

LEDs emit light when an electric current passes through them. LEDs have polarity, meaning current must pass from anode to cathode to activate. The anode is labeled  ${\bf a}$  or + , and cathode is labeled  ${\bf k}$  or -. The cathode is the short lead and there may be a slight flat spot on the body of round LEDs. Thus, the anode is the longer lead. LEDs are not usually damaged by heat when soldering.

