

Electricity & Matter

All matter contains **electric charges**. When electrons move from one object to another, these objects become **charged**.

Electric charges build up on an object at the place where it is rubbed. These charges do not move, and the charge is called **static**.

Static electricity is electricity that does not move. **Electrostatics** is the study of static electric charges.

Neutral objects have equal numbers of positive and negative charges. They are electrically uncharged.

When two objects are rubbed together, one object becomes **positively charged**, and one becomes **negatively charged**. Charged objects can attract neutral objects.

Copy Figure 2

The **law of electric charges** states that like charges repel, and unlike charges attract.

There is another form of electricity called **current electricity**. This involves moving electric charges along a controlled path, such as a wire.