

# D230

## CATV Cable Tester

GUIDE TO OPERATION



**DARKSTAR TECHNOLOGIES**

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## Features

The D230 is a simple, low-cost approach to testing coaxial cables for use in 75 Ohm Cable TV systems. It's easy to use and can fit easily in your pocket or tool kit. The D230 performs five different tests on your coax and displays the status using LEDs. The two-piece design allows users to test cables either before or after installation, and a toner feature helps you to trace out your cable runs.

## Operation

Your D230 is turned on using the slide switch on the right hand side of the tester. With nothing connected, the OPEN CABLE LED will light. If the D230 LEDs appear dim or they fail to function, simply replace the 9-volt alkaline battery in the rear of the tester.

When you connect the D230 to a coax cable, it first checks to see if the cable is "live" by looking for an RF signal on channel 3. If a signal is seen, the LIVE CABLE LED will light and no further tests will be performed.

**Note:** If the other end of the cable is connected to an RF source (VCR, CATV amplifier etc.) which is weak or turned off, the D230 will most likely interpret that as a SHORT condition. Depending on the RF signal strength, you may see the indicators alternate between SHORT and LIVE when connected to a live cable.

If the cable is "open" (or unconnected) and no terminators are seen, then the OPEN CABLE LED will light and an audible tone is injected that can be traced using any standard inductive probe/amplifier.

If the cable or one of the F connectors is shorted, then the SHORTED CABLE LED will light.

The CABLE OK LED will light if the cable's continuity is good and the D230 remote terminator is seen at the other end of the cable.

**Note:** The D230 remote terminator is simply a 50 Ohm terminator which is recognized by the D230 and used for testing purposes only. It should not be confused with the 75 Ohm terminators that are normally used in CATV systems.

The 75 Ohm terminators themselves may be tested by simply screwing one into the D230. If they are within 5% of 75 Ohms, then the 75Ω TERMINATOR LED will light.

If any unusual resistance conditions are seen that don't match one of the scenarios described above, then the OPEN CABLE and the SHORTED CABLE LEDs will light together. This suggests that some fault exists that the D230 cannot identify and may require the use of a more sophisticated tester.

## **Specifications**

<b>Power Requirement</b>	9-volt alkaline battery
<b>Unit Size</b>	4.5 X 2.3 X 1.0 inches 11.5 X 5.9 X 2.6 centimeters
<b>Shipping Weight</b>	1.0 lb / 0.45 kg
<b>Operating Temperature</b>	0 to 45 degrees centigrade non-condensing
<b>Cable Types Supported</b>	Any coax with F connectors
<b>Terminator Test</b>	75Ω only
<b>Maximum Cable Length</b>	200 meters
<b>Fault Conditions Tested</b>	Open > 1024 Ohms Shorted < 29 Ohms Cable OK 40 to 59 Ohms 75Ω 71 to 78 Ohms Undefined all else
<b>Traffic Test Parameters</b>	65.25 MHz
<b>Toner Mode</b>	Automatic when coax cable is open

## **Technical Assistance**

Customer support is obtained through the distributor from which you purchased your tester. If you still have problems or cannot locate your distributor, you may reach us via fax at (765) 775-4073 or via our website at [www.darkstarinc.com/](http://www.darkstarinc.com/)

## **Warranty**

Darkstar Technologies warrants its products against defects in materials or workmanship for a period of one year from the date of purchase. Any product that is returned shipping prepaid will be inspected and tested, and items meeting warranty conditions will be repaired or replaced free of charge. Please contact your distributor if repair or replacement is required.

