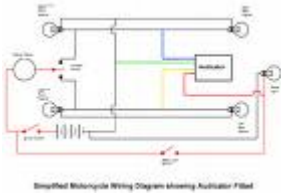


# Learning to Read Wiring Diagrams



## Instructions

**Difficulty:** Challenging

### Step 1

Educate yourself about basic electricity and circuit theory. Electricity can be a dangerous tool if it's not used properly. If you have any questions about a wiring diagram, it might be beneficial to pay special attention in this course to educate yourself on the basics.

### Step 2

Find a reference for symbols. These can be found [online](#), and many symbols are now universal, even internationally.

### Step 3

Look at the symbol on the diagram, and compare it to the symbol on the list to see what the diagram is showing.

### Step 4

Know where you are. Large scale wiring diagrams, like those done for an entire vehicle can be very detailed. Check out the part of the diagram with the system your are concerned with, so you have a better idea of what's going on.

### Step 5

Identify the wires. No matter how big or small the job is, before you start jumping/cutting/testing wires; know what you're dealing with. The wiring diagram can help you identify which wires you need to test.

### Step 6

Practice safety. A wiring diagram can be accurate, but that doesn't mean there's no risk. Wires can be mislabeled, or there can be (or you can cause) a short. Before you make any wiring changes, turn off the power to the circuit by disconnecting the battery ground (-). If you have any questions about electricity, it's best to stop and seek the advice of your instructor.