

# The Oscilloscope — Checking Square Wave Response — 3

In the last two issues information was given on building a high impedance probe and a square wave generator. In this issue the interpretation of wave shapes will be described.

There are a number of service oscilloscopes available today which incorporate wide band amplifiers. Some of these are priced well within the reach of the average service shop. When replacing old equipment, serious thought should be given to the advantages to be gained by acquiring an oscilloscope with wide band characteristics.

In spite of this fact, the older scope, with less desirable characteristics, can be put to good use. For all practical purposes, the sine wave response of the vertical amplifier need be no better than 20 cps to 500 KC + 0-20% and 20 cps to 1 megacycle + 0-50% for alignment and troubleshooting the average monochrome receiver.

#### Compare Wave Shapes

One simple method of checking the response is by using a known good television receiver, and a station signal source. By comparing the wave shapes displayed on the scope to those published in the service notes, applicable to the receiver being used, the usability of the scope can be appraised.

For these tests, a high-impedance, low capacity probe is attached to the vertical input of the scope and the following tests made: With the receiver tuned to a station so as to produce a normal picture, observe the wave shapes developed at the points designated in Table I comparing these with the wave shapes illustrated in the service notes or schematic.

#### TABLE I

- a. Horizontal pulse at video detector
- b. Vertical pulse at video detector
- c. Horizontal pulse at clipper grid
- d. Vertical pulse at clipper grid
- e. Horizontal pulse at clipper plate
- f. Vertical pulse at clipper plate
- g. Pulse at plate of vertical amplifier
- h. Reference pulse to phase detector
- i. Grid of horizontal output tube

If they do not reasonably correspond, either the scope or probe or possibly both units contain frequency discriminating elements which tend to produce inaccurate results.

When observing a pulse it is general practice to sync the scope at  $\frac{1}{2}$ or  $\frac{1}{3}$  its repetition rate. This generally facilitates locking-in of the observed pulse and results in less tendency to overexpand size in the horizontal direction. Without the addition of time markers, discrepancies may not be observed if the pulse is overexpanded. Therefore, a higher degree of accuracy can be obtained if two or three images of the desired pulse are displayed on the scope.

One serious drawback that may be encountered in this system of testing, is the possibility that discrepancies of certain pulses as observed may not be caused by a deficiency in the scope. Antenna problems, ghost conditions and occasionally, the station signal itself may produce a subnormal vertical or horizontal pulse. To minimize the possibility of erroneous conclusions regarding the usability of the scope, when observing the pulses, signals from several stations should be observed.

#### **Using Square Wave Generator**

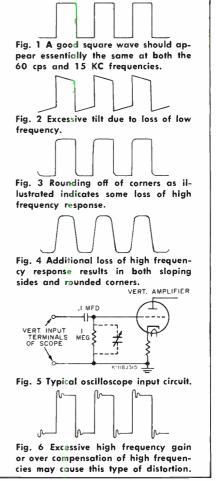
A more precise method for determining the usability of the scope and probe is by using a square wave to determine frequency characteristics.

Details for building a simple square wave generator and power supply for checking the oscilloscope and probe were given in the Vol. 16 No. 1 issue.

Two frequency checks are made, one at 60 cps and the second at 15 kc with the square wave generator connected to the vertical input terminals of the oscilloscope. By comparing the resultant wave shapes with those illustrated, the accuracy of the scope in respect to frequency response will be indicated. Figure 1 shows the square wave output of the generator described in the last issue. This wave form should be essentially the same for both low and high frequencies.

The tilt in Fig. 2 represents a loss of low frequency. Some scopes may display a similar amount of tilt in the upward or positive direction.

Tilt is mainly due to low frequency



discrimination and phase shift in the vertical amplifiers. This condition, when excessive, can usually be corrected by the proper choice of coupling capacitors. Occasionally, this condition can be corrected or greatly minimized by changing the value of the grid resistor in one of the stages following the input stage.

The rounding-off of the top left and lower right corners of the square wave in Fig. 3 represents defective high frequency response.

A more noticeable deficiency of the amplifiers in the high frequency range is indicated by the sloping sides and rounded corners as shown in Fig. 4.

(continued on page 7)



#### PIX TUBE SUBSTITUTE

To complete the filament circuit of a series TV set without the picture tube simply plug a series picture tube brightener into the picture tube socket of the TV set.

Russell V. Book 6808 Navarre Rd., S. W. Massillon, Ohio

#### VISIBLE PARTS SUPPLY



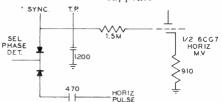
Some rows of screw type jars with their lids mounted on shelves enclosed in a wood framework adjacent to the workbench make it easy to see, select and inventory small components and require scant space, considering the volume of stored parts.

H. Josephs P. O. Box 22

Gardenville, Pennsylvania

#### NO RASTER ON "MM"

It was noticed in a G-E portable MM chassis that if the "bottom" half of the selenium phase detector opened, the high voltage and raster would disappear. If the antenna was disconnected the raster would reappear.



When the phase detector was operating normally, the voltage measured at the grid of the horizontal multivibrator read -1.5. With the "bottom" half of the phase detector open, the voltage at the grid measured -3.0 with the antenna disconnected and the set would produce a raster, but with the antenna connected and the set tuned to a station, the grid voltage would change to -15.0 causing loss of oscillation and high voltage and loss of raster.

P. M. Preston

Central Television-Radio Company 2646 University Avenue San Diego 4, California

#### NOISY TUNERS

BENCH NOTES

Most all TV tuners I have run across which are noisy are usually this way because of dirty, corroded and/or loose band switch contacts. Most often, I find the contacts are loose rather than dirty or corroded.

Many times this trouble can be isolated to one section which is common to several channels but anyone knows how compact these units are. The trick I use before bending ALL the contacts is to have the set going and the selector in the position which is causing the noisy picture then carefully drop a drop of Quietrole on the hard-to-getto contacts. As soon as the liquid has made contact, the noise will be gone if this is the contact making trouble. This can save considerable time locating the faulty contact.

Harvey Nations 80 Oak Hill Drive Asheville, N. C.

### TUNER CLEANING HINT

Instead of just spraying the contacts in wafer type tuners, bend a pipe cleaner and apply cleaning fluid to the bent tip. Hold bent portion against each wafer ring as the tuner shaft is rotated. A much cleaner contact surface will result. After cleaning, lubricate each metal ring with suitable lubricant using another pipe cleaner.

> Dealers Service 2100 Conway Road Orlando, Florida

#### TURNTABLE RETAINER

A record changer, when inverted, often results in the turntable falling off the spindle, causing loss of bearings or damage to spindle or table. A rubber grommet or motor mount can be forced over the spindle until flush against the turntable, and will retain turntable security.

Harry Meermans Meermans Radio & Television R. F. D. No. 2 Wooster, Ohio

#### LARGE SPAGHETTI SUBSTITUTE

I have a number of different size and shape plastic handles from containers of laundry bleach, etc. They have good use as a heavy spaghetti tubing for the high voltage lead when small arcing develops.

I've used these handles several times as a feed through insulator when installing an antenna system where the lead-in must enter through an aluminum storm window. I drill the necessary hole and install a piece of handle tubing with the curved part turned downward which keeps the lead-in wire in the proper position for water to drip off during the wet weather.

Mr. John R. Zanath Terrace TV & Radio 1809 Grant St. Aliquippa, Pennsylvania



"Remember that nice decal you put on the car you sold me?"

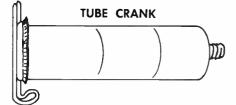
#### **HV SHOCK PROTECTION**

In servicing T.V. chassis which is removed from the cabinet, but connected to the picture tube there is always danger of electric shock and possible arcing to the chassis. This is most noticeable at the junction of the H.V. lead from the set and the extension lead to the H. V. anode of the picture tube.

I have found the easiest and quickest protection from this is the G.E. ETR-1094 Tube Puller. Insert the extension lead through the hole in a ETR 1094 Tube Puller and after the connection is made the puller is slid up to cover the junction. The small end of this puller is just right for a snug fit over the female connector of the extension.

On those extensions that are smaller than the puller a small piece of tape will hold the puller in place.

Clyde A. Raglin Norman's Radio & TV 220 East Main Street Carmi, Illinois



Get the last drop of expensive cements, solvents, etc., out of collapsible tubes and with no mess by bending a long cotter key eye into crank form and using it as the handle. Slip the key across the bottom of the tube.

E. Mayover 1601 — 14th St., W. (U. S. 41) Bradenton, Florida

#### NOTE:

Those desiring to have letters published in this column should write the Editor Techni-Talk, Electronic Components Division, General Electric Company, Owensboro, Kentucky. For each such letter selected for publication you will receive \$10.00 worth of General Electric tubes. In the event of duplicate or similar items, selection will be made by the Editor and his decision will be final. The Company shall have the unlimited right without obligation to publish or otherwise use any idea or suggestion sent to this column. Caution: The ideas and suggestions expressed in this column are those of the individual writers. These ideas and suggestions have not been tried by the General Electric Company and therefore are not endorsed, sponsored or recommended.



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# **RECEIVING TUBE POPULARITY LISTING**

Listed below are the 166 most popular tube types based on distributor usage. One list is in order by usage and the other by alpha-numerical sequence. The figure following each tube type indicates popularity. Number 1, 5U4GA/5U4GB had the highest volume; Number 2, 6CB6A was next, etc.

# LISTING BY VOLUME

*5U4GA/		6BZ7	27	6AF4A	55	*6W4GT	83	6CL6	111	12SA7	139
5U4GB	1	*12DQ6B	28	6BA6	56	6EB8	84	6X5GT	112	12SK7	140
6CB6A	2	6EA8	29	17DQ6B	57	25L6GT	85	12AV5GA	113	6AG5	141
*6AX4GTB	3	12AX4GTB	30	6AN8A	58	6BN4A	86	12AZ7A	114	6CN7	142
6CG7	4	6CD6GA	31	1R5	59	6BU8	87	12SQ7	115	6DA4	143
6SN7GTB	5	1B3GT	32	6BN6	60	6CL8A	88	1U4	116	612	144
6BQ7A	6	12BY7A	33	6K6GT	61	6CU5	89	105	117	6SJ7	145
12AU7A	7	6BK7B	34	6DQ5	62	6CY5	90	6BK4	118	12BL6	146
6U8A	8	6CG8A	35	6EM7	63	7AU7	91	6BS8	119	12CU5	147
50C5	9	*1X2A/1X2B	36	6AM8A	64	3A3	92	6CS6	120	12SN7GTA	148
*6DQ6B	10	*6J6A	37	6BC8	65	6CQ8	93	6CX8	121	12W6GT	149
35W4	11	12AV6	38	6BE6	66	3DG4	94	6EA7	122	3DT6A	150
6AU6A	12	6CM7	39	6GH8	67	5AM8	95	6EM5	123	6BA8A	151
*6BQ6GTB/		6S4A	40	10DE7	68	5AT8	96	6EW6	124	6BG6GA	152
6CU6	13	6T8A	41	6BH6	69	6DR7	97	12AT6	125	6BN8	153
OZ4	14	*6V6GT	42	12B4A	70	*6DT6A	98	*12BQ6GTB	126	6BR8A	154
6AQ5A	15	5Y3GT	43	4BQ7A	71	17AX4GTA	99	25CD6GB	127	6CF6	155
1G3GT	16	3BZ6	44	6AS5	72	6BH8	100	1V2	128	6CS7	156
*12AX7	17	3CB6	45	6BQ6GA/6CU6	73	2BN4A	101	4BZ6	129	6CW4	157
12AT7	18	6AV6	46	*6AU8A	74	3V4	102	6AB4	130	6CZ5	158
12BA6	19	35Z5GT	47	6BL7GTA	75	6AH6	103	6AK5	131	6DK6	159
6AL5	20	6BQ5	48	50L6GT	76	12AD6	104	6BJ6	132	19AU4GTA	160
*6AU4GTA	21	35C5	49	6DE4	77	5CL8A	105	6DN7	133	*25BQ6GTB	161
6AW8A	22	2CY5	50	6DE6	78	*6BC5	106	6FQ7	134	5T8	162
6BZ6	23	5U8	51	12AU6	79	6SL7GT	107	6GK5	135	6AS8	163
12BE6	24	6AF4	52	5AQ5	80	6X4	108	8AW8A	136	6CY7	164
*6X8A	25	6L6GC	53	5CG8	81	8CG7	109	12AV7	137	6DW4	165
12BH7A	26	6W6GT	54	6C4	82	50EH5	110	12CA5	138	25DN6	166

# ALPHA-NUMERICAL LISTING

OZ4	14	6AB4	130	6BK7B	34	6CU5	89	6L6GC	53	12B4A	70
1B3GT	32	6AF4	52	6BL7GTA	75	6CW4	157	6S4A	40	12BA6	19
1G3GT	16	6AF4A	55	6BN4A	86	6CX8	121	6SJ7	145	12BE6	24
1R5	59	6AG5	141	6BN6	60	6CY5	90	6SL7GT	107	12BH7A	26
104	116	6AH6	103	6BN8	153	6CY7	164	6SN7G <b>T</b> B	5	12BL6	146
1U5	117	6AK5	131	6BQ5	48	6CZ5	158	6T8A	41	*12BQ6GTB	126
<sup>.</sup> 1V2	128	6AL5	20	6BQ6GA/6	CU6 73	6DA4	143	6U8A	8	12BY7A	33
*1X2A/1X2B	36	6AM8A	64	*6BQ6GTB/		6DE4	77	*6V6GT	42	12CA5	138
2BN4A	101	6AN8A	58	6CU6	13	6DE6	78	*6W4GT	83	12CU5	147
2CY5	50	6AQ5A	15	6BQ7A	6	6DK6	159	6W6GT	54	*12DQ6B	28
3A3	92	6AS5	72	6BR8A	154	6DN7	133	6X4	108	12 <b>SA</b> 7	139
3BZ6	44	6AS8	163	6BS8	119	6DQ5	62	6X5GT	112	12SK7	140
3CB6	45	*6AU4GTA	21	6BU8	87	*6DQ6B	10	*6X8A	25	12SN7GTA	148
3DG4	94	6AU6A	12	6BZ6	23	6DR7	97	7AU7	91	12SQ7	115
*3DT6A	150	*6AU8A	74	6BZ7	27	*6DT6A	98	8AW8A	136	12W6GT	149
3V4	102	6AV6	46	6C4	82	6DW4	165	8CG7	109	17AX4GTA	99
4BQ7A	71	6AW8A	22	6CB6A	2	6EA7	122	10DE7	68	17DQ6B	57
4BZ6	129	*6AX4GTB	3	6CD6GA	31	6EA8	29	12AD6	104	19AU4GTA	160
5AM8	95	6BA6	56	6CF6	155	6EB8	84	12A <b>T</b> 6	125	*25BQ6GTB	161
5AQ5	80	6BA8A	151	6CG7	4	6EM5	123	12AT7	18	25CD6GB	127
5AT8	96	*6BC5	106	6CG8A	35	6EM7	63	12AU6	79	25DN6	166
5CG8	81	6BC8	65	6CL6	111	6EW6	124	12AU7A	7	2516GT	85
5CL8A	105	6BE6	66	6CL8A	88	6FQ7	134	12AV5GA	113	35C5	49
5T8	162	6BG6GA	152	6CM7	39	6GH8	67	12AV6	38	35W4	11
*5U4GA/		6BH6	69	6CN7	142	6GK5	135	12AV7	137	35Z5GT	47
5U4GB	1	6BH8	100	6CQ8	93	6J5	144	12AX4GTB	30	50C5	9
5U8	51	6BJ6	132	6CS6	120	*6J6A	37	*12AX7	17	50EH5	110
5Y3GT	43	6BK4	118	6CS7	156	6K6GT	61	12AZ7A	114	50L6GT	76

\*All Versions



# use these inexpensive "Salesmen"...often



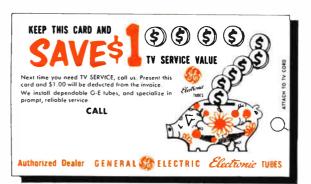
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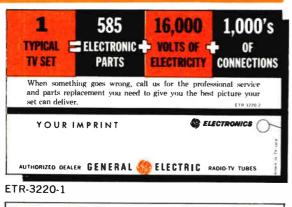
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GE-X7









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with Schematic far Building (1) LIGHT FLASHER (2) LIGHT TARGET

(3) TRIGGERED LIGHT SOURCE



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(1) AUDIO AMPLINE (7) RADIO RECEVER (3) CODE OSCILLATOR

(A) 2 or 3 TRANSISTON











GE-M100

410





2N170



Buhby Manual

Ask your distributor for a copy of the new Experimenter/Hobbyist Catalog with Applications and Parts Lists, ETR-3730-A.



## TELEVISION **Modifications for G-E** ST-16A Color Generator

The crosshatch and dot patterns on some ST-16A Generators are too broad for setting up satisfactory convergence. Here is a circuit modification which appreciably sharpens the display on these generators. Details are given below, but some variation in component values may be necessary in your particular generator.

1. Add a 51K <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> watt resistor across diode CR10, located between the junction of R123 and R125 (from lug 7 of V12B).

2. Add a 51K  $\frac{1}{2}$  watt resistor from the B+ side of R118 to the junction of R116 and R117.

3. Change C45 from 10uuf. to 43uuf. If difficulty is encountered in obtaining vertical lines only, a light adjustment of the 157KC trimmer capacitor C-51 will cure it and sharpen the lines at the same time.

Some servicemen seem to prefer to use either vertical bars or horizontal bars only, when converging a color receiver. This is easily done on the G-E ST-16A with the following modification details.

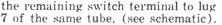
1. Install a single pole, double throw center off toggle switch in the bottom chassis pan near the line cord entrance location.

2. Connect the center terminal of the toggle switch to Chassis ground. 3. Wire one end terminal of the

switch to lug 2 of V12 (6BK7A) and USE ORDER COUPON BELOW

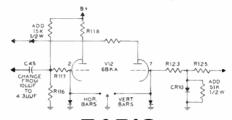
Available from your local G-E tube distributor

ORDER COUPON



With the toggle switch in the center off position, the ST-16A functions normally. In the "Hor. Bars" position, the 157.34 K.C. signal is grounded allowing only Horizontal Bars to appear.

In the "Vert. Bars" position, the 419.6 CPS signal is grounded allowing only Vertical Bars to appear.



## RADIO P-925 Modification to Prevent **Spurious Signal Reception**

SUBJECT:

A number of P-925 AM/SW radios may receive spurious signals on the broadcast band. Spurious signals can be defined as signals that can be received which do not originate in stations broadcasting on the frequency to which the receiver is tuned. These spurious signals interfere with the true signal and may result in "birdielike" sounds, hiss and whistle effects, or the superimposing of stations. CAUSE:

The type of transistor used in the local oscillator circuit (TR2) in this

Imprint (Please Print)

eight times (8x) the fundamental tuned frequency due to high beta characteristics. These harmonics beat against short-wave signals and result in a 455 kilocycle output from the mixer stage (TR1). These conditions may also arise when a replacement TR2 oscillator is installed. Be sure to check the broadcast band to insure no spurious signals are present. REMEDY:

receiver will produce harmonics up to

To minimize these spurious signals that result in an intermediate frequency output of the mixer (TR1). add a resistor and a capacitor to the circuitry. Please refer to the service manual for this model and: (a) install a .001 mfd. ceramic capacitor across the terminals of the broadcast antenna loop between pins 3 and 4; (b) then cut open the copper conductor strap between pin 1 of oscillator coil switch (S1C) and pin 2 of broadcast oscillator coil (L1); (c), solder a 680 ohm 1, watt resistor across the gap made in the conductor strap. NOTE

Be sure to check and realign the broadcast oscillator trimmer capacitor C2D and broadcast antenna trimmer capacitor (C2A) for correct tracking of the stations after the modifications are complete. New factory production will include this change.

## THE OSCILLOSCOPE

(continued from page 1)

Some oscilloscopes incorporate a small capacitor in the input section that can be adjusted to correct deficiencies in the high frequency. If your scope does not have this feature. it may be possible to make some correction to the high frequency response by adding a capacitor across the input resistor as illustrated in Fig. 5. A variable capacitor with a range of 2. to 20 uuf should be sufficient unless the design of the scope is such that good response is impossible to obtain.

Over compensation of high frequencies is illustrated in Fig. 6. This condition can usually be corrected by increasing the size of the capacitor across the input resistor.

If the foregoing tests indicate that the scope is acceptable, a similar check of the probe should be made. The square wave signals are fed into the probe which has been connected to the vertical input terminals of the scope. Any variation in response between this and the former test can be attributed to the probe.

Some probes contain a compensating capacitor C1 which was illustrated and discussed in the Vol. 15 No. 4 issue. This capacitor can be adjusted to correct undesirable characteristics, which mainly affect the response in the high frequency area such as illustrated in figures 4 and 6.

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Section 1.







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Techni-talk on AM, FM, TV Servicing, published quarterly by ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS DIVISION, GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, OWENSBORO, KY. In Canada: Canadian General Electric Co., Ltd., 189 Dufferin St., Toronto 3, Ontario. R. G. Kempton, Editor. Copyright 1964 by General Electric Company.



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