

**FLUKE®**

# **8845A/8846A**

Digital Multimeter

Users Manual

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# Chapter 1

## *Introduction and Specifications*

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## Introduction

The 8845A and 8846A are 6-1/2 digit, dual-display multimeters designed for bench-top, field service, and system applications. Their full complement of measurement functions plus its RS-232, IEEE 488, and Ethernet Remote Interfaces makes these multimeters ideal candidates for precision manual measurements and use in automated systems. For portability, these multimeters include a carrying handle that also serves as a bail for bench top operation.

There are a few feature differences between these two multimeters, and some specifications are tighter for the 8846A. Features that exist in only one multimeter will be identified with the addition of “8846A Only” by each feature that is found only in that model. Separate specification tables are also used to clarify the differences between these two models.

The following is a list of some of the features and functions:

- Bright, large-digit, wide-viewing-angle display
- Dual display for displaying two properties of an input signal (e.g., ac voltage in one display and frequency in the other).
- Remote operation via IEEE 488, RS-232, and Ethernet interface.
- Trigger in and measurement-complete out
- Front panel USB port for optional memory (8846A Only)
- 6-1/2 digit resolution
- Half-rack width
- True rms ac
- 2 and 4-wire resistance measurements
- Extended 10  $\Omega$  and 1 G $\Omega$  ranges (8846A Only)
- Frequency measurements to 300 kHz (8846A to 1 MHz)
- Capacitance measurements (8846A Only)
- Temperature measurement (8846A Only)
- 10 A current capability
- Decibels (dB and dBm) with variable reference impedance and audio power measurement capability
- Input terminals on both front and rear panels of the meter
- Closed-case calibration (no internal calibration adjustments)

## Manual Set

The manual set for these multimeters consists of a *Users Manual* and *Programmers Manual* on a CD ROM. The *Users Manual* contains information on specifications, setup, and operating from the front panel. The *Programmers Manual* covers operating the Meter from a PC or controller.

## About this Manual

This is the *Users Manual* for the 8845A and 8846A Digital Multimeters (hereafter referred to as the Meter). It contains all of the information a new user will need to operate the Meter effectively. The manual is divided into the following chapters:

Chapter 1 “Introduction and Specifications” provides information on how to safely use the Meter, standard and optional accessories, and specifications.

Chapter 2 “Preparing for Operation” provides information on setting the Meter’s line voltage, connecting it to a power source, and turning the Meter on.

Chapter 3 “Front Panel Operation” introduces the controls and connections on the front and rear panels of the Meter.

Chapter 4 “Making Measurements” provides detailed information on using the Meter to make electrical measurements.

Appendices

## Safety Information

This section addresses safety considerations and describes symbols that may appear on the Meter or in the manual.

A **⚠** **Warning** statement identifies conditions or practices that could result in injury or death.

A **⚠** **Caution** statement identifies conditions or practices that could result in damage to the Meter or equipment to which it is connected.

### **⚠⚠ Warning**

**To avoid electric shock, personal injury, or death, carefully read the information under “Safety Information” before attempting to install, use, or service the Meter.**

## General Safety Summary

This instrument has been designed and tested in accordance with the European standard publication EN 61010-1:2001 and U.S. / Canadian standard publications UL 61010-1A1 and CAN/CSA-C22.2 No.61010.1. The Meter has been supplied in a safe condition.

This manual contains information and warnings that must be observed to keep the instrument in a safe condition and ensure safe operation.

To use the Meter correctly and safely, read and follow the precautions in Table 1-1, and follow all the safety instructions or warnings given throughout this manual that relate to specific measurement functions. In addition, follow all generally accepted safety practices and procedures required when working with and around electricity.

Table 1-1. Safety Information

**⚠️⚠️ Warning**

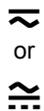
To avoid possible electric shock, personal injury, or death, read the following before using the Meter:

- Use the Meter only as specified in this manual, or the protection provided by the Meter might be impaired.
- Do not use the Meter in wet environments.
- Inspect the Meter before using it. Do not use the Meter if it appears damaged.
- Inspect the test leads before use. Do not use them if insulation is damaged or metal is exposed. Check the test leads for continuity. Replace damaged test leads before using the Meter.
- Verify the Meter's operation by measuring a known voltage before and after using it. Do not use the Meter if it operates abnormally. Protection may be impaired. If in doubt, have the Meter serviced.
- Whenever it is likely that safety protection has been impaired, make the Meter inoperative and secure it against any unintended operation.
- Have the Meter serviced only by qualified service personnel.
- Do not apply more than the rated voltage, as marked on the Meter, between the terminals or between any terminal and earth ground.
- Always use the power cord and connector appropriate for the voltage and outlet of the country or location in which you are working.
- Remove test leads from the Meter before opening the case.
- Never remove the cover or open the case of the Meter without first removing it from the main power source.
- Never operate the Meter with the cover removed or the case open.
- Use caution when working with voltages above 30 V ac rms, 42 V ac peak, or 42 V dc. These voltages pose a shock hazard.
- Use only the replacement fuse(s) specified by the manual.
- Use the proper terminals, function, and range for your measurements.
- Do not operate the Meter around explosive gas, vapor, or dust.
- When using probes, keep your fingers behind the finger guards.
- When making electrical connections, connect the common test lead before connecting the live test lead; when disconnecting, disconnect the live test lead before disconnecting the common test lead.
- Disconnect circuit power and discharge all high-voltage capacitors before testing resistance, continuity, diodes, or capacitance.
- Before measuring current, check the Meter's fuses and turn OFF power to the circuit before connecting the Meter to the circuit.
- When servicing the Meter, use only specified replacement parts.

## Symbols

Table 1-2 is a list of safety and electrical symbols that appear on the Meter or in this manual.

**Table 1-2. Safety and Electrical Symbols**

Symbol	Description	Symbol	Description
	Risk of danger. Important information. See manual		Display ON / OFF
	Hazardous voltage. Voltage > 30 V dc or ac peak might be present		Earth ground
	AC (Alternating Current)		Capacitance
	DC (Direct Current)		Diode
	AC or DC (Alternating or Direct Current)		Fuse
			Digital signal
	Continuity test or continuity beeper tone		Maintenance or Service
	Potentially hazardous voltage	<b>CAT II</b>	IEC 61010 Overvoltage (installation or measurement) Category 2.
	Double insulated		Recycle
	Static awareness. Static discharge can damage part(s)		Do not dispose of this product as unsorted municipal waste. Contact Fluke or a qualified recycler for disposal

## Instrument Security Procedures

This section describes the Meter's memory elements and the procedures for clearing them.

### Volatile Memory

Table 1-3 lists the Meter's volatile memory elements.

**Table 1-3. Volatile Memory Space**

Type	Size	Function
SDRAM	128 MB	Out-guard measurement data, user strings, temporary configuration information, and Ethernet Host name.
SRAM	4 MB	In-guard Measurement data and configuration information.

To clear both volatile memory elements listed in Table 1-3:

1. Press **MEMORY**.
2. Select the **MANAGE MEMORY** soft key.
3. Select the **ERASE MEMORY** soft key.

## Non Volatile Memory

Table 1-4 lists the Meter's non-volatile memory elements.

**Table 1-4. Non-volatile Memory Space**

Type	Size	Function
Flash	128 MB	Application program storage, user string, user data, user remote interface settings.
Flash	4 MB	FPGA hardware setup, application program storage, calibration constants.

To clear the 128 MB of non-volatile flash memory listed in Table 1-4:

1. Press **MEMORY**.
2. Select the **MANAGE MEMORY** soft key.
3. Select the **ERASE MEMORY** soft key.

This process clears only the user accessible portion of memory.

### Note

*The 4 MB non-volatile memory element is not usable and cannot be cleared by the user.*

## Media Memory (8846A Only)

The 8846A has a front-panel USB port for connecting flash memory modules up to 2 Gigabytes to store Meter configuration and measurement data. To clear a memory module while connected to the 8846A:

1. Press **MEMORY**.
2. Select the **MANAGE MEMORY** soft key.
3. Select the **ERASE USB MEMORY** soft key.

## Accessories

Table 1-3 lists the available accessories for the 8845A and 8846A.

**Table 1-5. Accessories**

Model/Fluke PN	Description
TL71	Premium Test Lead Set
6303 Kelvin	Probes
6730	Kelvin Lead Set with Alligator Clips
5940	Kelvin clip set
5143	SMD Test Tweezer Leads
6275	Precision Electronic Probe Set
6344	Basic Electronic DMM Test Set
884X-Short 4-W	Wire Short
884X-Case	Black plastic case

Table 1-3. Accessories (cont)

Model/Fluke PN	Description
TL910	Precision Electronic Probe Set
TL80A	Basic Electronic DMM Test Set
TL2X4W-PT	2X4 Wire Ohms Test Lead
TL2X4W-TWZ	2X4 Wire Ohms SMD Test Tweezer
6262-02	Test Probe Tip Adapter, Extended Fine Point
6263-02	Test Probe Tip Adapter, IC Probe Tip
803293	Fuse, 11 A, 1000 V, Fast, 406INX1.5IN, Buik
943121	Fuse, 440 mA, 1000 V, Fast, 406X1.375, Buik
884X-RTD	100 Ohm RTD Temperature Probe
Y8846	Rackmount Kit. Allows meter to be mounted in a standard 19-inch rack.
Y8021	Shielded IEEE 488 one-meter (39.4 inches) cable, with plug and jack at each end.
Y8022	Shielded IEEE 488 two-meter (78.8 inches) cable, with plug and jack at each end.
884X-USB	USB to RS-232 Cable Adapter
RS43	Shielded RS-232 Cable (2 Meters)
884X-ETH Ethernet	Cable
884X-512M	512 Mbyte memory (8846A only)
884X-1G	1 Gbyte memory (8846A only)
FVF-SC5	FlukeView Forms, Basic Software
FVF-UG	FlukeView Forms, Software Upgrade – No Cable
FVF-SC4	Extended FlukeView Forms with USB Cable
2132558	Calibration, traceable with data
1259800 Cali	bration, traceable without data
1256480 Cali	bration, Z540 traceable with data
1258910 Cali	bration, Z540 traceable, without data
1256990 Cali	bration, accredited
1024830	Agreement, Extended Warranty
2426684	Agreement, Calibration, Traceable, with data
1028820	Agreement, Calibration, Traceable, without data
1259170 Agreem	ent, Calibration, Z540 Traceable, with data
1258730 Agreem	ent, Calibration, Z540 Traceable, without data
1259340	Agreement, Calibration, Accredited
2441827	Agreement, Calibration, primary standards lab
1540600	Agreement, Calibration, artifact

## General Specifications

### Power

Voltage	
100 V Setting .....	90 V to 110 V
120 V Setting .....	108 V to 132 V
220 V Setting .....	198 V to 242 V
240 V Setting .....	216 V to 264 V
Frequency .....	47 Hz to 440 Hz. Automatically sensed at power-on.
Power Consumption.....	28 VA peak (12 Watt average)

### Dimensions

Height.....	88 mm (3.46 in.)
Width.....	217 mm (8.56 in.)
Depth .....	297 mm (11.7 in.)
Weight.....	3.6 kg (8.0 lbs.)
Shipping Weight.....	5.0 kg (11.0 lbs)

### Display

Vacuum Fluorescent Display, dot matrix

### Environment

Temperature	
Operating .....	0 °C to 55 °C
Storage .....	-40 °C to 70 °C
Warm Up.....	1 hour to full uncertainty specifications
Relative Humidity (non-condensing)	
Operating .....	0 °C to 28 °C <90 % 28 °C to 40 °C <80 % 40 °C to 55 °C <50 %
Storage .....	-40 °C to 70 °C <95 %
Altitude	
Operating .....	2,000 Meters
Storage .....	12,000 Meters
Vibration and Shock.....	Complies with MIL-T-28800E Type III, Class 5 (Sine Only)

### Safety

Designed to comply with IEC 61010-1:2000-1, UL 61010-1A1, CAN/CSA-C22.2 No. 61010.1, CAT I 1000V/CAT II 600V

### EMC

Designed to comply with IEC 61326-1:2000-11 (EMC) when used with shielded communications cables. This Meter has shown susceptibility to radiated frequencies greater than 1 V/m from 250 to 450 MHz while in the 100 µA range.

### Triggering

Samples per Trigger .....	1 to 50,000
Trigger Delay .....	0 S to 3600 S; in 10 µS increments
External Trigger Delay .....	<1 mS
External Trigger Jitter .....	<500 µS
Trigger Input .....	TTL Levels
Trigger Output.....	5 V maximum. (Open collector)

## Memory

8845A .....	10,000 measurements, Internal only
8846A .....	10,000 measurements, Internal and up to 2 Gigabyte capacity with USB memory module (available separately. see "Accessories") through front-panel USB port

## Math Functions

Zero, dBm, dB, MX+B, Trend-plot, Histogram, Statistics (min/max/average/standard deviation), and Limit Test

## Electrical

<b>Input Protection</b> .....	1000 V all ranges
<b>Overrange</b> .....	20 % on all ranges except 1000 V dc, 1000 V ac (8846A), 750 V ac (8845A), Diode, and 10 A ranges

## Remote Interfaces

RS-232 (RS-232 to USB cable available to connect the Meter to a PC USB port. See accessories)  
IEEE 488.2  
LAN

## Warranty

One year

## Electrical Specifications

Accuracy specifications are valid for 6½ digit mode after at least a 1-hour warm-up with Auto Zero is enabled.

24-hour specifications are relative to calibration standards and assume a controlled electromagnetic environment per EN 61326-1:2000-11

### DC Voltage Specifications

<b>Maximum Input</b> .....	1000 V on any range
<b>Common Mode Rejection</b> .....	140 dB at 50 or 60 Hz ± 0.1 % (1 kΩ unbalance)
<b>Normal Mode Rejection</b> .....	60 dB for NPLC of 1 or greater with dc filter off and power line frequency ±0.1 % 100 dB for NPLC of 1 or greater with dc filter on and power line frequency ±0.1 %
<b>Measurement Method</b> .....	Multi-ramp A/D
<b>A/D Linearity</b> .....	0.0002 % of measurement + 0.0001 % of range
<b>Input Bias Current</b> .....	<30 pA at 25 °C
<b>Autozero Off Operation</b> .....	Following instrument warm-up at calibration temperature ±1 °C and less than 10 minutes, add error: 0.0002 % range additional error + 5 μV.
<b>Settling Considerations</b> .....	Measurement settling times are affected by source impedance, cable dielectric characteristics, and input signal changes.

### Input Characteristics

Range	Full Scale (6½ Digits)	Resolution			Input Impedance
		4½ Digits	5½ Digits	6½ Digits	
100 mV	100.0000 mV	10 μV	1 μV	100 nV	10 MΩ or >10 GΩ <sup>[1]</sup>
1 V	1.000000 V	100 μV	10 μV	1 μV	10 MΩ or >10 GΩ <sup>[1]</sup>
10 V	10.00000 V	1 mV	100 μV	10 μV	10 MΩ or >10 GΩ <sup>[1]</sup>
100 V	100.0000 V	10 mV	1 mV	100 μV	10 MΩ ±1%
1000 V	1,000.000 V	100 mV	10 mV	1 mV	10 MΩ ±1%

[1] Inputs beyond ±14 V are clamped through 200 kΩ typical. 10 MΩ is default input impedance.

### 8846A Accuracy

Accuracy is given as  $\pm$  (% measurement + % of range)

Range	24 Hour (23 $\pm$ 1 °C)	90 Days (23 $\pm$ 5 °C)	1 Year (23 $\pm$ 5 °C)	Temperature Coefficient/ °C Outside 18 to 28 °C
100 mV	0.0025 + 0.003	0.0025 + 0.0035	0.0037 + 0.0035	0.0005 + 0.0005
1 V	0.0018 + 0.0006	0.0018 + 0.0007	0.0025 + 0.0007	0.0005 + 0.0001
10 V	0.0013 + 0.0004	0.0018 + 0.0005	0.0024 + 0.0005	0.0005 + 0.0001
100 V	0.0018 + 0.0006	0.0027 + 0.0006	0.0038 + 0.0006	0.0005 + 0.0001
1000 V	0.0018 + 0.0006	0.0031 + 0.001	0.0041 + 0.001	0.0005 + 0.0001

### 8845A Accuracy

Accuracy is given as  $\pm$  (% measurement + % of range)

Range	24 Hour (23 $\pm$ 1 °C)	90 Days (23 $\pm$ 5 °C)	1 Year (23 $\pm$ 5 °C)	Temperature Coefficient/ °C Outside 18 to 28 °C
100 mV	0.003 + 0.003	0.004 + 0.0035	0.005 + 0.0035	0.0005 + 0.0005
1 V	0.002 + 0.0006	0.003 + 0.0007	0.004 + 0.0007	0.0005 + 0.0001
10 V	0.0015 + 0.0004	0.002 + 0.0005	0.0035 + 0.0005	0.0005 + 0.0001
100 V	0.002 + 0.0006	0.0035 + 0.0006	0.0045 + 0.0006	0.0005 + 0.0001
1000 V	0.002 + 0.0006	0.0035 + 0.0010	0.0045 + 0.0010	0.0005 + 0.0001

### Additional Errors

Digits	NPLC	Additional Noise Error
6½	100	0 % of range
6½	10	0 % of range
5½	1	0.001 % of range
5½	.2	0.001 % of range + 20 $\mu$ V
4½	0.02	0.01 % of range + 20 $\mu$ V

### AC Voltage Specifications

AC Voltage specifications are for ac sinewave signals >5 % of range. For inputs from 1 % to 5 % of range and <50 kHz, add an additional error of 0.1 % of range, and for 50 to 100 kHz, add 0.13 % of range.

**Maximum Input**..... 750 V rms or 1000 V peak (8845A), 1000 V rms or 1414 V peak (8846A) or  $8 \times 10^7$  Volts-Hertz product (whichever is less) for any range.

**Measurement Method**..... AC-coupled true-rms. Measures the ac component of input with up to 1000 V dc bias on any range.

**AC Filter Bandwidth:**

Slow ..... 3 Hz – 300 kHz  
 Medium ..... 20 Hz – 300 kHz  
 Fast..... 200 Hz – 300 kHz

**Common Mode Rejection**..... 70 dB at 50 Hz or 60 Hz  $\pm$ 0.1 % (1 k $\Omega$  unbalance)

**Maximum Crest Factor** ..... 5:1 at Full Scale

**Additional Crest Factor Errors (<100 Hz)** ..... Crest Factor 1-2, 0.05 % of full scale  
 Crest Factor 2-3, 0.2 % of full scale  
 Crest Factor 3-4, 0.4 % of full scale  
 Crest Factor 4-5, 0.5 % of full scale

**Input Characteristics**

Range	Full Scale (6½ Digits)	Resolution			Input Impedance
		4½ Digits	5½ Digits	6½ Digits	
100 mV	100.0000 mV	10 µV	1 µV	100 nV	1 MΩ ±2 % shunted by <100 pf
1 V	1.000000 V	100 µV	10 µV	1 µV	
10 V	10.00000 V	1 mV	100 µV	10 µV	
100 V	100.0000 V	10 mV	1 mV	100 µV	
1000 V	1,000.000 V	100 mV	10 mV	1 mV	

**8846A Accuracy**

Accuracy is given as ± (% measurement + % of range)

Range	Frequency	24 Hour (23 ± 1 °C)	90 Days (23 ± 5 °C)	1 Year (23 ± 5 °C)	Temperature Coefficient/ °C Outside 18 to 28 °C
100 mV	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.03	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.004
	5 – 10 Hz	0.35 + 0.03	0.35 + 0.04	0.35 + 0.04	0.035 + 0.004
	10 Hz – 20 kHz	0.04 + 0.03	0.05 + 0.04	0.06 + 0.04	0.005 + 0.004
	20 – 50 kHz	0.1 + 0.05	0.11 + 0.05	0.12 + 0.05	0.011 + 0.005
	50 – 100 kHz	0.55 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.06 + 0.008
	100 – 300 kHz <sup>[1]</sup>	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	0.20 + 0.02
1 V	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.02	1.0 + 0.03	1.0 + 0.03	0.1 + 0.003
	5 – 10 Hz	0.35 + 0.02	0.35 + 0.03	0.35 + 0.03	0.035 + 0.003
	10 Hz – 20 kHz	0.04 + 0.02	0.05 + 0.03	0.06 + 0.03	0.005 + 0.003
	20 – 50 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.11 + 0.05	0.12 + 0.05	0.011 + 0.005
	50 – 100 kHz	0.55 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.06 + 0.008
	100 – 300 kHz <sup>[1]</sup>	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	0.2 + 0.02
10 V	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.02	1.0 + 0.03	1.0 + 0.03	0.1 + 0.003
	5 – 10 Hz	0.35 + 0.02	0.35 + 0.03	0.35 + 0.03	0.035 + 0.003
	10 Hz – 20 kHz	0.04 + 0.02	0.05 + 0.03	0.06 + 0.03	0.005 + 0.003
	20 – 50 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.11 + 0.05	0.12 + 0.05	0.011 + 0.005
	50 – 100 kHz	0.55 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.06 + 0.008
	100 – 300 kHz <sup>[1]</sup>	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	0.2 + 0.02
100 V	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.02	1.0 + 0.03	1.0 + 0.03	0.1 + 0.003
	5 – 10 Hz	0.35 + 0.02	0.35 + 0.03	0.35 + 0.03	0.035 + 0.003
	10 Hz – 20 kHz	0.04 + 0.02	0.05 + 0.03	0.06 + 0.03	0.005 + 0.003
	20 – 50 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.11 + 0.05	0.12 + 0.05	0.011 + 0.005
	50 – 100 kHz	0.55 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.06 + 0.008
	100 – 300 kHz <sup>[1]</sup>	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	0.2 + 0.02
1000 V	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.02	1.0 + 0.03	1.0 + 0.03	0.1 + 0.003
	5 – 10 Hz	0.35 + 0.02	0.35 + 0.03	0.35 + 0.03	0.035 + 0.003
	10 Hz – 20 kHz	0.04 + 0.02	0.05 + 0.03	0.06 + 0.03	0.005 + 0.003
	20 – 50 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.11 + 0.05	0.12 + 0.05	0.011 + 0.005
	50 – 100 kHz <sup>[2]</sup>	0.55 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.06 + 0.008
	100 – 300 kHz <sup>[1][2]</sup>	4.0 + 0.5	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	0.2 + 0.02

[1] Typically 30 % reading error at 1 MHz  
[2] 1000 Volt range is limited to 8 X 10<sup>7</sup> volt-Hertz

### 8845A Accuracy

Accuracy is given as  $\pm$  (% measurement + % of range)

Range	Frequency (Hz)	24 Hour (23 $\pm$ 1 °C)	90 Days (23 $\pm$ 5 °C)	1 Year (23 $\pm$ 5 °C)	Temperature Coefficient/ °C Outside 18 to 28 °C
100 mV	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.03	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	0.10 + 0.004
	5 – 10 Hz	0.35 + 0.03	0.35 + 0.04	0.35 + 0.04	0.035 + 0.004
	10 Hz – 20 kHz	0.04 + 0.03	0.05 + 0.04	0.06 + 0.04	0.005 + 0.004
	20 – 50 kHz	0.1 + 0.05	0.11 + 0.05	0.12 + 0.05	0.011 + 0.005
	50 – 100 kHz	0.55 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.06 + 0.008
	100 – 300 kHz <sup>[1]</sup>	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	0.2 + 0.02
1 V	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.02	1.0 + 0.03	1.0 + 0.03	0.1 + 0.003
	5 – 10 Hz	0.35 + 0.02	0.35 + 0.03	0.35 + 0.03	0.035 + 0.003
	10 Hz – 20 kHz	0.04 + 0.02	0.05 + 0.03	0.06 + 0.03	0.005 + 0.003
	20 – 50 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.11 + 0.05	0.12 + 0.05	0.011 + 0.005
	50 – 100 kHz	0.55 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.06 + 0.008
	100 – 300 kHz <sup>[1]</sup>	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	0.2 + 0.02
10 V	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.02	1.0 + 0.03	1.0 + 0.03	0.1 + 0.003
	5 – 10 Hz	0.35 + 0.02	0.35 + 0.03	0.35 + 0.03	0.035 + 0.003
	10 Hz – 20 kHz	0.04 + 0.02	0.05 + 0.03	0.06 + 0.03	0.005 + 0.003
	20 – 50 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.11 + 0.05	0.12 + 0.05	0.011 + 0.005
	50 – 100 kHz	0.55 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.06 + 0.008
	100 – 300 kHz <sup>[1]</sup>	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	0.2 + 0.02
100 V	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.02	1.0 + 0.03	1.0 + 0.03	0.1 + 0.003
	5 – 10 Hz	0.35 + 0.02	0.35 + 0.03	0.35 + 0.03	0.035 + 0.003
	10 Hz – 20 kHz	0.04 + 0.02	0.05 + 0.03	0.06 + 0.03	0.005 + 0.003
	20 – 50 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.11 + 0.05	0.12 + 0.05	0.011 + 0.005
	50 – 100 kHz	0.55 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.06 + 0.008
	100 – 300 kHz <sup>[1]</sup>	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	4.0 + 0.50	0.2 + 0.02
750 V	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.02	1.0 + 0.03	1.0 + 0.03	0.1 + 0.003
	5 – 10 Hz	0.35 + 0.02	0.35 + 0.03	0.35 + 0.03	0.035 + 0.003
	10 Hz – 20 kHz	0.04 + 0.02	0.05 + 0.03	0.06 + 0.03	0.005 + 0.003
	20 – 50 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.11 + 0.05	0.12 + 0.05	0.011 + 0.005
	50 – 100 kHz <sup>[2]</sup>	0.55 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.6 + 0.08	0.06 + 0.008
	100 – 300 kHz <sup>[1][2]</sup>	4.0 + 0.5	4.0 + 0.5	4.0 + 0.5	0.2 + 0.02

[1] Typically 30 % reading error at 1 MHz  
[2] 750 Volt range is limited to 8 X 10<sup>7</sup> volt-Hertz

### Additional Low Frequency Errors

Error is stated as % of reading.

Frequency	AC Filter		
	3HZ (slow)	20HZ (medium)	200HZ (fast)
10 – 20 Hz	0	0.25	–
20 – 40 Hz	0	0.02	–
40 – 100 Hz	0	0.01	0.55
100 – 200 Hz	0	0	0.2
200 Hz – 1 kHz	0	0	0.02
> 1 kHz	0	0	0

### Resistance

Specifications are for 4-wire resistance function, 2 x 4-wire resistance, or 2-wire resistance with zero. If zero is not used, add 0.2  $\Omega$  for 2-wire resistance plus lead resistance, and add 20 m $\Omega$  for 2 x 4-wire resistance function.

**Measurement Method** ..... Current source referenced to LO input.

**Max. Lead Resistance (4-wire ohms)** ..... 10 % of range per lead for 100 Ω, 1 kΩ ranges. 1 kΩ per lead on all other ranges.

**Input Protection** ..... 1000 V on all ranges.

### Input Characteristics

Range	Full Scale (6½ Digits)	Resolution			Source Current
		4½ Digits	5½ Digits	6½ Digits	
10 Ω <sup>[1]</sup>	10.00000 Ω	1 mΩ	100 μΩ	10 μΩ	5 mA
100 Ω	100.0000 Ω	10 mΩ	1 mΩ	100 μΩ	1 mA
1 kΩ	1.000000 kΩ	100 mΩ	10 mΩ	1 mΩ	1 mA
10 kΩ	10.00000 kΩ	1 Ω	100 mΩ	10 mΩ	100 μA
100 kΩ	100.0000 kΩ	10 Ω	1 Ω	100 mΩ	10 μA
1 MΩ	1.000000 MΩ	100 Ω	10 Ω	1 Ω	10 μA
10 MΩ	10.00000 MΩ	1 kΩ	100 Ω	10 Ω	1 μA
100 MΩ	100.0000 MΩ	10 kΩ	1 kΩ	100 Ω	1 μA    10 MΩ
1.0 GΩ <sup>[1]</sup>	1.000000 GΩ	100 kΩ	10 kΩ	1 kΩ	1 μA    10 MΩ

[1] 8846A Only

### 8846A Accuracy

Accuracy is given as ± (% measurement + % of range)

Range	24 Hour (23 ± 1 °C)	90 Days (23 ± 5 °C)	1 Year (23 ± 5 °C)	Temperature Coefficient/ °C Outside 18 to 28 °C
10 Ω	0.003 + 0.01	0.008 + 0.03	0.01 + 0.03	0.0006 + 0.0005
100 Ω	0.003 + 0.003	0.008 + 0.004	0.01 + 0.004	0.0006 + 0.0005
1 kΩ	0.002 + 0.0005	0.008 + 0.001	0.01 + 0.001	0.0006 + 0.0001
10 kΩ	0.002 + 0.0005	0.008 + 0.001	0.01 + 0.001	0.0006 + 0.0001
100 kΩ	0.002 + 0.0005	0.008 + 0.001	0.01 + 0.001	0.0006 + 0.0001
1 MΩ	0.002 + 0.001	0.008 + 0.001	0.01 + 0.001	0.001 + 0.0002
10 MΩ	0.015 + 0.001	0.02 + 0.001	0.04 + 0.001	0.003 + 0.0004
100 MΩ	0.3 + 0.01	0.8 + 0.01	0.8 + 0.01	0.15 + 0.0002
1 GΩ	1.0 + 0.01	1.5 + 0.01	2.0 + 0.01	0.6 + 0.0002

### 8845A Accuracy

Accuracy is given as ± (% measurement + % of range)

Range	24 Hour (23 ± 1 °C)	90 Days (23 ± 5 °C)	1 Year (23 ± 5 °C)	Temperature Coefficient/ °C Outside 18 to 28 °C
100 Ω	0.003 + 0.003	0.008 + 0.004	0.01 + 0.004	0.0006 + 0.0005
1 kΩ	0.002 + 0.0005	0.008 + 0.001	0.01 + 0.001	0.0006 + 0.0001
10 kΩ	0.002 + 0.0005	0.008 + 0.001	0.01 + 0.001	0.0006 + 0.0001
100 kΩ	0.002 + 0.0005	0.008 + 0.001	0.01 + 0.001	0.0006 + 0.0001
1 MΩ	0.002 + 0.001	0.008 + 0.001	0.01 + 0.001	0.0010 + 0.0002
10 MΩ	0.015 + 0.001	0.02 + 0.001	0.04 + 0.001	0.0030 + 0.0004
100 MΩ	0.3 + 0.01	0.8 + 0.01	0.8 + 0.01	0.1500 + 0.0002

### Additional Ohms Errors

Digits	NPLC	Additional Noise Error
6½	100	0 % of range
6½	10	0 % of range
5½	1	0.001 % of range
5½	0.2	0.001 % of range ± 20 mΩ
4½	0.02	0.01 % of range ± 20 mΩ

## DC Current

**Input Protection** ..... Tool-accessible 11 A/1000 V and 440 mA/1000 V fuses.

### Input Characteristics

Range	Full Scale (6½ Digits)	Resolution			Shunt Resistance (Ohms)	Burden Voltage
		4½ Digits	5½ Digits	6½ Digits		
100 µA	100.0000 µA	10 nA	1 nA	100 pA	100Ω	<0.015
1 mA	1.000000 mA	100 nA	10 nA	1 nA	100Ω	<0.15
10 mA	10.00000 mA	1 µA	100 nA	10 nA	1 Ω	<0.025 V
100 mA	100.0000 mA	10 µA	1 µA	100 nA	1 Ω	<0.25 V
1 A	1.000000 A	100 µA	10 µA	1 µA	0.01 Ω	<0.05 V
3 A <sup>[1]</sup>	3.00000A	1 mA	100 µA	10 µA	0.01 Ω	<0.15 V
10 A	10.00000 A	1 mA	100 µA	10 µA	0.01 Ω	<0.5 V

[1] Part of 10 A range.

### Accuracy (8846A)

Accuracy is given as ± (% measurement + % of range)

Range	24 Hour (23 ± 1 °C)	90 Days (23 ± 5 °C)	1 Year (23 ± 5 °C)	Temperature Coefficient/ °C Outside 18 to 28 °C
100 µA	0.01 + 0.02	0.04 + 0.025	0.05 + 0.025	0.002 + 0.003
1 mA	0.007 + 0.005	0.030 + 0.005	0.05 + 0.005	0.002 + 0.0005
10 mA	0.007 + 0.02	0.03 + 0.02	0.05 + 0.02	0.002 + 0.002
100 mA	0.01 + 0.004	0.03 + 0.005	0.05 + 0.005	0.002 + 0.0005
1 A <sup>[2]</sup>	0.03 + 0.02	0.04 + 0.02	0.05 + 0.02	0.005 + 0.001
3 A <sup>[1][2]</sup>	0.05 + 0.02	0.08 + 0.02	0.1 + 0.02	0.005 + 0.002
10 A <sup>[2]</sup>	0.1 + 0.008	0.12 + 0.008	0.15 + 0.008	0.005 + 0.0008

[1] Part of 10 A range  
[2] Available at front panel connectors only

### Accuracy (8845A)

Accuracy is given as ± (% measurement + % of range)

Range	24 Hour (23 ± 1 °C)	90 Days (23 ± 5 °C)	1 Year (23 ± 5 °C)	Temperature Coefficient/ °C Outside 18 to 28 °C
100 µA	0.01 + 0.02	0.04 + 0.025	0.05 + 0.025	0.002 + 0.003
1 mA	0.007 + 0.005	0.030 + 0.005	0.05 + 0.005	0.002 + 0.0005
10 mA	0.007 + 0.02	0.03 + 0.02	0.05 + 0.02	0.002 + 0.002
100 mA	0.01 + 0.004	0.03 + 0.005	0.05 + 0.005	0.002 + 0.0005
1 A <sup>[2]</sup>	0.03 + 0.04	0.08 + 0.02	0.05 + 0.02	0.005 + 0.001
3 A <sup>[1][2]</sup>	0.05 + 0.08	0.12 + 0.02	0.1 + 0.02	0.005 + 0.002
10 A <sup>[2]</sup>	0.1 + 0.008	0.12 + 0.008	0.15 + 0.02	0.005 + 0.0008

[1] Part of 10 A range  
[2] Available at front panel connectors only

### Additional Current Errors

Digits	NPLC	Additional Noise Error
6½	100	0 % of range
6½	10	0 % of range
5½	1	0.001 % of range
5½	0.2	0.001 % of range ± 4 µA
4½	0.02	0.01 % of range ± 4 µA

## AC Current

The following ac current specifications are for sinusoidal signals with amplitudes greater than 5 % of range. For inputs from 1% to 5 % of range, add an additional error of 0.1 % of range.

**Input Protection** ..... Tool accessible 11 A/1000 V and 440 mA/1000 V fuses.

**Measurement Method** ..... ac-coupled true-rms, dc-coupled to the fuse and shunt (no blocking capacitor)

### AC Filter Bandwidth

Slow ..... 3 Hz to 10 kHz

Medium ..... 20 Hz to 10 kHz

Fast ..... 200 Hz to 10 kHz

**Maximum Crest Factor** ..... 5:1 at full scale

**Additional Crest Factor Errors (<100 Hz)** ..... Crest Factor 1-2, 0.05 % of full scale  
Crest Factor 2-3, 0.2 % of full scale  
Crest Factor 3-4, 0.4 % of full scale  
Crest Factor 4-5, 0.5 % of full scale

## Input Characteristics

Range	Full Scale (6½ Digits)	Resolution			Shunt Resistance (Ohms)	Burden Voltage
		4½ Digits	5½ Digits	6½ Digits		
100 µA <sup>[1]</sup>	100.0000 µA	10 nA	1 nA	100 pA	100Ω	<0.015 V
1 mA <sup>[1]</sup>	1.000000 mA	100 nA	10 nA	1 nA	100Ω	<0.15 V
10 mA	10.00000 mA	1 µA	100 nA	10 nA	1 Ω	<0.025 V
100 mA	100.0000 mA	10 µA	1 µA	100 nA	1 Ω	<0.25 V
1 A	1.000000 A	100 µA	10 µA	1 µA	0.01 Ω	<0.05 V
3 A <sup>[2]</sup>	3.00000 A	1 mA	100 µA	10 µA	0.01 Ω	<0.05 V
10 A	10.00000 A	1 mA	100 µA	10 µA	0.01 Ω	<0.5 V

[1] 8846A Only  
[2] Part of 10 A range

## 8846A Accuracy

Accuracy is given as ± (% measurement + % of range)

Range	Frequency (Hz)	24 Hour (23 ± 1 °C)	90 Days (23 ± 5 °C)	1 Year (23 ± 5 °C)	Temperature Coefficient/ °C Outside 18 to 28 °C
100 µA	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.006
	5 – 10 Hz	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.035 + 0.006
	10 Hz – 5 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.015 + 0.006
	5 – 10 kHz	0.2 + 0.25	0.2 + 0.25	0.2 + 0.25	0.03 + 0.006
1 mA	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.006
	5 – 10 Hz	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.035 + 0.006
	10 Hz – 5 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.015 + 0.006
	5 – 10 kHz	0.2 + 0.25	0.2 + 0.25	0.2 + 0.25	0.03 + 0.006
10 mA	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.006
	5 – 10 Hz	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.035 + 0.006
	10 Hz – 5 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.015 + 0.006
	5 – 10 kHz	0.2 + 0.25	0.2 + 0.25	0.2 + 0.25	0.03 + 0.006
100 mA	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.006
	5 – 10 Hz	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.035 + 0.006
	10 Hz – 5 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.015 + 0.006
	5 – 10 kHz	0.2 + 0.25	0.2 + 0.25	0.2 + 0.25	0.03 + 0.006
1 A <sup>[2]</sup>	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.006
	5 – 10 Hz	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.035 + 0.006
	10 Hz – 5 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.015 + 0.006
	5 – 10 kHz	0.35 + 0.7	0.35 + 0.7	0.35 + 0.7	0.03 + 0.006

**8846A Accuracy (cont)**

3 A <sup>[1][2]</sup>	3 – 5 Hz	1.1 + 0.06	1.1 + 0.06	1.1 + 0.06	0.1 + 0.006
	5 – 10 Hz	0.35 + 0.06	0.35 + 0.06	0.35 + 0.06	0.035 + 0.006
	10 Hz – 5 kHz	0.5 + 0.7	0.15 + 0.06	0.15 + 0.06	0.015 + 0.006
	5 – 10 kHz	0.35 + 0.7	0.35 + 0.7	0.35 + 0.7	0.03 + 0.006
10 A <sup>[2]</sup>	3 – 5 Hz	2.0 + 0.06	2.0 + 0.06	2.0 + 0.06	0.2 + 0.006
	5 – 10 Hz	1.1 + 0.06	1.1 + 0.06	1.1 + 0.06	0.1 + 0.006
	10 Hz – 5 kHz	0.15 + 0.06	0.15 + 0.06	0.15 + 0.06	0.015 + 0.006
	5 – 10 kHz	0.35 + 0.7	0.35 + 0.7	0.35 + 0.7	0.03 + 0.006
[1] Part of 10 A range					
[2] Available only on front panel connectors					

**8845A Accuracy**

Accuracy is given as ± (% measurement + % of range)

Range	Frequency (Hz)	24 Hour (23 ± 1 °C)	90 Days (23 ± 5 °C)	1 Year (23 ± 5 °C)	Temperature Coefficient/ °C Outside 18 to 28 °C
10 mA	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.006
	5 – 10 Hz	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.035 + 0.006
	10 Hz – 5 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.015 + 0.006
	5 – 10 kHz	0.2 + 0.25	0.2 + 0.25	0.2 + 0.25	0.03 + 0.006
100 mA	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.006
	5 – 10 Hz	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.035 + 0.006
	10 Hz – 5 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.015 + 0.006
	5 – 10 kHz	0.2 + 0.25	0.2 + 0.25	0.2 + 0.25	0.03 + 0.006
1 A <sup>[2]</sup>	3 – 5 Hz	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	1.0 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.006
	5 – 10 Hz	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.3 + 0.04	0.035 + 0.006
	10 Hz – 5 kHz	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.04	0.015 + 0.006
	5 – 10 kHz	0.35 + 0.7	0.35 + 0.7	0.35 + 0.7	0.03 + 0.006
3 A <sup>[1][2]</sup>	3 – 5 Hz	1.1 + 0.06	1.1 + 0.06	1.1 + 0.06	0.1 + 0.006
	5 – 10 Hz	0.35 + 0.06	0.35 + 0.06	0.35 + 0.06	0.035 + 0.006
	10 Hz – 5 kHz	0.15 + 0.06	0.15 + 0.06	0.15 + 0.06	0.015 + 0.006
	5 – 10 kHz	0.35 + 0.7	0.35 + 0.7	0.35 + 0.7	0.03 + 0.006
10 A <sup>[2]</sup>	3 – 5 Hz	1.1 + 0.04	1.1 + 0.04	1.1 + 0.04	0.2 + 0.006
	5 – 10 Hz	0.35 + 0.04	0.35 + 0.04	0.35 + 0.04	0.1 + 0.006
	10 Hz – 5 kHz	0.15 + 0.04	0.15 + 0.04	0.15 + 0.04	0.015 + 0.006
	5 – 10 kHz	0.35 + 0.7	0.35 + 0.7	0.35 + 0.7	0.03 + 0.006
[1] Part of the 10 A range					
[2] Available only at front panel connectors					

**Additional Low Frequency Errors**

Error is stated as % of reading.

Frequency	AC Filter		
	3HZ (slow)	20HZ (medium)	200HZ (fast)
10 – 20 Hz	0	0.25	–
20 – 40 Hz	0	0.02	–
40 – 100 Hz	0	0.01	0.55
100 – 200 Hz	0	0	0.2
200 Hz – 1 kHz	0	0	0.02
> 1 kHz	0	0	0

## Frequency

<b>Gate Times</b> .....	Programmable to 1 s, 100 ms, and 10 ms.
<b>Measurement Method</b> .....	Flexible counting technique. AC-coupled input using the ac voltage measurement function.
<b>Settling Considerations</b> .....	When measuring frequency or period after a dc offset voltage change, errors may occur. For the most accurate measurement, wait up to 1 second for the input blocking capacitor to settle.
<b>Measurement Considerations</b> .....	To minimize measurement errors, shield inputs from external noise when measuring low-voltage, low-frequency signals.

## 8846A Accuracy

Accuracy is given as  $\pm$  % measurement

Range	Frequency	24 Hour (23 $\pm$ 1 $^{\circ}$ C)	90 Days (23 $\pm$ 5 $^{\circ}$ C)	1 Year (23 $\pm$ 5 $^{\circ}$ C)	Temperature Coefficient/ $^{\circ}$ C Outside 18 to 28 $^{\circ}$ C
100 mV to 1000 V <sup>[1][2]</sup>	3 – 5 Hz	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.005
	5 – 10 Hz	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.005
	10 – 40 Hz	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.001
	40 Hz – 300 kHz	0.006	0.01	0.01	0.001
	300 kHz – 1 MHz	0.006	0.01	0.01	0.001
[1] Input >100 mV. For 10 – 100 mV, multiply percent measurement error by 10. [2] Limited to 8 X 10 <sup>7</sup> volt-Hertz					

## 8845A Accuracy

Accuracy is given as  $\pm$  % measurement

Range	Frequency	24 Hour (23 $\pm$ 1 $^{\circ}$ C)	90 Days (23 $\pm$ 5 $^{\circ}$ C)	1 Year (23 $\pm$ 5 $^{\circ}$ C)	Temperature Compensation/ $^{\circ}$ C Outside 18 to 28 $^{\circ}$ C
100 mV to 750 V <sup>[1][2]</sup>	3 – 5 Hz	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.005
	5 – 10 Hz	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.005
	10 – 40 Hz	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.001
	40 Hz – 300 kHz	0.006	0.01	0.01	0.001
[1] Input >100 mV. For 10 – 100 mV, multiply percent measurement error by 10. [2] Limited to 8 X 10 <sup>7</sup> volt-Hertz					

## Gate Time vs. Resolution

Gate Time	Resolution
0.01	5½
0.1	6½
1.0	6½

## Additional Low Frequency Errors

Error stated as percent of measurement for inputs >100 mV. For 10 – 100 mV, multiply percent by 10.

Frequency	Resolution		
	6½	5½	4½
3 – 5 Hz	0	0.12	0.12
5 – 10 Hz	0	0.17	0.17
10 – 40 Hz	0	0.2	0.2
40 – 100 Hz	0	0.06	0.21
100 – 300 Hz	0	0.03	0.21
300 Hz – 1 kHz	0	0.01	0.07
> 1 kHz	0	0	0.02

### Capacitance (8846A Only)

Accuracy is stated as  $\pm$ (% of measurement + % of range)

Range	Resolution	1 Year Accuracy <sup>[1]</sup> (23 ± 5 °C)	Temperature Coefficient/ °C Outside 18 to 28 °C
1 nF	1 pF	2% ± 2.5 %	0.05 + 0.05
10 nF	10 pF	1% ± 0.5 %	0.05 + 0.01
100 nF	100 pF	1% ± 0.5 %	0.01 + 0.01
1 µF	1 nF	1% ± 0.5 %	0.01 + 0.01
10 µF	10 nF	1% ± 0.5 %	0.01 + 0.01
100 µF	100 nF	1% ± 0.5 %	0.01 + 0.01
1 mF	1 µF	1% ± 0.5 %	0.01 + 0.01
10 mF	10 µF	1% ± 0.5 %	0.01 + 0.01
100 mF	100 µF	4% ± 0.2 %	0.05 + 0.05

[1] Stated accuracy is attained when Zero function is used.

### Temperature (8846A only)

Test Current..... 1 mA

Accuracy is stated as  $\pm$  °C and is based on a Platinum RT100 (DIN 43760) RTD with less than 10 ohms lead resistance. Specifications do not include probe accuracy, which must be added.

Range	Resolution	Accuracy		Temperature Coefficient/ °C Outside 18 to 28 °C
		90 Days (23 ± 5 °C)	1 Year (23 ± 5 °C)	
-200 °C	0.001 °C	0.06	0.09	0.0025
-100 °C	0.001 °C	0.05	0.08	0.002
0 °C	0.001 °C	0.04	0.06	0.002
100 °C	0.001 °C	0.05	0.08	0.002
300 °C	0.001 °C	0.1	0.12	0.002
600 °C	0.001 °C	0.12	0.14	0.002

### Additional Temperature Errors

NPLC	Additional Noise Error
100	0 °C
10	0 °C
1	0.03 °C
0.2	0.1 °C
0.02	0.4 °C

### Continuity

Continuity Threshold..... Selectable between 1 Ω and 1000 Ω

Test Current..... 1 mA

Response Time ..... 300 samples/sec with audible tone

Accuracy is given as  $\pm$  (% measurements + % of range)

Range	24 Hour (23 ± 1 °C)	90 Days (23 ± 5 °C)	1 Year (23 ± 5 °C)	Temperature Coefficient/ °C Outside 18 to 28 °C
1000.0 Ω	0.002 + 0.01	0.008 + 0.02	0.01 + 0.02	0.001 + 0.002

**Diode Test**

**Test Current**..... 100  $\mu$ A or 1 mA

**Response Time** ..... 300 samples/sec with audible tone.

Accuracy is given as  $\pm$  (% measurements + % of range)

Range	24 Hour (23 $\pm$ 1 $^{\circ}$ C)	90 Days (23 $\pm$ 5 $^{\circ}$ C)	1 Year (23 $\pm$ 5 $^{\circ}$ C)	Temperature Coefficient/ $^{\circ}$ C Outside 18 to 28 $^{\circ}$ C
5.0000 V	0.002 + 0.002	0.008 + 0.002	0.01 + 0.002	0.001 + 0.002
10.0000 V	0.002 + 0.001	0.008 + 0.002	0.01 + 0.002	0.001 + 0.002

**Measurement Rates**

Function	Digits	Setting	Integration Time 60 Hz (50 Hz)	Measurements/Second <sup>[1]</sup>	
				8845A	8846A
DC Volts, DC Current, and Resistance	6½	100 NPLC	1.67 (2) s	0.6 (0.5)	0.6 (0.5)
	6½	10 NPLC	167 (200) ms	6 (5)	6 (5)
	5½	10 NPLC	16.7 (20) ms	60 (50)	60 (50)
	5½	0.2 NPLC	3 ms	300	300
AC Voltage and AC Current <sup>[2]</sup>	6½	3 Hz		0.14	0.14
	6½	20 Hz		1	1
	6½	200 Hz <sup>[3]</sup>		1.6	1.6
	6½	200 Hz <sup>[4]</sup>		6	6
Frequency and Period	6½	1 s		1	1
	5½	100 ms		9.8	9.8
	4½	10 ms		80	80

[1] Typical measurement rates with autozero off.  
 [2] Maximum measurement rates for 0.01 % of ac step. When dc input varies, additional settling delay is required.  
 [3] For remote operation or external trigger using default settling delay  
 [4] Settling delay = 0

## **Chapter 2**

# ***Preparing the Meter for Operation***

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## **Introduction**

This chapter explains how to prepare the Meter for operation by selecting the proper line voltage, connecting an appropriate line power cord, and turning on the Meter. Also included is information on the proper storage and cleaning of the Meter.

## **Unpacking and Inspecting the Meter**

Every care is taken in the choice of packing material to ensure that your equipment will reach you in perfect condition. If the equipment has been subject to excessive handling in transit, there may be visible external damage to the shipping carton. In the event of damage, the shipping container and cushioning material should be kept for the carrier's inspection.

Carefully unpack the Meter from its shipping container and inspect the contents for damaged or missing items. If the Meter appears damaged or something is missing, contact both the carrier and Fluke immediately. Save the container and the packing material in case you have to return the Meter.

## **Storing and Shipping the Meter**

The Meter should be stored under cover. The shipping container provides the most suitable receptacle for storage, as it provides the necessary shock isolation for normal handling operations.

Place the Meter inside a sealed bag. Place the bag into the cushioning material inside the shipping container, and store in a location that complies with the storage environment specification described in Chapter 1.

If the Meter is shipped, use the original shipping container if possible. It provides shock isolation for normal handling operations. If the original shipping container is not available, a box that is 17.5" x 15.5" x 8.0", with cushioning material that fills the space between the Meter and the sides of the box, should provide similar shock isolation.

## **Power Considerations**

The Meter operates on power distribution standards found throughout the world, and must be set up to operate on the line voltage that will power it. The Meter is packed ready for use with a line voltage determined at the time of ordering. If the selected line voltage

does not match the power the Meter will be plugged into, then the Meter's line voltage setting must be changed and the line fuse possibly replaced.

### **Selecting the Line Voltage**

The Meter will operate on any one of four different input line voltages. The set line voltage is visible through the window in the line fuse holder, found on the Meter's rear panel.

To change the line voltage:

1. Remove the power cord from the Meter.
2. Insert a small screwdriver blade in the narrow recess to the left of the fuse holder and pry to the right until the holder pops out, as shown in Figure 2-1.
3. Remove the voltage selector block from the fuse holder.
4. Rotate the selector block until the preferred voltage rating faces outward.
5. Replace the selector block back into the fuse holder.

Changing the line voltage setting may require a different line-power fuse for proper operation. Check Table 2-1 for the appropriate fuse for the selected line voltage.

With the voltage set and appropriate fuse installed, replace the fuse holder back into the Meter and reconnect the power cord.

### **Replacing the Fuses**

The Meter employs fuses to protect both the line-power and current measurement inputs.

#### **Line-Power Fuse**

The Meter has a line-power fuse in series with the power supply. Table 2-1 indicates the proper fuse for each of the four line voltage selections. This fuse is located on the rear-panel.

To replace this fuse:

1. Unplug the power cord from the Meter.
2. Remove the fuse holder by inserting a small screwdriver blade in the narrow recess to the left of the fuse holder and pry to the right until the holder pops out as shown in Figure 2-1. The Meter is shipped with a replacement fuse of the same rating as the fuse installed in the fuse block.
3. Remove the fuse and replace with one rated appropriately for the selected line-power voltage. See Table 2-1.
4. Replace the selector block back into the fuse holder.

#### **Warning**

**To avoid electric shock or fire, do not use makeshift fuses or short-circuit the fuse holder. Use only Fluke fuses**

Table 2-1. Line Voltage to Fuse Rating

Line Voltage Selection	Fuse Rating	Fluke Part No.
100	0.25 A, 250 V (slow blow)	166306
120	0.25 A, 250 V (slow blow)	166306
220	0.125 A, 250 V (slow blow)	166488
240	0.125 A, 250 V (slow blow)	166488

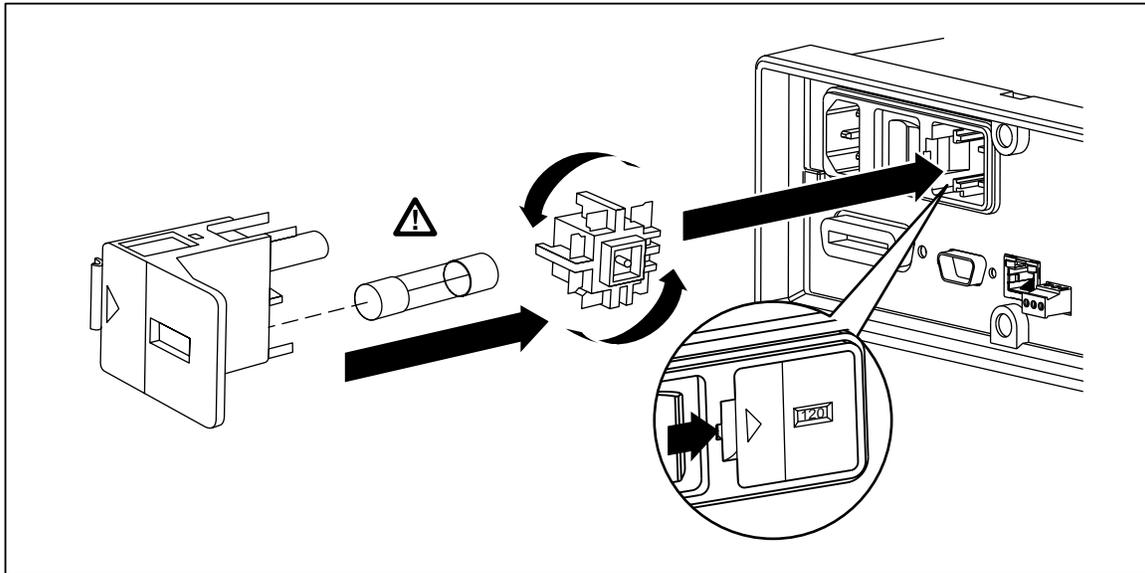


Figure 2-1. Replacing the Line Fuse

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### Current-Input Fuses

The 100 mA and 10 A inputs are protected by user-replaceable fuses.

- The 100 mA input is protected by a fuse (F2) rated at 440 mA, 1000 V (fast blow), 10,000 A minimum breaking capacity (Fluke Part No. 943121).
- The 10 A input is protected by a fuse (F1) rated at 11 A, 1000 V (fast blow), 10,000 A minimum breaking capacity (Fluke Part No. 803293).

### **⚠ Warning**

**For protection against fire or arc flash, replace a blown fuse only with one from Fluke.**

To test for a blown Current Input Fuse:

1. With the Meter powered up, plug a test lead into the **VΩ→←(←→)** connector.
2. Press **Ω**.
3. Insert the other end of the test lead into the 100 mA input connector.

If the fuse is good, the Meter will read less than 200 Ω. If the fuse is blown, the Meter will read **over load**.

4. Remove the probe from the 100 mA connector and insert into the 10 A connector.

If the fuse is good, the Meter will read less than 1  $\Omega$ . If the fuse is blown, the Meter will read **over load**.

To replace the Current Input fuses,

1. Turn the Meter off, unplug the power cord from the Meter, and remove all test leads.
2. Turn the Meter on its back.
3. Unscrew the retaining screw on the fuse access door as depicted in Figure 2-2.
4. Remove the protective cover from the fuse holders by slightly depressing the back edge of the cover to unlatch it from the printed circuit board. Pull up on the back edge of the cover and remove it from the fuse compartment.
5. Remove the defective fuse, and replace with one having the appropriate rating.
6. Replace the protective cover by pushing it over the fuses while aligning the catches with the holes in the printed circuit board. Press the cover down until the catches engage the printed circuit board.
7. Replace the fuse door and secure it by tightening the retaining screw.

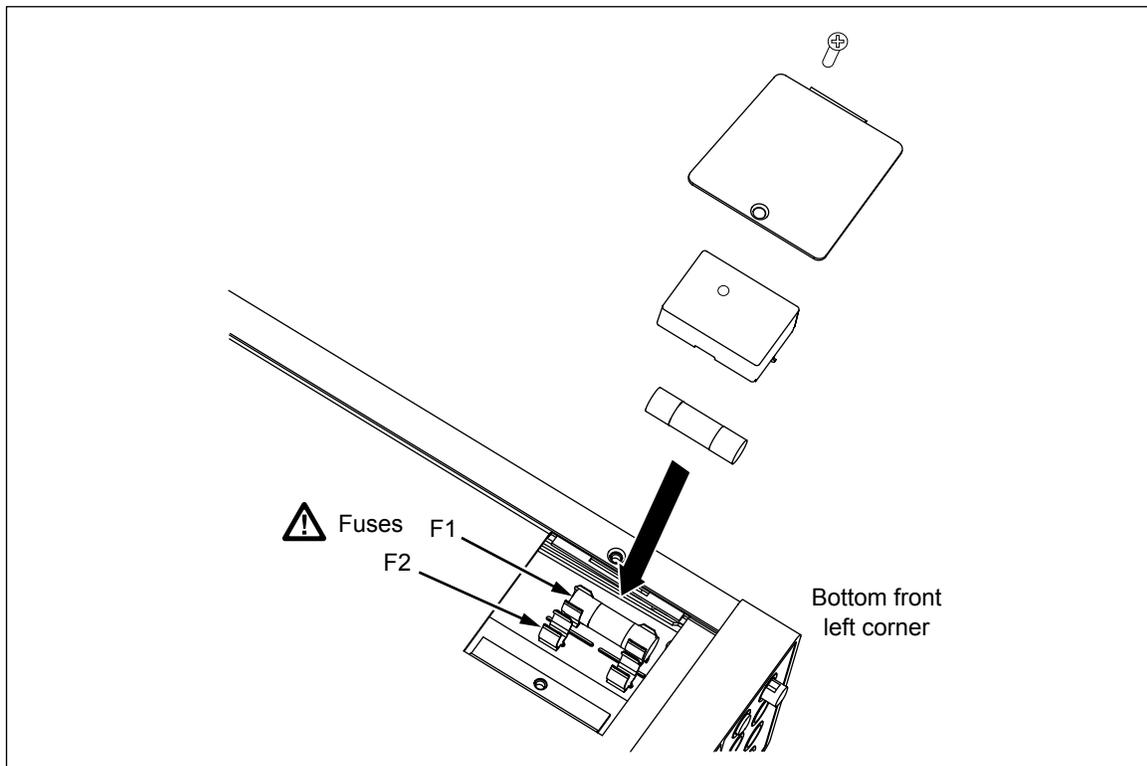


Figure 2-2. Replacing the Current Input Fuses

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## Connecting to Line Power

### ⚠️⚠️ Warning

To avoid shock hazard, connect the factory supplied three-conductor line power cord to a properly grounded power outlet. Do not use a two-conductor adapter or extension cord; this will break the protective ground connection. If a two-conductor power cord must be used, a protective grounding wire must be connected between the ground terminal and earth ground before connecting the power cord or operating the instrument.

First verify that the line voltage selection is set to the correct position, and then that the correct fuse for that line voltage is installed. Connect the Meter to a properly grounded three-prong outlet.

Table 2-2. Line Power Cord Types Available from Fluke

Type	Voltage/Current	Fluke Model Number
North America	120V/15A	LC-1
North America	240V/15A	LC-2
Universal Euro	220V/16A	LC-3
United Kingdom	240V/13A	LC-4
Switzerland 220V/1	0A	LC-5
Australia 240V/1	0A	LC-6
South Africa	240V/5A	LC-7

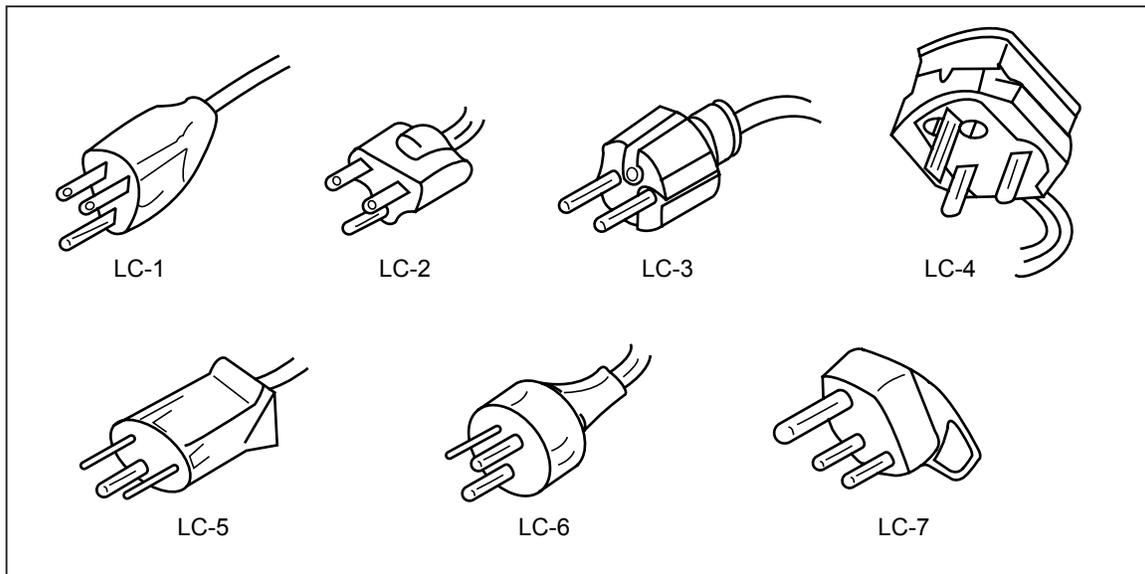


Figure 2-3. Line Power Cords Types Available from Fluke

alh3.eps

## Turning Power-On

### ⚠ ⚠ Warning

To avoid electric shock, connect the Meter's power cord to a power receptacle with proper earth ground. A protective ground connection by way of the grounding conductor in the power cord is essential for safe operation.

With the proper line voltage selected and the appropriate power cord connected to the Meter, connect the power cord to a power outlet and switch rear-panel power switch so the "I" side of the switch is depressed.

## Adjusting the Bail

For bench-top use, the Meter's bail or handle is adjustable to provide two viewing angles. To adjust its position, pull the ends out to a hard stop (about 1/4-inch on each side) and rotate it to one of the four stop positions shown in Figure 2-4. To completely remove the handle, adjust it to the vertical stop position and pull the ends all the way out

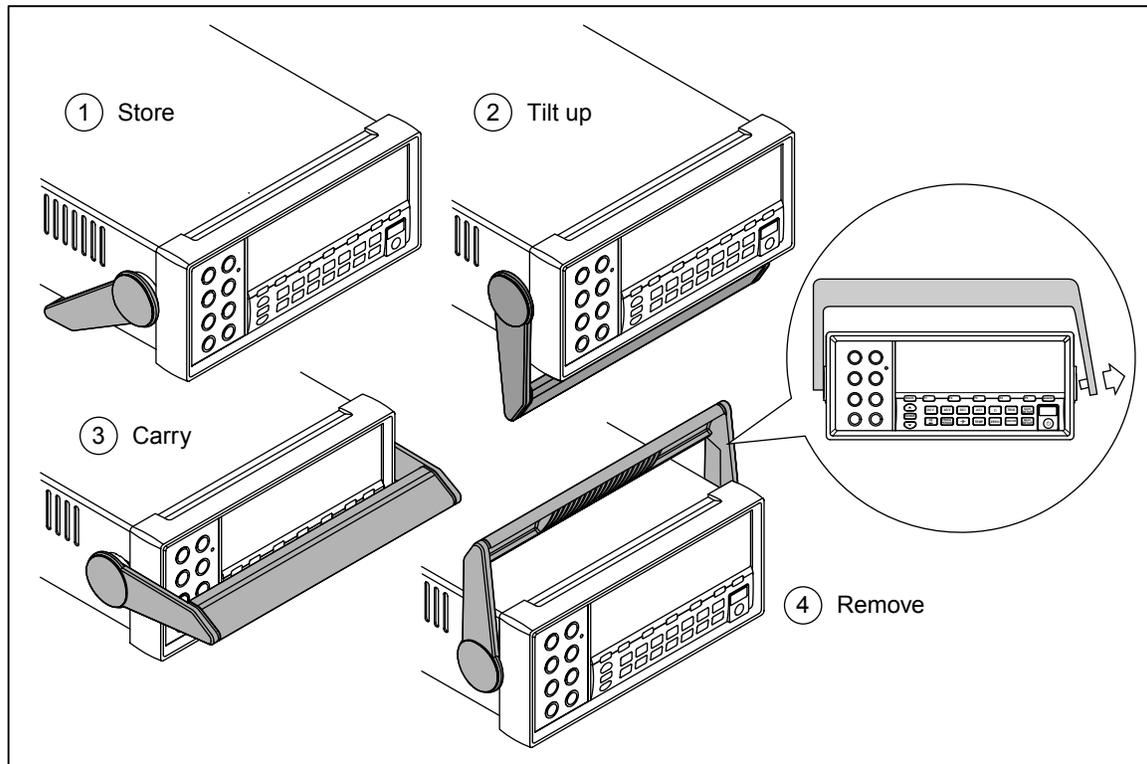


Figure 2-4. Bail Adjustment and Removal

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## Installing the Meter in an Equipment Rack

The Meter is mountable in a standard 19-inch rack using a rack mount kit. See the "Options and Accessories" section in Chapter 1 for ordering information. In preparation for rack mounting, remove the bail (see the "Adjusting the Bail" section above) and the front and rear protective boots. Then refer to the instructions provided with the Rack Mount Kit to mount the Meter.

## **Cleaning the Meter**

### **⚠️⚠️ Warning**

**To avoid electric shock or damage to the Meter, never get water inside the meter.**

### **⚠️ Caution**

**To avoid damaging the Meter's housing, do not apply solvents to the Meter.**

If the Meter requires cleaning, wipe it down with a cloth lightly dampened with water or a mild detergent. Do not use aromatic hydrocarbons, chlorinated solvents, or methanol-based fluids when wiping down the meter.

## Chapter 3

# Front-Panel Operation

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## Introduction

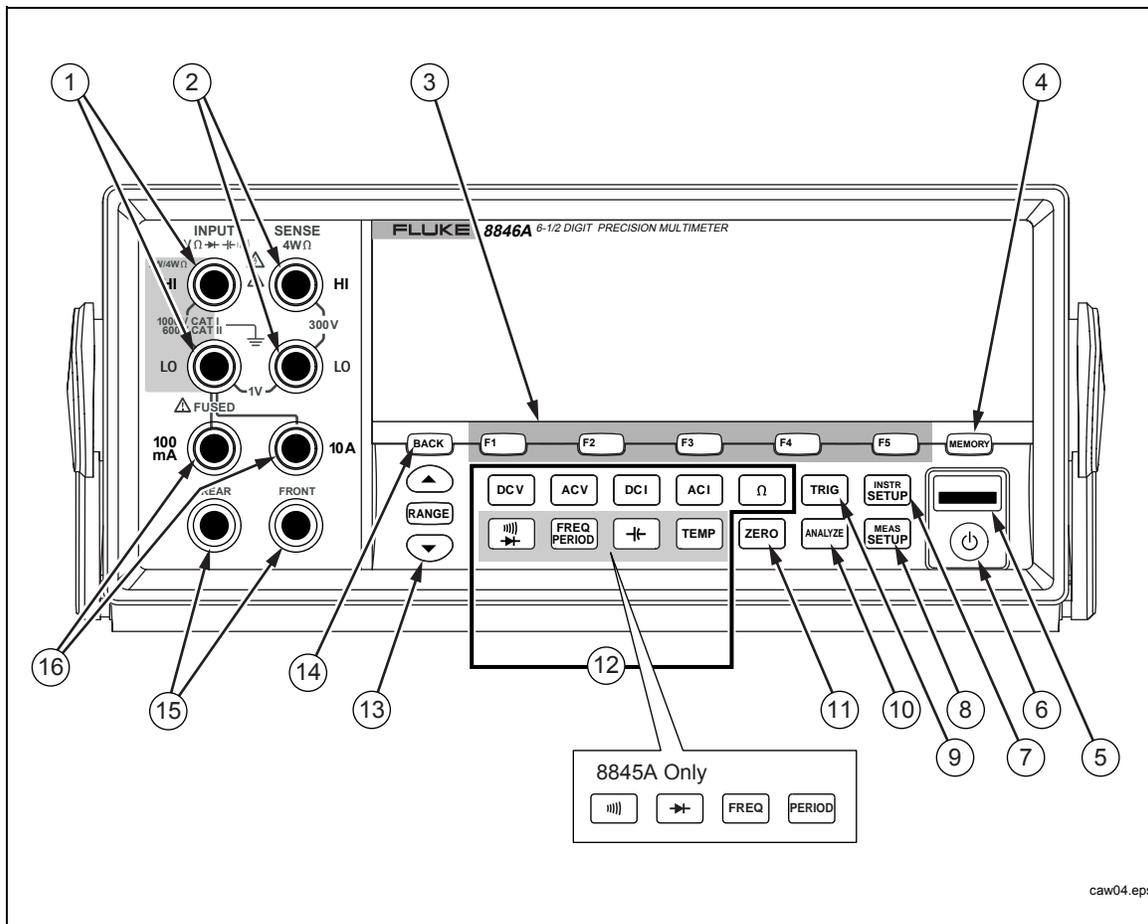
The Meter can be controlled either by sending commands through one of its communication interfaces or by manual manipulation of its front panel controls. This chapter explains the function and use of the controls and indicators located on the front and rear panels of the Meter. Operating the Meter through its computer interfaces is covered in the *Programmers Manual*.

## Controls and Indicators

### Front-Panel Feature Descriptions

Table 3-1 shows the Meter's front-panel controls and connectors.

Table 3-1. Front-Panel Controls and Connectors



Item	Description
1	Input HI and LO connectors. Input connectors for Volts, 2-wire Ohms, Hz, Period, Temperature, and Capacitance measurements. All measurements use the Input LO connector as a common input. The LO input is isolated, and may be safely floated up to 1000 V peak above earth ground regardless of the measurement type. 1000 V is the maximum voltage rating between the Input HI and LO connectors.

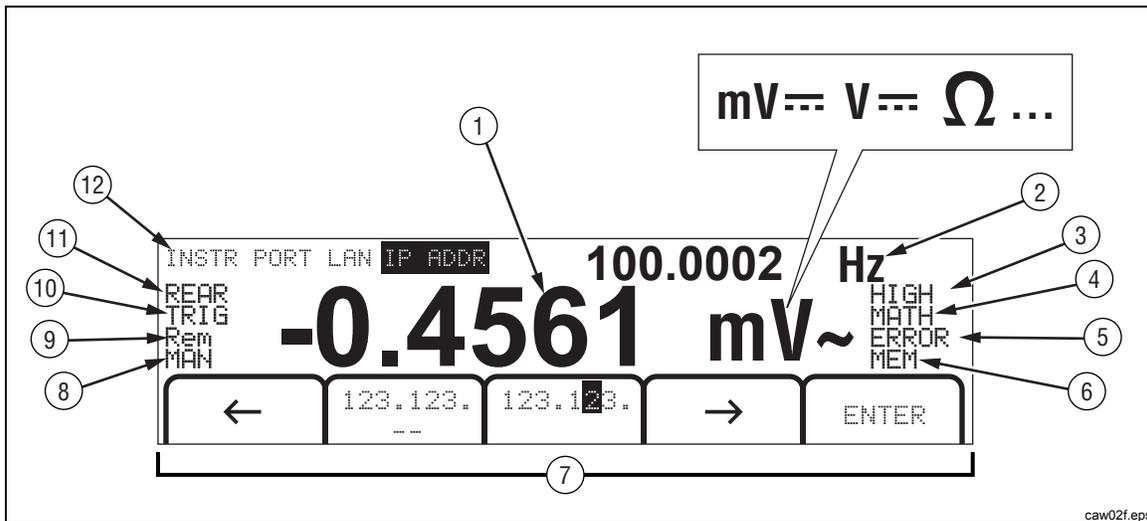
②	Sense HI and LO connectors. Output connectors to source current for 4-wire Ohms measurements.
③	Soft keys F1 through F5. Soft keys are used to select various menu options while navigating the Meter's menus. Each soft key's function is identified with a label in the bottom row of the display. Keys without a label above them are inactive
④	Memory key for accessing internal and external memory <sup>[1]</sup> containing meter setups and measurements. See the "Accessing and Controlling Memory" section for more information.
⑤	USB Port. <sup>[1]</sup> Connection for optional memory device to store meter readings.
⑥	Standby key to turn off the display. While in standby, the Meter will not respond to remote or front-panel commands. When taken out of standby, the Meter sets itself to its power-up configuration.
⑦	Instrument Setup key. Accesses communications interface selection and setup, remote command set, system settings, and meter reset.
⑧	Measurement Setup key. Access to resolution setting, trigger functions, temperature setup, dBm reference selection, continuity settings, and other measurement related parameters.
⑨	Trigger key. Triggers measurement when trigger is set to external triggering. See the "Controlling Trigger Functions" section later in this chapter to learn how to use the trigger key (TRIG) to control the Meter's measurement cycle.
⑩	Analyze key. Accesses math functions, Statistics, TrendPlot, and Histogram.
⑪	Zero key. Uses the present reading as an offset value to create relative readings.
⑫	Meter function keys. Selects meter function between volts dc, volts ac, amp dc, amps ac, ohms, continuity, diode test, frequency, period, capacitance <sup>[1]</sup> and temperature <sup>[1]</sup> . For the 8845A, the lower four keys change functions; see inset.
⑬	Range keys. Selects between manual and auto range mode. Also increases or decreases the range when in manual ranging mode.
⑭	Back key. Backs up one layer in the menu selection.
⑮	Front and Rear input switch. All front-panel input connectors, except 10 A, is available on the rear-panel of the Meter. These switches switch the Meter's input between them.
⑯	100 mA and 10 A input connectors for ac and dc current measurement functions.
Notes:	
[1] Available on 8846A only	

### Display Panel

The display panel described in Table 3-2, performs the following three functions:

- Displays measurements as a value, with measurement units, and measurement statistics in both numerical and graphical format (TrendPlot and Histogram).
- Displays soft labels for soft keys, F1 through F5.
- Identifies the current mode of operation, Local (MAN) or Remote (REM).

Table 3-2. Display Elements



Item	Description
①	Primary display.
②	Secondary display.
③	Indicates PASS, HIGH or LOW for limits testing.
④	Math function selected.
⑤	Error detected.
⑥	Memory enabled for storing readings. Extinguishes when last sample is stored.
⑦	Soft key key labels.
⑧	Manual range mode selected. See “Adjusting the Meter’s Range” section.
⑨	The Meter is under remote control.
⑩	External Trigger Enabled.
⑪	Rear inputs connectors selected.
⑫	Menu selection path.

Measurement results occupy the first two rows of the display. The primary display consists of larger sized characters that comprise the 6½ digits (-1999999 to 1999999), plus a decimal point. In the example shown above, the primary display shows measurement results for an ac voltage measurement.

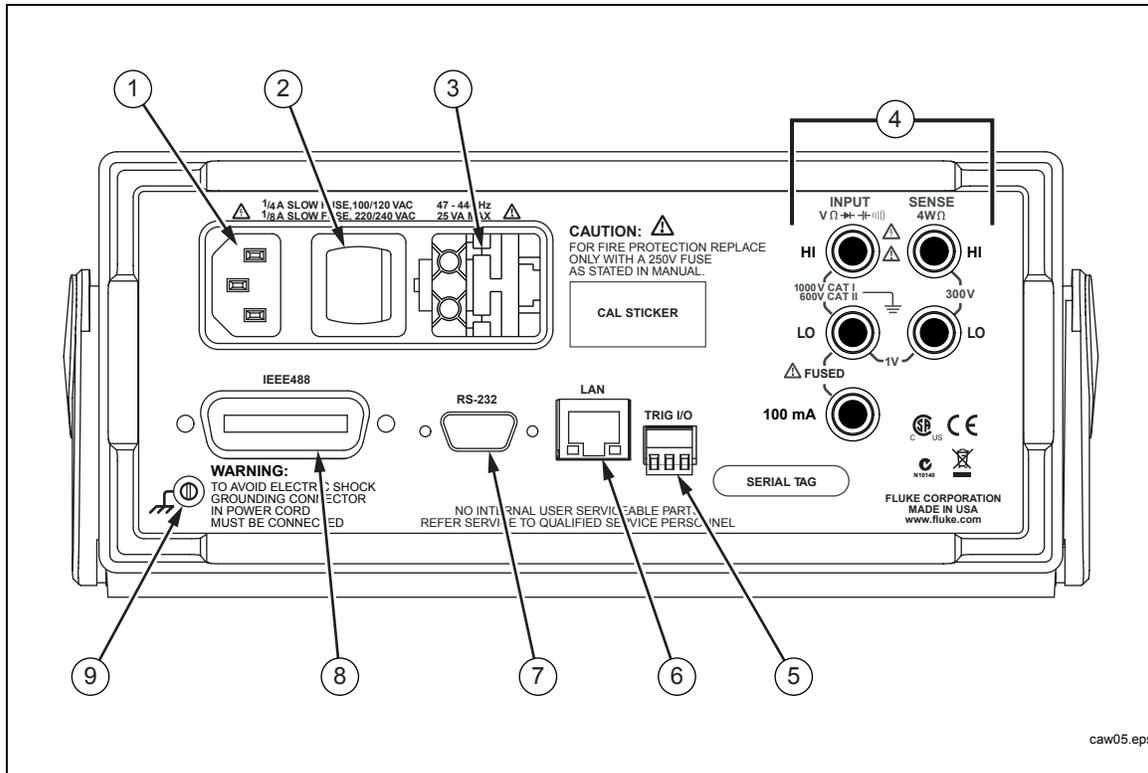
The secondary display is smaller than the primary display and located in the upper right area of the display. However, it is also capable of displaying 6½ digits. Its function is to display the results of a secondary measurement associated with the primary measurement. In the example shown, the secondary display shows the frequency of the ac voltage measurement.

The Soft Key labels, row three, identify the functions of the five soft keys just below the display.

**Rear-Panel Connectors**

Table 3-3 indicates the connections on the rear panel and describes their use.

**Table 3-3. Rear-Panel Connectors**



Item	Description
①	Line Power Cord connector
②	Power Switch
③	Fuse holder and power line voltage selector
④	Rear-panel connectors <sup>[1]</sup>
⑤	External trigger input and measurement complete output port
⑥	Ethernet (LAN) connector
⑦	RS-232 connector. See appendix C for signals available on this connector.
⑧	IEEE 488 (GPIB) connector
⑨	Ground connector

Notes:  
 [1] 10 A current measurements can not be performed through the rear-panel connectors

### Adjusting the Meter's Range

The range keys, ( **RANGE** ) , switch the Meter between auto and manual ranging. The presence or absence of **MAN** in the display indicates the Meter's range mode. All functions utilize these keys to control the Meter's range except continuity, diode test, temperature (8846A only), frequency and period, which only have a single range.

*Note*

*The secondary display's range is always the same as that of the primary display when the functions are the same.*

Pressing  causes the Meter to toggle between auto and manual ranging mode. The range, autorange selected when you enter the manual range mode, becomes the selected range. The Meter will extinguish **MAN** when autorange is selected.

Pressing  or  causes the Meter to switch from auto to manual ranging and moves the range up or down respectively from the range autorange had selected. **MAN** will also appear in the display. If the input signal is greater than the selected range can measure, the Meter displays **over load** and sends 9.9000 E+37 over the remote interface.

In autorange mode, the Meter automatically selects the next highest range when the measured value exceeds full scale of the present range. If no higher range is available, **over load** is displayed on the primary or secondary display. The Meter automatically selects the next lower range if the measured value drops below (11%) of full scale.

### Navigating the Front-Panel Menu

The Meter uses a multilevel menu system for the selection of function parameters, configuration, and features. Menu selection and navigation is accomplished with the front panel's five function keys (     ) and  key. Labeling of the five function keys is presented across the bottom row of the display and is dependent on which function is selected.

The following sections, "Configuring the Meter for a Measurement" and Chapter four's instructions on "Making Measurements", cover the use of the Meter's menu system.

### Configuring the Meter for a Measurement

The Meter's display resolution, reading rate, trigger, continuity threshold, diode test current level, default temperature scale, and Resistive Temperature Detector (RTD) type are adjustable through the Measurement Setup function.

#### Setting the Display Resolution

The steps for setting the Meter's displayed resolution, varies depending on the selected function. The dc volts, dc current and ohms functions set the resolution based on input power line cycle (PLC). AC volts, ac current, frequency, period, capacitance and temperature set resolution using a low, medium and high setting.

To set the Meter's display resolution dc volts, dc current and ohms:

1. Press  to see the measurement Setup menu.
2. Press the soft key under the **DIGITS PLC** label to reveal the resolution selection menu.

The soft key labels are updated with five choices.

```

4 DIGIT .02 PLC
5 DIGIT .2 PLC
5 DIGIT 1 PLC
6 DIGIT 10 PLC
6 DIGIT 100 PLC

```

These choices determine the displayed resolution (4½, 5½, and 6½ digits) and the measurement cycle time in reference to the power line frequency in cycles (PLC)

For example, selecting **5 DIGIT 1 PLC** will display 5½ digit resolution and take a measurement once for each power line cycle. For 60 Hz power, a measurement is made once every 60<sup>th</sup> of a second. Or 16.6666 milliseconds.

3. Press the soft key labeled with the desired resolution.

To set the Meter's display resolution for ac volts, ac current, frequency, period, capacitance and temperature:

1. Press **MEAS SETUP** to see the measurement Setup menu.
2. Press the soft key under the **DIGITS PLC** label to reveal the resolution selection menu.

Three soft key labels are updated with **HIGH**, **MEDIUM**, and **LOW**. The actual number of digits displayed will depend on the selected function and the Meter's range.

3. Press the soft key labeled with the desired resolution.

### Setting the AC Signal Filter

There are three ac filters that can be employed to help make more accurate measurements: 3 Hz Slow, 20 Hz, and 200 Hz.

For the ac volts and ac current functions, a filter selection is available as a modifier. Pressing the **Filter** soft key will expose a menu that allows you to select between the three filters.

#### Note

*The 20 Hz filter is the power-up default selection.*

### Setting Continuity Resistance Threshold and Diode Test Parameters

The threshold resistance value for the continuity function and the amount of current and voltage used for Diode testing are adjustable. Continuity resistance threshold can be set to four different values: 1 Ω, 10 Ω, 100 Ω and 1 kΩ. Diode test voltage and current can also be set to two different values: 5 V or 10 V and 1 mA or 0.1 mA.

### Setting the Continuity Threshold Resistance

The resistance threshold can be set at 1, 10, 100, or 1000 Ω. To set the threshold:

1. Press **MEAS SETUP** to see the Measurement Setup menu.
2. Press the **MORE** soft key.
3. Press the **CONTIN OHMS** soft key.
4. Press the soft key labeled with the desired threshold.

Refer to the “Testing Continuity” section in Chapter 4 to test continuity.

### **Setting the Diode Test Voltage and Current**

To set the diode test current:

1. Press  twice on the 8846A , or press  once on the 8845A, to select the Diode function.
2. Press the **1mA** or **0.1mA** soft key to set the diode test current.
3. Press the **5V** or **10V** soft key to set the diode test voltage.

Refer to the “Checking Diodes” section in Chapter 4 to check diodes.

### **Setting the Default Temperature Scale (8846A Only)**

When the temperature function is selected, the Meter displays temperature measurements based on a preselected (default) temperature scale.

To change the default temperature scale:

1. Press  to see the measurement setup selection menu.
2. Press the **TEMP UNITS** soft key to display the temperature scale selection menu.

Available temperature scales are C for Celsius (°C), F for Fahrenheit (°F) and K for Kelvin (K).

3. Press the soft key labeled with the desired scale.

Refer to the “Measuring Temperature” section in Chapter 4 to make a temperature measurement with the Meter.

### **Enabling Automatic Input Impedance**

The input impedance of the Meter is normally approximately 10 MΩ. However, enabling the automatic input impedance feature allows the input impedance to go as high as 10 GΩ depending on the applied signal at the input of the Meter.

To enable automatic input impedance:

1. Press  to see the Measurement Setup menu.
2. Press the **MORE** soft key.
3. Press the **AUTO INPUT Z** soft key.

The soft key label becomes highlighted to indicate auto input Z is activated. Press the soft key again to disable the function.

### **Using the Analyze Functions**

The Meter is capable of performing mathematical operations with measured values, as well as tracking a series of measurements. With the exception of Diode Test and Continuity, all Meter functions work with all analysis functions. The mathematical functions include statistics, limits, offset, and  $mX + b$ . Meter measurement tracking is performed through the TrendPlot and Histogram functions.

To access the analyze functions press .

## Collecting Statistics on Measurements

The statistical analysis function displays the minimum and maximum measurements of a series of Meter measurements. The Meter also calculates an average and a standard deviation value for the same measurement series. This function also provides control over the starting and stopping of the measurement series.

### Starting the Measurement Collection

To start the statistics process:

1. Press **ANALYZE** to display the Meter's analysis menu.
2. Press the **STATS** soft key.

The Meter starts collecting data immediately. Individual readings are never stored in the Meter, but each reading is added to the Average and Standard Deviation calculation. At the same time, the measured value is compared to the values stored in the minimum and maximum registers, and overwrites one of these values if it is lower than the minimum value or greater than the maximum value.

While a series of measurements are being collected, the process can be stopped by pressing the **STOP** soft key. To start calculations on another series of measurements, press the **RESTART** soft key.

### Reading the Min, Max, Std. Dev. and Avg. Values

As the measurements are collected, the display is continually updated with the latest statistical data as shown below.



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The minimum, maximum, average, and standard deviation is displayed along with the number of measurements the statistics were calculated on.

### Stopping Measurement Collection

There are two methods of stopping the collection of measurements for the statistics function.

To manually stop the measurement collection, press the **STOP** soft key from the statistics menu. The display will update with the final set of statistical data.

The process can also be stopped automatically by entering the number of samples on which you want to calculate statistics. To enter the number of statistic samples:

1. While in the statistics function, press **#SAMPLES**.

To select the digit to adjust, press the soft key labeled either **<--** or **-->**.

With the desired digit selected, press the soft key labeled **--** to decrement the digit or **++** to increment the character.

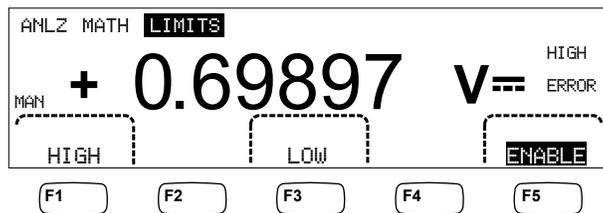
2. Press **ENTER** to set the number of samples.

*Note*

*Setting the number of samples to zero will cause the Meter to collect samples continuously.*

### Testing Using Limits

The limits function provides Pass/Fail testing to user specified upper and lower limits. The upper and lower limits are stored in volatile memory and will be set to zero when the Meter is first turned on or the meter receives a reset through the remote interface. Changing the function will also set the limits to zero.



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When testing from the front panel, the Meter displays **OK** in the secondary display when the measurement is between the high and low limit. It displays **HIGH** or **LOW**, as shown above, for each measurement that exceeds the upper or lower limit. The beeper will beep once for the first measurement outside the limits after an **OK** measurement.

For remote operation, the Meter can be set to generate a service request (SRQ) on the first occurrence of a measurement outside the limits. See the *Programmers Manual* for information on enabling SRQ for this test.

To set the high and low limits through the front panel:

1. Press **ANALYZE**.
2. Press the **MATH** soft key
3. Press the **LIMITS** soft key.
4. Press the **HIGH** or **LOW** soft key as shown above to set the high or low limit respectively.

To select the digit to adjust, press either **<--** or **-->**.

With the desired digit selected, press the soft key labeled **--** to decrement the digit or **++** to increment the character. The right most character is the multiplier. This character can be set to p, n,  $\mu$ , m, k, M, or G.

5. Press **ENTER** to set the selected limit.
6. Press **ENABLE** to start the limits testing.

*Note*

*Since the high and low limits are independent of each other, both high and low limit conditions could be satisfied by a measurement. In this case, the Meter gives priority to the low limit condition by displaying **LOW** and setting the low bit of the questionable data event register.*

Refer to the *Programmers Manual* for instructions on setting the limits remotely.

### Setting an Offset Value

The offset function provides a means of displaying the difference between a measured value and a stored offset value. This type of measurement is referred to as a relative measurement.

There are two methods of entering an offset value into the Meter. The first method is to enter a specified number into the offset register either through the front-panel or over the remote interface. Previously stored values are replaced with the new value. The offset value is stored in volatile memory and is set to zero when power is applied to the Meter or the Meter receives a reset through the remote interface.

The second method is to measure the desired reference value through the Meter's input connections and press **ZERO**. The measured value is placed into the offset register and the display immediately starts showing the difference between measurements and the stored value.

#### Note

*The Zero key cannot be used to zero a DB or DBM measurement. Refer to "Measuring AC Voltage" in Chapter 4 of this manual.*

To enter an offset value through the front-panel:

1. Press **ANALYZE**.
2. Press the **MATH** soft key.
3. Press the **OFFSET** soft key.

To select the digit to adjust, press either **<--** or **-->**.

With the desired digit selected, press the soft key labeled **--** to decrement the digit or **++** to increment the character. The right most character is the multiplier. This character can be set to p, n,  $\mu$ , m, k, M, or G.

4. Press **ENTER** to set the value in the offset register.

### Using MX+B

The MX+B function provides a means of calculating a linear value using a measured value (X) and two constants: M and B. The constant M represents a gain, while the constant B represents an offset.

To make an mX+B calculation:

1. Press **ANALYZE**.
2. Press the **MATH** soft key.
3. Press the **mX+B** soft key.

**To enter the M value:**

4. Press the **mX** soft key

To select the digit to adjust, press either **<--** or **-->**.

With the desired digit selected, press the soft key labeled **--** to decrement the digit or **++** to increment the character.

5. Press **ENTER** to enter the M value.
6. Press **BACK** to return to the MX+B menu.

**To enter the B value:**

7. Press the **B** soft key.

To select the digit to adjust, press either **<--** or **-->**.

With the desired digit selected, press the soft key labeled **--** to decrement the digit or **++** to increment the character. The right most character is the multiplier. This character can be set to p, n,  $\mu$ , m, k, M, or G.

8. Press the **ENTER** soft key.
9. Press **BACK** to return to the MX+B menu.
10. Press the **ENABLE** soft key to start MX+B calculations.

**ENABLE** stays highlighted, and all displayed values are the measured value modified by the formula MX+B.

Pressing **ENABLE** again disables MX+B, and **ENABLE** is no longer highlighted.

**Using TrendPlot**

TrendPlot provides a visual representation of the measured signal over time. About three-quarters of the Meter's display is used to plot the maximum and minimum readings vertically, while the horizontal plane represents time. The vertical and horizontal axis' are not calibrated, and only represent relative time and amplitude depending on the input signal.

Each plot mark is a one pixel-wide vertical line that represents the highest (top of mark) and lowest (bottom of mark) reading the Meter has taken in the time since the previous mark was made. The left-most plot mark represents the time since TrendPlot was started. When all available plot points across the plot area are filled, the Meter compresses the plot marks to one-half of the plot area. The compression process takes the highest and lowest reading between every two plot marks, and makes a single plot mark representing the highest and lowest readings of the two combined plot marks. Future plot marks added to the end of the compressed display are now the Meter's highest and lowest readings, taken over a time period twice as long as the period before the compression.

If the amplitude of the measured value exceeds the positive or negative range of the vertical axis, the Meter adjusts the vertical range to accommodate the range of the new plot point. Previously laid down plot marks are adjusted down in size proportionally to the new vertical axis.

The left section of the Meter's display indicates the highest (maximum) and lowest (minimum) reading taken since the start of a TrendPlot session. In addition, the length of the TrendPlot session is displayed in hours, minutes, and seconds (hh:mm:ss).

To start a TrendPlot session:

1. Set up the Meter for the desired measurement by selecting the function and connecting the signal to the Meter's input.

*Note*

*Setting the range function to manual will cause the Trendplot display to plot at the top or bottom edge of the plot area without making an amplitude adjustment when the input signal exceeds the limits of the Meter's range.*

2. With the Meter taking measurements, press **ANALYZE**.
3. Press the **TREND PLOT** soft key to start the session.

As shown in Figure 3-1, the display will start plotting the readings across the plot area, and the maximum, minimum, and elapsed time are displayed.

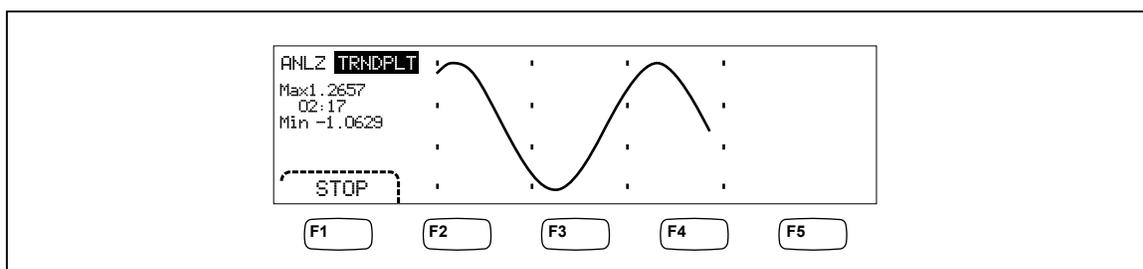


Figure 3-1. TrendPlot Display

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To stop the TrendPlot session, press **BACK** or the **STOP** soft key.

To start the TrendPlot session over, press the **STOP** soft key followed by the **RESTART** soft key.

### Using the Histogram Function

The Histogram function provides a graphical representation of the standard deviation of a series of measurements. The right two-thirds of the Meter's display is used as a bar graph chart. The vertical axis is a relative measure of the number of readings while 10 vertical bars represent the standard deviation across the horizontal axis. The two center bars indicates the number of readings that fall on either side of the average reading within the 1<sup>st</sup> standard deviation. The two bars on either side of the center two bars represent the number of readings that fall within the 2<sup>nd</sup> standard deviation. The next two represent the 3<sup>rd</sup> standard deviation and so on to the 5<sup>th</sup> standard deviation.

The histogram function is helpful in looking at the standard distribution of the UUT. While observing the bar graph display (see Figure 3-2), adjust the UUT variable control to peak the center two bars of the histogram.

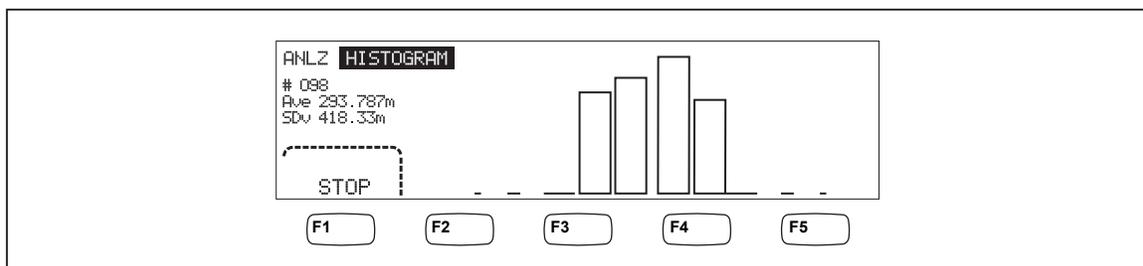


Figure 3-2. Histogram Display

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In addition to the bar graph, the left third of the display also displays the number of samples, the average, and standard deviation values.

To start a histogram session:

1. Set up the Meter for the desired measurement by selecting the function, and connecting the signal to the Meter's input.
2. With the Meter taking measurements, press **ANALYZE**.
3. Press **HISTOGRAM** to start the session.

The display will start adjusting the bar graph as the number of readings accumulates. The mean and standard deviation values also change in accordance with the collected readings.

To start the histogram session over, press the **STOP** soft key followed by the **RESTART** soft key.

To stop the histogram session, press **BACK** or the **STOP** soft key.

## Controlling Trigger Functions

The Meter's trigger functions allows you to select a measurement trigger source, set the number of measurements (samples) per trigger, and set the delay time between receiving the trigger and the start of a measurement. In addition, the trigger function provides a "measurement complete" signal on the trigger port on the rear panel. See item 5 in table 3-3. Triggering the Meter remotely through one of its communication interfaces is covered in the Programmers Manual. The following sections discuss triggering the Meter automatically (internal trigger), or externally using the trigger key on the front panel and the trigger connector on the rear-panel.

Setup and control of the trigger function is accessible through the Meter's Measurement Setup key **MEAS SETUP**.

### Choosing a Trigger Source

There are four possible sources for triggering a Meter measurement: automatic, front panel trigger key **TRIG**, external, and remote. With the exception of remote triggering, trigger source selection is through the trigger menu, found under the measurement setup menu.

To select a trigger source:

1. Press **MEAS SETUP** to see the measurement setup menu.
2. Press the **TRIGGER** soft key to reveal the trigger control selections.

*Note*

*Setting the Meter to trigger via a remote command is only accessible through the remote interface. See the "Triggering" section in the Programmers Manual for more information on remote triggering.*

### Auto Triggering

In auto trigger mode, the Meter's measurements are triggered by internal circuitry. These triggers are continuous and occur as fast as the configuration will allow. Auto triggering is the Meter's power-on trigger source.

To return the Meter to auto trigger mode,

1. Press **MEAS SETUP**.

If the Meter is in external trigger mode, the soft key label **EXT TRIG** will be highlighted in the display.

2. Press the soft key labeled **EXT TRIG**

### External Triggering

In the external trigger mode, a Meter measurement starts each time a low-true pulse is sensed on the external trigger connector or the front-panel trigger key **TRIG** is pressed. For

each trigger or pulse received, the Meter will take the specified number of measurements after the specified trigger delay.

*Note*

*The trigger key is disabled whenever the Meter is in Remote mode.*

To set up for an external trigger:

1. Press **MEAS SETUP**.
2. Press the soft key labeled **TRIGGER**.
3. Press the soft key labeled **EXT TRIG**.

The Ext Trig soft key label will remain highlighted to indicate the Meter is in external trigger mode. To return to auto trigger mode, press **EXT TRIG** again.

If the Meter does not receive a trigger for a second or two, a **TRIG** annunciator illuminates indicating the Meter is waiting for a trigger. Each press of the trigger key **TRIG** or a positive going edge on the trigger port will initiate a measurement.

### Setting the Trigger Delay

A Meter measurement can be delayed a set amount of time after receiving a trigger. This feature may be useful when you need to wait for a signal to settle before measuring it. When a trigger delay is specified, that delay is used for all functions and ranges.

To set a trigger delay:

1. Press **MEAS SETUP**.
2. Press the soft key labeled **TRIGGER**.
3. Press the soft key labeled **TRIG DELAY**.

The trigger delay can be set between 0 and 3600 seconds with a resolution of 10 microseconds.

4. To select a specific digit to adjust, press either **<--** or **-->**.

With the desired digit selected, press the soft key labeled **--** to decrement the digit or **++** to increment the digit.

5. With the desired delay set, press the soft key labeled **ENTER**.

### Setting the Number of Samples

Normally, the Meter takes one measurement (or sample) each time a trigger is received if in “wait-for-trigger” state. However, you can set the Meter to take a specified number of measurements for each trigger.

To set the number of samples per trigger:

1. Press **MEAS SETUP**.
2. Press the soft key labeled **TRIGGER**.
3. Press the soft key labeled **# SAMPLES**.

The number of samples per trigger can be set between 0 and 59999 seconds.

4. To select a specific digit to adjust, press either **<--** or **-->**.

With the desired digit selected, press the soft key labeled -- to decrement the digit or ++ to increment the digit.

5. With the desired delay set, press the soft key labeled **ENTER**.

### **Understanding the Measurement Complete Signal**

The trigger port on the Meter’s back panel provides a low-true pulse at the completion of each Meter measurement. See the specifications section for more details on this signal.

### **Accessing and Controlling Memory**

The Meter stores readings and meter configuration information internally and externally memory (8846A only). On the 8846A, external memory connects through the USB port on the front panel of the Meter. Optional Memory in various storage capacities is available from Fluke. See the “Options and Accessories” section in Chapter 1 for Fluke part numbers. In addition to storing and recalling readings and configurations, a memory management function is available to delete files.

To access the Memory functions, press the **MEMORY** key. The memory menu appears over the five soft keys: **RECALL SETUP**, **RECALL READING**, **STORE SETUP**, **STORE READINGS**, and **MANAGE MEMORY**.

### **Storing Readings in Memory**

The Meter will hold up to 9999 readings in one internal memory file. The 8846A, with external memory, will hold 999 additional readings files, each of which will store up to 5000 readings.

To store readings in internal memory:

1. Press **MEMORY**.



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2. Press the **STORE READINGS** soft key shown above.
3. If not already highlighted, press the **INTERNAL MEMORY** soft key.
4. Press the **# SAMPLES** soft key.
5. To adjust the number of samples, press either <-- or --> to select a digit.

With the desired digit selected, press the soft key labeled -- to decrement the digit or ++ to increment the character.

6. With the desired number of samples set, press the **ENTER** soft key to return to the store readings menu.
7. Press the **START** soft key to initiate measurement storing. The **START** soft key will change to **STOP** which can be pressed to stop the storage process. When the requested number of samples have been stored, the soft key label changes back to **START**. The MEM annunciator in the display also illuminates while readings are being stored.

*Note*

*For internal storage of readings, the number of readings stored will not exceed 9999 readings regardless of the value set for number of samples.*

To store readings in external memory (8846A Only)

1. Press **MEMORY**.
2. Press the **STORE READINGS** soft key.
3. Press the **USB** soft key.
4. Press the **# SAMPLES** soft key.
5. To adjust the number of samples, press either **<--** or **-->** to select a digit.

With the chosen digit selected, press the soft key labeled **--** to decrement the digit or **++** to increment the character.

6. With the number of samples set, press the **ENTER** soft key to return to the Store Readings menu.
7. Press the **START** soft key to begin storing measurements. The **START** soft key will change to **STOP** which can be pressed to stop the storage process. When the requested number of samples have been stored, the soft key label changes back to **START**. The MEM annunciator in the display also illuminates while readings are being stored.

*Note*

*Each memory address will store up to 5000 readings. If the number of samples is set to a value greater than 5000, consecutive memory files will be used to store all the samples. If the readings fill the last file (999), reading storage will stop.*

**Recalling Readings from Memory**

To recall readings from internal memory:

1. Press **MEMORY**.
2. Press the **RECALL READING** soft key.
3. Press the **RECALL INT MEM** soft key.

The Meter displays the first stored reading from the internal file. Four soft keys provide the means to scroll through the readings stored in the file. The **FIRST** soft key displays the first reading in the file while the **LAST** soft key displays the last reading. Use the **<--** and **-->** soft keys to move forward and backward through the file one reading at a time.

To recall readings from external memory (8846A Only), the memory device must be removed from the 8846A and plugged into a PC where the comma delimited files can be read. Each file is labeled MEAS0XXX.CSV. The XXX is the file number starting at 001 and going up to 999. Each file is date and time stamped.

**Storing Meter Configuration Information**

Up to five meter configurations can be stored in the Meter's internal memory. The 8846A, with optional USB memory installed, can store an additional 99 configurations in the external memory.

To store a meter configuration in the Meter's internal memory:

1. Press **MEMORY**.
2. Press the **STORE CONFIG** soft key as shown below.



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3. Press the **STORE INT MEM** soft key.
4. Press one of the five soft keys labeled with the desired memory location to store the present Meter configuration.

To store a meter configuration in to optional external memory (8846A Only):

1. Press **MEMORY**.
2. Press the **STORE CONFIG** soft key.
3. Press the **STORE USB** soft key.

The Meter labels the first four soft keys with the first four memory locations. **CONFIG01** through **CONFIG04**. The fifth soft key is labeled **MORE** to allow access to all 100 memory locations.

4. To store the present Meter configuration in one of the first four memory locations, press the appropriate soft key. If you want to store the present Meter configuration in a location other than the first four locations, press the **MORE** soft key.

The display indicates the next available memory location. If all configuration memory locations are filled, the Meter will always indicate memory location 10.

5. To adjust the display to the desired memory location, press either **<--** or **-->** to select a specific digit.

With the digit selected, press the soft key labeled **--** to decrement the digit or **++** to increment the digit.

6. With the preferred memory location set, press the **ENTER** soft key to store the Meter configuration.

### **Recalling a Meter Configuration**

To recall a configuration from internal memory:

1. Press **MEMORY**.
2. Press the **RECALL CONFIG** soft key.
3. Press the **RECALL INT MEM** soft key.
4. Press the soft key labeled with the memory location (**CONFIG01** through **CONFIG05**).

To recall a configuration from external memory (8846A Only):

1. Press **MEMORY**.
2. Press the **RECALL CONFIG** soft key.
3. Press the **RECALL USB** soft key.

The Meter labels the first four soft keys with the first four memory locations. **CONFIG01** through **CONFIG04**. The fifth soft key is labeled **MORE** to allow access to all 100 memory locations.

4. To recall the Meter configuration from one of the first four memory locations, press the appropriately labeled soft key. If you want a memory location other than the first four locations, press the **MORE** soft key.

The display indicates the last memory location containing a Meter configuration. If all configuration memory locations are filled, the Meter will always indicate memory location 10.

5. To select the memory location, press either **<--** or **-->** to select a specific digit.

With the digit selected, press the soft key labeled **--** to decrement the digit or **++** to increment the digit.

6. Once the chosen memory location is set, press the **ENTER** soft key to recall that Meter configuration.

### **Managing Memory**

The Meter provides a method of clearing internal memory and displaying the status of external memory (8846A Only). Per Department of Defense requirements, the Meter allows the erasure of Meter configuration and data files from external USB memory modules. Other files are not erased from the modules.

To clear internal memory contents:

1. Press **MEMORY**.
2. Press the **MANAGE MEMORY** soft key.
3. Press the **ERASE MEMORY** soft key.
4. If you are sure you want to clear all stored readings, all stored configurations, the user string and the hostname from internal memory, press the **ERASE** soft key. If not, press the **CANCEL** soft key.

To check the amount of external memory available (8846A Only):

1. Press **MEMORY**.
2. Press the **MANAGE MEMORY** soft key.
3. Press the **USB STATUS** soft key.

After a few seconds, the Meter displays the total external memory, the amount of external memory used and free external memory.

## Controlling System-Related Operations

### Identifying Meter Errors

When the Meter detects an error, the error annunciator (item 5 in Table 3-2) is illuminated, and the beeper sounds. A list of possible Meter errors can be found in Appendix B of this manual.

To read the error or errors:

1. Press **INSTR SETUP**.
2. Press **SYSTEM**.
3. Press **ERROR**.
4. The first error, if there is more than one, is displayed. To read additional errors, press **NEXT**.

If you want to erase all error messages without looking at each, press the **CLR ALL** soft key.

### Querying the Firmware for Revision Level

The Meter makes available the hardware version, software version, and serial number of the instrument.

To view the versions and serial number:

1. Press **INSTR SETUP**.
2. Press the soft key under **SYSTEM**.
3. Press the soft key under **VERSIONS + SN** under the Setup menu.

The display shows the outguard software version (**OutG Sw**), the inguard software version (**InG Sw**), the outguard hardware version (**OutG Hw**) and the inguard hardware version (**InG Hw**). Also displayed is the Meter's serial number (**Serial #**).

### Adjusting Display Brightness

Setting the brightness of the display is accessible through the Instrument Setup key.

To adjust display brightness:

1. Press **INSTR SETUP**.
2. Press the **SYSTEM** soft key.
3. Press the **BRIGHT** soft key.
4. Press one of the soft keys under **LOW**, **MEDIUM**, and **HIGH**.
5. Press **BACK** to return to the previous menu.

### Setting the Meter's Date and Time

1. Press **INSTR SETUP**.
2. Press the **SYSTEM** soft key.
3. Press the **DATE TIME** soft key.

- To adjust the display to the desired date and time, press either  $\langle -- \text{ or } -- \rangle$  to select a specific digit or the month.  
  
With the desired digit or month selected, press the soft key labeled  $--$  to decrement the digit, or  $++$  to increment the digit.
- Press the **ENTER** soft key to set the date and time and return to system menu.

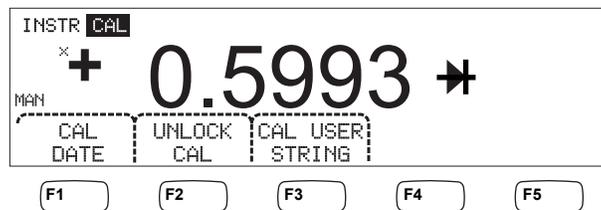
## Configuring the Remote Interface

Selecting an interface port, setting up the ports, and selecting the command set the Meter will recognize is accomplished through the Instrument Setup key. For information on the commands that will remotely control the Meter, refer to the *Programmers Manual*.

## Checking the Meter's Calibration Date

To read the Meter's calibration date:

- Press **INSTR SETUP**
- Press the **CAL** soft key as shown below.



caw034.eps

- Press the **CAL DATE** soft key to display the date the Meter was last calibrated.
- Press **BACK** to go back to the previous menu.

## Resetting the Meter's Default Settings

To reset the Meter's default settings:

- Press **INSTR SETUP** to see the instrument setup menu.
- Press the **RESET** soft key to reset the Meter.

## Chapter 4

# Making Measurements

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## Introduction

### Warning

To avoid possible electrical shock, and/or damage to the Meter,

- Read the safety information found in Chapter 1 before operating this meter.
- Do not apply more than 1000 volts between any terminal and earth ground.

This chapter covers the steps for making a measurement with each of the Meter's functions. These steps include making a proper and safe connection between the Meter and the circuit, as well as the manipulation of the front-panel controls to display the selected measurement.

If you are unfamiliar with the front-panel controls, review the relevant sections in Chapter 3.

## Selecting Function Modifiers

Most of the functions described in this Chapter will have choices for changing how the measured value is displayed or how the input signal is processed. These "Function Modifiers" appear in the bottom line of the display as soft key labels. The available selections are dependent on the selected function and are described in the Meter function descriptions provided in this Chapter.

## Activating the Secondary Display

For most of the Meter's functions, an additional measured parameter may appear in the display. These additional parameters are available when **2ND MEAS** appears over one of the soft keys.

The secondary measurement may be another parameter of the primary signal (e.g., ac voltage and frequency of one signal), or a measurement of another signal made simultaneously with the primary signal (e.g., dc voltage and dc current).

The range of the secondary display is always automatically controlled.

To select a secondary measurement:

1. Press the soft key labeled **2ND MEAS**.

Each additional press of this soft key will cause the secondary display to cycle through the available measurements. After the last secondary measurement is shown, the next press of this soft key turns the secondary display off.

### Note

*When switching between Meter functions, the secondary display selection for the function you last selected is remembered and activated the next time that function is selected.*

## Measuring Voltage

The Meter is capable of measuring up to 1000 V dc, 750 V ac (8845A) or 1000 V ac (8846A).

### ⚠ Caution

To avoid blowing the current fuses and possible damage to other equipment, do not apply voltage to the meter's input until the test leads are properly connected to the input, and the proper voltage function selected.

## Measuring DC Voltage

To make a dc voltage measurement:

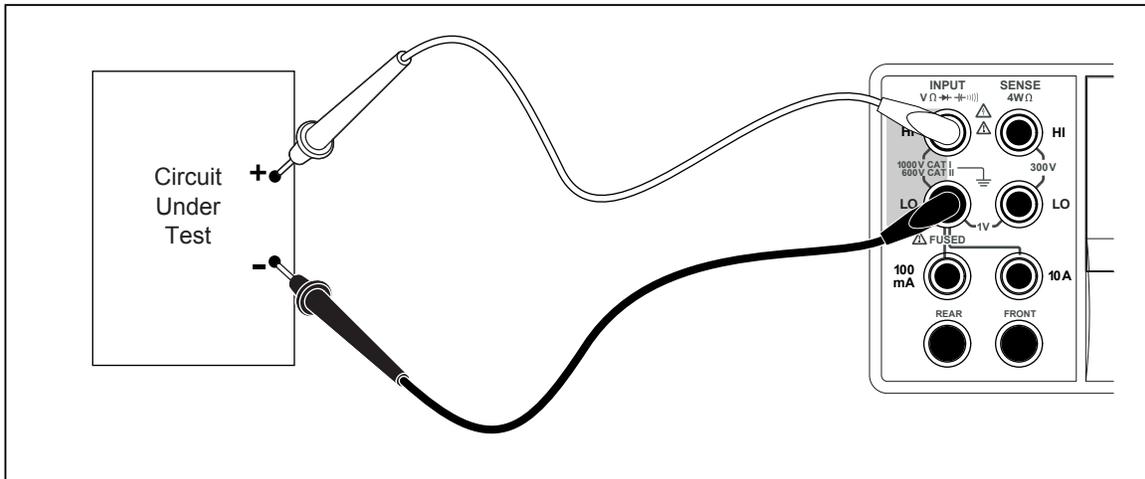
1. Press **DCV**.

The dc voltage icon **V<sup>—</sup>** will appear to the right of the displayed value as shown below.



caw021.eps

2. Connect the test leads to the Meter's inputs as shown in Figure 4-1.
3. Connect the test leads to the circuit and read the measured voltage in the Meter's display.



caw019.eps

Figure 4-1. Input Connections for Voltage, Resistance, and Frequency Measurements.

### Function modifiers:

**FILTER** An 8 Hertz low-pass filter for rejecting noise and signals above 8 Hz is inserted to stabilize measurements. The filter is active when this soft

key label is highlighted and will increase stabilization time or the measurement.

**2ND MEAS** Cycles the secondary display through the measurement functions listed below, and then off. When a second measurement function is selected, the **2ND MEAS** soft key label is highlighted.

**VAC** - Displays the ac signal riding on the measured dc voltage.

See the “Range Keys” section in Chapter 1 to learn how to switch between auto and manual ranging.

### Measuring AC Voltage

To make an ac voltage measurement:

1. Press **ACV**.

The ac voltage icon **V~** will appear in display as shown below.



caw022.eps

2. Connect the test leads to the Meter’s input as shown in Figure 4-1.
3. Connect the test leads to the circuit and read the measured voltage in the Meter’s display.

#### Function modifiers:

- Filter** Displays the filter menu. For best accuracy and stable readings, choose a filter based on the lowest frequency to be measured.
- 3HZ SLOW** Provides higher measurement accuracy on ac signals between 3 Hz and 20 Hz. However, the measurement cycle time is longer than it is when using the 20 Hz filter.
  - 20HZ** Provides higher measurement accuracy on ac signals between 20 Hz and 200 Hz. The measurement cycle time is longer, however, than it is when using the 200 Hz filter.
  - 200 HZ** Provides accurate measurements on ac signals 200 Hz and above.
- dB** Displays the measured voltage as a decibel value referenced to a stored relative value ( $dB = 20 \log(V_{new}/V_{stored})$ ). The stored value is obtained from the first measurement the Meter makes after pressing the **dB** soft key. All future measurements are displayed using the stored value as an offset. To take the Meter out of dB mode, press the **dB** soft key.
- dBm** Displays the measured voltage as a decibel value referenced to 1 milliwatt ( $dBm = 10 \log(V_{new} / \text{reference resistance} / 1 \text{ mW})$ ). To

accommodate the various impedances that a dBm measurement can be made across, the Meter allows for the selection of 21 different impedance values.

To set the dB reference impedance:

1. Press **MEAS SETUP**.
2. Press the soft key labeled **dBm REF**.

The available impedance settings are presented in sets of three values. To move to a higher set of impedance values, press **++ -->**. Press **<-- --** to go to a lower set of impedance values.

3. With the impedance highlighted, press the soft key under the value selected.

**2ND MEAS** Cycles the secondary display through the measurement functions listed below, and then off. When a second measurement function is selected, the **2ND MEAS** soft key label is highlighted.

**VDC** - Displays the dc voltage on which the ac signal may be riding.

**Frequency** - Displays the frequency of the ac signal applied to the **Input HI** and **LO** connectors of the Meter.

## Measuring Frequency and Period

The Meter measures the frequency, or period of ac signals between 3 Hz and 1 MHz, applied between the Meter's HI and LO connectors.

The **FREQ PERIOD** key not only activates the Meter's Frequency/Period function, but also toggles the Meter's primary display between the signal's frequency and period measurement. Therefore, whether a frequency or period measurement appears after pressing **FREQ PERIOD** depends on the condition this function was left in the last time it was used.

To make a frequency measurement:

1. Press **FREQ PERIOD**.



caw06f.eps

If **S** is displayed, press **FREQ PERIOD** again to switch the primary display to frequency.

2. Connect the Meter to the signal as shown in Figure 4-1.

To make a period measurement:

1. Press **FREQ PERIOD**.

If **Hz** is displayed, press **FREQ PERIOD** again to switch the primary display to period.

2. Connect the Meter to the signal as shown in Figure 4-1.

*Note*

Each press of  switches the measurement between frequency and period.

**Function modifiers:**

**APERTURE** Displays three different gate time selections: 0.01, 0.1 and 1 second. These selections set the minimum amount of time the Meter takes to measure frequency. Shorter gate times result in lower measurement resolution.

**2ND MEAS** Cycles the secondary display through the measurement functions listed below, and then off. When a second measurement function is selected, the **2ND MEAS** soft key label is highlighted.

**Period** – If a frequency measurement is in the primary display, the period of the signal appears in the secondary display when the **2ND MEAS** soft key is pressed.

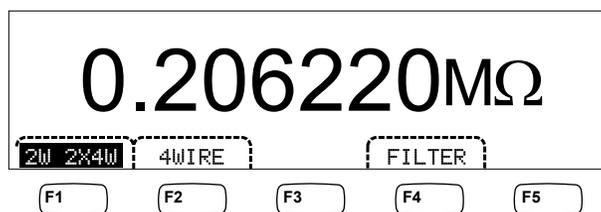
## Measuring Resistance

The Meter is capable of making two-wire and four-wire resistance measurements. Two-wire measurements are easy to set up, and will make accurate measurements in most applications. In a two-wire resistance measurement, both the source current and sensing is done through the **INPUT HI** and **LO** terminals. A four-wire resistance measurement will source current through the **INPUT HI** and **LO** terminals and use the **SENSE HI** and **LO** to measure the resistance.

### Making a Two-Wire Resistance Measurement

To make a two-wire resistance measurement:

1. Connect the test leads to the Meter’s input connectors as shown in Figure 4-1.
2. Press .



caw030.eps

3. If not already highlighted as shown above, press the **2W 2X4W** soft key.

**Function modifiers:**

**FILTER** An 8 Hertz low-pass filter for rejecting noise and signals above 8 Hz is inserted to stabilize measurements. The filter is active when this soft key label is highlighted and will increase stabilization time or the measurement.

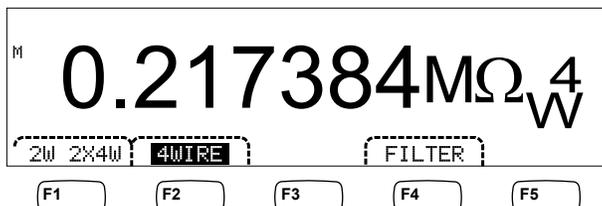
Refer to the “Range Keys” section in Chapter 3 of this manual for information on how to adjust the measurement range.

### Making a Four-Wire Resistance Measurement

The Meter incorporates two methods of making a four-wire resistance measurement. The traditional method is to use four meter leads to connect the Meter to the resistance to be measured. The optional 2X4 Wire test leads simplifies the four-wire measurement so you only have to plug in two test leads to the **Input HI** and **LO** connectors of the meter.

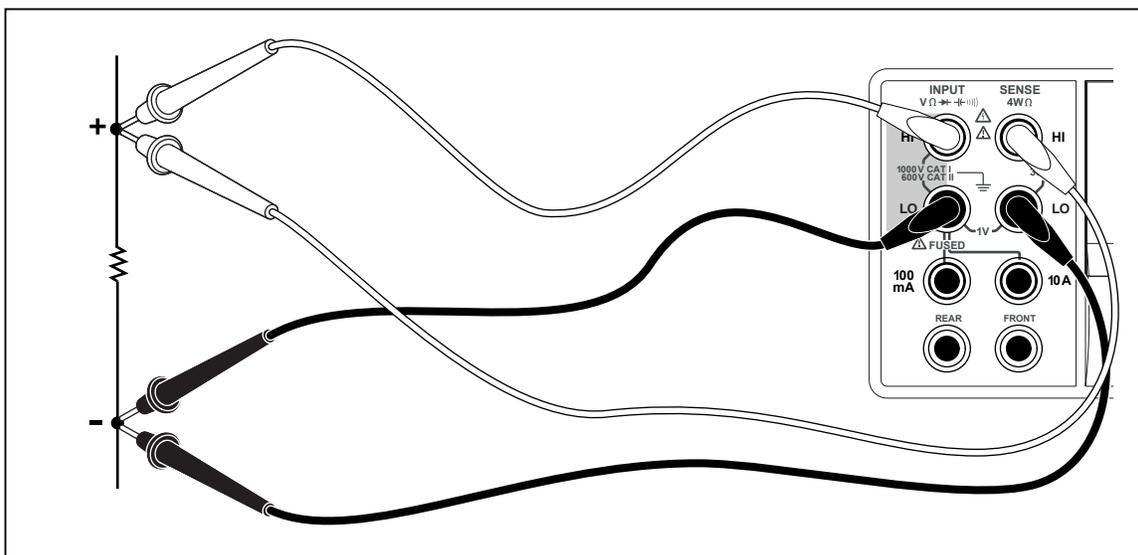
To make a four-wire resistance measurement using four test leads:

1. Connect the test leads to the Meter's input connectors as show in Figure 4-2.
2. Press  $\Omega$ .



caw031.eps

3. If not already highlighted as shown above, press the **4WIRE** soft key to switch to a four-wire measurement.



caw023.eps

Figure 4-2. Input Connections for 4-Wire Resistance Measurements

To make a four-wire resistance measurement using Fluke's 2X4 test leads:

1. Connect the test leads to the Meter's input connectors as show in Figure 4-3.
2. Press  $\Omega$ .
3. If not already highlighted, press the **2X4WIRE** soft key.

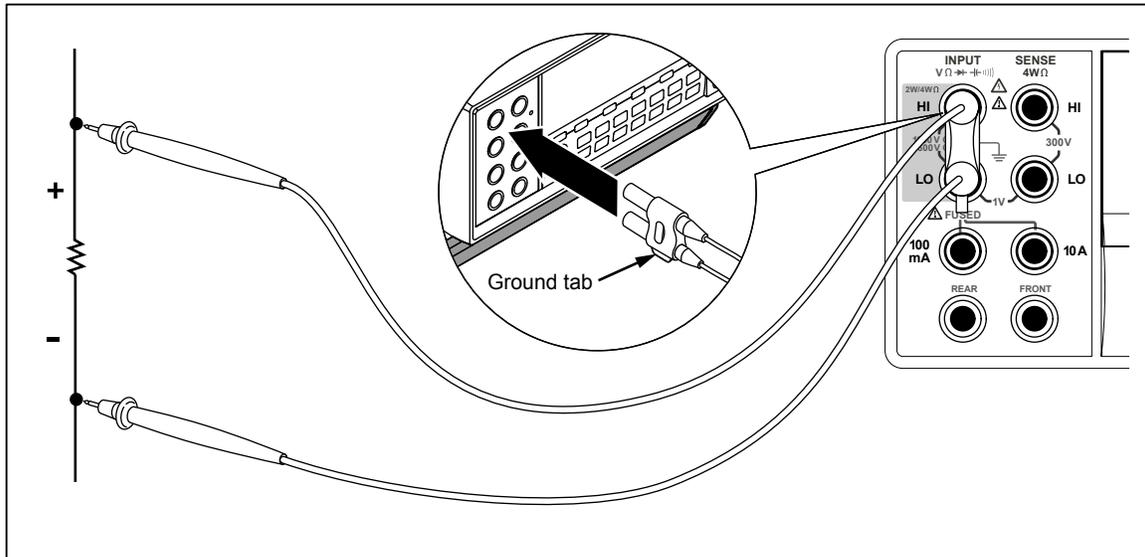


Figure 4-3. Input Connections for 4-wire ohms using 2x4 wire leads.

caw060.eps

**Function modifiers:**

**FILTER** An 8 Hertz filter is inserted to stabilize the measurement. The filter is active when this soft key's label is highlighted.

Refer to the “Range Keys” section in Chapter 3 of this manual for information on how to adjust the measurement range.

## Measuring Current

The Meter is capable of making both ac and dc current measurements up to 10 A. Two separate input connectors, in conjunction with the **LO** connector, are used for current measurements. For best resolution, current measurements not exceeding 100 mA should be made using the **LO** and **mA** input connectors as shown in Figure 4-4.

### ⚠ Caution

To avoid blowing the current input fuse or possibly damaging the Meter:

- Current measurements between 120 mA and 10 A should be measured using only the 10 A and LO input connectors.
- BEFORE applying power to the circuit to be measured, ensure the test leads are correctly connected to the Meter inputs appropriate for the expected current.
- Exceeding 400 mA on the 100 mA input connector or exceeding 11 A on the 10 Amp connector will blow the internal fuse.

Current measurements expecting to be between 120 mA and 10 A are made using the Input **LO** and **10A** input connectors as shown in Figure 4-5.

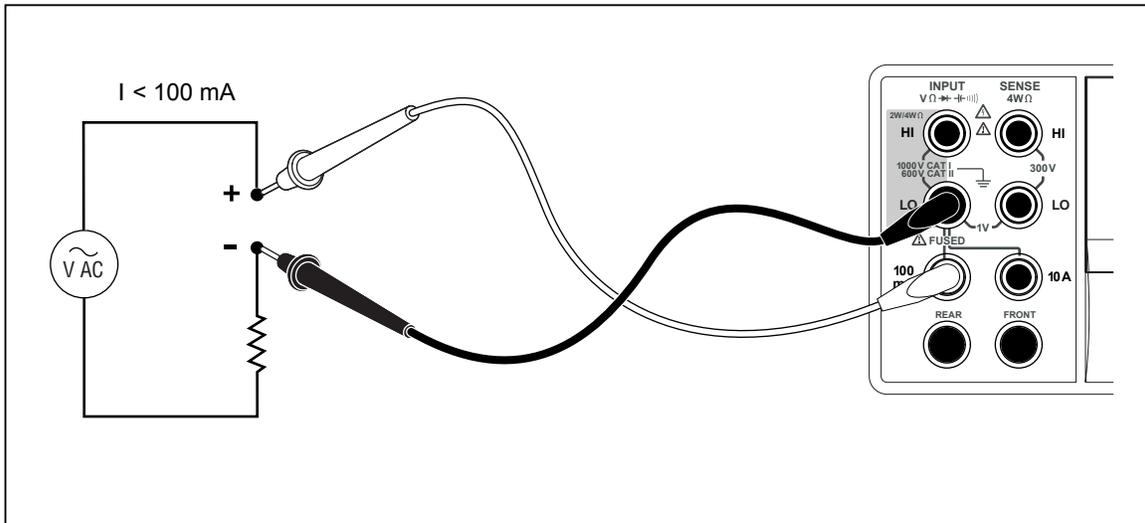


Figure 4-4. Input Connections for Current Measurements Below 120 mA

caw025.eps

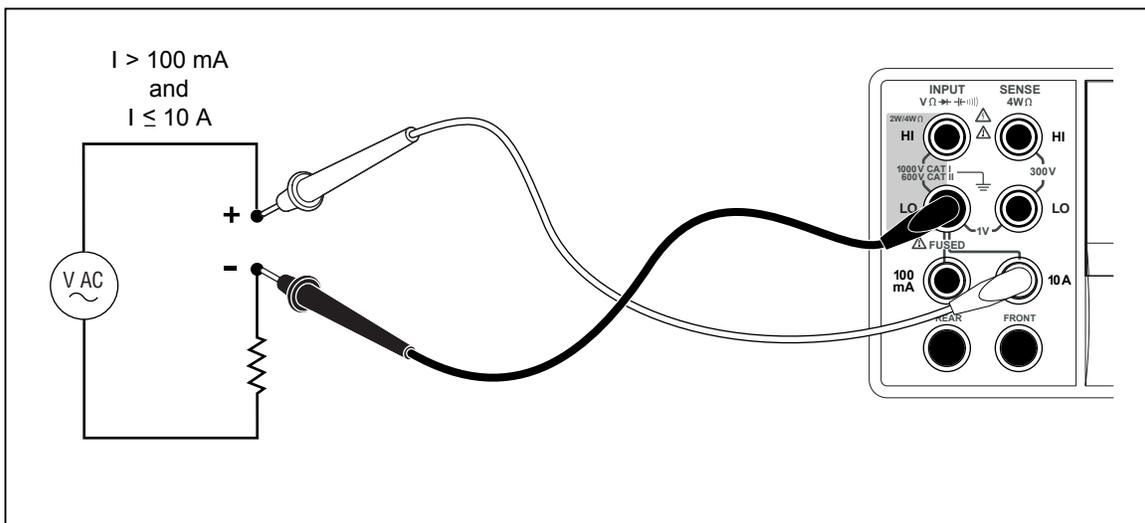


Figure 4-5. Input Connections for Current Measurements Above 120 mA

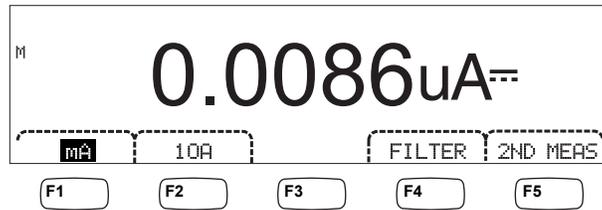
caw026.eps

Refer to the “Range Keys” section in Chapter 3 of this manual for information on how to adjust the measurement range.

### Measuring DC Current

To measure dc current:

1. Connect the test leads between the Meter’s input connectors and the measured circuit as shown in Figure 4-4 for currents 120 mA or less or Figure 4-5 for currents up to 10 amps.
2. Press **DCI**.



caw09f.eps

3. With the test leads connected to the **100 mA** and **Input LO** connectors, press the **mA** soft key as shown above, if not already highlighted. If the test leads are connected to the **10A** and **Input LO** connectors, then press the **10A** soft key.
4. Apply power to the measured circuit and read the current in the Meter's display.

**Function modifiers:**

**FILTER** An 8 Hertz low-pass filter for rejecting noise and signals above 8 Hz is inserted to stabilize measurements. The filter is active when this soft key label is highlighted and will increase stabilization time or the measurement.

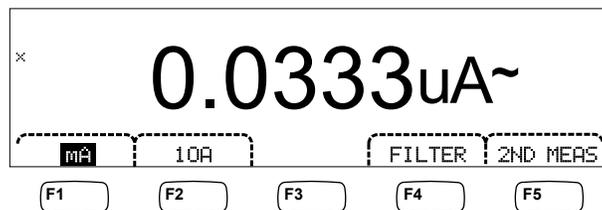
**2ND MEAS** Cycles the secondary display through the measurement functions listed below, and then off. When a second measurement function is selected, the **2ND MEAS** soft key label is highlighted.

**IAC** - Displays the ac current riding on the dc current measurement.

**Measuring AC Current**

To measure ac current:

1. Connect the test leads between the Meter's input connectors and the measured circuit as shown in Figure 4-4 or Figure 4-5, based on the anticipated level of current.
2. Press **ACI**.



caw08f.eps

3. With the test leads connected to the **100 mA** and **Input LO** connectors, press the **mA** soft key as shown above, if not already highlighted. If the test leads are connected to the **10A** and **Input LO** connectors, then press the **10A** soft key.
4. Apply power to the measured circuit and read the current in the Meter's display.

**Function modifiers:**

**Filter** Displays the filter menu. For best accuracy and stable readings, choose a filter based on the lowest frequency to be measured.

**3HZ SLOW** Provides higher measurement accuracy on ac signals between 3 Hz and 20 Hz. However, the measurement



Refer to the “Range Keys” section in Chapter 3 of this manual for information on how to adjust the measurement range.

### Measuring RTD Temperature (8846A only)

The Fluke 8846A is capable of measuring temperatures between -200 °C and 600 °C using Resistance Temperature Detectors (RTDs).

To make a temperature measurement:

1. Connect the RTD to the **Input HI**, and **LO**, then the **SENSE HI** and **LO** connectors as shown in Figure 4-7.

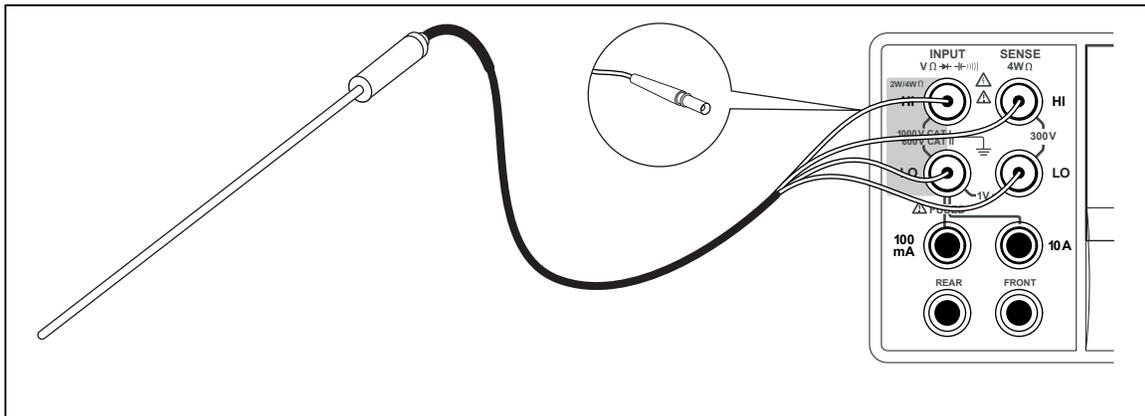
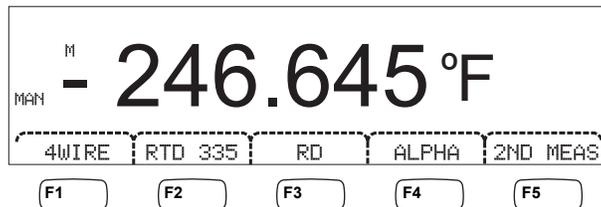


Figure 4-7. Temperature Measurements

caw028.eps

2. Press **TEMP** to display the measured temperature as shown below.



caw11f.eps

To change the temperature scale, refer to the “Setting the Default Temperature Scale” section in Chapter 3 of this manual. Available scales are Celsius, Fahrenheit, and Kelvin.

Refer to the “Adjusting the Meter’s Range” section in Chapter 3 of this manual for information on how to adjust the measurement range.

#### Function modifiers:

- 4Wire** Switches the measurement input connectors to 4-wire measurement for 4-wire RTDs. 4-wire RTDs make more accurate measurements.
- RTD 385** Default RTD type. All coefficients are predefined.
- RO** Used to select a different value of RTD resistance at 0 °C.
- ALPHA** Used to set the first coefficient of the Callendar-Van Dusen equation.
- 2ND MEAS** Cycles the secondary display through the measurement functions listed below and then off.

**OHMS** - Displays the resistance of the RTD. 2-wire resistance is used when in 2-wire temperature mode and 4-wire resistance when the Meter is in 4-wire RTD mode.

## Testing Continuity

Continuity testing determines whether a circuit is intact (i.e., has a resistance less than the threshold). The threshold is selectable between 1 and 1000  $\Omega$ .

To perform a continuity test:

1. Press  on the 8846A or  on the 8845A. An example of the continuity display is shown below.



caw12f.eps

2. Connect the test leads as shown in Figure 4-1.

If enabled, the beeper emit a tone when the resistance drops below the set threshold.

If the **BEEP OFF** soft key is highlighted, press the **BEEP OFF** soft key to enable the beeper.

To set the threshold value, refer to the “Setting the Continuity Threshold Resistance” section in Chapter 3 of this manual.

### Function modifiers:

None

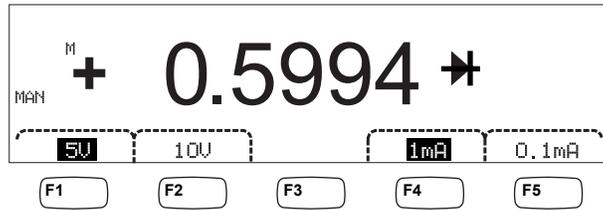
## Checking Diodes

The diode function sends a current through a semiconductor junction while the Meter measures the voltage drop across the junction (or junctions). Measurements are displayed in the 10 V range at the medium and fast measurement rates. "OPEN" is displayed for voltages 10 % above the compliance voltage setting. Typical junction voltage drop on good junctions are 0.3 to 0.8 volts. If enabled, the beeper will make a short beep when a good junction is detected. Shorted diodes will indicate a significantly lower voltage.

With the higher compliance voltage (up to 10 V), the Meter's diode test function can test zeners up to 10 volts, diode stacks and LEDs. The selectable current allows you to tailor the diode test to the expected voltage for the junction being tested.

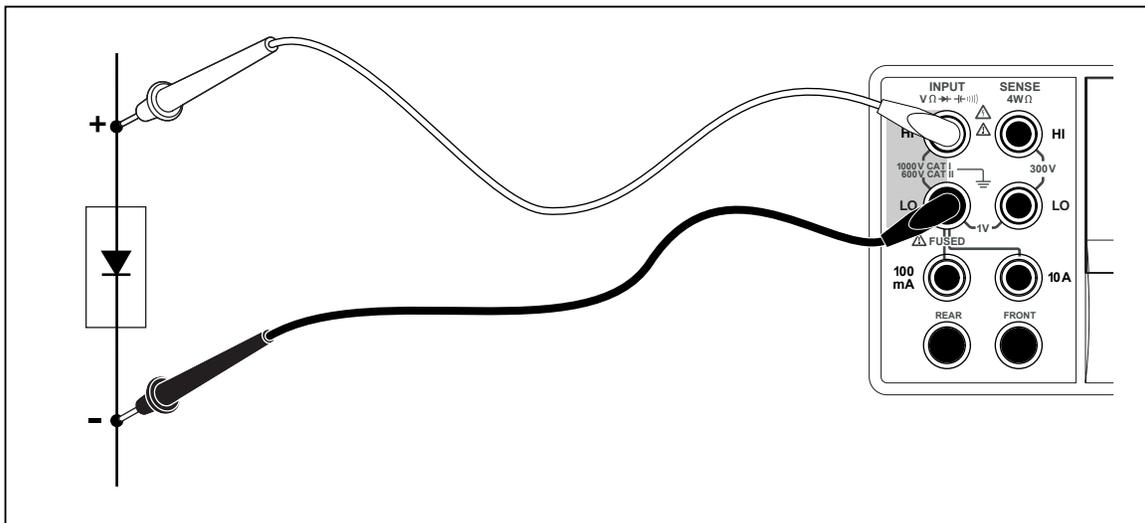
To check a diode:

1. Press  twice on the 8846A or  once on the 8845A. An example of the diode test display is shown below.



caw13f.eps

2. Select the test voltage and current appropriate for the diode being tested by pressing the associated soft keys.
3. Connect the test leads as shown in Figure 4-8.



caw024.eps

Figure 4-8. Diode Testing Connections

**Function modifiers:**

None

Four soft keys allow changing the test voltage and current applied to the diode through the test leads. The compliance voltage is set to either 5 volts or 10 volts. The compliance current is set to either 1 mA or 0.1 mA. Press the appropriate soft key to select the desired voltage and current setting.

**Making a Triggered Measurement**

Triggering the Meter's measurement cycle is set through the trigger menu and performed via a connection on the Meter's rear panel or the front panel trigger key. The trigger menu also allows setting a trigger delay and setting the number of samples or measurement cycles taken for each trigger received. All trigger function parameters are accessed through the measurement setup key.

Press **MEAS SETUP** to see the measurement setup menu.

A measurement trigger can also be initiated through the IEEE 488 port with a remote command. This method of triggering is covered in Chapter 5.

### Setting the Trigger Mode

The Meter's measurement cycle can be initiated either by the internal measurement circuit or by external stimulus.

To select the trigger mode:

1. With the measurement setup menu displayed, press the soft key labeled **TRIGGER**.

If **EXT TRIG** is highlighted, the Meter's measurement cycle is triggered externally either through the external trigger jack on the rear panel, or the trigger key on the front panel. If **EXT TRIG** is not highlighted, then the Meter's measurement cycle is triggered automatically by its internal circuitry.

2. Press the soft key labeled **EXT TRIG** to toggle between internal and external triggering.

### Setting a Trigger Delay

When in external trigger mode, the Meter is capable of delaying the start of the measurement cycle after the trigger stimulus is sensed by up to 3600 seconds.

To set a trigger delay:

1. With the measurement setup menu displayed, press the soft key labeled **TRIGGER**.
2. Press the soft key labeled **TRIG DELAY**.
3. Use the soft keys to set the trigger delay.

Select the digit in the value by pressing either **<--** or **-->**.

With the desired digit selected, press the soft key labeled **--** to decrement the digit or **++** to increment the character.

4. Press **ENTER**.

### Setting Number of Samples per Trigger

When in external trigger mode, the Meter will take between 1 and 50,000 measurements for each trigger received.

To set the number of samples, or measurements the Meter will take for each external trigger received:

1. Press **MEAS SETUP** to display the measurement setup menu.
2. Press the **TRIGGER** soft key.
3. Press the soft key labeled **# SAMPLES**.
4. Use the soft keys to set the number of samples between 1 and 50,000.

Select the digit in the value by pressing either **<--** or **-->**.

With the digit selected, press the soft key labeled **--** to decrement the digit or **++** to increment the character.

5. Press **ENTER**.

### Connecting an External Trigger

The TRIG I/O jack on the Meter's rear panel is used to connect to an external trigger signal. The rising edge of a TTL signal will trigger the Meter to start taking measurements, if the Meter is in external trigger mode.

Figure 4-9 indicates the purpose of the three pins in the TRIG I/O connector.

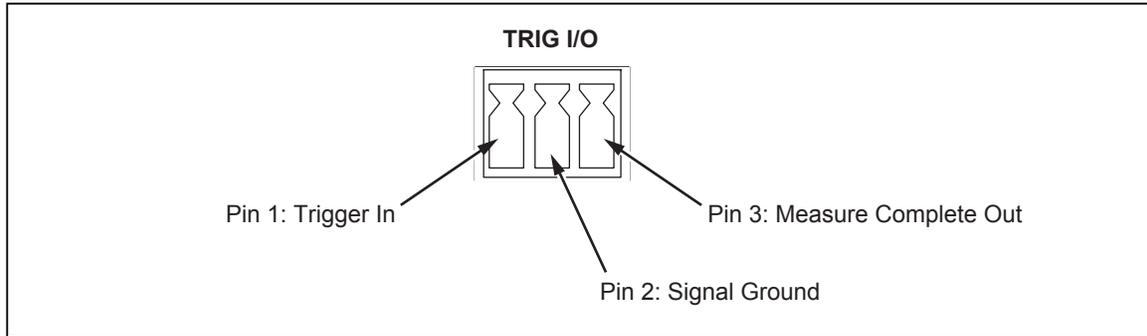


Figure 4-9. TRIG I/O Pin-out Description

caw059.eps

### Monitoring the Measurement-Complete Signal

In addition to being a trigger input, the TRIG I/O jack on the Meter's rear panel also provides a signal indicating the completion of a measurement cycle. A positive going edge of a TTL signal indicates a measurement cycle is complete. See Figure 4-9 above to identify which pins on the TRIG I/O connector are used to sense the measurement-complete signal.

# ***Appendices***

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C RS-232 Port Connections.....	C-1

## Appendix A 2X4 Test Leads

### Introduction

The optional Fluke TL2X4W test leads simplify making 4-wire ohms measurements by integrating the Hi-Hi Sense and Lo-Lo Sense test leads into one cable. The Meter's **Input HI** and **LO** jacks consist of two contacts. One contact is connected to HI or LO input circuits and the other contact is connected to the Sense input circuits. Like the input jacks, the 2x4 test lead also has two contacts that align with the input jack contacts to provide a four wire connection.

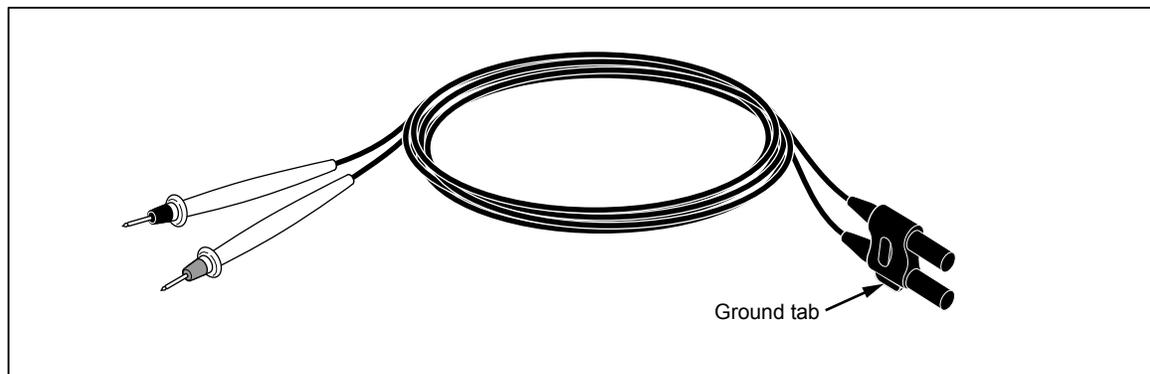


Figure A-1. 2X4 Wire Test Leads

caw061.eps

### **⚠ ⚠ Warning**

To avoid electric shock and possible damage to the Meter, use the 2X4 Wire test leads as specified in this manual. Inspect the test leads before use. Do not use them if insulation is damaged or metal is exposed. Check the test leads for continuity. Replace damaged test leads before using the Meter.

## **Appendix B**

### **Errors**

#### **Introduction**

Listed below are the error messages the Meter uses to indicate a problem.

- AC Line frequency too high
- Invalid calibration step number
- \*TRG/GET received but was ignored
- 488.2 I/O deadlock
- 488.2 interrupted query
- 488.2 query after indefinite response
- 488.2 unterminated command
- A fatal error occurred configuring the serial port
- A fatal error occurred opening the serial port
- AC Line frequency too low
- Acknowledgement queue full
- ACPOLE: all CAPDAC settings are too high
- ACPOLE: all CAPDAC settings are too low
- ACPOLE: no CAPDAC setting is close enough
- Bad CRC
- Bad keyword
- Bad parameter value
- Cal reference value out of tolerance
- Cal secured
- CAL? only works if you are calibrating
- Calibration Aborted
- Calibration measurements out of tolerance
- Calibration steps out of sequence

CALibration:DATE not supported for the 8846A  
Can't get 1V/10V DC linearization constants  
CCO constant name is bad  
Character string was more than 12 characters  
Command not allowed in local  
Command only allowed in RS-232/Ethernet  
Could not open guard crossing port  
Could not open measurement file on USB device  
Could not open the ethernet port  
Could not save configuration  
Could not save MAC address  
Could not save network configuration  
Data stale  
Error occurred reading characters from Ethernet port  
Error occurred reading characters from GPIB controller  
Error occurred sending characters to the GPIB controller  
Error occurred when purging memory  
Error opening GPIB Controller  
Error setting GPIB Primary Address  
Error setting the RTC/System date  
Error setting the RTC/System time  
Ethernet port not available in Fluke 45 emulation mode  
Function/2nd func mismatch  
Function/math mismatch  
Function/range mismatch  
Generic Execution Error  
Got out of sequence packet  
GPIB Command byte transfer error  
GPIB DOS Error  
GPIB File System Error  
GPIB I/O operation aborted (time-out)  
GPIB Interface Board has not been addressed properly  
GPIB Invalid argument  
GPIB No capability for operation  
GPIB No present listening devices  
GPIB Non-existent GPIB board  
GPIB Routine not allowed during asynchronous I/O operation  
GPIB Serial poll status byte lost  
GPIB Specified GPIB Interface Board is Not Active Controller  
GPIB Specified GPIB Interface Board is not System Controller  
GPIB SRQ stuck in ON position  
GPIB Table problem  
Guard crossing link failed to start  
Guard crossing restarted  
Illegal Data value was entered  
Illegal/Unknown NPLC Selection  
Illegal/Unknown TRIGGER Selection

Incorrect packet size from inguard  
 Info packet rec'd; link not active  
 Inguard Calibration Constant write failed  
 Inguard not responding (recv)  
 Inguard not responding (send)  
 INITiate received but was ignored  
 Instrument configuration load failed  
 Instrument configuration store failed  
 Insufficient memory  
 Invalid dimensions in a channel list  
 Invalid parameter  
 Invalid parameter  
 Invalid response type from inguard  
 Invalid secure code  
 Invalid string data  
 Invalid suffix in command header  
 Line too long (greater than 350 characters)  
 Load reading from file failed  
 Lost sync with inguard  
 Math error during calibration  
 Measurement configuration load failed  
 Measurement configuration store failed  
 Measurement data lost  
 Missing or wrong number of parameters  
 No entry in list to retrieve  
 No error  
 No measurements taken during calibration  
 Not ACKing my packets  
 Numeric value is invalid  
 Numeric value is negative  
 Numeric value is real  
 Numeric value overflowed its storage  
 Overload at input during calibration  
 Oversize packet rec'd  
 Parameter is not a boolean type  
 Parameter is not a character type  
 Parameter is not a numeric type  
 Parameter is not an quoted string type  
 Parameter is not an unquoted string type  
 Parameter type detection error  
 Port value is out of range (1024 to 65535)  
 Present function is invalid for selected command  
 Quality indicator too low  
 RS-232 framing/parity/overrun error detected  
 Secondary function is not enabled  
 Secure code too long  
 Self Test Failed

Serial buffer full  
Someone forgot to call begin (cal)  
Someone forgot to call begin (ICONF)  
Someone forgot to call begin (MCONF)  
Store reading to file failed  
String size is beyond limit  
Suffix Error. Wrong units for parameter  
Syntax error  
Time out while taking data  
Timeout error during calibration  
Timeout occurred while opening the ethernet port  
Too many dimensions to be returned  
Too many errors  
Tried to set invalid state  
Tried to set invalid state  
Trigger Deadlock  
Trigger ignored (just like 34401)  
Unable to access storage memory  
Unknown ACK byte  
Unknown Calibration Constant  
Unknown control byte  
Unknown error %d  
Unknown Function Selection  
Unknown Range Selection  
Unmatched bracket  
Wizard password is invalid  
Wrong ACK number  
Wrong number configuration acknowledgement  
Wrong type of parameter(s)

## Appendix C

# RS-232 Port Connections

### Introduction

Table C-1 lists the pins and related signals available through the RS-232 port.

Table C-1. RS-232 Pin to Signal List

Pin Name		Usage
1 DCD		Not used
2 RX		Receive data
3 TX		Transmit data
4 DTR		Not used
5 GND		Signal ground
6 DSR		Not used
7	RTS	Request to send
8	CTS	Clear to send
9 RI		Not used

The Meter's RS-232 control lines can be rewired to an alternate pairing instead of the RTS/CTS control pair. This alteration should be done by a trained technician at Fluke service center. Opening the cover of the Meter to make this alteration may void the Meter's warranty.

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