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A Simple Current Test Probe for AA or AAA Battery Holders

Here is a useful adapter to have available should you want to measure the dc current being taken from an AA or even AAA battery holder.

No need to remove any batteries, simply insert the end of the adapter either between any 2 batteries or between any one battery and the adjacent contact of the battery holder.

The photo on the right shows the adapter inserted at the +ve end of the middle battery and the holder contact. A suitable current meter (not shown) is connected to the 2 alligator clips which are soldered to either side of the double-sided pcb strip.





The photo to the left, shows the approximately 12 mm x 50mm strip of 0.78mm (0.031") double-sided copper pcb used for the adapter. Note for AAA batteries, the test end should be reduced to about 8mm wide.

It's a good idea to chamfer the test end as shown and to ensure that the copper edges are burr free and not shorting one side to the other. I also solder tinned both sides of the test end.