

CONCEPT: RESISTORS IN AC CIRCUITS

- Remember! In an AC circuit, the current produced by the AC source is

$$- i(t) = i_{MAX} \cos(\omega t)$$

- Ohm's Law will give us the voltage across the resistor at any point in time:

$$- v_R(t) = i(t)R$$



- The VOLTAGE ACROSS THE RESISTOR is

$$- v_R(t) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

EXAMPLE: A $10 \, \Omega$ resistor is plugged into an outlet with an RMS voltage of 120 V. What is the maximum current in the circuit? What about the RMS current?

- For MULTIPLE resistors in an AC circuit, you would just combine them into a single, equivalent resistor, as before.

PRACTICE: OSCILLATING VOLTAGE ACROSS A RESISTOR

The voltage across a resistor is found to be given by $v_R(t) = (10 \text{ V}) \cos[(120 \text{ s}^{-1})t]$:

- a) At what frequency does the AC source operate?
- b) If the resistance is 12Ω , what is the maximum current in this circuit?
- c) What is the RMS voltage of the AC source?

EXAMPLE: RESISTORS IN PARALLEL IN AN AC CIRCUIT

What is the current through the 10Ω resistor in the following circuit?

