

Chapter 3

Use with Section 2

ENRICHMENT

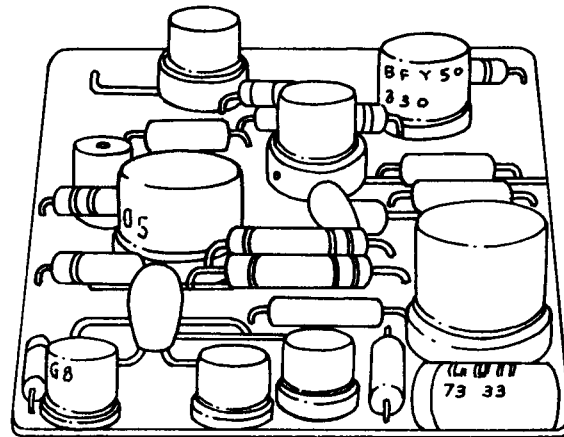
● Representative Elements

Discovering Circuit Boards

To many people, circuit boards are a mystifying collection of wires, nodules, and pieces of colored plastic. Once you take the time to discover what really makes up a basic circuit board, you will find that they really aren't as confusing as you may have first thought. One of the primary components of any circuit board is the transistor. A transistor is a component usually made up of germanium or silicon and three or more electrical connections. Silicon and germanium are both metalloids that belong to the carbon group of elements, and are both semiconductors.

Below is a picture of a circuit board from a smoke detector. This circuit board is similar to most simple circuit boards, at least with regard to its components. Research the components listed below and give a brief description of their function in the space provided.

1. Transistor



2. Resistors

3. Capacitors

4. Diodes

5. Inductors
