation while in auto-ranging will automatically set the meter to manual ranging and cause calibration prompts to be displayed in the relevant ranges.
3. The tolerance mode can't be activated if the meter is set at auto-ranging with data hold mode activated.

□ Auto / Manual Range

The auto-ranging mode is default status when the meter is powered on. For specific measurement applications, press "AUTO" button to set manual ranging. To return to the auto-ranging mode, press and hold the "AUTO" button for more than one second.

□ Automatic Fuse Detection

When the meter detects that the protective fuse has ruptured, the "FUSE" character will appear and an internal beep will sound continuously. In this situation, none of the function keys can be operated and all other meter functions will be inhibited. Fuse replacement is required.

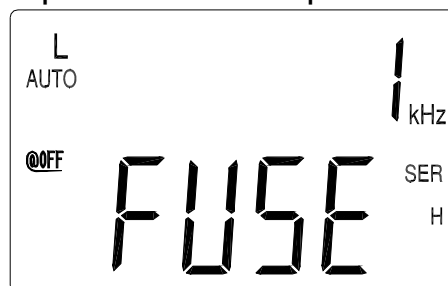


Figure-6. Fuse Detection

□ Parallel / Series Mode

The meter is capable of displaying Parallel and Series mode data for all ranges. The parallel mode is default for Capacitance and Resistance measurements, and the series mode is default for Inductance measurement. Press "L/C/R" button for more than 1 second to toggle "SER" and "PAL" mode.

□ Calibration

Calibration is available to all ranges. Simply press and hold "CAL" button for more than one second to enter the calibration mode and calibration prompts will be displayed. Follow the prompts for open connector (OPn) or short connector (Srt) connection and press the "CAL" button. After calibration is completed, the meter will be restored to normal display and ready for normal usage.



Figure-7. Open/ Short Calibration


The function calibrates the meter's internal parameters as well as external connector influences for greater accuracy. It is highly recommended to calibrate extremely high or low ranges for L, C and R before making precision measurements. Calibration prompts will be displayed automatically every time those ranges are selected manually or by function (e.g. **REL**, **TOL**, **REC** etc.), and calibration is recommended. Simply follow the open connector (OPn) or short connector (Srt) instruction and then press the "CAL" button. You may skip the calibration by pressing the "D/Q" button.

Notes:

1. Changing measurement frequencies is handled in the same way as selecting a different hardware range, and so automatic calibration prompts will be displayed in the recommended ranges.
2. Be sure to use the same testing position after short calibration.

□ Auto Power Off/ Disable Auto Power Off


When the meter has not been used for five minutes after the last operation, a long "beep" tone will sound. The meter will then automatically enter a "sleep" mode and there will be no display on the LCD. To reactivate the meter, simply press any pushbutton.

When the meter is to be used for long period, the auto power-off can be disabled by pressing and holding "L/C/R" button while turning meter ON. Release the button, then press any button. The  symbol will disappear to confirm that the auto power off has been disabled.

When using a 12V DC alternate power source, auto power off is disabled automatically.

Note: It is recommended that the meter should always be switched off when not in use.


□ Low Battery Indication

When the " " symbol flashes on the display, the battery voltage is below normal working voltage and is weakening. Replace battery with a new one to maintain accuracy of the meter.

□ Communication

The meter is provided with communication capability by using the optional CP-09 RS232 package, with full optical isolated cable and software.

Refer to the following procedures to set up communication between your meter and personal computer.

1. Fix one side of cable to the meter, with the text-side facing up. Connect the 9-pin terminal of cable to RS232 communication port 1 or 2 of personal computer. See the **Figure-8**.
2. Press "RS232" button to enable interface. Symbol " " is enabled on the display.
3. Operate the software to record data for your application.
4. Ensure the side-catches on the cable connector are disengaged prior to removing the cable.

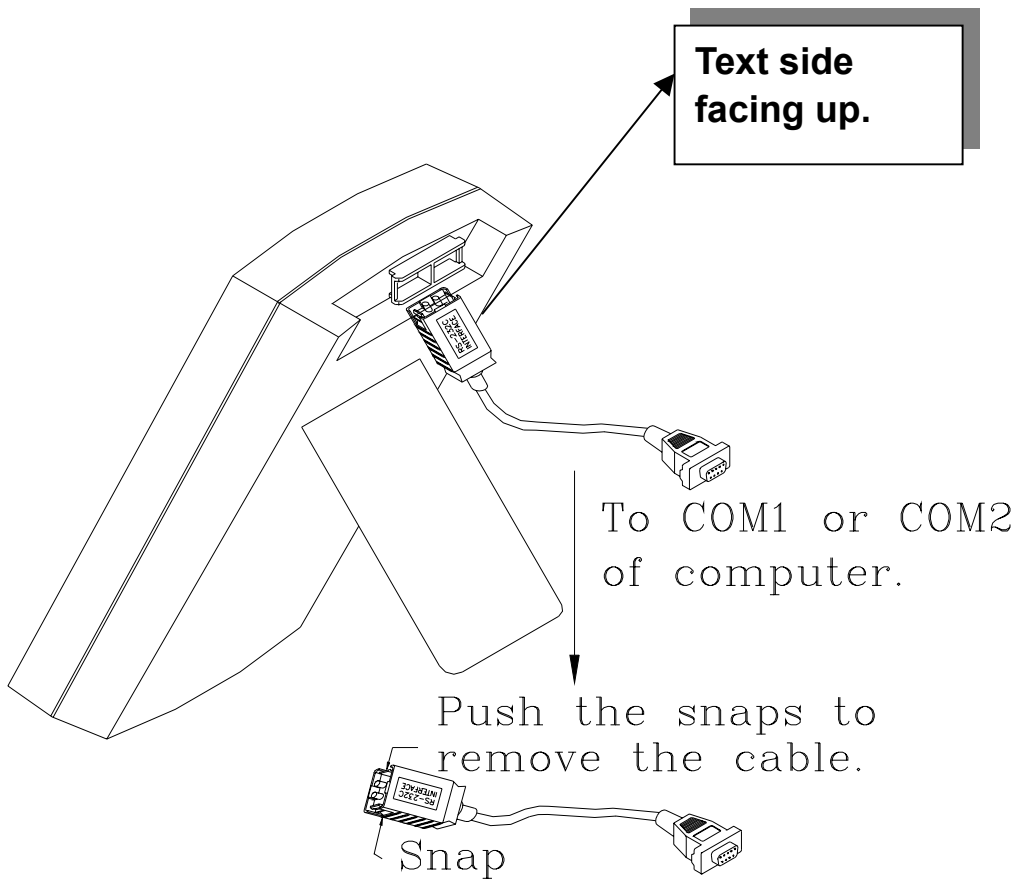


Figure-8. Cable Connection Of Communication

General Specification

LCR131

Parameters Measured	L/C/R/D/Q
Measuring Circuit Mode	Inductance (L) -Defaults to series mode Capacitance/ Resistance (C/R) -Defaults to parallel mode
Displays	L/C/R: <i>Maximum</i> display 19999 D/Q: Maximum display 999 (Auto Range).
Ranging Mode	Auto & Manual
Measuring Terminals	3 terminals with sockets
Test Frequency Accuracy: $\pm 0.1\%$	120Hz= 120 Hz 1KHz =1010 Hz
Tolerance mode	1%, 5%, 10%
Test Signal Level	0.6Vrms approx.
Measuring Rate	1 time/second, nominal
Response time	Approx. 1 second/ DUT (device under test)(@ manual range)
Auto Power-Off	5 minutes approx. without operation
Temperature Coefficient	0.15 x (Specified Accuracy) / °C (0-18°C or 28-40°C)
Operation Temperature	0°C to 40°C; 0-70% R.H.
Storage Temperature	-20°C to +50°C; 0-80% R.H.
Low Battery Indication	Approx. 6.8V
Power Consumption	Approx. 40mA for operation/ 0.08mA after Auto Power-off.
Power Requirements	1) DC 9V Battery 2) Ext. DC Adaptor: DC 12Vmin –15Vmax. (Load 50mA Min.)
Protective Fuse	0.1A/250V Fuse (input protective)
Standard Accessories	Test alligator clips (pair) DC 9V Battery. User manual
Optional Accessories	Carrying case RS232 package SMD Tweezers DC Adaptor (EA112: AC120V) / (EA55: AC220V).
Dimensions (L/W/H)	184/ 87/ 41 mm
Weight	330 grams

Electrical Specification

Accuracy is expressed as: \pm (% of reading + no. of least significant digits) at $23^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ and $<75\%$ R.H.

□ Resistance (parallel mode)

Test Frequency: 120Hz / 1KHz

Range	Maximum Display	Accuracy		Specified Note
		@120 Hz	@1KHz	
10M Ω	9.999M Ω	2.0%+8 *3	2.0%+8 *3	After open cal.
2000K Ω	1999.9K Ω	0.5%+5	0.5%+5	After open cal.
200K Ω	199.99K Ω	0.5%+3	0.5%+3	-
20K Ω	19.999K Ω	0.5%+3	0.5%+3	-
2000 Ω	1999.9 Ω	0.5%+3	0.5%+3	-
200 Ω	199.99 Ω	0.8%+5	0.8%+5	After short cal.
20 Ω	19.999 Ω	1.2%+40	1.2%+40	After short cal.

Notes:

1. This specification is based on measurements performed at the test socket.
2. DUT (Device Under Test) & Test leads should be properly shielded to GUARD if necessary.
3. This specification is based on battery operation.

□ Capacitance (parallel mode)

Test Frequency: 120 Hz

Range	Maximum Display	Accuracy		Spec. Note
		Capacitance	DF	
10mF	19.99mF *5	3.0%+5 (DF<0.1)	10%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.1)	After short cal.
1000 μ F	1999.9 μ F*6	1.0%+5 (DF<0.1)	2%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.1)	After short cal.
200 μ F	199.99 μ F	0.7%+3 DF<0.5	0.7%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.5)	-
20 μ F	19.999 μ F	0.7%+3 (DF<0.5)	0.7%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.5)	-
2000nF	1999.9nF	0.7%+3 (DF<0.5)	0.7%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.5)	-
200nF	199.99nF	0.7%+5 (DF<0.5)	0.7%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.5)	After open cal.
20nF	19.999nF	1.0%+5 (DF<0.1)	2%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.1)	After open cal.

Test Frequency: 1 KHz

Range	Maximum Display	Accuracy		Spec. Note
		Capacitance	DF	
1mF	1.999mF *5	3.0%+5 (DF<0.1)	10%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.1)	After short cal.
200 μ F	199.99 μ F	1.0%+5 (DF<0.1)	2.0%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.1)	After short cal.
20 μ F	19.999 μ F	0.7%+3 (DF<0.5)	0.7%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.5)	-
2000nF	1999.9nF	0.7%+3 (DF<0.5)	0.7%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.5)	-
200nF	199.99nF	0.7%+3 (DF<0.5)	0.7%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.5)	-
20nF	19.999nF	0.7%+5 (DF<0.5)	0.7%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.5)	After open cal.
2000pF	1999.9pF	1.0%+5 (DF<0.1)	2.0%+100/Cx+5 (DF<0.1)	After open cal.

Notes:

1. Q Value is the reciprocal of DF.
2. This specification is based on measurements performed at the test socket.
3. DUT & Test leads should be properly shielded to GUARD if necessary.
4. Cx=Counts of displayed C value, e.g. if C=88.88 μ F, then Cx=8888.
5. This reading can be extended to 1999 MAX display with accuracy not specified.
6. This reading can be extended to 19999 MAX display with accuracy not specified.

□ Inductance (Series mode)

Test Frequency: 120Hz

Range	Maximum Display	Accuracy (DF<0.5)		Spec. Note
		Inductance	DF	
1000H	999.9H	1.0%+(Lx /10000) %+5	2%+100/Lx+5	After open cal.
200H	199.99H	0.7%+(Lx /10000)%+5	1.2%+100/Lx+5	-
20H	19.999H	0.7%+(Lx /10000)%+5	1.2%+100/Lx+5	-
2000m	1999.9mH	0.7%+(Lx /10000)%+5	1.2%+100/Lx+5	-
200mH	199.99mH	1.0%+(Lx /10000)%+5	3%+100/Lx+5	After short cal.
20mH	19.999mH	2.0%+(Lx /10000)%+5	10%+100/Lx+5	After short cal.

Test Frequency: 1 KHz

Range	Maximum Display	Accuracy (DF<0.5)		Spec. Note
		Inductance	DF	
100H	99.99H	1.0%+(Lx /10000) %+5	2.0%+100/Lx+5	After open cal.
20H	19.999H	0.7%+(Lx /10000)%+5	1.2%+100/Lx+5	-
2000mH	1999.9mH	0.7%+(Lx /10000)%+5	1.2%+100/Lx+5	-
200mH	199.99mH	0.7%+(Lx /10000)%+5	1.2%+100/Lx+5	-
20mH	19.999mH	1.0%+(Lx /10000)%+5	3.0%+100/Lx+5	After short cal.
2000μH	1999.9μH	2.0%+(Lx /10000)%+5	10%+100/Lx+5	After short cal.

Notes:

1. Q Value is the reciprocal of DF.
2. This specification is based on measurements performed at the test socket.
3. DUT & Test leads shall be properly shielded to GUARD if necessary.
4. Lx=counts of displayed L value, e.g. if L=88.88H, then Lx=8888.

MAINTENANCE


WARNING

To avoid electrical shock, do not perform any servicing unless you are qualified to do so.

□ SERVICE

If the instrument fails to operate, check battery and test leads, and replace as necessary. If the instrument still doesn't work, confirm operating procedure as described in this User Guide. Use specified replacement parts only. The meter must be completely turned off while replacing either fuse or battery.

□ Battery Replacement

The meter is powered using a single 9V battery, NEDA1604, JIS006P, IEC6F22 carbon-zinc or alkaline battery. Replace battery if the low battery sign () is displayed and flashing. Use the following procedure to replace the battery:

1. Loosen screws with suitable screwdriver and remove battery cover as **Figure-9**.
2. Replace the used battery with a new battery of the correct type.

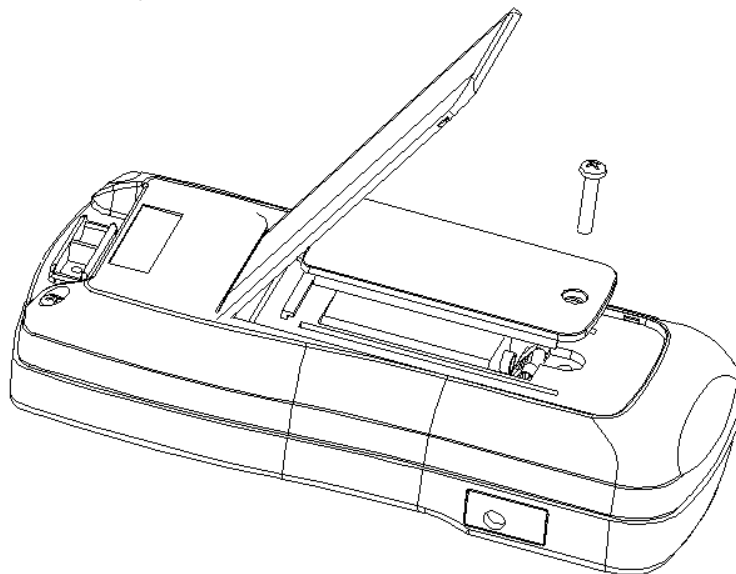


Figure-9. Battery Replacement.

□ Fuse Replacement

The meter can self-detect if its input protective fuse is either ruptured or damaged. In this case, the LCD will display the symbol "FUSE" and an audible beep will sound continuously, warning the user to replace the damaged fuse. While replacing the fuse, the power must be completely shut off.

1. Loosen screws with suitable screwdriver and remove battery cover as **Figure-9**.
2. Loosen screws with suitable screwdriver and remove bottom cover as **Figure-10**.
3. Replace the damaged fuse with an equivalent of the correct specification.

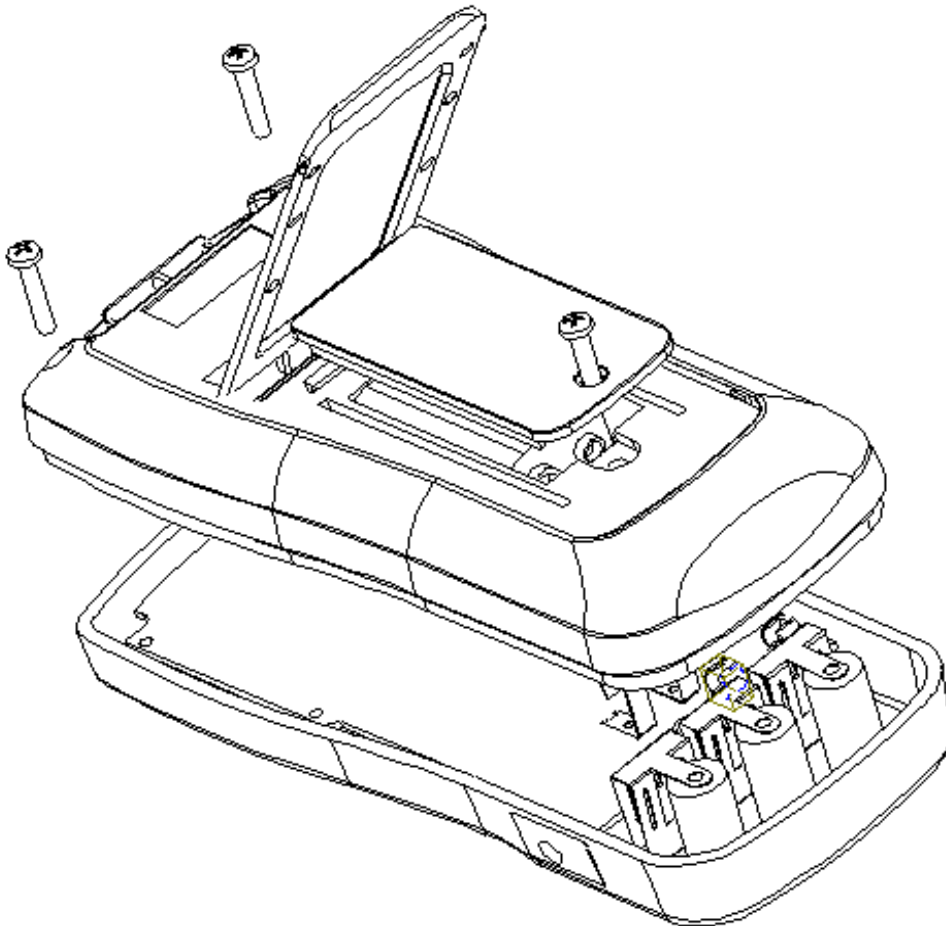


Figure-10. Fuse Replacement

□ Cleaning the Meter

WARNING

To avoid electrical shock or damage to the meter, never allow water to access the inside of the case.

Before cleaning this meter, make sure the power is switched to OFF, and remove external DC adaptor. To clean the meter, wipe the dirt away with gauze or soft cloth soaked with diluted neutral detergent. Do not saturate, and prevent detergent from penetrating inside case so causing damage. After cleaning, make sure the instrument is dried completely before use.

□ Specified Accessories

Description
User Manual
5x20mm 0.1A/250VAC slow blow fuse
CP-09 PC Download Software

Megger[®]

Megger Limited
Archcliffe Road
Dover
Kent CT17 9EN
England

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This instrument is manufactured in the United Kingdom.

The company reserves the right to change the specification or design without prior notice.

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