

UPS vs SPS

There are varying levels of UPS devices, which incorporate different technologies. For example, the cheaper standby UPS (known as an SPS) might have a slight delay when switching from AC to battery power, possibly causing errors in the computer operating system. Although it isn't important to know these different technologies for the exam, you should realize that some care should be taken when planning the type of UPS to be used. When data is crucial, you had better plan for a quality UPS!

Common Power Supply Form Factors

Form Factor	Main Power Connector	Other Characteristic
ATX	P1 20-pin connector	An older standard but you will probably still support it!
ATX 12V 1.0 – 1.3	P1 20-pin connector & P4 4-pin 12V connector	Supplemental 6-pin AUX Connector provides additional 3.3V and 5V supplies to the motherboard.
ATX 12V 2.0	P1 24-pin connector (backward compatible)	6-pin AUX was removed. SATA power cable is required.
ATX 12V 2.1	P1 24-pin connector	Added a separate 6-pin power connector for PCIe video cards; delivers 75 watts.
ATX 12V 2.2	P1 24-pin connector	Added 8-pin power connector for PCIe video cards; delivers 150 watts.
ATX 12V 2.3	P1 24-pin connector	Recommended efficiency is now 80% due to Energy Star 4.0 regulations.

If you need to test a fuse used for other purposes, then use your multimeter to test its continuity. Make sure that your red lead is connected to the ohms ([go]) input, and set the meter to Ohm ([go]). (When performing continuity and resistance tests, you don't want any electrical flow, so make sure the fuse is not connected to anything!) Touch the probes to both ends of the fuse. A good fuse should show zero ohm or display continuity. A bad or "blown" fuse will not show any reading. This is an example of testing impedance.