MECCANO.

BOOK OF MODELS

VOORBEELDENBOEK
LIVRE DES MODÈLES
LIBRO DEI MODELLI
MODELLBUCH
MODELLBOK
LIBRO DE MODELOS
LIVRO DE MODELOS
MODELLBOK

4EL

CONTENTS OF MECCANO 4EL SET

Quantity

Models Build!

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Meccano 4EL SET

Please Read Before Starting to Build

The Meccano 4EL Set is a self-contained Outfit made up of special electrical parts combined with the standard Meccano No. 4 Set and a quantity of extra standard parts that together enable a variety of interesting electrical equipment to be built, as well as allowing suitable standard models to be electrified. Shown in this book are a large number of suggested constructions, all of which can be built with the 4EL Set, except for models E34, E36 and E37 for which some additional parts are needed. A list of these additional parts is given on the inside front cover of this book and all can be purchased separately as can any Meccano part, standard or electrical.

The various models illustrated in this book are designed to work from low voltage; between 4 and 15 volts Direct Current (DC) or Alternating Current (AC) so that no danger is involved. Some of the models requiring Direct Current (DC) can be worked from a single 4-5 volt battery (see list on page 2), while those which require a higher voltage can be run from one of the following sources:

- (a) two or more low-voltage batteries connected together in series;
- (b) a transformer/rectifier such as one of the popular model railway power control units, most of which have a suitable output;
- (c) the Meccano Battery Control Box;
- (d) the Meccano Hand Generator;
- (e) an accumulator of suitable voltage, such as a car battery, although in this case a 1 amp fuse should be connected in series in the circuit so as to protect both the wiring and accumulator from damage in the case of short circuiting.

Some of the models in this book will operate from Alternating Current (AC) only, which can be obtained from AC mains through a suitable transformer. Under no circumstances must a model be connected direct to a mains supply.

The particular current and voltage supply required for each model is indicated in all cases, but please note that no power source is included in the 4EL Set. This must be obtained separately.

How to identify the parts in this Outfit

On the back cover of this book you will find listed and illustrated most of the Meccano electrical parts, together with their names and catalogue numbers. The principal Meccano standard parts used in the construction of the models shown in this book are illustrated on cover page 3.

It will help you to remember that the Meccano standard parts are numbered from 1 to 235, while the Meccano electrical parts are numbered from 501 upwards.

The parts used in the models usually can be identified by looking at the illustrations, but where the identity of a part may not be quite clear, its catalogue number is printed on the assembly drawing.

If you see in the illustrations a combination of figures such as 5(6) it means that 6 of part 5 are to be used. Similarly the figures 2(3) indicate that 3 of part 2 are to be used.

Each model is accompanied by a list of the parts required to build it. In this list the catalogue number of the part is printed in *Red* and the quantity required in *Black*.

Electrical part 560 Dial Card, is a printed card comprising dials, discs, hands, etc, each of which is marked with a letter. If you see, for example, the number '560d' in the list of parts for a model it refers to the disc marked 'Impulse Counter' on this card. The Dial, 560f, is not used in any of the models shown in this book, but will come in useful when building models of your own that require a dial.

How to Build and Wire the Models

You should first assemble the chosen model by following the explanatory drawings and photographs. Then proceed to 'wire up' the model as indicated by the *Red* lines on the drawings, or by the special wiring diagram, if one is given. *Normally wiring is done with Bare Copper Wire* No. 557, which must be covered with the PVC Insulating Sleeving No. 556. In cases where the thin Connecting Wire 558 is used, the number 558 is printed on the diagrams.

The terminals of your battery or Power Control Unit should be connected to the terminals of your model marked 'G' in the illustrations.

To make a connection with Bare Copper Wire 557, first form a loop by bending the wire around a rod. Cut off the length required, with a pair of old scissors or a wire cutter and then slip the wire through a piece of PVC Insulating Sleeving (556) of the correct length, and finally, form the terminal loop at the other end.

If a model includes revolving rods or other moving parts it is a good plan to apply a little thin oil to the bearings, before setting the model in motion. Never allow oil to drop on the contacts or terminals of a model, however, because oil forms an insulating film and might give rise to a faulty connection.

In some models it is necessary to join two Strips or other parts together in such a way that they are free to pivot or move in relation to each other. This is usually done by passing a bolt through the parts and then fitting it with two nuts. The nuts are then tightened together by turning them in opposite directions but care is taken to see that nuts do not grip the parts tightly. Before attempting to set your models working make sure that all parts and rods which have to move or rotate do so quite freely. Otherwise the model may refuse to work when the current supply is connected to it. Make sure that all bearings are exactly in line and apply a little oil to them and to all points where one or more parts are pivoted together.

If your model refuses to work you should check up the construction and make especially sure that the electrical connections are exactly as shown in the illustrations.

Never attempt to bend the insulating parts 501, 502, 503, 510 and 511.

Important Information

You should study the following notes carefully as they will enable you to get the utmost pleasure and instruction from the models you build with your 4EL Set.

Permanent Magnet (Electrical Part No. 537)

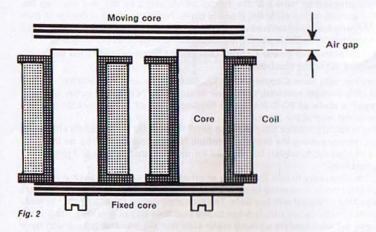
The Meccano electrical part 537, is what is known as a permanent magnet which means that it is constantly energized. A magnet has two poles, known as 'North' and 'South' poles. The 'North' poles of the Permanent Magnets are painted RED and are shown shaded in the drawings in the book.

You should be very careful to follow this indication in building your models as it is very important. N S S N Fig. 1

Never place two magnets together with their

'North' or 'South' poles coinciding. They should always be stored away with the 'North' (Red) pole of one coinciding with the 'South' pole of the other (see Fig. 1).

You should never introduce a Permanent Magnet into a Coil which is connected to a current supply. If you do you will run the risk of de-magnetizing your magnet.



Electro-Magnets

Unlike a permanent magnet, such as part 537, an electro-magnet is not constantly magnetized or 'alive'. It consists of a core of soft iron which is placed in the centre of an insulated copper wire coil, through which current from a battery or other suitable source can be passed. As soon as the current is switched on the 'core' becomes magnetized and remains so until the current is switched off again, when it once more becomes de-magnetized.

Electro-magnets (so far as our models are concerned) can be single or double. In the case of a double magnet, the two cores are connected at one end by Meccano Strips, which form a yoke, or magnetic path, and their other free ends form the 'North' and 'South' poles. They can be used to produce a mechanical motion by means of a moving core (see Fig. 2).

Another use for an electro-magnet is shown in Fig. 3, which shows a Core free to move inside its Coil. If the Core is pushed about one-third of its length into the Coil and the current is then switched on, the Core will be 'sucked' right into the Coil.

Coils (Electrical parts 520, Rectangular, with base, and 522, Cylindrical)

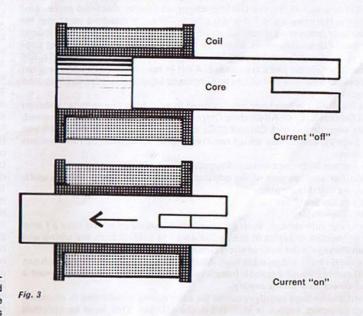
These Coils are designed for use with a current supply at 4 to 6 volts, which may be either AC or DC.

If you examine one of the Coils you will see that it carries the letters E (in) and S (out) near the connecting eyelets or terminals. In wiring your models it is important to make sure that the connecting wires are attached to the correct eyelets. Bolts passed through the eyelets should not be tightened unduly.

Coils should not be kept continuously fed with current, otherwise they may tend to overheat.

The 'Air Gap'

So far as the models in this book are concerned the term 'Air Gap' refers to the space between two magnetic cores, one stationary and the other movable. The extent of this gap varies according to the requirements of a particular model, and is usually measured either by the thickness of a Meccano Strip or of parts 531 or 532.



Series and Parallel Wiring Circuits

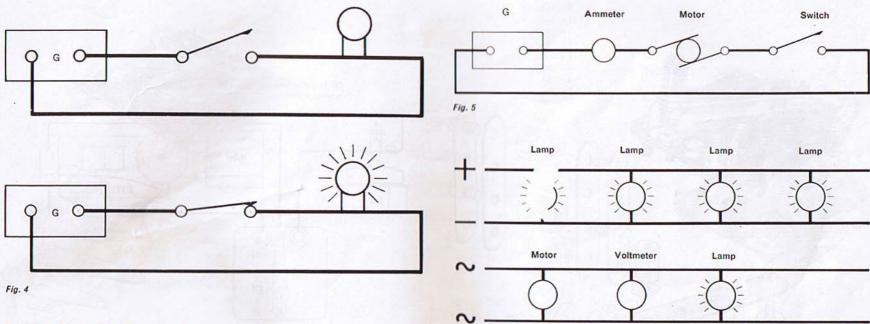
An ordinary simple electrical circuit consists of a battery or other supply source, an 'on-off' switch and the apparatus to be operated, for example a lamp or a buzzer (Fig. 4). For the circuit to operate there must be no break in the connections between the various components which would interrupt the current flow.

There are two principal forms of wiring up the various elements of a circuit, which are known as 'series' and 'parallel' wiring respectively. The series system of wiring is shown in Fig. 4. In 'series' wiring the various elements in the circuit, i.e. battery, switch and model are connected up one after the other like the links of a chain, which will be clear from Fig. 5. In 'parallel' wiring on the other hand each element is connected across the two leads from the battery or other power source (see Fig. 6).

List of Models operated by 4.5 volt battery

Of the models shown in this book the following can be operated from a 4-5 volt battery:

Model	No.	. E5	Model	No.	E20	Model	No	. E30
"	"	E7		,,	E26	"		E32
,,	"	E8		**	E27	,,	"	E33
**	"	E9	"		E28			E34
,,	"	E11	,,	"	E29		,,	E36
	"	E14						



Glossary of Basic Electrical Terms

An understanding of basic electrical terms listed below will enable you to obtain the greatest pleasure and interest from your 4EL Set.

Ampere:

Ampere is the unit by which the rate of flow of an electrical current is measured. The term is sometimes abbreviated to AMP.

Volt:

is the term used for measuring electrical force or pressure. If you imagine a flow of electrical current as being something like water flowing out of a tap, the term volt can be likened to the pressure behind the water, while the quantity of water passing through the tap can be likened to the term AMPERE.

Ohm:

The resistance offered by a wire to the flow of current can be likened to the resistance of a pipe to the flow of water. Ohm is the unit of electrical resistance (resistance to the flow of an electrical current through a conductor).

In electrical circuits a pressure of 1 volt is required to overcome resistance of 1 ohm in order that 1 ampere of current may flow.

Materials possess the property to conduct the flow of electricity through them to a greater, or lesser degree. Those materials that offer little resistance, for example copper and silver

Fig. 6

are known as good CONDUCTORS. Other metals, such as iron and steel whilst still able to conduct current, do so less readily than copper. For instance, steel has approximately six times the resistance of copper.

Sometimes it is necessary to use materials which are deliberately chosen for their high resistance to current flow, and these are called resistances. They are generally alloys: an alloy of copper and nickel has a specific resistance about twenty-eight times that of copper. Non-metallic materials generally are very bad conductors of electricity. They may have specific resistances of many millions of ohms (1 million ohms = 1 megohm) and they are then called INSULATORS. Rubber, plastics, glass, paper and wood are examples of this kind of material.

Watt:

The unit for measuring the electrical energy which is produced or consumed is the watt, which is the product of the voltage and the amperage of the circuit, i.e. $V \times A = W$.

The models shown in this book represent only a few of the many ways in which the electrical parts can be used with your ordinary Meccano Set. After you have built these models you will have gained experience and will be able to devise other models for yourself.

E1 2-Way Switch

A single pole two-way switch with an 'off' position.

Never use more than 15 to 20v AC or DC.

1 - 502 1 - 511 1 - 529 1 - 533 3 - 542 3 - 544 1 - 564

2-10

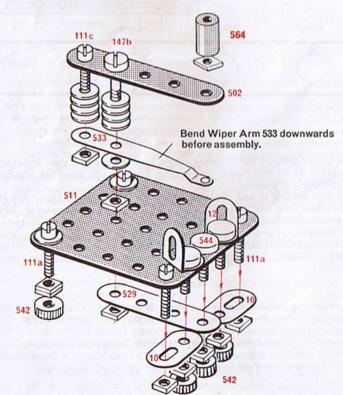
2-12

12 - 37a

4 - 111a 2 - 111c

11 - 38

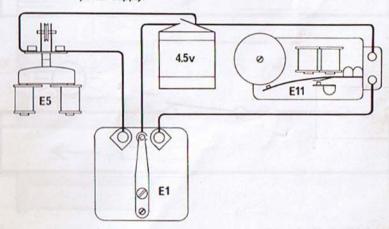




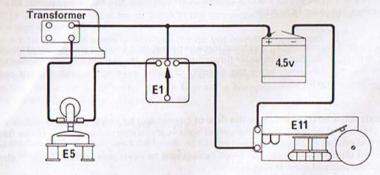
Some of the uses for a two-way switch

- (1) As a switch between a power supply and an appliance.
- (2) As a switch between an appliance and either of two alternative power supplies.

(3) For controlling either of two appliances from the same power supply.



(4) For controlling either of two separate circuits each consisting of a power supply and an appliance.

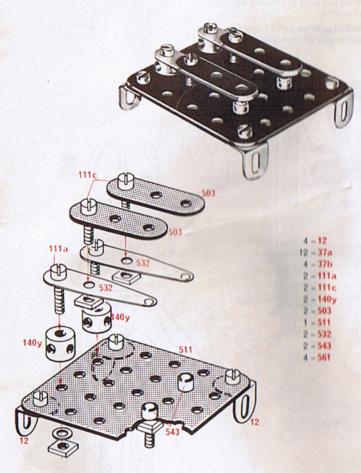


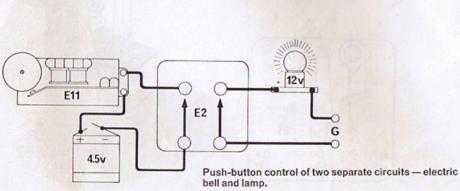
E2 Twin Push-Button Switch

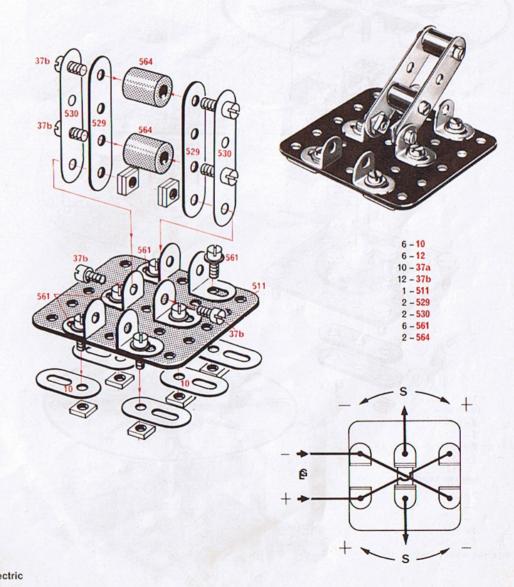
E3 2-Pole Reversing Switch (Knife Switch)

A switch for push-button control of an appliance such as a doorbell.

This type of switch is frequently found on electrica switchboards. It is particularly useful in that it is able to reverse the polarity of a direct current supply source. For example it can be used for reversing a permanent magnet electric motor, such as model E21.





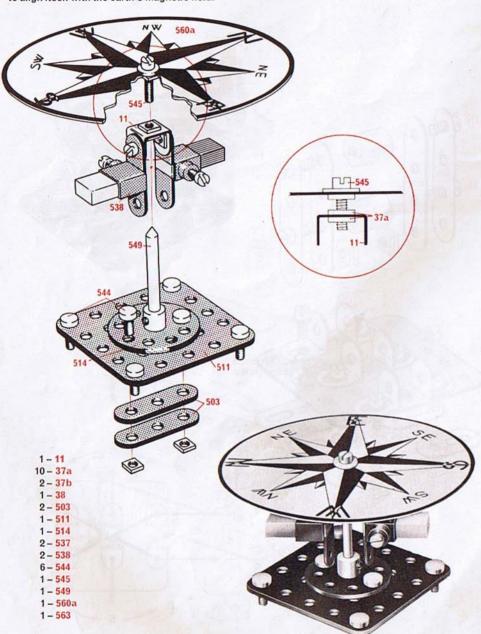


E4 Compass

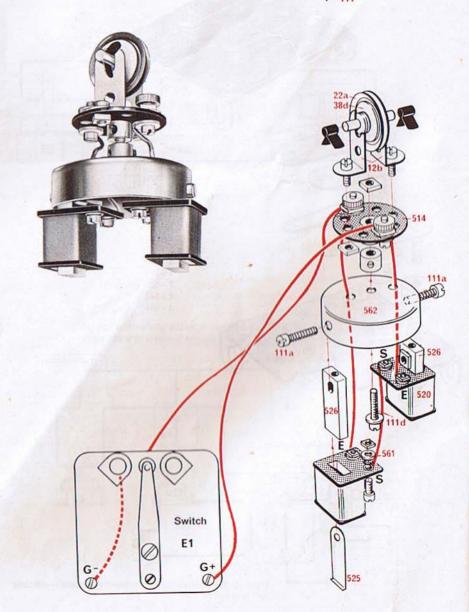
E5 Electromagnetic Grab

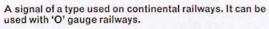
This is a sensitive instrument which will be caused to deviate from its normal position if a magnet or steel object is brought near it.

Magnetic compasses, such as this, make use of the fact that a freely suspended permanent magnet always tends to align itself with the earth's magnetic field.

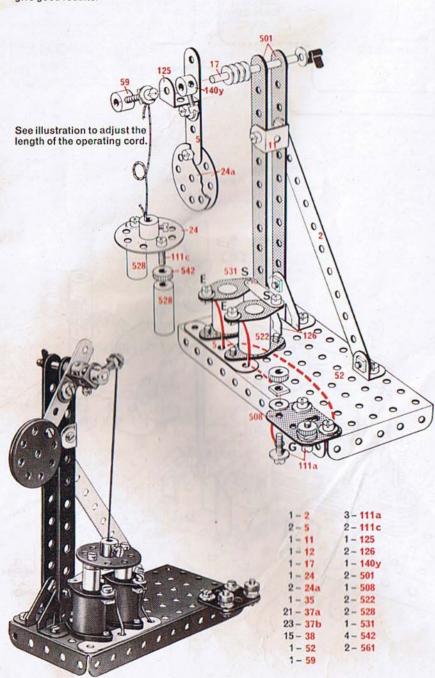


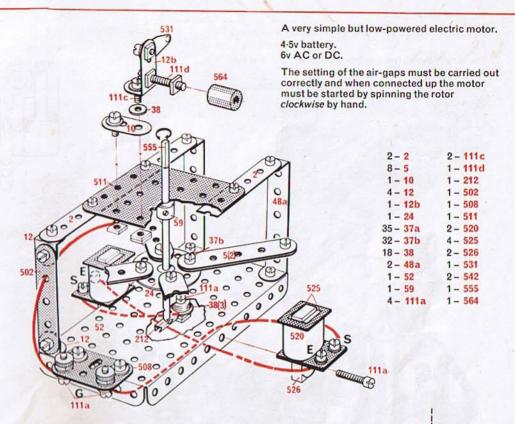
An electromagnet of a type commonly used on cranes	2 - 12b	4-111a
dealing with iron based metal.	1 - 18b	1 - 111d
4.5v battery.	1 - 22a	1 - 514
6-15v AC or DC.	2 - 35	2 - 520
12v DC gives the best results but when using 12-15v DC	11 - 37a	2 - 525
avoid leaving the current on too long to prevent damage	2 - 37b	2 - 526
to the coils through overheating.	12 - 38	2 - 542
This model can be controlled with switch E1 and an	2 - 38d	4 - 561
example of its use with a crane is shown in E36.	1 - 59	1 - 562
example of its use with a crane is shown in Loo.	1-111	

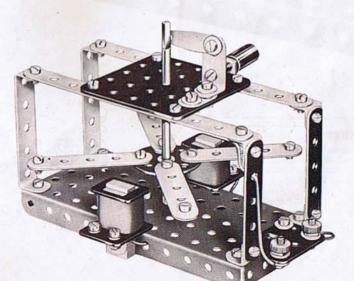




12v DC or 15v AC. A voltage of less than 12v does not give good results.

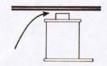






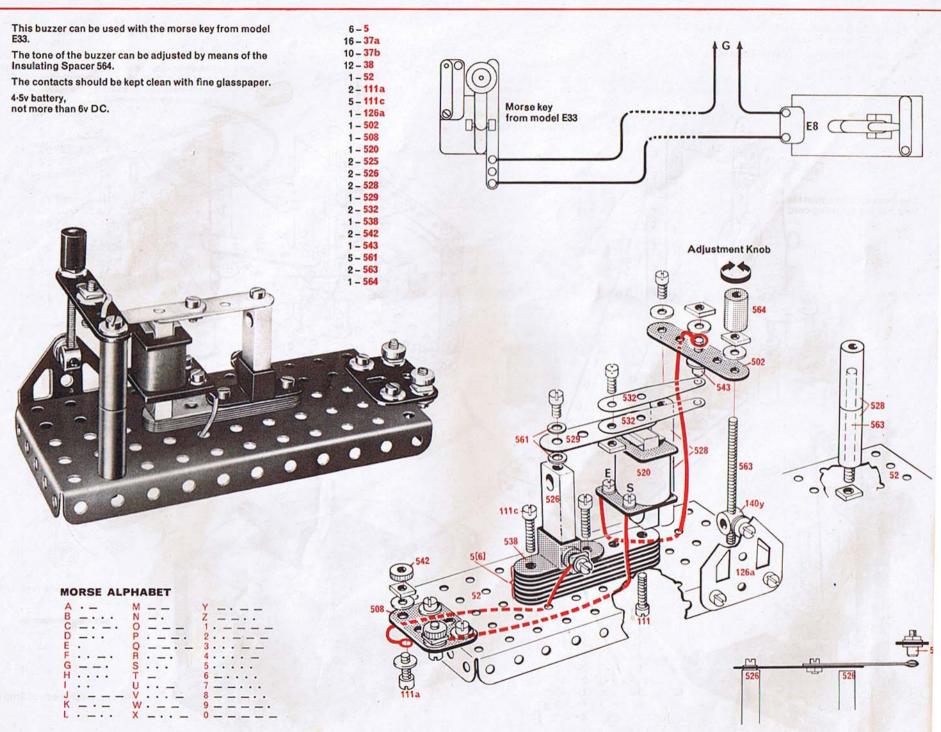


Air gap = thickness of part 532.



Air gap = thickness of Strip part 5.

E8 Buzzer



E9 Electric Shock Machine

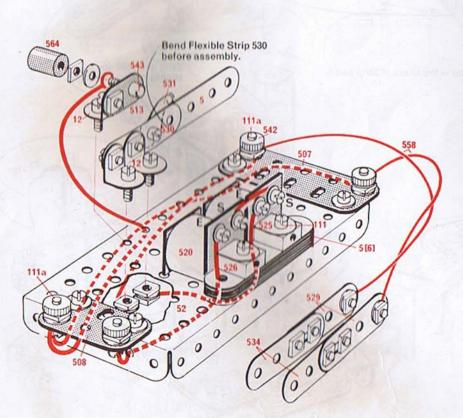
The use of this apparatus is perfectly safe. If two, three or four people join hands, with those at each end holding one of the leads 534, a mild shock is felt by everyone in the chain.

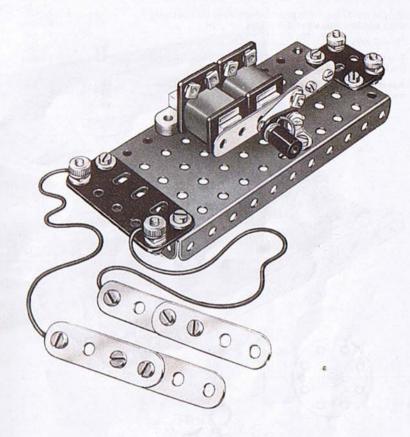
This model incorporates the primary coil and contact breaker of the famous Ruhmkorff induction coil which induces a current of very low amperage and greatly increased voltage.

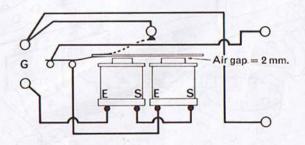
Operate from 4.5v battery only.

A higher voltage than 4-5v DC gives an unpleasantly strong shock and should not be exceeded.



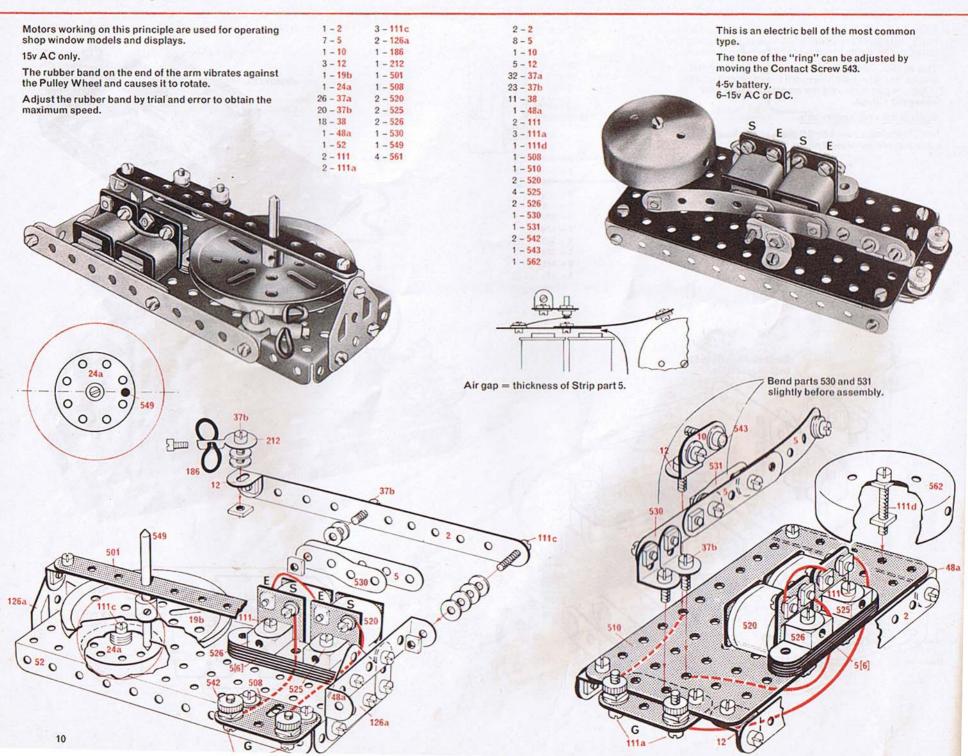






E10 Vibratory Motor

E11 Electric Bell



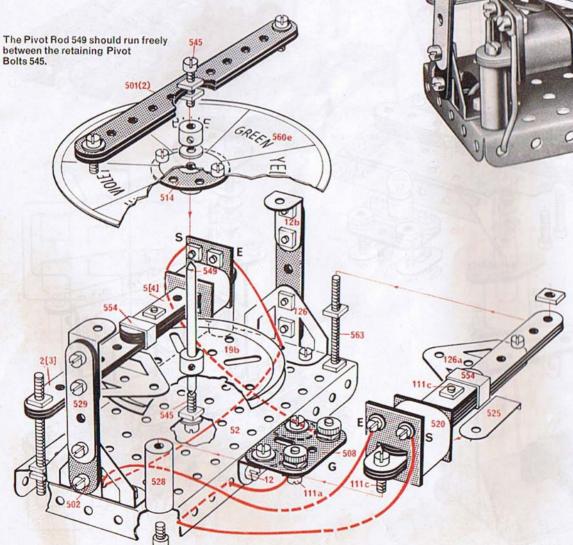
E12 Asynchronous Motor

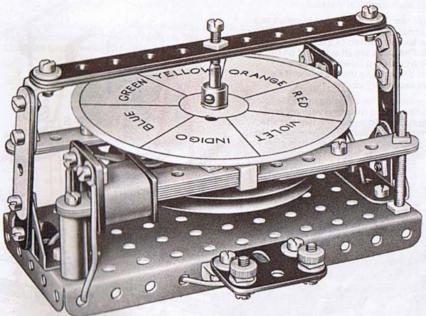
A low-powered motor of a type often used in animated shop window displays. It is very silent in operation and capable of running for long periods without attention. It is an induction motor and does not have either brushes or commutator.

The motor starts and runs through the action of the copper Short Circuit Pieces 554 which cause a displacement of magnetic flux.

15v AC only.

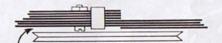
This model can be fitted with cardboard dials 560b and 560e.



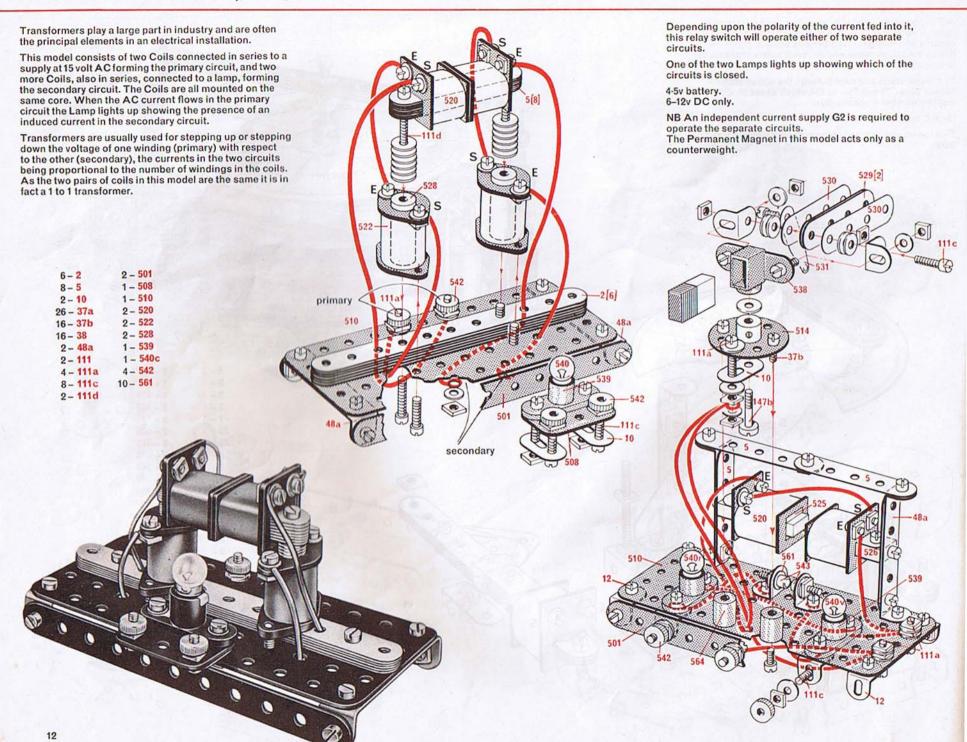


0	2-00-
8 - 5	1 - 508
2-12	1 - 514
2 - 12b	2 - 520
1 - 19b	2 - 525
39 - 37a	2 - 528
25 - 37b	2 - 529
10 - 38	2 - 542
1 - 52	2 - 545
1 - 59	1 - 549
2-111a	2 - 554
4 - 111c	1 - 560b
2- 111d	1 - 560e
2- 126	4 - 561
2 - 126a	2 - 563
2 - 501	

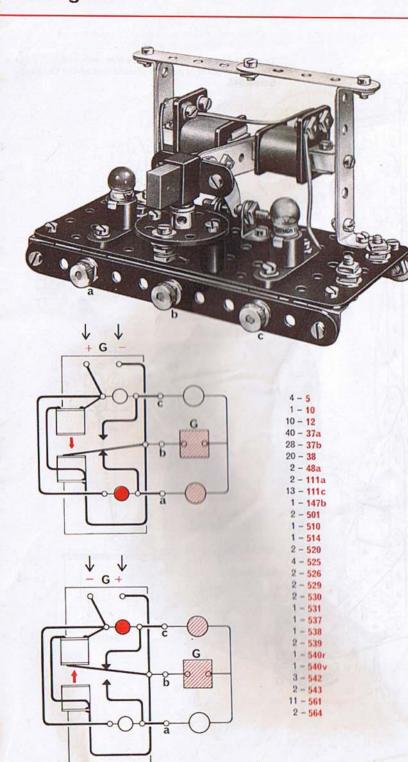
2 - 502



This clearance should be as small as possible.



E15 8-Pole Synchronous Motor (750 r.p.m.)



A very low-powered motor of the type used in electric clocks.

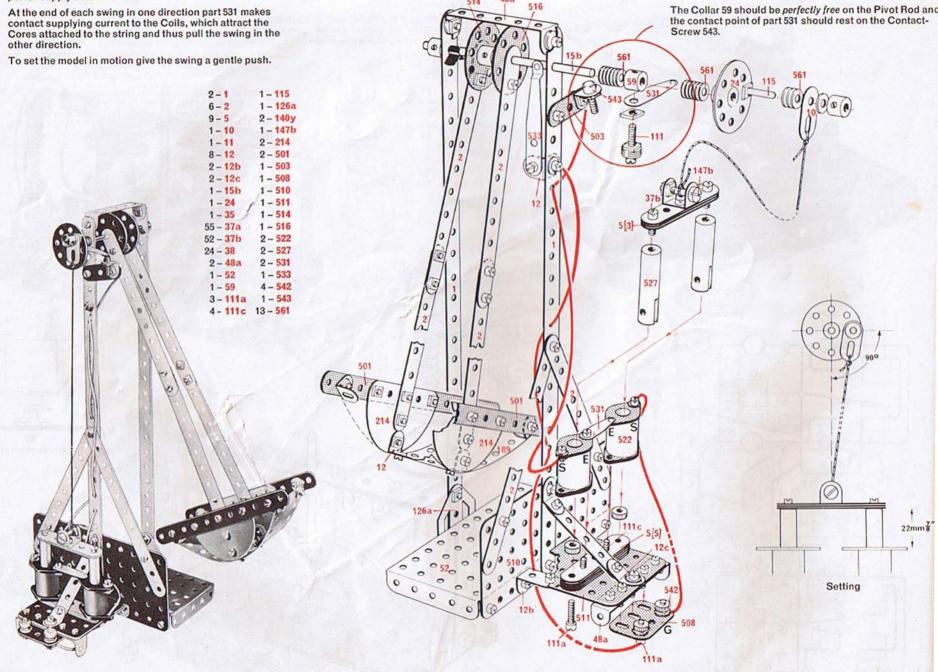
15v AC only.

To start the motor the Pivot Rod should be spun at a speed synchronous with the AC current (i.e. 750 r.p.m.) until the

Coils are gently swinging above the wheel. 1 - 501 32 - 37a 1 - 510 2 - 522 2 - 5282 - 529 4 - 542 1 - 18b 3 - 111c 1 - 548 1 - 19b 2 - 126 0000000 Air gap = thickness of Strip part 5. 13

E16 Swing

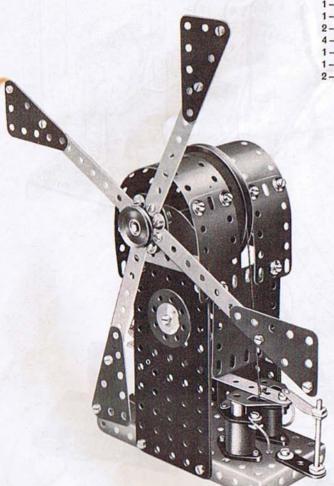
12–15v AC or DC. This model will not work efficiently on a power supply below 12 volts.



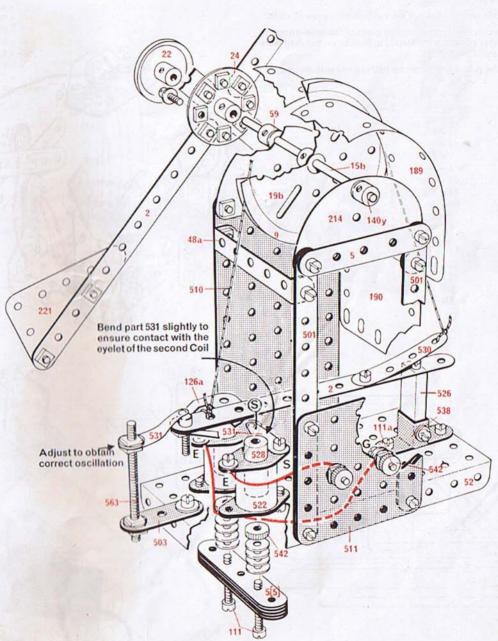
E17 Windmill

This model incorporates a novel motor. The rotary motion is caused by short, jerky movements of the cord over the large Pulley 19b.

15v AC only.



5-2	2 - 189
2-5	2-190
1 - 15b	2 - 214
1 - 19b	4 - 221
1 - 22	2 - 501
1 - 24	1 - 503
1 - 24a	1 - 510
53 - 37a	1 - 511
48 - 37b	2 - 522
27 - 38	1 - 526
1 - 38d	2 - 528
2 - 48a	1 - 530
1 - 52	2 - 531
1 - 59	1 - 538
2-111	4 - 542
4-111a	1 - 543
1 - 126a	2 - 561
1 - 140y	1 - 563
2-188	



E18 Level-Crossing

A level-crossing of the type used on Continental railways. It can be used with 'O' gauge railways. The warning lamps light up when the barriers are down.

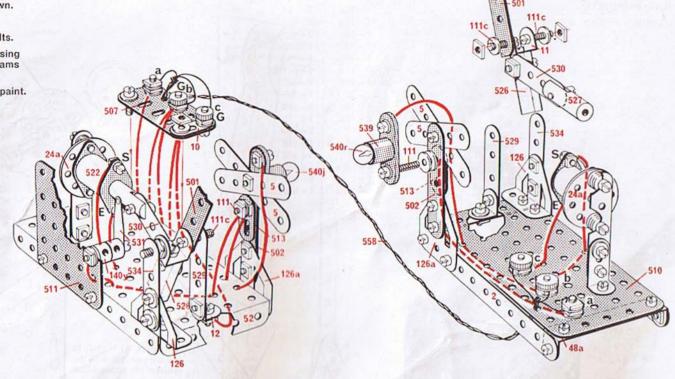
12v DC or 15v AC.

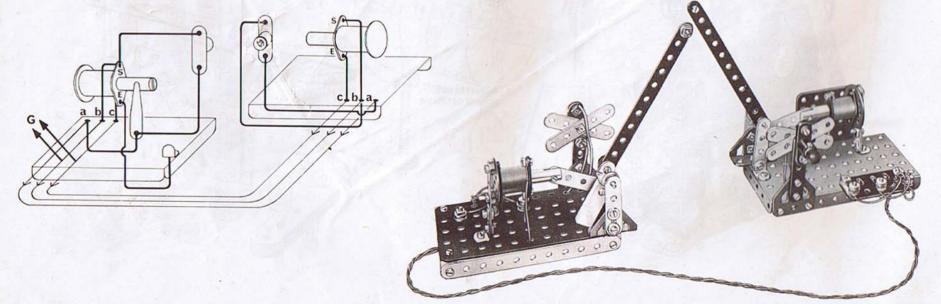
This model does not work efficiently below 12 volts.

When connecting the two parts of the level-crossing together follow the letters a, b and c on the diagrams carefully.

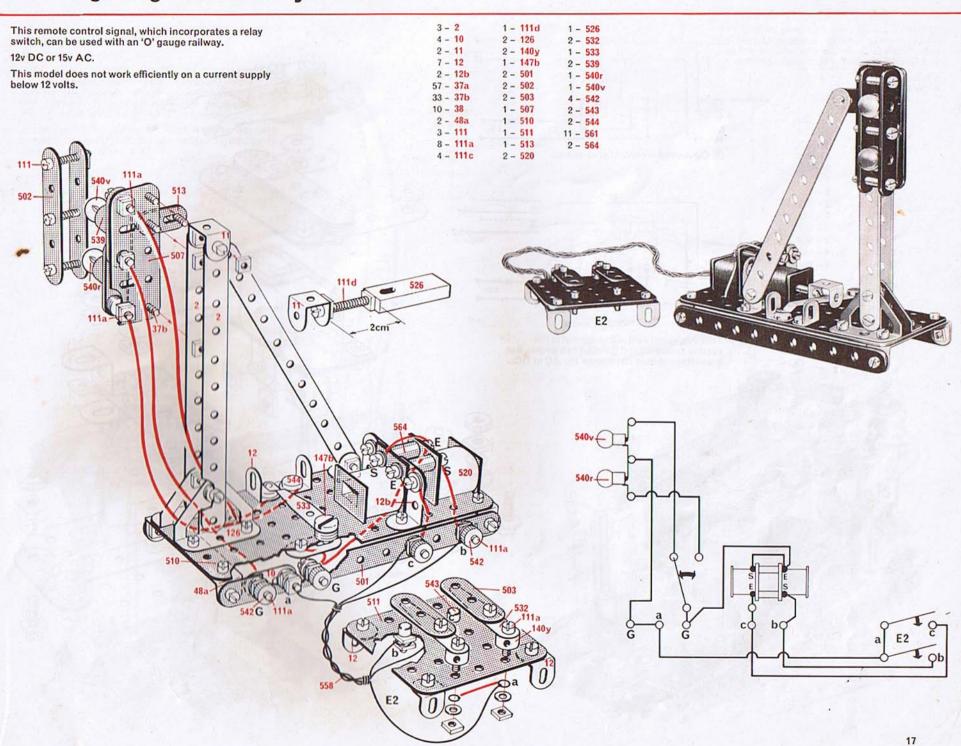
The yellow Lamp can be painted red with poster paint.



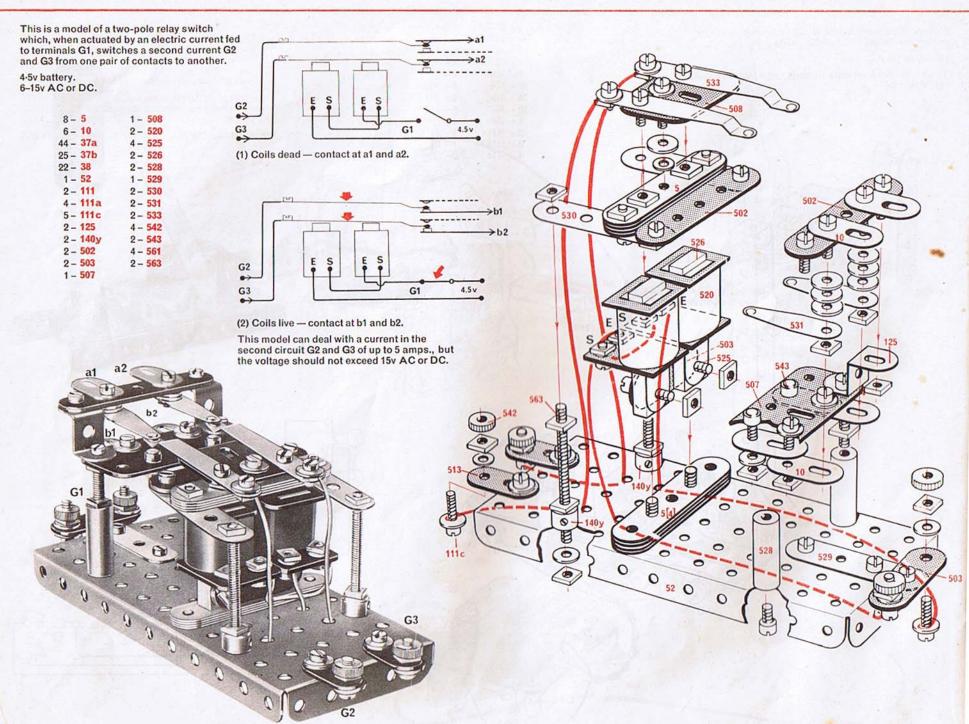




E19 2-Light Signal with Relay Switch



E202-Pole Relay Switch



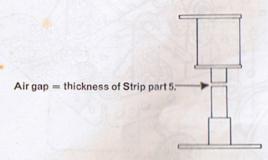
E21 Permanent Magnet Motor with reducing pulley

A very useful low-power motor for driving light Meccano models (model E37 for example).

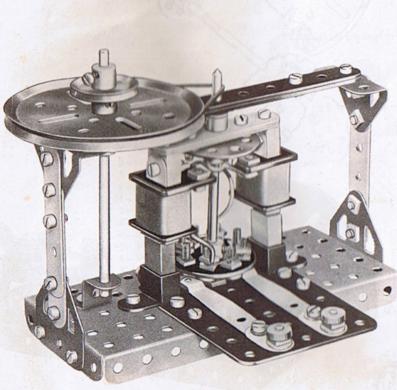
12v DC only.

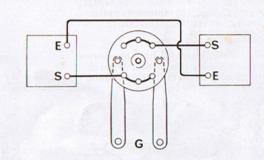
The motor will not start by itself unless the Coils are in line with the Magnets (as in the illustration) before it is switched on. Otherwise it is easily started by hand. The motor can be reversed by reversing the current at the terminals (for which switch E3 could be used).

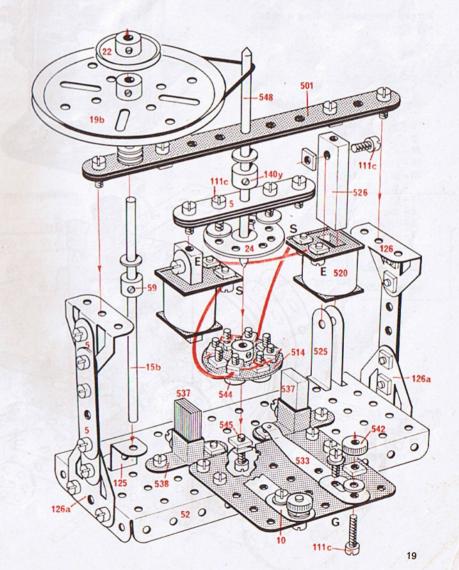
The Wiper Arms 533 should be bent in such a way as to ensure light contact with the commutator formed by the Insulating Bush Wheel 514.

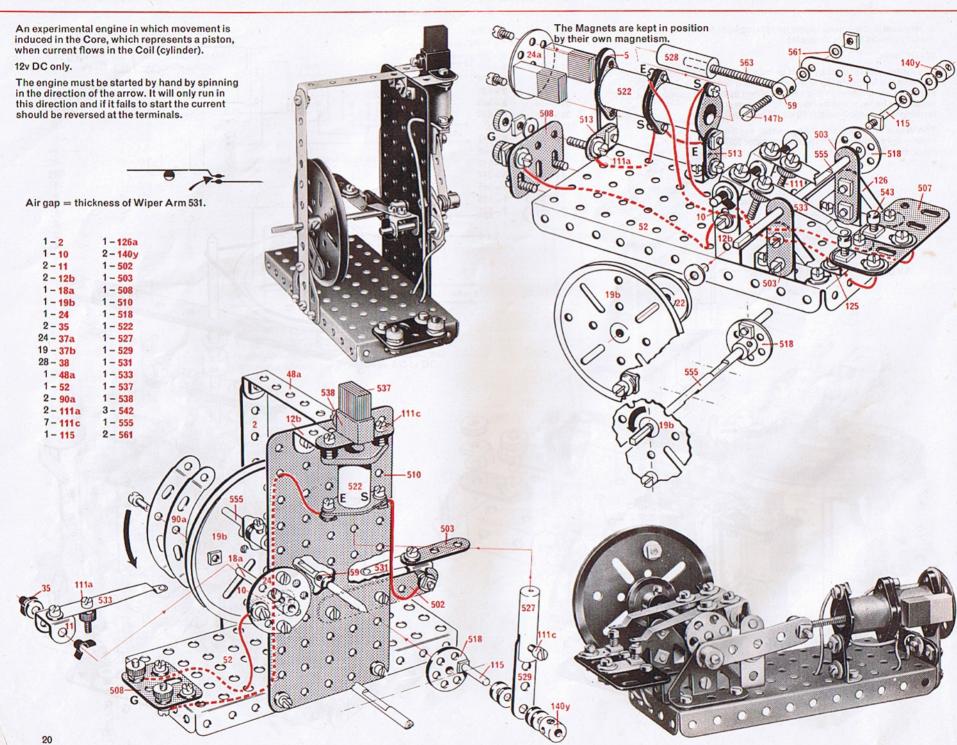


7-5	1-140y
2-10	1 - 186a
1-15b	2-501
1-19b	1-511
1-22	1-514
1 - 24	2-520
51 - 37a	2-525
33 - 37b	2-526
11 - 38	2-533
1-52	2-537
1-59	2-538
2-111a	2-542
4-111c	8-544
1 - 125	1 - 545
2-126	1 - 548
2 - 126a	2-561







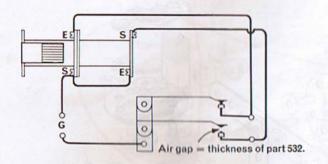


E24 Horizontally-opposed 2-Cylinder Engine

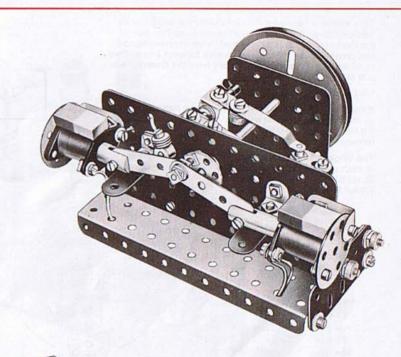
Models E23 and E24 work on the same principle as model E22 but here two Coils are used to give a power stroke in both directions. Two contacts timed by the Rod with Square End 555 direct the current alternately to the two Coils.

12v DC only.

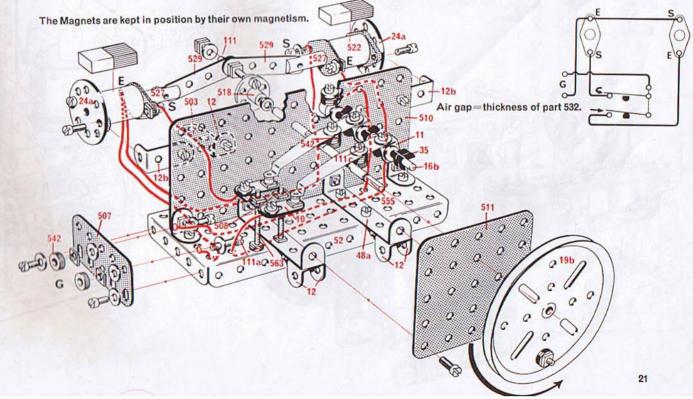
It may be necessary to start the motor by hand in the direction of the arrow. It will only run in this direction and if it fails to start the current should be reversed at the terminals.



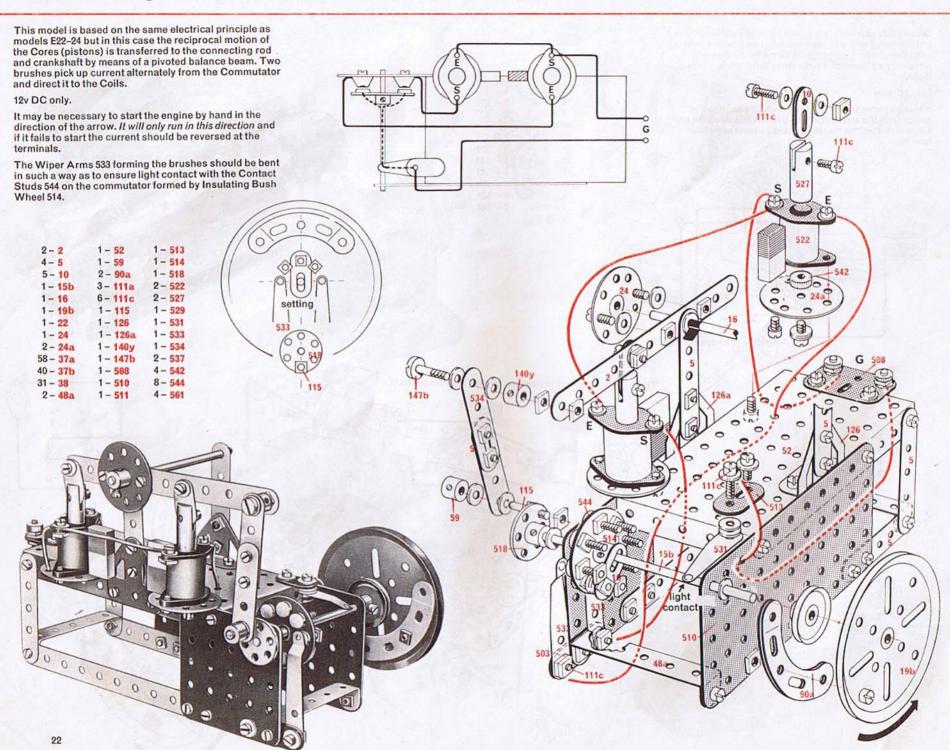
0	40		
	10		503
2 -	11	1 -	507
8 -	12	1 -	508
2 -	12b	1 -	510
1 -	16b	1 -	511
1 -	19b	1 -	518
2 -	24a	2 -	522
4 -	35	2 -	527
47 -	37a	2 -	529
33 -	37b	2 -	533
33 -	38	2 -	537
2 -	48a	4 -	542
1 -	52	2 -	543
1 -	59	1 -	555
1 -	111	6 -	561
4 -	111a	2 -	563
3 -	111c		



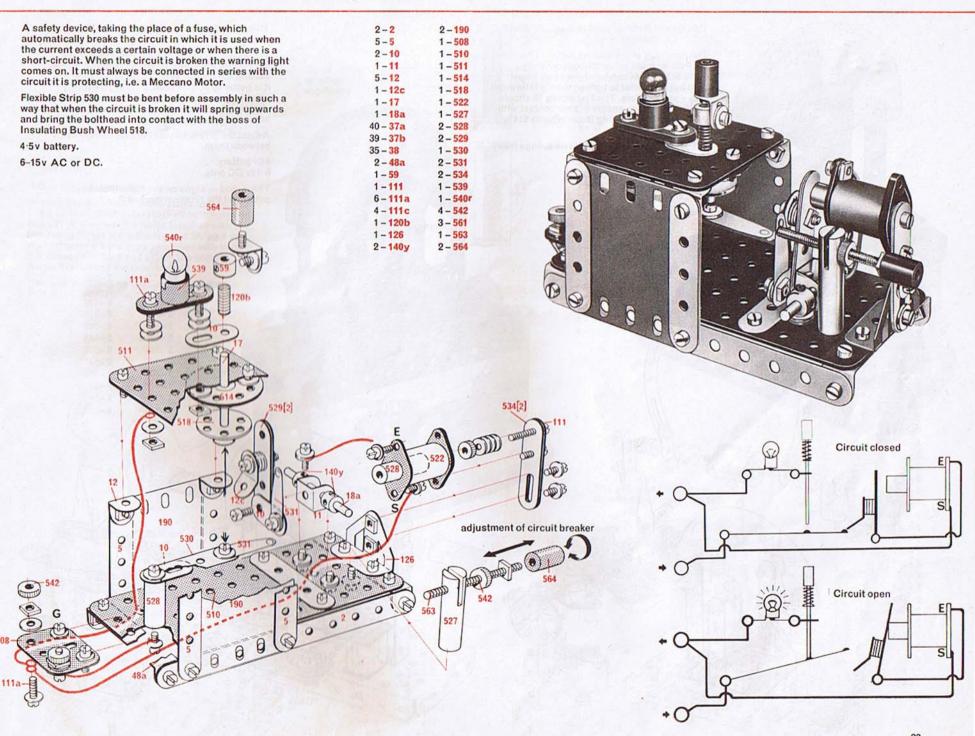


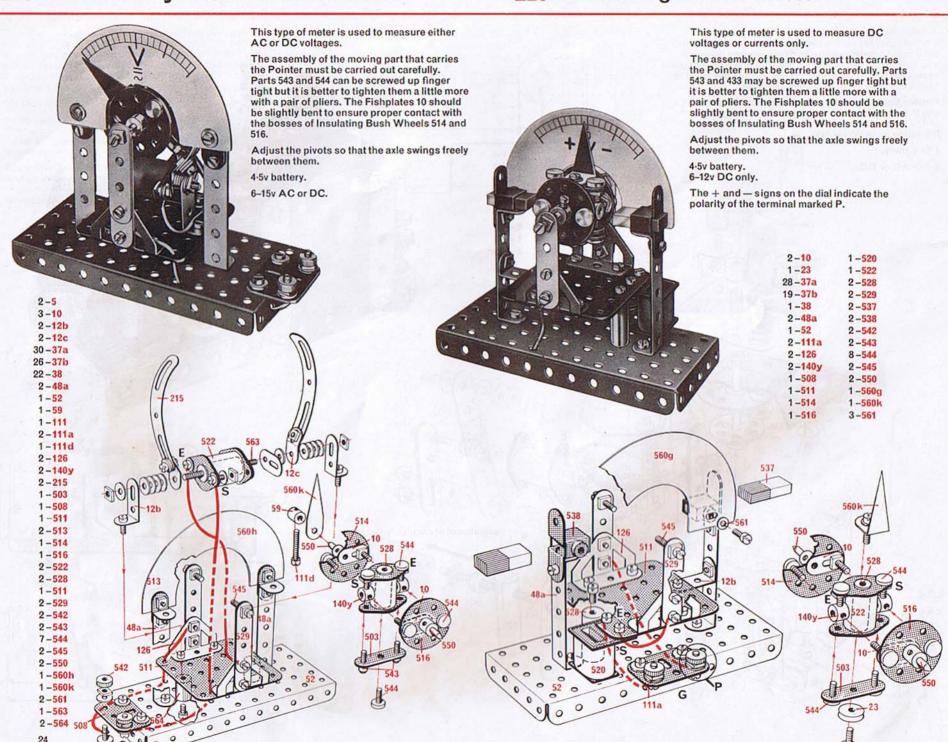


E25 Beam Engine

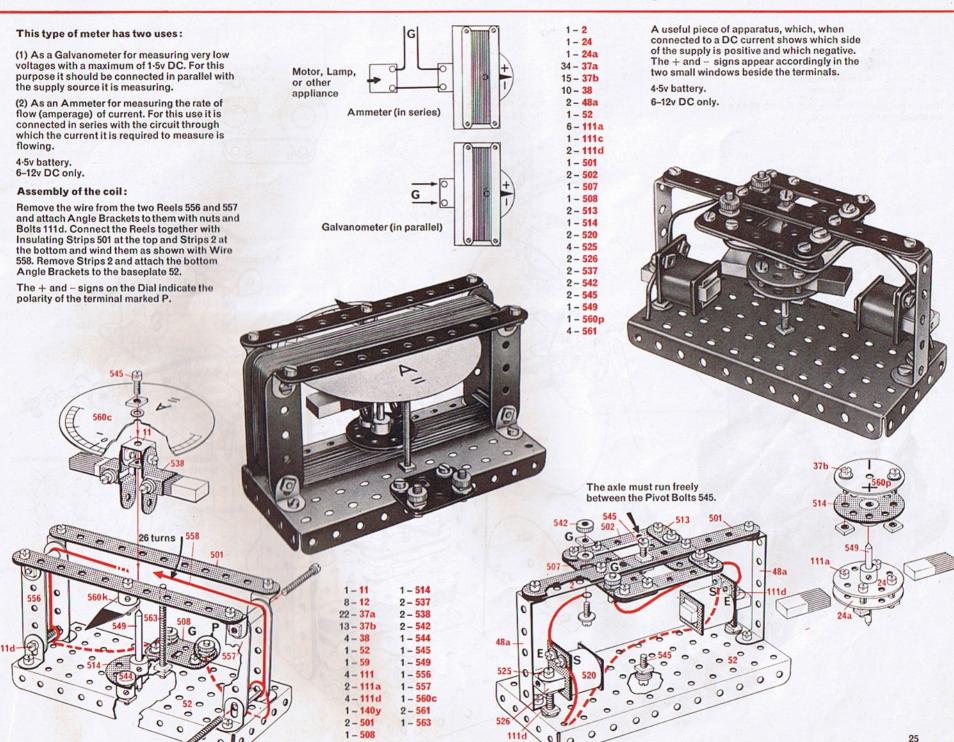


E26 Circuit Breaker with Warning Light





E30 Polarity Indicator

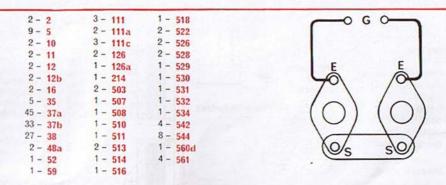


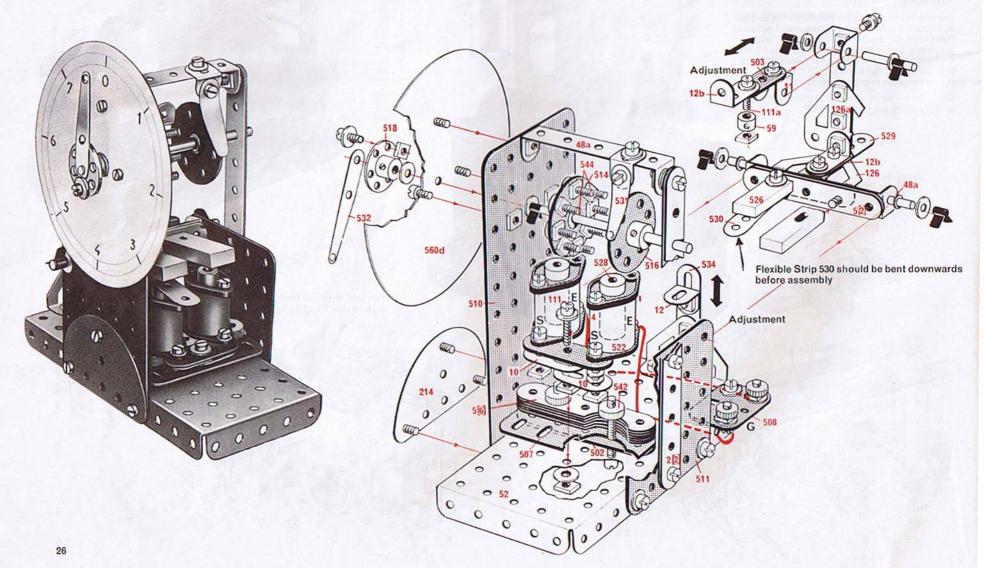
E31 Impulse Counter

This device works on a similar principle to those used for scoring electric pin-tables. Each electrical impulse received at the terminals moves the pointer up one division on the dial.

12v DC only. The model does not work efficiently below this voltage.

It could be used effectively with Switch E2 as a means of impulsing by hand.





E32 Electric Field Gun

This novel gun has a range of several yards, 'firing' a Driving Band 186b.

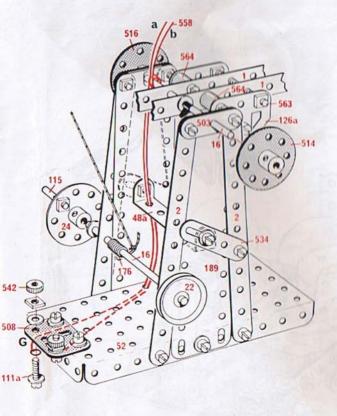
It has a handwheel to raise and lower the barrel and it can be fired by remote control (using switch E2 for example).

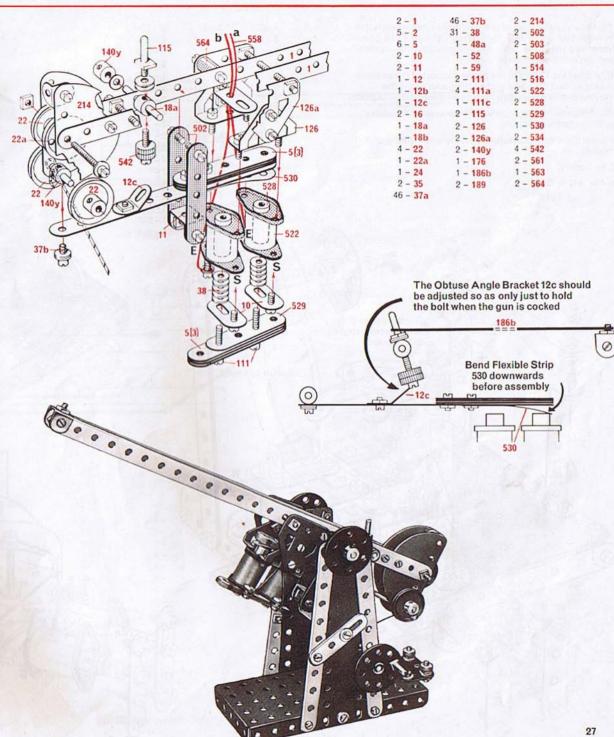
To load and fire the gun (see diagram):

Push the Threaded Pin 115 backwards and stretch the Driving Band between it and the bolt at the end of the barrel. When an electric current is fed to the terminals the Coils attract the moving arm thus pulling the Angle Bracket 12c downwards and allowing the Threaded Pin 115 to release the Band.

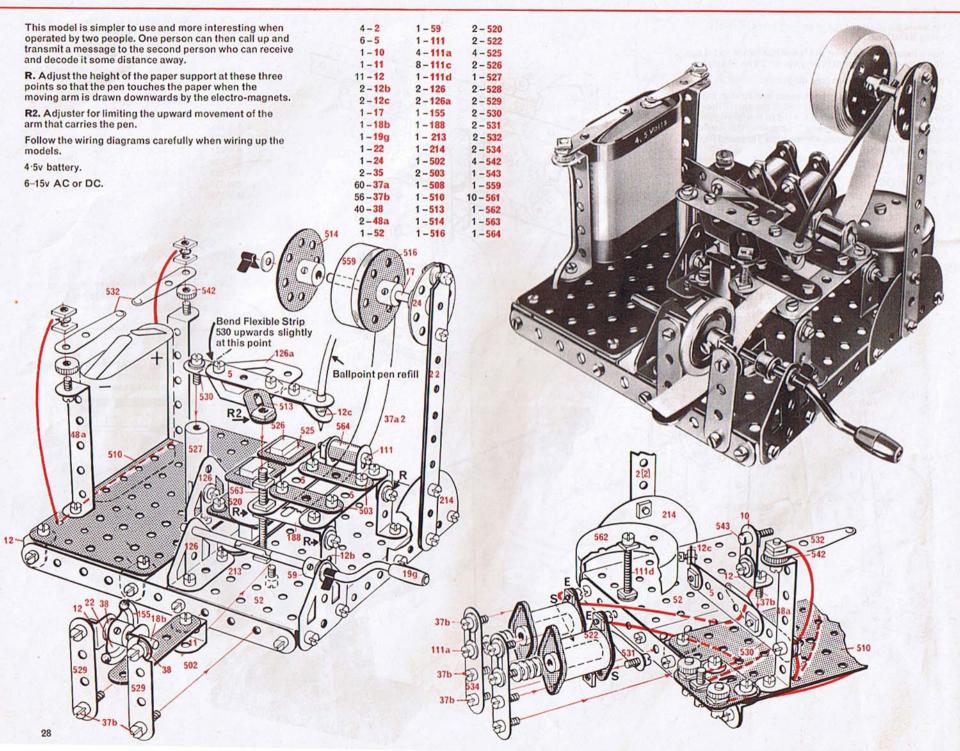
4.5v battery.

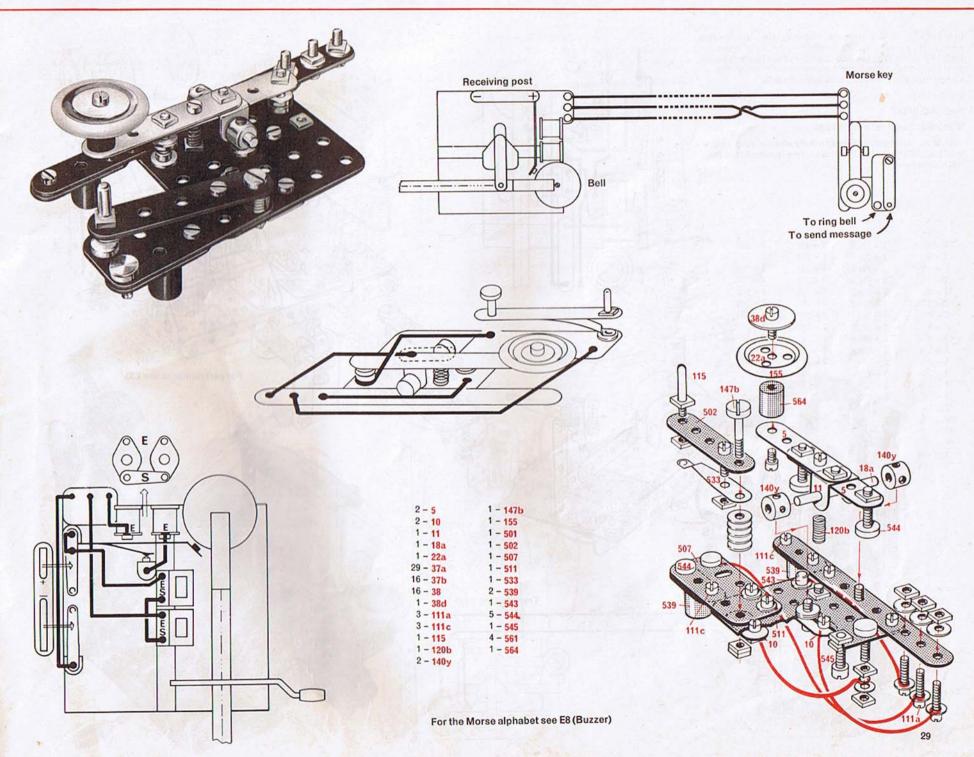
6-15v AC or DC.



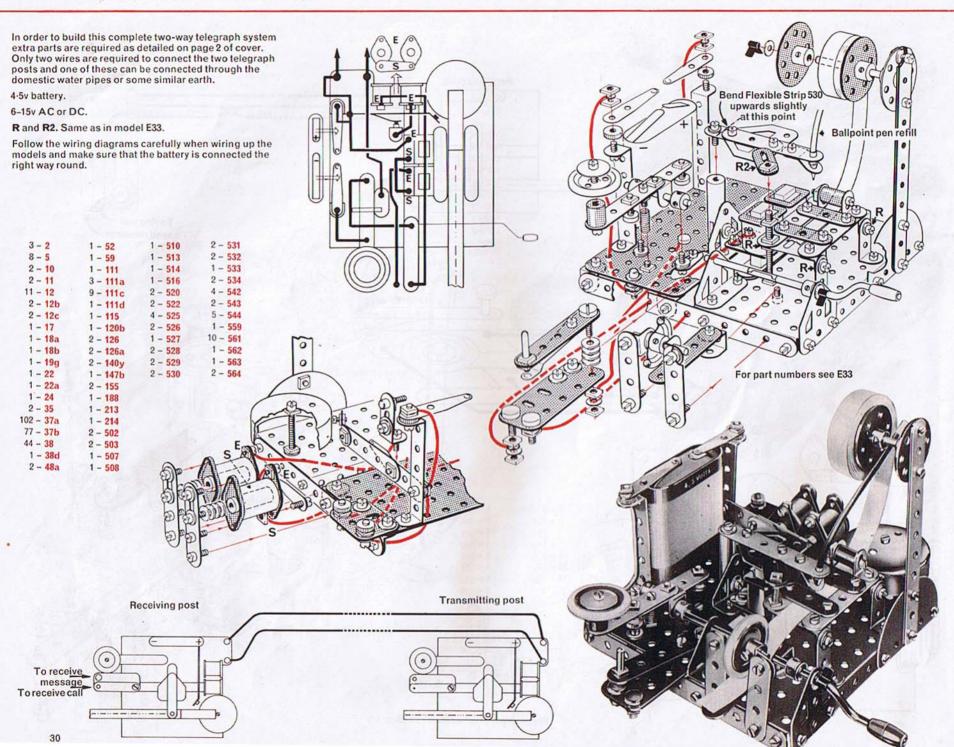


E33 Telegraph Receiver with Bell and Morse Key



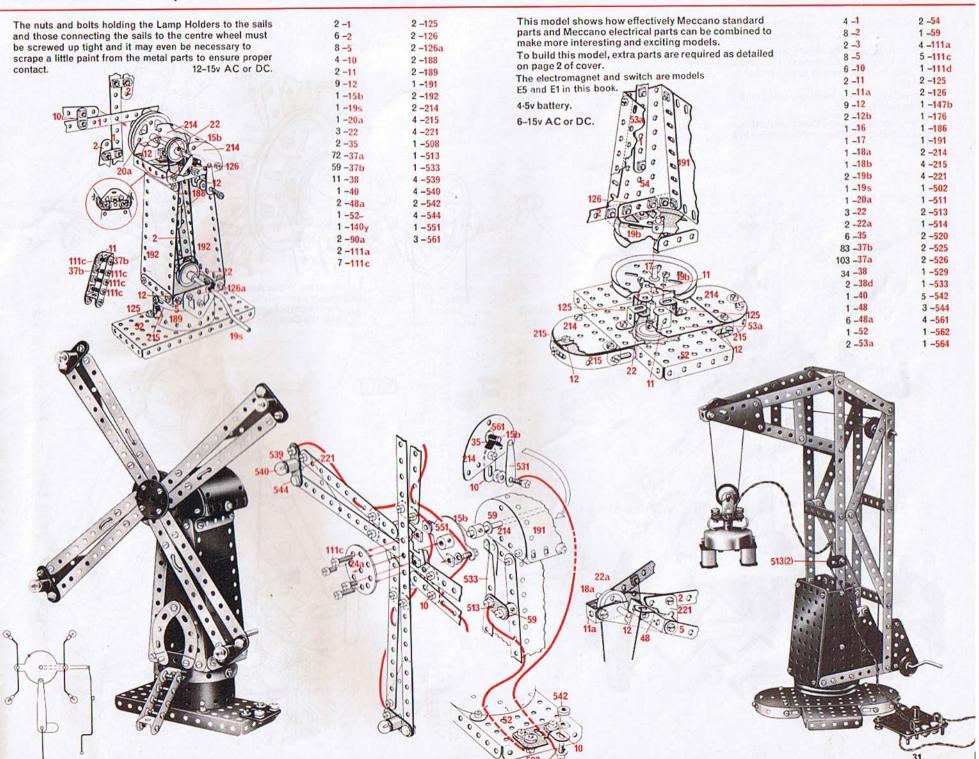


E34 Complete Morse Telegraph



E35 Windmill (with illuminated sails)

E36 Crane with Electromagnetic Grab



E37 Electrically Driven Big Wheel with Lights

This model incorporates motor E21 with a slight alteration to the vertical members of the frame.

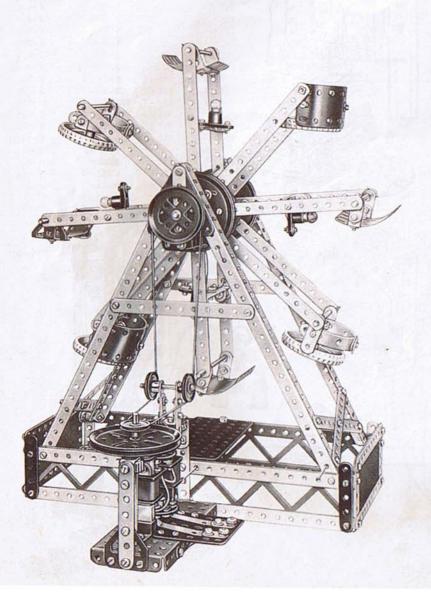
X These nuts and bolts should be screwed up tight and it may even be necessary to scrape a little paint from the parts to ensure proper contact.

Y Wires leading from the frame side of the holders back to Bolt X.

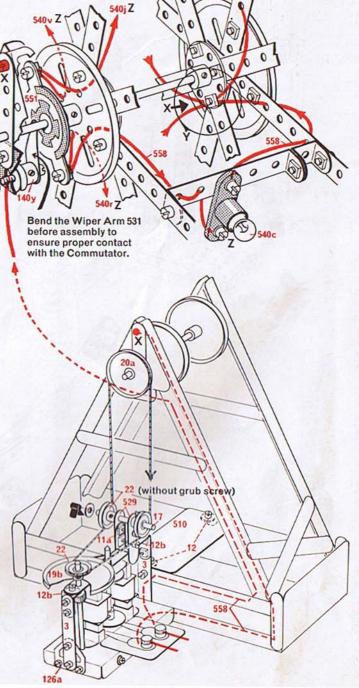
Z Wires leading from the Commutator to the holes in the lamp holders *not* connected to the frame.

To build this model extra parts are required as detailed on page 2 of cover.

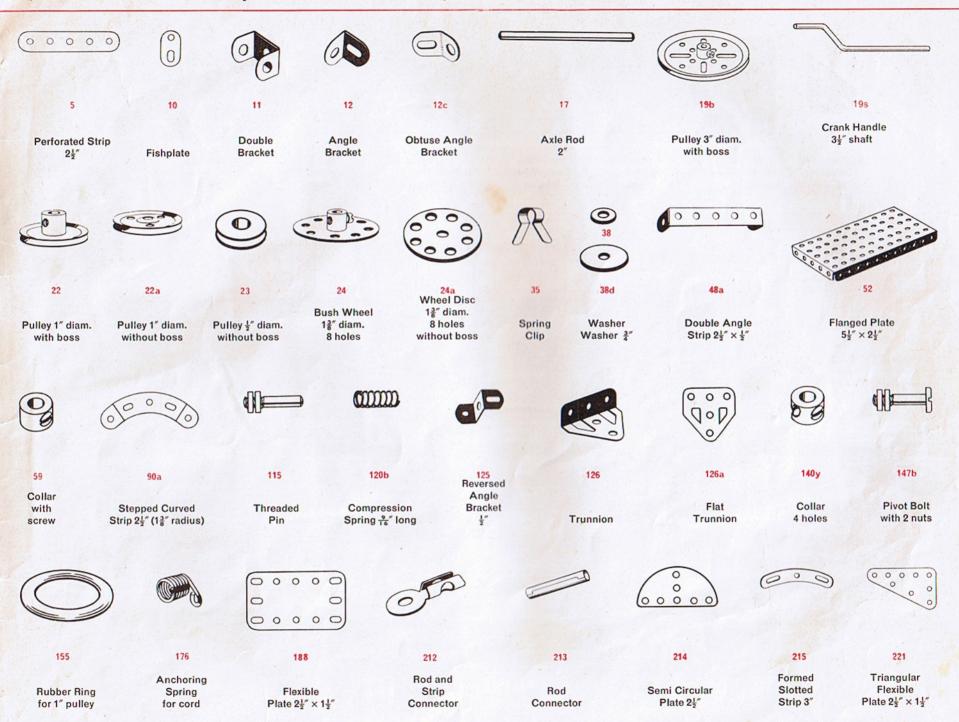
12 volts - DC only.







Principal Meccano standard parts used in the models in this book



Meccano Electrical Parts



















503 Insulating 508 Insulating Flat Girder 507 - 21" 501 - 51" $502 - 2\frac{1}{2}$ 508 - 11" 503 - 11



513 Insulating Fishplate

Insulating **Bush Wheel** 8 holes

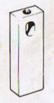
Insulating **Bush Wheel** 6 holes

518 Bush Wheel 1" diam.

520 Rectangular Coil with base

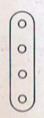
Cylindrical Coil



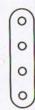








Strip 2"

















525 Core Holder for Rectangular Coil



527 Core for Cylindrical Coil - slotted

528 Core for Cylindrical Coil 1'

Flexible Strip 2"

531

Wiper Arm 1" radius flexible

532 Wiper Arm 14" radius flexible

533 Wiper Arm 2" radius Bent

534 Slotted Strip

537 Permanent Magnet

538 Magnet Holder





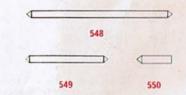














539 Lamp Holder

540c Lamp 12v. 60 mA 540c (Clear) 540r (Red) 540j (Yellow) 540v (Green)

542 Terminal Nut

543 Contact Screw

544 Contact Stud

545 Pivot Bolt 1"

548 Pivot Rod 31" 549 Pivot Rod 2" 550 Short Pivot

551 Flat Commutator

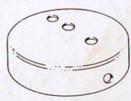














Short Circuit Piece

n Fastand

Rod with square end 4"

Reel of P.V.C. Sleeving 557 Reel of Bare Copper Wire

Coil of Connecting Wire

559 Coil of Paper

561 Washer Thin

562 Bell

Screwed Rod 2"

563 564 Insulating Spacer