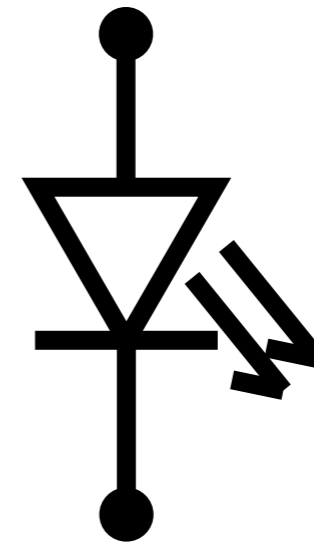


building blocks

LEDs

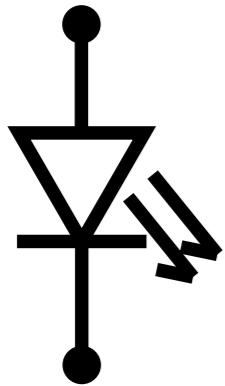
LED stands for:
Light
Emitting
Diode



LED
Symbol



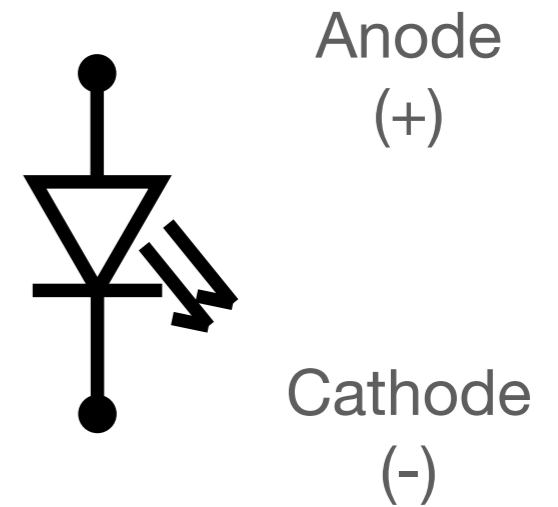
What do LEDs want ?



- **LEDs want to glow.**
- they want a small amount of power — and they want it going in the right direction
- they want protection — from a current limiting resistance

New Part :: LED

- Diodes act like one-way gates.
- Electrons can only go through them one way!



New Part :: LED

- **Two characteristics** let us figure out which way the electrons can flow.
- **Best way**-- examine the bottom of the the LED cap (colorful bit). Flat edge leg points towards ground in your circuit.
- *Alt. way* - SHORT leg (negative = less) faces towards ground (-). (Note: This is awesome until someone trims the legs with wire cutters.)

