

## Which Way Does Current Flow?

The age old question of electronics: Which way does current flow; from positive to negative (conventional current flow) or from Negative to Positive (electron current flow).

Furthermore, and a more interesting question is why in the world would academia teach conventional current flow to Electrical Engineers and Teach the opposite, Electron Current Flow, to non-engineers and technicians? What is going on here? It can only be one way not both...one is correct and the other incorrect.

I also teach the basics of opposite charges attract while charges of the same polarity repel each other. So, it makes sense to me that a negatively charged electron would be attracted to a positively charged Ion and repelled by a negative ion. Thus, current flow is from negative to positive when a copper wire is connected to a voltage source of sufficient energy.

Of course, I questioned this 'Conventional' current flow! After grappling with this dilemma and my research turning up nothing, and I mean nothing, I finally looked up the word conventional.

This is the definition:

**Con-ven-tion-al** - Adjective - based on or in accordance with what is generally done or believed.

"But why positive to negative?"

Picture this, **+**.

"What do you see?". A Positive sign.

"What would you see if you looked at an arrow feather end on?" **A plus**

"And if you looked at the arrow end on?" **A minus**

"Exactly"

So originally the experimenters in electrics chose a direction for current flow and used the **+** and **-** to designate direction, not polarity. This conventional method was also convenient for arithmetical analysis of the observed effects of current, voltage, and resistance. And for some Masonic Illuminati secret sign/handshake they kept it that way.

