



Electrical Resistance and Ohm's Law



George Simon Ohm

Georg Simon Ohm was a German scientist and mathematician who lived from 1789 to 1854. His father was an intelligent self-educated locksmith who took it upon himself to educate Georg and his brother. His father believed that maths and science were very important so made these the focus of his lessons to his sons. When he was eleven, Georg was sent to a school but no maths and science was taught which hugely disappointed his father. Because of this, he sent him to be educated in Switzerland and later Georg became a teacher. He taught many subjects in many different schools and universities but was never really satisfied with these jobs. He then accepted a teaching position at a school that prided itself on its science education. It was here that he started teaching physics. Within his school laboratory was a large range of equipment that he spent his spare time tinkering with and conducting his own experiments and investigations. It was during these investigations that he discovered his law and published it within a complex and detailed paper titled '*The Galvanic Circuit Investigated Mathematically*', which stated his theories behind electricity. He had discovered that the product of the circuit (the voltage) is created by the strength of the current and the resistance within the circuit. Despite its merits, the paper and his ideas were widely criticised and the lack of support from his school resulted in his resignation. Georg went on to develop other ideas and laws and worked at the University of Munich as the professor of experimental physics. Like so many famous scientists it wasn't until after his death that he and his work were recognised for their true value.