

## Pocket Money kit No 1

### Track power indicator

There are many occasions when you need to check if a particular section of track is receiving power.

- Maybe the power to a track section is switched by relays or switches.
- Maybe the wiring or connections to a piece of track is suspect.
- Maybe you want to check if you have wired a new piece of track with the polarity the correct way round.

#### How to use it

You simply touch the module's studs on to the rails (it fits N, 009 and 00). If no LED lights, the track has no power.

If the track voltage is wired with one polarity, one of the LED lights up. If the track voltage is wired in the opposite polarity, the other LED lights up. So you can test for track power regardless of whether the controller is set to forward or reverse.

If both LEDs light, your track is receiving DCC power.

To check for a break in the track, run the studs along the track. When the LED(s) goes out, you have just passed the break. Look for a broken dropper or a loose fishplate.

If your layout has track sections that are switched by control panel switches or relays, an alternative to studs is to solder two short lengths of wire with clips soldered to their ends. The tester can then be clipped across the track while tests are carried out.

The kit has few components and is available at all West of Scotland activities (for 45p) or can be purchased from the national MERG website.

