

# electronics today

INTERNATIONAL

SEPTEMBER 1983

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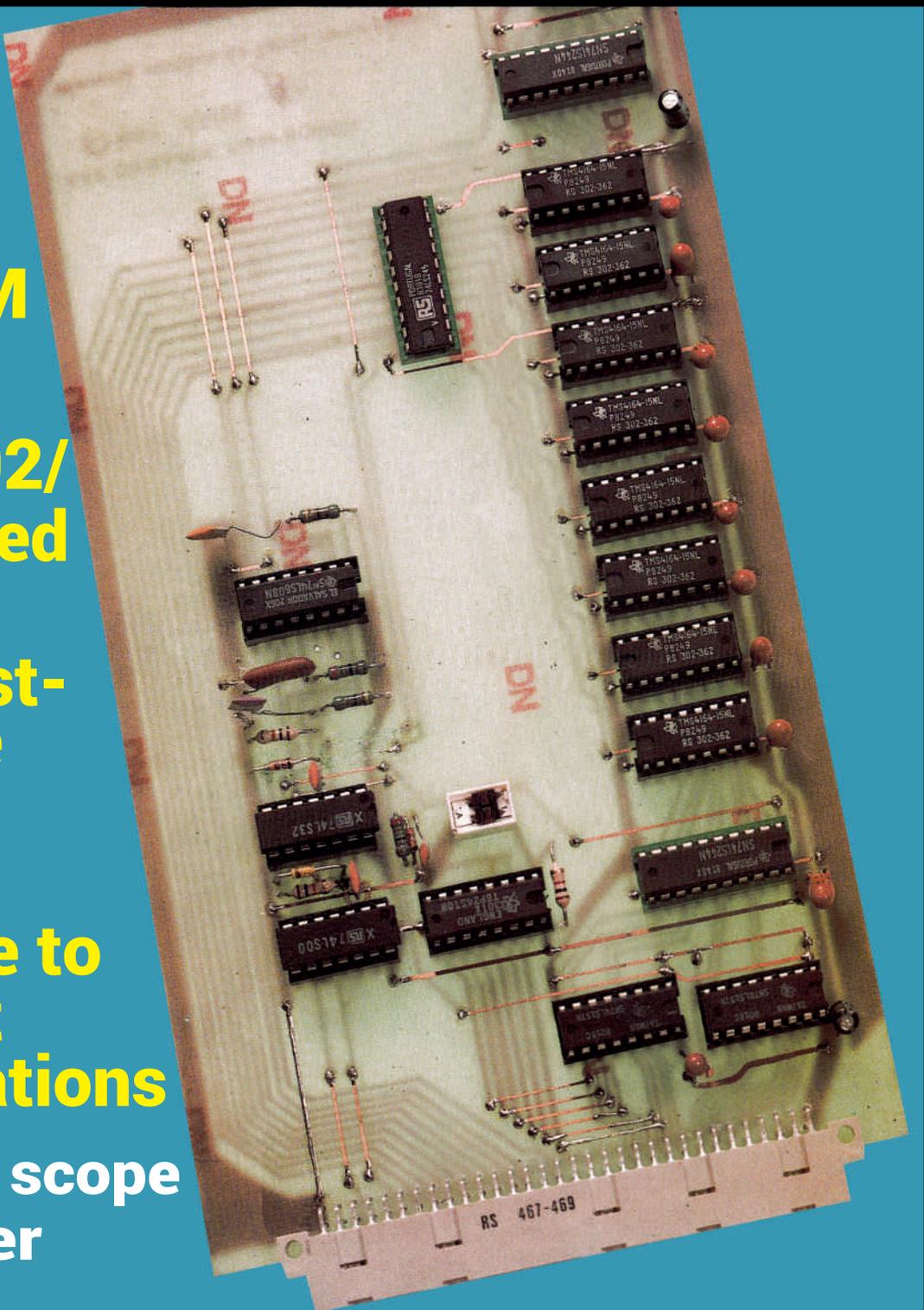
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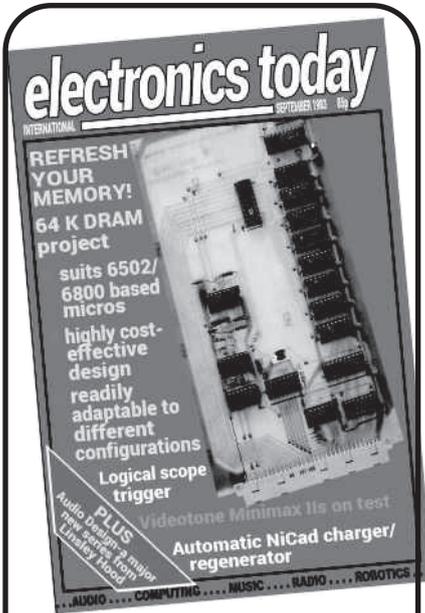


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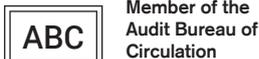
INTERNATIONAL SEPTEMBER 1983 VOL 12 NO 9

EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISEMENT OFFICE  
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Telex 8811896.



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**PUBLISHED BY:**  
Argus Specialist Publications Ltd.,  
145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0EE,  
**DISTRIBUTED BY:**  
Argus Press Sales & Distribution Ltd.,  
12-18 Paul Street, London EC2A 4JS  
(British Isles)  
**TYPESET AND ORIGINATION BY:**  
Design International  
**PRINTED BY**  
QB Limited, Colchester.  
**COVERS PRINTED BY:**  
Alabaster Passmore



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Subscription Rates. UK: £18.10. Overseas: £22.50.  
USA: \$29.50. Airmail: £49.50.

## FEATURES

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This month we're looking at some new ICs that you can buy right now - well, we hope you can, because we've already used one of them in a project.
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- 64K DRAM BOARD.....64**  
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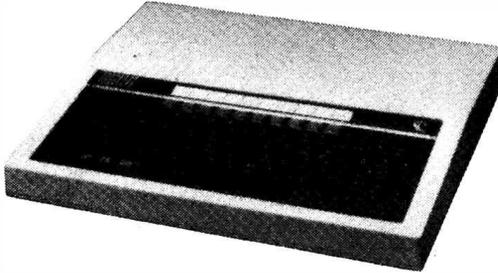
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# 01-452 1500 TECHNOMATIC: LTD 01-450 6597

## BBC Micro Computer

Please phone for availability



BBC Model A £299  
 BBC Model B £399  
 (incl VAT) Carr £8/unit  
 Model A to Model B  
 Fitting charge £15  
 Individual upgrades  
 also available

**WORD PROCESSOR 'VIEW'**  
 16K ROM £52  
**TELETEXT ADAPTOR**  
 £195.00

**PRESTEL ADAPTOR**  
 £90.00  
**2nd PROCESSOR 6502/Z80**  
 £170

**FLOPPY DISC INTERFACE**  
 Incl. 1.0 operating system  
 £95 + £20 installation

Phone or send for our BBC leaflet

**BBC FLOPPY DISC DRIVES**  
 Single drive 5 1/4" 100K £235 + £6 carr.  
 Dual drive 5 1/4" 800K £799 + £8 carr.

**BBC COMPATIBLE DRIVES**  
 These are drives with TEAC FD50 mechanism  
 and are complete with power supply  
 SINGLE: 100K £190; 200K £260; 400K £340  
 DUAL: 200K £360; 400K £490; 800K £610

ACORN SOFT/BBC SOFT/GAMES PADDLES IN STOCK

OFFICIAL **BBC** DEALER

### CASSETTE RECORDER

Ferguson 3T07 £26.50 & £1.50 carr  
 Cassette Leads £3.50  
 Computer Grade Cassettes  
 £0.50 each £4.50 for 10 & £1 carr

### MONITORS

3MC BM 1401 14in Colour Monitor  
 RGB Input £165 + £8 carr  
 KAGA RGBI 12in Colour Monitor  
 RGB Input £235 + £8 carr  
 KAGA 12in Hi-Res Green Monitor  
 £170 + £6 carr

MICROVITEC 1431 M/S 14in  
 Colour Monitor £269 + £8 carr  
 Hi Res Green Monitor £99 + £6 carr  
 RGB Lead for BMC/KAGA £10  
 Composite Video Lead £3.50

### ACORN ATOM

Basic Built £135 Expanded £175  
 (carr £3 per unit)  
 Atom Disc Pack £299 + £6 carr  
 3A 5V Regulated PSU £26 + £2 carr.  
 Phone or send for our BBC Atom  
 list.

### NEC PC 8023 BE - C

100CPS, 80 cols  
 Logic Seeking,  
 Bidirectional, Forward and  
 Reverse Line Feed,  
 Proportional Spacing, Auto  
 Underline, Hi-Res and Block  
 Graphics, Greek Char. Set.  
**Only £320**  
 + £8 carr.



### PRINTERS

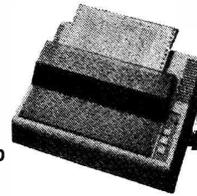
#### SEIKOSHA GP 100A

80 Cols 30 CPS  
 Full ASCII e GRAPHICS  
 10" Wide paper  
**Now only £175 + £6 carr.**  
 Ask for details on GP 250A

Parallel Printer lead for BBC/Atom to most printers £13.50  
 Variety of interfaces, ribbons in stock  
 2,000 fan fold sheets 9 1/2" x 11" £13.50 + £3 p & p

### EPSON MX 80 and 100F/T3

MX 80 80CPS 80 cols  
 MX 100 100CPS 136 cols  
 Logic Seeking, Bi-  
 directional, Bit Image  
 Printing, 9 x 9 Matrix  
 Auto Underline  
 MX 80 F/T3 £325  
 MX 100 F/T3 £430  
 (£8 Carr/Printer)



### RUGBY ATOMIC CLOCK

This Z80 micro controlled clock/calendar  
 receives coded time data from NPL Rugby.  
 The clock never needs to be reset. The  
 facilities include 8 independent alarms and for  
 each alarm there is a choice of melody or  
 alternatively these can be used for electrical  
 switching. A separate timer allows recording  
 of up to 240 lap times without interrupting  
 the count. Expansion facilities provided.  
 See July/August ETI for details. Complete Kit  
 £120 + £2.00 p&p

### I.D. CONNECTORS

(Speedblock Type)

No of Header	Recap-	Edge
ways	Plug	tacle
10	80p	90p 200p
20	145p	125p 240p
26	176p	160p 300p
34	200p	160p 380p
48	220p	190p 650p
60	235p	200p 800p

### CONNECTOR SYSTEMS

#### JUMP LEADS

4in Ribbon Cable with headers	1/4 pin	15 pin	24 pin	40 pin
1 end	145p	185p	240p	380p
2 ends	210p	230p	345p	640p

24in Ribbon Cable with sockets

20 pin	28 pin	34 pin	40 pin
1 end	180p	210p	270p 300p
2 ends	280p	385p	490p 640p

24in Ribbon Cable with D. Conn

25 way Male	600p Female	680p
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#### AMPHENOL CONNECTORS

36 way Solder Type Plug (centronix type)	550p
36 way Solder Socket (centronix type)	850p
36 way IDC Plug (centronix type)	500p
24 way Solder Plug (IEEE type)	600p
24 way Solder Socket	600p
24 way IDC Plug	485p

### RIBBON CABLE (Grey)

10 way	60p
14 way	80p
16 way	90p
20 way	105p
26 way	140p
34 way	220p
40 way	265p
50 way	330p
64 way	370p

### MICROTIMER

6502 Based Programmeable clock timer with

- ★ 224 switching times/week cycle
- ★ 24 hour 7 day timer
- ★ 4 independent switch outputs directly interfacing to thyristor/triacs
- ★ 6 digit 7 seg. displays to indicate real time, ON/OFF and Reset times
- ★ Output to drive day of week switch-and status LEDs.

Full details on request. Price for kit £57.00

### D-CONNECTORS

9 way	16 way	25 way	37 way
MALE			
Solder	90p	130p	180p 250p
Angled	180p	230p	285p 425p
FEMALE			
Solder	110p	180p	210p 350p
Angled	175p	240p	310p 600p
Hood	95p	95p	95p 125p

### RS232 CONNS (25 way D)

24" Single and Male	£6.50
24" Single and Female	£6.00
24" Female-Female	£11.00
24" Male-Male	£10.00
24" Male-Female	£11.50

### DIL HEADERS

14 pin	16 pin	24 pin	40 pin
older type	40p	100p	50p
IDC type	50p	110p	100p
	16 pin	180p	200p
	24 pin	190p	225p

### EURO CONNECTORS

#### (Indirect Edge Conn)

DIN STD	Plug	Sket
41817 21 way	170p	170p
41817 31 way	180p	180p
1812 2 x 32 way	280p	320p
Angled 2x32 way	320p	375p
1812 3x32 way	275p	380p
Angled 3x32 way	-	400p
x32 way zide a + c	-	625p

(for 2x32 way specify a + b or a + c)

### EDGE CONNECTORS

#### 0.1in 0.156in

2x16 way	-	140p
2x22 way	200p	170p
2x23 way	210p	-
2x25 way	225p	220p
1x43 way	280p	-
2x43 way	385p	-
2x50 way	700p	-
1x77 way	-	800p
S100 Conn	-	800p

### DISC DRIVES FOR THE FORTH COMPUTER

5 1/4" Teac FD55 Slim Line Mechanisms  
 FD55 40 track SDD 250kbytes unformatted  
 bare £135 Cased £155

2 x FD55A 40 track SSDD 500kbytes unformatted  
 cased + PSU £350

FD55E 80 track 500kbytes unformatted  
 bare £180 Cased £205

2 x FD55E 80 track SSDD 1 Mbyte unformatted  
 Cased + PSU £475

5 1/4" Mitsubishi M4853 Slim Line Mechanism  
 80 track DSDD 1 Mbyte unformatted  
 bare £225 Cased £245

2 x M485 2 Mbytes  
 Single drive cable £8 Dual Drive Cable £12  
 Other parts for FORTH COMPUTER available please send SAE for details.  
 Cased + PSU £590

### SOFTY II INTELLIGENT PROGRAMMER

The complete microprocessor development system for Engineers and Hobbyists. You can develop programs debug, verify and commit to EPROMS or used in host computers by using softy as a romulator. Powerful editing facilities permit bytes, blocks of bytes changed, deleted inserted and memory contents can be observed on ordinary TV. Accepts most +5v Eproms. Softy II complete PSU, TV lead and Romulator lead £169.

### SPECIAL OFFER

2114L	80p
2716 (- + 5v)	250p
2532	360p
4116-2	80p
4184-2	450p
6116P3	380p

### UV ERASERS

UVIB up to 6 Eproms £47.50  
 UVIT with Timer £80.00  
 UV140 up to 14 Eproms £81.50  
 UV141 with Timer £78.00  
 (Carr £2/eraser)  
 All erasers are fitted with mains switches and safety interlocks

### TRAINER KITS

6502 Junior Computer £85.00  
 6802 Nancomp I £80.00  
 6809 Nancomp II £80.00  
 1802 Micro Trainer £84  
 E80 Manta £115  
 Z80 Manta £115  
 (fully built and documented)  
 Full details on request

### BOOKS (No VAT p&p £1)

CMOS Cook Book £7.75  
 CRT Controller H/Book £5.95  
 Programming the Z80 £11.50  
 Z80 Microcomp. handbook £8.95  
 Programming the 6502 £10.25  
 6502 Assy. Lang. £12.10  
 6502 Applications £10.20  
 6502 Software Design £9.05  
 6502 Games £10.52  
 Large selection of databooks, interfacing books, books on BBC, etc in stock. As for our list.

PLEASE SEND SAE FOR PRICE LIST





# electronics today

INTERNATIONAL

NEXT  
MONTH

## Typewriter Interface



We've come across what must be one of the more crazy situations in electronics - namely that you can't buy a daisy wheel printer for less than around £400, but you can buy a typewriter with a daisy wheel printing mechanism and a keyboard for just over £200! Needless to say, it didn't take one of our contributors long to get out his soldering iron and find out exactly how you can interface the typewriter in question to a micro - well, not a micro, but just about any micro! And the make of the typewriter, well, we're not foolish enough to tell you that until next month.

## Another New Series

Following on from our attempt to de-mystify audio, we're about to embark upon an even more arcane area, the mention of which will usually bring a look of despair to even the most hardened engineer's face - machine code programming. This series will be so simple that even the Editor - a confirmed microphobe - will be able to understand it.

## ...And While We're Talking About Series ...

John Linsley Hood will be continuing his look at audio design with a discussion of ICs for audio applications and a look at some gremlins - noise and distortion being two of the best known of this breed.

**ALL THIS AND MORE IN THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF ETI, ON SALE SEPTEMBER 2ND. PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW, OR RISK MISSING OUT!**

Articles described here are in an advanced state of preparation. However, circumstances may dictate changes to the final contents.

## IC Update

Almost without us thinking about it, this seems to have sprung into being an established series in the magazine; well, it seems to be one of the most useful roles we can play - that of disseminating information on new devices. To try and counterbalance all these micro-based projects (and to keep our Editor happy), we'll be looking at some up-to-date linear devices.

## ZX Backup Supply

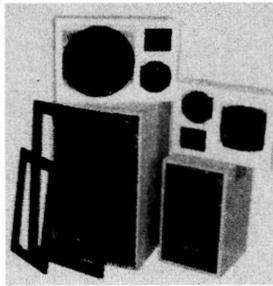
This must be one of the simplest projects we've published in a long while - and such a simple idea that it's surprising no one else has thought of it. What it does is to keep your ZX going if there should be a temporary supply interruption, or a blown fuse - or if grandfather should trip over the power connector!



### MULLARD SPEAKER KITS

Purposefully designed 40 watt R.M.S. and 30 watt R.M.S. 8 ohm speaker systems recently developed by MULLARD'S specialist team in Belgium. Kits comprise Mullard woofer (8" or 5") with foam surround and aluminium voice coil, Mullard 3" high power domed tweeter. B.K.E. built and tested crossover based on Mullard circuit, combining low loss components, glass fibre board and recessed loudspeaker terminals. SUPERB SOUNDS AT LOW COST. Kits supplied in polystyrene packs complete with instructions. 8" 40W system — recommended cabinet size 240 x 216 x 445mm  
 Price £14.90 each + £2.00 P & P.  
 5" 30W system — recommended cabinet size 160 x 175 x 295mm  
 Price £13.90 each + £1.50 P & P.

Designer approved flat pack cabinet kits, including grill fabric. Can be finished with iron on veneer or self adhesive vinyl etc.  
 8" system cabinet kit £8.00 each + £2.50 P & P.  
 5" system cabinet kit £7.00 each + £2.00 P & P.

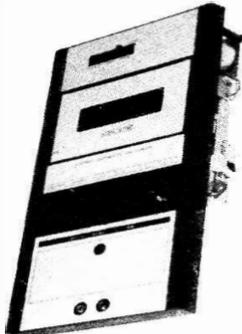


### STEREO CASSETTE TAPE DECK MODULE.

Comprising of a top panel and tape mechanism coupled to a record/play back printed board assembly. Supplied as one complete unit for horizontal installation into cabinet or console of own choice. These units are brand new, ready built and tested.

Features: Three digit tape counter. Autostop. Six piano type keys, record, rewind, fast forward, play, stop and eject. Automatic record level control. Main inputs plus secondary inputs for stereo microphones. Input Sensitivity: 100mV to 2V. Input Impedance: 68K. Output level: 400mV to both left and right hand channels. Output Impedance: 10K. Signal to noise ratio: 45dB. Wow and flutter: 0.1%. Power Supply requirements: 18V DC at 300mA. Connections: The left and right hand stereo inputs and outputs are via individual screened leads, all terminated with phono plugs (phono sockets provided). Dimensions: Top panel 5 1/2 x 11 1/2 in. Clearance required under top panel 2 1/2 in. Supplied complete with circuit diagram and connecting diagram. Attractive black and silver finish.

Price £25.70 + £2.50 postage and packing.  
 Supplementary parts for 18V D.C. power supply (transformer, bridge rectifier and smoothing capacitor) £3.50.



### LOUDSPEAKERS

15" 100 watt R.M.S. (HI-FI, P.A., DISCO, BASS GUITAR) Die cast chassis, 2" aluminium voice coil, white cone with aluminium centre dome. 8 ohm imp., Res. Freq. 20Hz., Freq. Resp. to 2.5KHz., Sens. 97dB (As photograph). Price: £32.00 + £3 carriage.

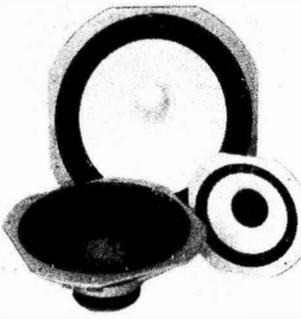
12" 85 watt R.M.S. (HI-FI) Die cast chassis, 2" aluminium voice coil. Black cone. 8 ohm imp., Res. Freq. 20Hz., Freq. Resp. to 4.5KHz. Sens. 95dB. (As photograph). Price: £23.50 + £3 carriage.

8" 50 watt R.M.S. (HI-FI, P.A.) 1 1/2" aluminium voice coil. White cone. 8 ohm imp. Res. Freq. 40Hz., Freq. Resp. to 6KHz. Sens. 92dB. Also available with black cone fitted with black metal protective grille. (As photograph). Price: White Cone £8.90, Black cone/grille £9.50 P&P £1.25.

12" 85 watt R.M.S. McKENZIE C1285GP (LEAD GUITAR, KEYBOARD, DISCO) 2" aluminium voice coil, aluminium centre dome, 8 ohm imp., Res. Freq. 45Hz., Freq. Resp. to 6.5KHz., Sens. 96dB. Price: £22.00 + £3 carriage.

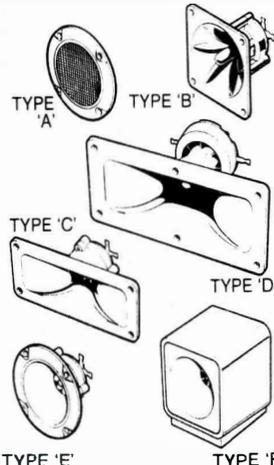
12" 85 watt R.M.S. McKENZIE C1285TC (P.A., DISCO) 2" aluminium voice coil. Twin cone, 8 ohm imp., Res. Freq. 45Hz., Freq. Resp. to 14KHz. Price £22 + £3 carriage.

15" 150 watt R.M.S. McKENZIE C15 (BASS GUITAR, P.A.) 3" aluminium voice coil. Die cast chassis, 8 ohm imp., Res. Freq. 40Hz., Freq. Resp. to 4KHz. Price: £47 + £4 carriage.



### PIEZO ELECTRIC TWEETERS - MOTOROLA

Join the Piezo revolution. The low dynamic mass (no voice coil) of a Piezo tweeter produces an improved transient response with a lower distortion level than ordinary dynamic tweeters. As a crossover is not required these units can be added to existing speaker systems of up to 100 watts (more if 2 put in series). FREE EXPLANATORY LEAFLETS SUPPLIED WITH EACH TWEETER.



TYPE 'A' (KSN2036A) 3" round with protective wire mesh, ideal for bookshelf and medium sized Hi-fi speakers. Price £3.45 each.

TYPE 'B' (KSN1005A) 3 1/2" super horn. For general purpose speakers, disco and P.A. systems etc. Price £4.35 each.

TYPE 'C' (KSN6016A) 2" x 5" wide dispersion horn. For quality Hi-fi systems and quality discos etc. Price £5.45 each.

TYPE 'D' (KSN1025A) 2" x 6" wide dispersion horn. Upper frequency response retained extending down to mid range (2KHz). Suitable for high quality Hi-fi systems and quality discos. Price £6.90 each.

TYPE 'E' (KSN1038A) 3 1/4" horn tweeter with attractive silver finish trim. Suitable for Hi fi monitor systems etc. Price £4.35 each.

TYPE 'F' (KSN1057A) Cased version of type 'E'. Free standing satellite tweeter. Perfect add on tweeter for conventional loudspeaker systems. Price £10.75 each.  
 P&P 20p ea. (or SAE for Piezo leaflets).



### OMP80 LOUDSPEAKER

The very best in quality and value. Ported tuned cabinet in hard wearing black vinyl with protective corners and carrying handle. Built and tested, employing 10 in British driver and Piezo tweeter. Spec: 80 watts RMS; 8 ohms; 45Hz- 20KHz; Size: 20in x 15in x 12in; Weight: 30lbs.

Price: £49.00 each. £90.00 per pair  
 Carriage: £5.00 each. £7.00 per pair

### 1K.WATT SLIDE DIMMER

- Controls loads up to 1KW
- Compact size  
4 3/4" x 13" x 2 1/2"  
16
- Easy snap in fixing through panel/cabinet cut out
- Insulated plastic case
- Full wave control using 8amp triac
- Conforms to BS800
- Suitable for both resistance and inductive loads

Innumerable applications in industry, the home, and discos/theatres etc.

Price: £11.70 each + 50p P&P (Any quantity)



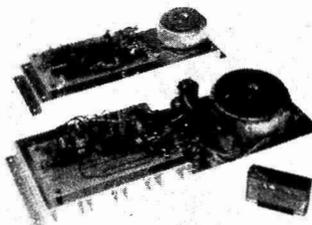
### BSR P256 TURNTABLE

P256 turntable chassis ● S shaped tone arm ● Belt driven ● Aluminium platter ● Precision calibrated counter balance ● Anti-skate (bias device) ● Damped cueing lever ● 240 volt AC operation (Hz) ● Cut-out template supplied ● Completely manual arm. This deck has a completely manual arm and is designed primarily for disco and studio use where all the advantages of a manual arm are required.

Price: £28.50 + £2.50 P&P



### POWER AMPLIFIER MODULES



### 100 WATT R.M.S. AND 300 WATT R.M.S. MODULES

Power Amplifier Modules with integral toroidal transformer power supply, and heat sink. Supplied as one complete built and tested unit. Can be fitted in minutes. An LED Vu meter is available as an optional extra.

SPECIFICATION:  
 Max Output Power: 110 watts R.M.S. (OMP 100) 310 watts R.M.S. (OMP 300)  
 Loads: Open and short circuit proof. 4-16 ohms.  
 Frequency Response: 20Hz — 25KHz ±3dB.  
 Sensitivity for Max. Output: 500mV at 10K (OMP 100) 1V at 10K (OMP 300)  
 T.H.D.: Less than 0.1%  
 Supply: 240V 50Hz  
 Sizes: OMP 100 380 x 115 x 72mm  
 OMP 300 460 x 153 x 66mm  
 Prices: OMP 100 £31.50 each + £2.00 P&P  
 OMP 300 £80.00 each + £3.00 P&P  
 Vu Meter £6.50 each + 50p P&P



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manufactured from a tough poly carbonate film mounted on 1mm glass fibre printed circuit board assembly incorporating silver plated contacts.  
 16 way numeric keyboard Standard keyboard providing 0-9 and A-F functions.  
 Size: 100mm x 100mm x 2mm. Price: £5.95 + 35p p&p  
 Alpha Numeric Keyboard Full size 55 key non encoded keyboard with the commonly required functions in a Qwerty array. Matrix output via a 16 pin DIL socket.  
 Size: 350mm x 100mm x 2mm. Price: £13.99 + 50p p&p



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★ 3" Tweeter 2.5KHz-19KHz

★ 5" Mid Range 600Hz-8KHz

★ 3-way crossover 6dB/oct 1.3 and 6KHz

Recommended Cab-size 26" x 13" x 13"

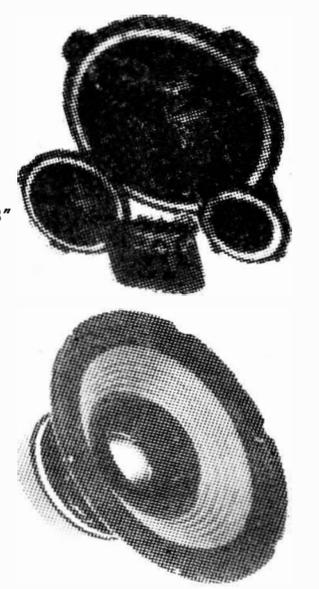
Fitted with attractive cast aluminium fixing es-cutchions and mesh protective grills which are removable enabling a unique choice of cabinet styling. Can be mounted directly on to baffle with or without conventional speaker fabrics. All three units have aluminium centre domes and rolled foam surround. Crossover combines spring loaded loudspeaker terminals and recessed mounting panel

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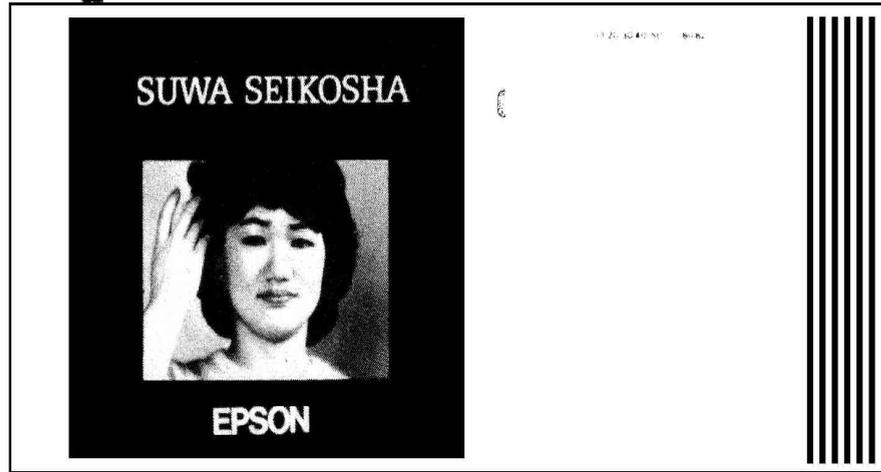
# DIGEST

## Worlds Smallest Colour TV

The first-ever LCD pocket colour television in the world has been developed in Japan by the Epson Corporation and Suwa Seikosha Company Ltd, the parent company of Epson (UK) Limited.

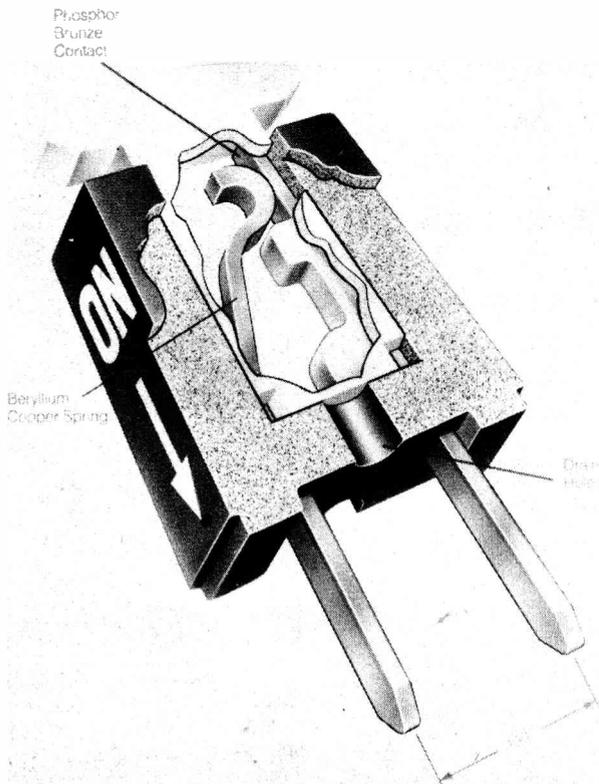
Measuring 16cm x 8cm x 2.8cm, the pocket TV utilizes new picture display devices invented by Seiko in its development of a TV watch. This flat display - which provides the key to the ultra-miniaturization represents a breakthrough in picture tube advancement and will play an important role in the progression towards a picture style colour TV, the technological goal of research organisations all over the world.

Amongst the pocket TV's advantages Epson claim no colour aberration at corners, or distortion of pictures, and good visibility in dark or light situations. There are no plans to market the TV in the UK. Epson (UK) Limited, Dorland House, 388 High Road, Wembley, Middlesex.



## Is It Clicket?

A new micro-miniature switch is available through Cambion Electronic Products, and it's called the Clicket. As you can see from the photograph, it's pretty small, with a 0.1" leading space, and it has a push-on, push-off action. Cambion Electronic Products Division, Cambion Works, Castleton, nr Sheffield S30 2WR.



## Silicon On Insulator Success

Mitsubishi Electric Corporation has succeeded in manufacturing on an experimental basis a silicon-on-insulator (SOI) structure complementary metal oxide semiconductor (CMOS) device with the worlds shortest delay time of 280 picoseconds, using a laser beam recrystallization technique. This delay time is only a quarter of that of a conventional SOI device and even shorter than that of a device using a single-crystal silicon wafer.

Mitsubishi Electric's success in trial manufacture of the new SOI CMOS marks a major step toward the realization of three-dimensional integration - integration greater than the conventional very large scale integration (VLSI). To make a 3-D integrated circuit, it is necessary to cover integrated circuits on every tier of the multiple layers with oxide or nitride film for complete electrical insulation, and to place a single crystal of silicon on top of this film for the next ICs.

Transistors and other devices are integrated on the surface of single crystal silicon in conventional ICs. In the case of the SOI structure IC, single-crystal silicon is formed on an insulator substrate; such as silicon oxide. When an SOI structure is employed, there is no malfunctioning from short circuits or in-terference, even if the distance between devices is made shorter for higher integration.

In conventional methods of making an SOI structure, polycrystalline silicon is melted by a laser beam or an electron beam for recrystallization into a single crystal. But the single crystal thus formed is small and the direction of its growth is not fixed, causing electrical leakage and shortening of circuits.

Mitsubishi Electric solved these problems by developing a revolutionary recrystallization method, under which the scanning speed, the intensity and the direction of the laser beam are adjusted to control the direction and size of crystal. Mitsubishi Electric expect their SOI technology to have a wide variety of applications:- as the key technology for 3-D integrated circuits of the future; for high speed and highly reliable CMOS LSI's without latch-up; and for thin film transistors for driving liquid crystal displays.

The work was performed under the management of the R & D Association for Future Electron Devices as part of the R & D project of Basic Technology for Future Industries, sponsored by the Agency of Industrial Science and Technology, MITI, Japan.

## Lead Free Solder

Jimi Heat of Watford announce the introduction of a new British made all-purpose solder to replace their widely acclaimed, imported, all-metal solder launched around 12 months ago.

Supa Solda is lead free, non corrosive and capable of handling all metals including aluminium. It can be shaped, polished and even chromed.

Its relatively low melting point and capillary action is claimed to make it suitable for even the most delicate applications that formerly required expensive silver-based solders.

The suggested retail price of a 'bubble pack' of Supa Solda is £1.65 and it is available from Halfords and other selected retail outlets.

# Rapid Electronics

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Unit 1, Hill Farm Industrial Estate,  
Boxted, Colchester, Essex CO4 5RD.

**TELEPHONE ORDERS:**  
Colchester (0206) 36412.



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741 25	ICL7621 180	LM358 50	LM3915 195
749 14	ICL7622 180	LM377 65	LM13600 105
9400CJ 350	ICL8038 295	LM382 120	MC1436 58
AY-3-1270 720	ICM224 785	LM382 120	MC1436 58
AY-3-8912 540	ICM224 785	LM382 120	MC1436 58
CA3046 60	LF353 85	LM382 120	MC1436 58
CA3080 60	LF356 85	LM382 120	MC1436 58
CA3089 190	LM182 360	LM382 120	MC1436 58
CA3090AQ 375	LM301A 25	LM382 120	MC1436 58
CA3130E 85	LM311 70	LM382 120	MC1436 58
CA3140E 36	LM1458 40	LM382 120	MC1436 58
CA3161E 100	LM324 40	LM382 120	MC1436 58
CA3181E 290	LM2917 200	LM382 120	MC1436 58
CA3240E 110	LM334Z 40	LM382 120	MC1436 58
	LM335Z 125	LM382 120	MC1436 58

MICRO		Z80A CPU		280 81LS96		CRYSTALS	
2114L-2	716	205	Z80A P10	260	81LS97	85	100KHz 235 4.43M 100
BEST	2532	340	Z80A CTC	260	1488	55	1MHz 275 6.0M 140
PRICES	2732	340	Z80A S10	900	1489	55	1.8432M 200 7.0M 150
ANYWHERE!	4164	440	Z80A DMA	1150	Epson Printers and D	55	2.0M 225 8.0M 140
			280 DART	500	Contractors now avail	55	2.4576M 200 10.0M 170
			81LS95	85	able at low prices.	55	3.579M 95 12M 170
						55	4.0M 190 16M 200

TRANSISTORS			
AC125 35	BC149 9	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AC126 25	BC157 8	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AC127 25	BC158 10	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AC128 20	BC159 8	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AC176 25	BC160 45	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AC187 22	BC168C 10	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AC188 22	BC169C 10	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AD142 120	BC170 8	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AD149 80	BC171 10	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AD161 40	BC172 8	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AD182 40	BC177 18	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AF124 60	BC178 18	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AF126 50	BC179 18	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AF139 40	BC180 10	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AF186 70	BC182L 10	BC547 40	BCF337 40
AF239 75	BC183 10	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC107 10	BC183L 10	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC107B 12	BC184 10	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC108 9	BC184L 7	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC108B 12	BC212 10	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC108C 12	BC212L 12	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC109 9	BC213 10	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC109C 12	BC213L 10	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC114 18	BC214 8	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC115 22	BC214L 8	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC117 18	BC237 8	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC119 35	BC238 14	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC137 40	BC308 12	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC139 40	BC327 14	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC140 28	BC328 14	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC141 30	BC337 14	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC142 25	BC338 14	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC143 25	BC341 14	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC147 8	BC478 30	BC547 40	BCF337 40
BC148 8	BC479 30	BC547 40	BCF337 40

CMOS		4016		20 4034		140 4054		78 4081		12 40193		65 4528		45 4529		160 4529	
4000	10	4018	45	4039	280	4059	430	4085	48	4085	48	4503	32	4532	60	4532	60
4001	10	4020	42	4040	40	4060	42	4086	50	4086	50	4504	35	4534	400	4534	400
4002	12	4021	40	4042	38	4062	22	4093	18	4093	18	4510	45	4543	60	4543	60
4006	50	4022	45	4043	40	4067	225	4094	68	4094	68	4511	40	4549	360	4549	360
4007	14	4023	16	4044	40	4068	14	4095	65	4095	65	4512	40	4553	215	4553	215
4009	24	4025	12	4047	35	4070	13	4096	290	4096	290	4514	115	4555	35	4555	35
4010	24	4026	75	4048	38	4071	13	4099	70	4099	70	4516	55	4559	390	4559	390
4011	10	4027	20	4049	21	4072	13	4106	40	4106	40	4518	40	4560	140	4560	140
4012	15	4028	45	4050	21	4073	13	4109	110	4109	110	4520	50	4584	35	4584	35
4013	20	4029	45	4051	42	4075	13	4163	60	4163	60	4521	130	4585	60	4585	60
4014	45	4030	14	4052	14	4076	14	4175	100	4175	100	4526	60	4724	140	4724	140
4015	40	4031	125	4053	48	4077	14	4175	75	4175	75	4527	50				

LS TTL		LS20		12 LS75		20 LS123		34 LS160		35 LS197		45 LS363		60 LS365		28 LS366		28 LS367	
LS00	11	LS22	12	LS78	17	LS125	24	LS161	35	LS192	35	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28
LS01	11	LS27	12	LS78	17	LS125	24	LS161	35	LS192	35	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28
LS02	11	LS32	12	LS85	16	LS136	26	LS164	40	LS192	35	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28
LS03	12	LS32	13	LS85	16	LS136	26	LS164	40	LS192	35	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28
LS04	12	LS37	14	LS92	25	LS145	25	LS170	75	LS192	35	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28
LS05	12	LS38	15	LS92	25	LS145	25	LS170	75	LS192	35	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28
LS06	12	LS38	15	LS92	25	LS145	25	LS170	75	LS192	35	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28
LS07	12	LS42	28	LS96	95	LS151	38	LS175	45	LS192	35	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28
LS09	12	LS47	35	LS107	40	LS153	38	LS190	35	LS192	35	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28
LS10	12	LS48	45	LS109	21	LS154	75	LS191	35	LS192	35	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28
LS12	12	LS51	14	LS112	21	LS155	33	LS192	35	LS192	35	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28
LS13	19	LS55	14	LS112	21	LS155	33	LS192	35	LS192	35	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28
LS15	30	LS73	18	LS114	22	LS157	22	LS195	22	LS195	22	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28
LS17	32	LS74	17	LS122	35	LS158	29	LS196	45	LS196	45	LS324	60	LS366	28	LS367	28	LS368	28

TTL		7413		17 7444		85 7483		30 74122		38 74161		46 74190		40 74191		40 74192		40 74193	
7400	11	7414	23	7445	58	7485	60	74123	33	74125	33	74184	46	74191	40	74192	40	74193	40
7401	11	7417	19	7448	43	7489	180	74126	33	74128	33	74184	46	74191	40	74192	40	74193	40
7402	11	7420	14	7450	14	7490	19	74130	30	74132	30	74185	46	74194	40	74195	40	74196	40
7403	12	7422	19	7453	14	7492	24	74145	48	74147	75	74170	115	74196	40	74197	40	74198	40
7404	12	7427	18	7454	14	7493	24	74147	75	74149	75	74171	53	74198	40	74199	40	74200	40
7405	15	7428	25	7460	14	7494	28	74148	75	74149	75	74172	53	74198	40	74199	40	74200	40
7406	19	7430	13	7472	22	7495	33	74150	48	74151	48	74175	45	74199	40	74200	40	74201	40
7407	19	7432	20	7473	24	7496	38	74153	38	74154	38	74176	35	74200	40	74201	40	74202	40
7408	13	7433	20	7474	19	7497	86	74154	47	74157	42	74177	42	74201	40	74202	40	74203	40
7409	13	7437	23	7475	26	74100	78	74156	36	74158	36	74179	75	74201	40	74202	40	74203	40
7410	13	7438	24	7476	25	74107	22	74156	36	74158	36	74180	38	74201	40	74202	40	74203	40
7411	15	7440	14	7480	45	74109	45	74159	45	74160	45	74181	100	74201	40	74202	40	74203	40
7412	17	7442	30	7482	65	74121	24	74160	55	74182	55	74182	55	74201	40	74202	40	74203	40

SWITCHES		TRANSFORMERS	
Submin toggle:	SPST 55p, SPDT 60p, DPDT 65p.	Miniature mains:	606V, 909V, 1201V all @ 100mA 100p each.
Miniature toggle:	SPDT 80p, SPDT centre off 90p, DPDT 90p, DPDT centre off 100p.	PCB mounting, Miniature:	3VA 0.6, 0.6 @ 0.25A; 0.9, 0.9 @ 0.15A; 0.12, 0.12 @ 0.12A 200p each.
Handy toggle:	SPST 35p, DPDT 48p	High quality, split bobbin construction:	6VA 0.6, 0.6 @ 0.5A;

## Z800 Details

Zilog have revealed details of their new Z800 family of 8/16 bit microprocessors. The new CPU's will run on all existing Z80 software at object code level and will provide up to five times greater performance operating at clock rates of 10 to 25 MHz. The Z800 also saves board space and reduces system design costs by including DMA functions, counter/timers, serial I/O and refresh logic on the chip. Using these on-chip peripherals a small system can be designed with only the Z800 CPU, external memory and a clock crystal. An on-chip memory management unit (MMU) and cache/local memory are also included to increase the power and flexibility of the Z800. The MMU extends the Z800 CPU's logical addressing space up to 16 megabytes compared to the Z80s maximum of 64 kilobytes. This is achieved by dividing the logical address space into pages which are mapped into larger physical memory. The MMU also provides all the features necessary to implement a virtual memory system transparent to the applications program.

The 256 byte cache memory on the Z800 chip provides the CPU with high speed access to instructions and data that would otherwise reside in slower external memory. Since this feature coupled with programmable bus timing allows the CPU clock speed to differ from the memory clock speed, fast processors (up to 25 MHz) need not be accompanied by equally fast memory devices as was necessary with earlier designs. The Z800 CPU instruction set includes all those in the Z80 set plus a number of new enhancements. New instructions allow the Z800 to perform 8 and 16-bit hardware and multiply and divide, 16-bit arithmetic, 16-bit load, system call (for controlled operating system access by the user) and test and set (for multi-processing support). A group of extended processing instructions similar to those used in the Z8000 and Z80,000 allows the Z800 CPUs to be used with any co-processor compatible with Zilog's extended processing architecture, including the Z8070 floating point processor.

Several new addressing modes have also been added to the Z80 CPU's original set: index with a 16-bit displacement, base index, and stack pointer relative. A program counter relative mode exists for the Z80 chip but in the Z800 chip it is enhanced to allow 16-bit displacement. Furthermore, the Z80 CPU register set has been improved by allowing byte access to both the IX and IY registers (providing four additional 8-bit registers) and the use of two stack pointers instead of one.

Four versions of the Z800 will be available, known as the Z8108, Z8116, Z8208, Z8216. The Z8108 and Z8208 are intended for the smaller systems and employ the same 8-bit non-multiplexed bus as the Z80, allowing them to be used with either the existing Z80 peripherals or the Z8500 family. The Z8116 and Z8216 are 16-bit multiplexed Z-Bus devices and can, therefore be used with the same peripheral chips used by Zilog's 16-bit Z8000 CPUs, the Z8002, Z8001, Z8003 and Z8004.

Although all four Z800 CPUs have the peripheral support circuits integrated within the chip, only the Z8208 and Z8216 include the necessary address lines to permit access to the UART and the DMA functions. The versions of the Z800 (Z8216 and Z8208) with all the peripheral features are supplied in 64-pin packages and support extra signal such as bus buffer control, multiple interrupts and global bus Req/Ack. The Z8108 and Z8116 which do not allow access to the DMA and UART functions are supplied in 40-pin packages. The 64-pin package used for the Z800 has pin spacings of 70 mil, therefore the package is approximately the same size as the standard DIL 48-pin package, currently used by the Z8001 and the Z8010 MMU.

The Z800 CPU is aimed at traditional 8-bit applications including personal computers, workstations, I/O processors, network controllers, etc, that now require 16-bit performance to meet market demands. Zilog (UK) Limited, Zilog House, Moorbridge Road, Maidenhead, Berks, SL6 8PL.

## New, Large EPROMS

Now available in the UK from Bytech Ltd are the latest Intel range of UV-Erasable Proms. Both D2764 (8K x 8) and D27128 (16K x 8) devices are being stocked, in industry standard approved JEDEC 28-pin packages. Both devices are available in a choice of 200, 250, 350 and 450ns access times.

The 2764 is a 5V only, 65,536-bit UV erasable and electronically programmable EPROM fabricated in HMOS technology. Access time is compatible to high performance microprocessors such as Intel's 8MHz 8086-2. In these systems the 2764 allows the microprocessor to operate without the addition of WAIT states devices is that the Output Enable (OE) is separate from the Chip Enable (CE). The (OE) control eliminates bus contention in multiple bus microprocessor systems. The standby mode reduces the power dissipation without increasing access time. The active current is 100mA, whilst the standby mode is achieved by applying a TTL-high signal to the CE input. Bytech Ltd, Sutton's Industrial Park, London Road, Earlye, Reading RG6 1AZ

## Monolithic Microphone

Honeywell has developed a process for building zinc oxide acoustical microphones and microelectronics on single silicon substrates. The "mike-on-a-chip" offers high performance, sensitivity and reliability at a fraction of the cost and size of current available ceramic acoustic microphones.

The chip-sized microphone is made possible by a new Honeywell technique. The company recently developed a reproducible process for depositing high-quality zinc oxide thin films, substances similar in electronic response to piezoelectric ceramics but compatible with standard integrated circuit processing. Honeywell used existing semiconductor processes and equipment to fabricate the zinc oxide thin-film sensors and electronic conditioning circuitry on silicon.

The advantages of Honeywell's integrated acoustical microphones over ceramic devices are many. The integrated microphones operate at frequencies down to 0.1 hertz, whereas ceramics lose sensitivity at about 20 hertz. The integrated sensors also offer greater reliability because they are solid state, there are no parts to glue or solder, as with ceramic devices. The Honeywell sensors are also smaller and lighter than their ceramic counterparts. In addition, the sensing element is a passive device and the electronics draw less than 40 milliwatts, which means it can remain working in the field for

months before requiring battery recharge or replacement.

Zinc oxide, like piezoelectric ceramic, produces an electrical charge when strained. However, zinc oxide is also pyroelectric, it produces a voltage change in response to thermal change, and this effect must be minimised in low-frequency applications of this device. Honeywell eliminated the thermally-induced voltage fluctuations through a unique design of concentric electrodes, that cancel all pyroelectric-induced electrical signals.

The "mike-on-a-chip" is very sensitive. It can detect one microbar of pressure (one bar equals one atmosphere or 14.69 pounds of pressure per square inch) and will exhibit signal-to-noise ratios of 5:1 at one microbar. Honeywell's "mike-on-a-chip" could have various applications, including hearing aids. Honeywell has applied for a patent on its integrated acoustical microphone technology.

Honeywell Control Systems Ltd, Honeywell House, Charles Square, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1FB.

## New Micro With ROM

The NEC uPD7809G contains the largest on-chip ROM capacity of 8K among current commercially available products, as well as 256 bytes of RAM. In addition to the powerful instruction set with 16-bit arithmetic/logic instructions, the device contains versatile functional blocks such as 8-comparator input lines, watchdog timer, programmable wait, hold function, 16-bit event/timer counter, two 8-bit programmable timers and serial interface (UART). The new unique 8-bit comparator input lines can be used, for example, for direct interface with the keyboard and the watchdog timer will prevent the program from running out of control in a noisy environment.

The 7809 (seem to have seen that number before!) features a high speed instruction cycle time of 1uS, which under 12MHz, allow much faster 16-bit multiply/divide operations. It is estimated at 1.5 to 5 times faster than conventional micros.

In addition to on-chip memories of 8K for ROM and 256 for RAM, external memory expansion up to 56K bytes is also provided for, with battery back-up operation applicable to some on-chip RAM under stand-by mode.

NEC Electronics (UK) Limited, 116 Stevenson Street, New Stevenson, Motherwell ML1 4LT, Scotland.

## Industry's Fastest RAM

The industry's fastest RAM has been introduced by Motorola. It's the new bipolar 64-bit ECL RAM (MC10H145) with an address time of 3ns (typ) and 6ns (max). The MC10H145 is organised as a 16 x 4 memory array and is a member of the MECL 10KH family. These very high speeds were achieved through new circuit designs as well as advanced processing techniques. Because the device is a member of the 10KH family, its gate structure was changed from 10K configuration to include both constant current source gates and a voltage regulator. These additions, as well as new configurations of logic, reduce gate delays thus producing these high speeds. Since the device is in the MECL 10KH family it is processed with Motorola's new oxide isolated process called MOSAIC (Motorola Oxide Self-Aligned Implanted Circuit - but it took them quite a while to think that one up; which achieves smaller device geometries, improved bandwidth and reduced parasitic capacitances. The European Literature Centre, Motorola Semiconductors, 88 Tanners Drive, Blakelands, Milton Keynes.

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K2569	Three Tone Chime	8.57
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K2544	Complex Sound Generator	10.26
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K2545	50Hz Crystal Time Base	12.00
K615	High Precision Stopwatch	50.29
	Description	Price

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K2572	Universal Stereo Pre-Amplifier	6.56
K2574	Universal 4 Digit U/D counter with memory	44.72
K2577	Electric Motor Speed Control	11.17
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K2580	Electronic Power Switch Dimmer	12.37
K2551	Central Alarm Unit	15.48

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Basic Teletext Kit (no box) £130 + VAT P/P £2.50

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box by itself £14.95 + VAT P/P 75p

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A Prestel microcomputer adaptor to give full autodialling to your computer. All the usual Prestel facilities are added via this unit, plus many more, and, can operate to any viewdata computer.

You can shop from home, bank transmit messages and receive software, which means that the uses your micro can be put to are limitless.

The unit is not restricted to just the UK, for at least 28 countries use the Prestel viewdata format, so you can also mail-order from anywhere. The Prestel unit is suitable for most micro computers even the ZX-81, so at the push of a button, the technology of tomorrow is in your home today.

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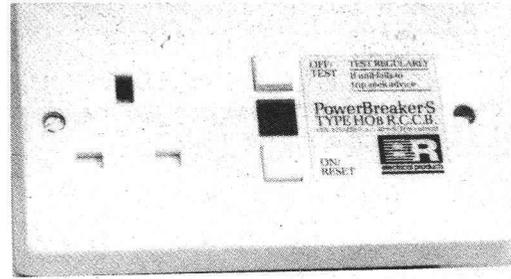
# NEWS:NEWS:NEWS:NEWS:NEWS:NEWS:NEWS:NEWS



## Electronic Memo Pad

A unique totally British designed electronic memo pad which can carry out the functions of a calendar, diary, address book, note pad and an expense account log has been launched into the UK by Domicrest Ltd. The unit measures 136mm (W) x

90mm (H) x 9mm (D) about the same size as a cigarette case, and will therefore fit in the pocket or the handbag. Called the Biztek Pad it will be percolating through the shops with a retail price of £69.95,



## Vital Safety Device

New from B & R Electrical Products is the Power Breaker-S, which is a residual current circuit breaker mounted in the same body as a double 13A socket. Like the HI ELCB (Dec 1982), the device works by detecting any difference of more than 30mA between the two supply lines from the mains, and cutting off the supply before this can result

supply before this can result in electrocution. Why every electronics hobbyist doesn't protect his or her equipment supply with one of these (or a similar) device, we'll never know let it suffice to say that we very strongly recommend doing so. B & R Electrical Products Ltd., Temple Fields, Harlow, Essex CM20 2BC.

## ZX Music Board

There are now two ready-made cased versions of the ZX81 Music Board (ETI April and May this year), one for the ZX81 which costs £24.95 inclusive, and one for the Spectrum, which costs £26.95. A demonstration cassette is available for £1.25, from Petron Electronics, 1 Courtlands Road, Newton Abbot, South Devon TQ12 2JA.

## Another Video "Standard"

RCA Corporation and Hitachi Ltd have announced jointly that they plan to introduce the Capacitance Electronic Disc (CED) system in the United Kingdom this autumn in time for the Christmas selling season. RCA will make the video disc albums and Hitachi will supply the players for the UK launch.

Players are expected to be priced at under £300, and discs will be between £12.95 and £21.95, with many titles under £20.

## New Portables(??)

The portables market is getting just silly, as these two pictures show. Top is the latest offering in this field from Aiwa - it's styled so that all the various 'components' (the tuner, the cassette deck, etc) look like separate units all just glued together. Actually, you can detach the speakers, but when they're attached to the unit, a special port is opened between them and the main case, which brings a passive radiator into play and boosts the bass response. Total output power is 28 Watts per channel (peak), and the thing has a built-in five-band graphic equaliser (readers wanting a proper graphic equaliser should turn to page 41, where they'll find part two of our own, 28-channel equaliser). Price is a cool £199.95. (It's the CA-70, from Ai-ee-wah UK Ltd, 163 Dukes Road, Western Avenue, London W5 0SY).

The other of these monsters has, as you can see, a B & W TV as well as the usual tape and radio facilities. But won't you bump into people if you walk along holding the TV in front of you? And how strong do your arms

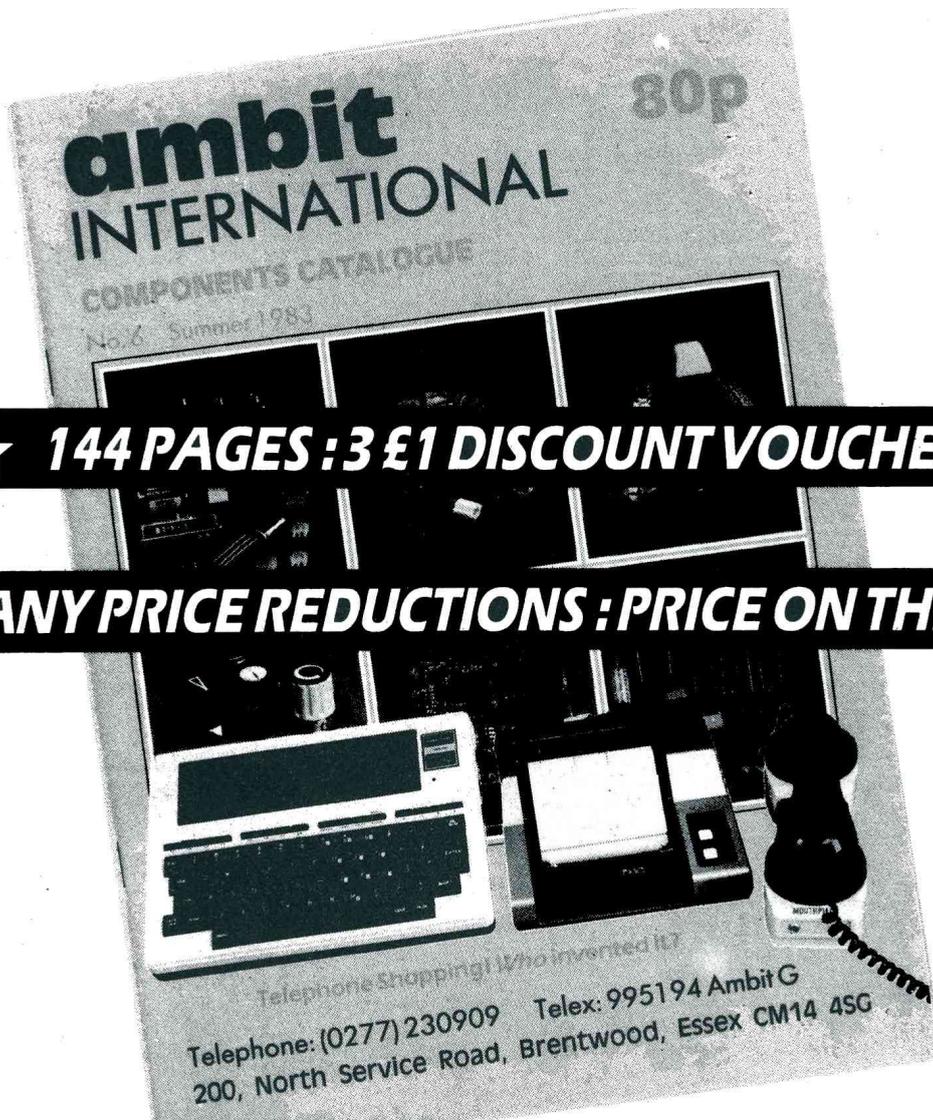


have to be the weight isn't stated in the press release? This beast costs £149.95 and is made by Heron Electronics, Heron House, 19 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JL (confusingly, it's called the Ingersoll XK 500).

There must be a whole generation of youth growing up with one arm longer than the other due to carrying these things around when will manufacturers think of fitting wheels to them?

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## Cheap DMM

Possibly the best value for money hand-held DMM in the UK is available from the House of Instruments and its distributors.

Metex type 3000 is a 3 1/2 digit LCD hand held DMM with a basic DC accuracy of 0.5%. It comes fully guaranteed for 12 months complete with test leads, battery, spare fuse, operating manual and free carrying case at £29.50 including post and packing (but exclusive of VAT).

There are 30 individual ranges of 1000V, 10 amps, 20M ohms, and diode test and zero check functions. Zeroing, over-range, polarity and low battery indication are all catered for automatically. Normal overload protection is provided as well as high voltage surge to approximately 3KV. House of Instruments, Clifton Chambers, 62 High Street, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB10 1EE.

## New Line for TV

A slow-scan TV system currently undergoing field tests in prototype, will bring slow-scan television within reach of the average amateur pocket. Designed and built by Davtrend Limited, it will be introduced in late summer with the launch of the Model SST-1000 Slow-Scan Receiver, which will be offered at the highly competitive price of less than £200.

The receiver will have facilities for accommodating a transmitter PCB that will upgrade the equipment for two-way communications. This PCB will be introduced at a later date to coincide with the launch of the full transceiver system, designated as the SST-2000 Slow-Scan Transceiver.

System specifications will be standard: that is, 128 by 128 discrete picture elements each encoded into 16 grey shades to produce one picture every 8.5 seconds. Davtrend Limited, Sanderson Centre, Lees Lane, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 3UL.

## Video Recorder Head Testers

Two Video-Head Testers have been added to the Leader range of test equipment marketed by Thandar Electronics designated LHC-909V (VHS) and LHC-909B (Beta) the tester will measure the amount of wear in video heads. The unit costs £45.00 plus VAT, and for further details contact Thandar Electronics Limited, London Road, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE17 4HJ.



## Versatile LCD Display

A 175 x 50mm LCD display panel, featuring a fully programmable 240 x 64 dot matrix, has been introduced by Impectron Ltd. The panel, manufactured by Sharp of Japan, is designated the Model LM-24002G and incorporates LCD display panel, CMOS-LSI driver circuits and interconnection facilities.

The new unit is capable of displaying graphs, diagrams or animated pictures

as well as letters, figures or symbols. Viewing angle is a minimum of 40°, whilst contrast ratio is typically 3.00 and response speed better than 300 milliseconds. The back of the display contains ten CMOS control and driver chips, which ensure complete applications flexibility. Impectron Ltd, Foundry lane, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 SPX.

## Fibre Optic Photodiode

Norban Electro-Optics Limited, sole distributors of RCA fibre optic components in the United Kingdom, have launched a new trans-impedance pre-amplifier photo diode module for "second-window" fibre optic applications.

The RCA C30986E utilise the new Indium Gallium Arsenide PIN photo diode which has excellent responsivity between 900nm and 1700nm and it is ideal for use at the low attenuation wavelength of 1300nm increasingly used in fibre optic systems.

The trans-impedance preamplifier employs a low-noise gallium arsenide FET front end and a cascode feedback circuit. An emitter follower stage has been added for improved output coupling efficiency. Additional device features include a system bandwidth of typically 250 MHz and a signal to noise ratio of typically 22 db for a bit error rate of 10<sup>-9</sup>. Norban Electro-Optics Ltd., Norban House, Boulton Road, Reading, Berks RG2 0LI.

## High Voltage Reed Relay

A new high-voltage reed relay developed by Hamlin Electronics uses a vacuum reed switch with tungsten contacts to give an excellent isolation interface, with hold-off voltages ranging from 5kV up to 20kV

DC. The new HE5100 Series is available with a selection of switching voltages from 3.5kV DC to 17.5kV DC. Minimum insulation resistance is 10<sup>11</sup>Ω, and maximum initial contact resistance is 0.10; coil voltages are of 5, 12, 24 and 48V DC. Hamlin Electronics Europe Limited, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 3AY.

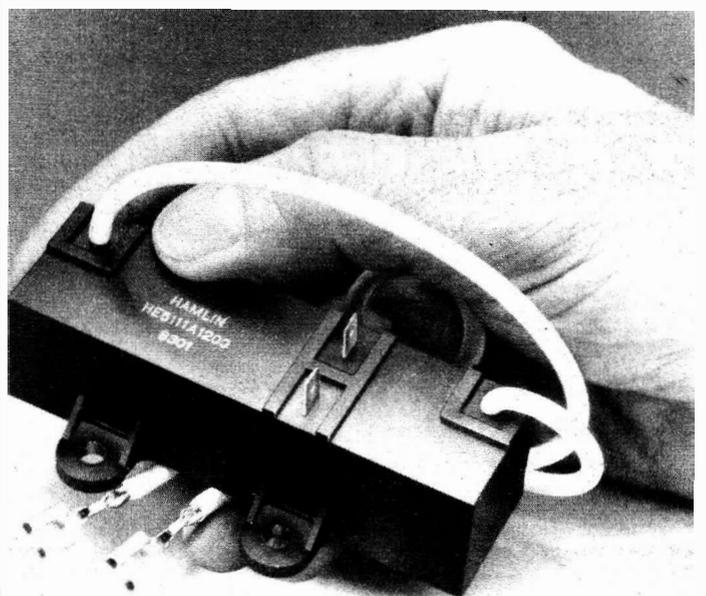
## New Cards Make Apples Grow

New from Hawk Electronic Test Equipment is a GP1B interface card which allows the Apple to become an IEEE 488 controller for test measurement and control. The board will run up to 14 separate controllable devices with a transmission path of up to 20 meters. The on-board software interfaces directly with basic and Applesoft strings, making the Apple into a powerful and easy to use IEEE 488 GP1B controller. The price of the card is £189.00 inclusive.

Also from Hawk is a 32-channel I/O card for the Apple, which enables external control and data feedback for the Apple, with four 8-bit bi-directional I/O parts, four 16-bit timers, two serial to parallel, parallel to serial, parallel to serial register and handshake capability. The price of £49.50 also includes documentation and example program. Hawk Electronic Test Equipment, Bircholt Road, Parkwood Industrial Estate, Maidstone, Kent ME15 9XT.

From Owl Micro-Communications comes a new multi-function communications interface card that turns the Apple microcomputer into a highly versatile communications device, with applications ranging from electronic mail to IBM terminal emulation.

The new Owl Multicom card is available for the Apple II plus, Apple IIe and Apple III computers and provides all the standard communications interfaces - a V24 (RS232) serial interface for synchronous and asynchronous communications, a parallel printer interface and clock/timing functions - from a single slot in the Apple Cardframe. Owl Micro-Communications, The Maltings, Station Road, Sawbridgeworth, Herts CM21 9LY.





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- Basic programs may contain spaces between key words to make programs readable without using more memory
- Over 34K bytes available for basic programs
- Extended basic includes IF-THEN-ELSE
- Supports up to 16 output devices: Screen and cassette interfaces included as standard
- Supports bit manipulation of variables from basic
- Error trapping to a basic routine included
- Basic supports Hexadecimal numbers
- Separate 16K video RAM for graphics

With this powerful machine (featured in Electronics Today International as a constructional project) you have access to highly advanced systems and software developed specially by MPE Ltd for the CORTEX. For business, education, R & D - or simply increasing your knowledge and understanding of computers - it beats comparably priced off-the-shelf machines hands down!

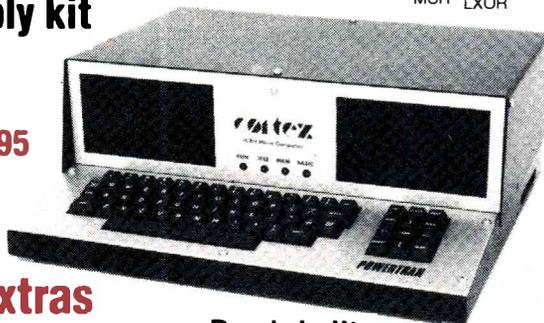
STATEMENTS	PRINT	TIME	RENUM	MAG	MWD	:	( )	INT	POS
IF		WAIT	BOOT	TOF	BASE	@	/	LOG	COL
ELSE		SAVE	GRAPH	TON	COMMANDS	#	FUNCTIONS	SQR	MOD
ON		LOAD	TEXT	DIM	RUN	LET	FNA-FNZ	SYS	RND
GOTO	1 UNIT	MOTOR	PLOT	LET	SIZE	DEF	ABS	TIC	KEY
GOSUB	BAUD	ESCAPE	UNPLOT	DEF	CONT	NEW	ADR	BIT	SGN
POP	CALL	NOESC	COLOUR	END	MON	END	ASC	CRB	OPERATORS
REM	DATA	RANDOM	CHAR	BIT	DELIMITERS	\$	ATN	OR	<< >>
FOR	READ	ENTER	SPRITE	CRB	TO	TAB	SIN	CRF	LOR
NEXT	RESTOR	LIST	SHAPE	CRF	STEP	STEP	COS	MEM	AND
ERROR	RETURN	PURGE	SPUT	CRF	THEN	THEN	EXP	MWD	LAND
INPUT	STOP	NUMBER	SGET	MEM			FRA	LEN	NOT
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Pair of 5 1/2" disc drives and hardware kit	<b>£365.00</b>	+ RS232C	<b>£410.00</b>
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Full assembly instructions and 216 page user's manual.

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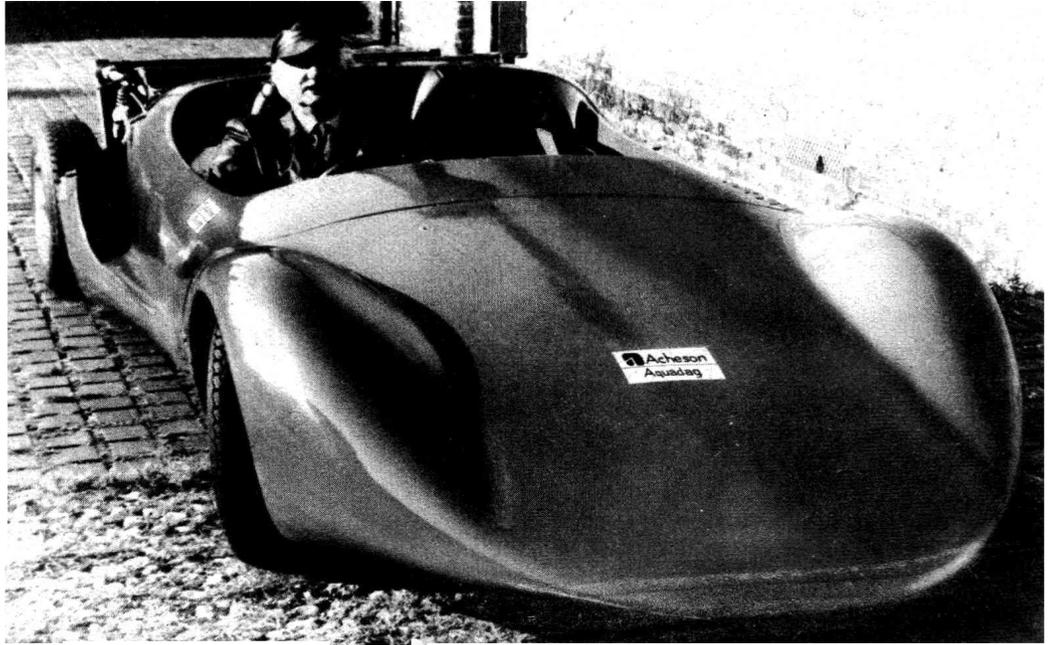
Tel.....

# NEWS:NEWS:NEWS:NEWS:NEWS:NEWS:NEWS:NEWS

## 64K Mask ROM

Mitsubishi Electric have been busy lately! Their semiconductor division is now mass producing its newly developed 64K mask ROM chip at the monthly rate of 100,000 units. Operating on a single 5V power source featuring low power consumption - maximum 80mA - it is capable of fast reading with a maximum access time of 250 nanoseconds. This new M5M2364P 64K ROM is totally compatible with the 64K EPROM, so EPROM chips used in experimental models may be replaced by the mask ROM chip without any modifications. It is ideally suited for use in personal computers, word processors, various peripheral equipment and video games.

In line with the increasing memory capacities of EPROM chips, such as 128K and 256K, Mitsubishi Electric plans to develop mask ROMs compatible with them, expanding its share of the mask ROM market. Mitsubishi Electric (UK) Ltd., Centre Point, 103 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1 EB.



So far as we know, this has got absolutely nothing to do with electronics, but we thought that it might interest you anyway. It's a steam car that Acheson Colloids are sponsoring in an attempt on the land speed record for steam cars (set in 1906 at 129 mph). In case you are wondering what's happened to our caption photo, none of us here seem to have quite the same warped sense of humour as Peter Green who used to do them!

## Shorts

- Mini discs are here! Advanced Memory Services Ltd., Woodside Technology Centre, Green Lane, Appleton, Warrington are now selling 3" Hitachi disc drives for the BBC micro, at £225 for the single version, and £399 for the double.
- Jingoistic jig: apparently British standards have been adopted for 98% of view data and Teletext TV sets throughout the world. But does it make us any money? It must have been done before, it seems such an obvious idea — GenRad Limited, Norreys Drive, Maidenhead, Berkshire have produced a noise dosimeter that can be worn in a shirt pocket.
- Jump on your micro! Crofton Electronics, 35 Grosvenor Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 4AD have introduced a metal case for the BBC, at a price of £39.50 inclusive. They intend to introduce another version, with integral floppy disk housing.
- Take your floppy for a walk with a new Winchester/floppy disk exerciser from Monitest Ltd, Highdiffe House, 411-413 Lymington Road, Highcliffe, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 5EN. It's called the AVA 103D, and is intended as a piece of test equipment.
- A new leaflet, Power Darlington For Semiconductor Ignition (we think they mean for car engines) is available from Telefunken Electronic GmbH, Postfach 1109, D-7100, Heilbron, W. Germany.
- Now we really are getting into leaflet territory: PSP Electronics, Unit 2, 2 Bilton Road, Perivale, Greenford,

Middlesex UB6 7DX have issued a leaflet on the range of connectors that they sell.

- Greenpar Connectors, PO Box 15, Harlow, Essex CM20 2ER have issued a leaflet on their coaxial cables.
- Could someone please tell us why around half the leaflets we're told about are for connectors? This one is from Thorn EMI Electrical Components Ltd., Great Cambridge Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN1 1UL, and it details electrical connectors to BS 9522 N0001.
- Cotswold Electronics Ltd., Unit T1 Kingsville Road, Kingsditch Trading Estate, Cheltenham GL51 9NX have issued a leaflet on their budget range of off-the-shelf transformers.
- A new range of Suzuki electronic products is now available in the UK through Craftmaster (UK) Ltd, Tower House, Lea Valley Trading Estate, London N18 3HR. The range includes some rather neat jack connectors and cables, microphones, pianos and a personal stereo amplifier/speaker.
- Sony UK have launched their own mag for CD users, which will be distributed free to owners of Sony players.
- There's something in the air — and it could be coming from the UoSAT satellite. A newsletter on this facility for amateurs is available from UoSAT Group, Dept of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, University of Surrey, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5XH (large SAE required).
- Camel Products have introduced a 4K ROM/RAM unit, along similar lines

as the unit reported in Digest, January ("High-Rise RAM"); however, this makes it only half the capacity of the ETI PseudoROM! Camel Products were too modest to attach their address to their press release, but it is One Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 1YU.

- More jingoism: Gould Micro Power Products Division, 11 Ash Road, Wrexham Industrial Estate, Wrexham LL13 9UF have been awarded a contract from NASA worth more than \$100,000 to provide zinc-air power packs for the Space Shuttle.
- Prentice-Hall International, 66 Wood End Lane, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 4RG have released a booklet on the personal computing and micro books that they publish.
- It had to come! Zemco (UK) Ltd, 66 Earlsdon Street, Coventry CV5 6EL, have introduced a handlebar mounted computer for cyclists — so that you can keep a check on your speed, average speed, etc — all for £19.95 inclusive. Incidentally, your dear Editor saw one of these in use during the recent London to Brighton 'Fun Run', but it didn't seem to help its owner go any faster.
- Jackson Brothers have been busy producing new capacitors, including a high voltage air dielectric variable type (the TX5), a new precision trimmer (the MT5) and a differential sensor capacitor that can be used to measure angular displacements. Jackson Brothers (London) Ltd., Kingsway, Waddon, Croydon CR9 4DG.
- New catalogues! Electrovalue, 28 St Judes Road, Englefield Green, Surrey

TW20 0HB will send you theirs for free, but Bi-Pak, The Maltings, 63A High Street, Ware, Herts SG12 9AD will take 75p plus 25p p&p off you for theirs.

- Axiom Electronics tell us that they now hold 'in-depth' stocks of the MC68008, a reduced data bus version of the 68000. Axiom Electronics Limited, Turnpike Road, Cressex Estate, High Wycombe, Bucks HP12 3NR.
- The latest edition of the IBA Technical Review has landed on our doorstep, and it contains a survey of recent developments in Teletext. ETI readers may obtain copies by sending a large SAE to IBA Information Service, Crawley Court, Winchester, Hants SO21 2QA.
- A new company has been formed to exploit the microprocessor and micro computing innovations at Bath University. Called Sirius Microtech Ltd., the company is at Ashchurch Industrial Estate, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, and it would surprise us at ETI if this were not one of many such companies to be formed.
- Rifa have introduced a longlife electrolytic capacitor specifically for use in switched mode PSUs, with low ESR and ESL. The PEH 179 series is available through RIFA AB, Market Chambers, Shelton Square, Coventry.
- AB Engineering Co have issued a catalogue of their range of tool kits for professional engineers. AB Engineering Co, Timber Lane, Woburn, Milton Keynes MK17 9PL.

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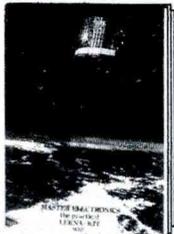


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**British National Radio & Electronics School** Reading, Berks. RG1 1BR

# AUDIO DESIGN

The object of this series is to de-mystify audio design, and show that even a comparative beginner can design circuits that work, and work well. But don't let the apparent simplicity of the approach fool you - there will be something here for all, including the most experienced of our readers.

In this first part, John Linsley Hood looks at transistors, both bipolar and field effect, and how to do simple yet very useful calculations on them.

There is a great deal of satisfaction to be gained in building something to one's own design, and finding that it works as well as one had hoped, particularly if this is the sort of thing which one can do, on one's own, without the need for a lot of technical facilities or expensive components.

This is an advantage which we share with some of the manual crafts like pottery or carpentry, but with the additional benefit that if we are not pleased with what we have done, we can take it to pieces and re-use the parts. Moreover, the scope of electronics is exceedingly wide, and this adds enormously to the interest which it will give to the experimenter.

However, there is a truism in engineering that a good design will not necessarily cost more than a poor one, in materials and labour, indeed it may sometimes cost even less, but will give much more satisfaction in use, and may have a longer trouble-free service life. Therefore, it pays in electronics, as in other forms of engineering, to know one's materials and their strengths and weaknesses. In this part, I propose to have a look at the *active* components (bipolar transistors and FETs) which we are likely to wish to use, and to discuss the characteristics of the passive components (resistors, capacitors and inductors) only as and when we come across them in the circuit design, and when we need to be particularly concerned with their qualities in order to obtain the best results.

## Transistors Or ICs?

Most of the things which we need to do in audio circuit design can now be done just as well by the use of integrated circuits as they can be done by any assembly of transistors and separate components. Moreover, it is nearly always a lot cheaper to use an IC, if a suitable one is available, and it will also occupy a lot less space.

Unfortunately (I say this sincerely, since I am as lazy as the next person, and I like my design work to be done for me) there are still a few fields in which discrete component circuitry will perform rather better than the equivalent ICs, or in which suitable ICs are just not available. These are high voltage systems, with supply voltages in excess of some 45 volts, high power systems, very low noise circuitry (though ICs are beginning to make inroads here), and very high fidelity systems, particularly where these also involve low signal levels.

There are, indeed, some very good ICs of recent origin which are aimed specifically at the hi-fi field, and one would be foolish to ignore their existence, so I will talk

about some of these later. However, discrete component (resistor/transistor) circuitry is still the mainstay of audio electronics, so I will start with this.

## Bipolar Junction Transistors

These, the 'transistors' of common use, are now almost exclusively silicon planar devices, made from a slice of mono-crystalline, very high purity silicon, 500 to 750 microns thick, and 75 to 100 millimetres in diameter. During manufacture this slice is photographically masked in an intricate and repetitive series of patterns across its face, and controlled quantities of specific impurities are selectively diffused in a vacuum oven through the succeeding mask patterns, into the slice. This gives a construction of the type shown in cross section in Fig. 1, when the large slice is cut down into a thousand or more individual segments or 'dies'.

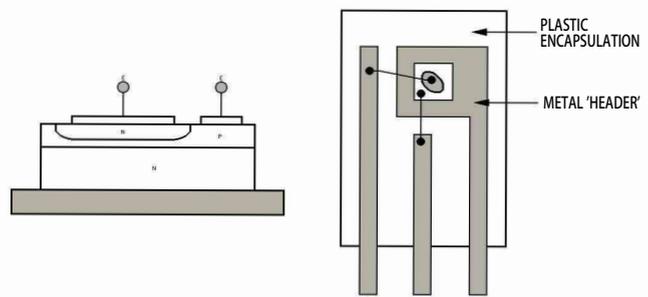


Fig. 1 (a) Cross section of a die; (b) a complete small-signal transistor.

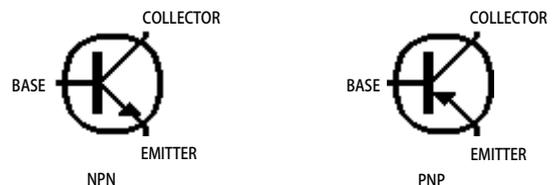


Fig. 2 Transistor circuit symbols - these should be all too familiar to you!

When connections are attached to the impurity regions and the whole lot is encapsulated in a pea-sized piece of plastic, or, more expensively, mounted in a small hermetically-sealed metal container, this becomes the 'transistor' which is shown in the conventional circuit drawing of Fig. 2.

The enormous commercial success of the silicon transistor

# FEATURE

transistor, which has now almost completely superseded the earlier germanium type, stems from the fact that this method of construction makes them very cheap to produce. I don't think that I am letting too many secrets out of the bag if I say that a large scale commercial user would probably be reluctant to pay more than 1 to 2p each for these devices in any large quantity, and even at this price it is possible for the manufacturer to make a living.

Discrete junction transistors of this silicon planar type are, conveniently, available in NPN (positive supply line) and PNP (negative supply line) types, and they can be used for an enormous range of applications. However, the one which comes most readily to mind is that of a voltage amplifying stage of the type shown in fig. 3(a) or (b). Of these, the circuit shown in 3(b) is much more predictable in its characteristics, and would therefore be preferred by the experienced circuit designer if a single transistor amplifying stage would be adequate for his purposes.

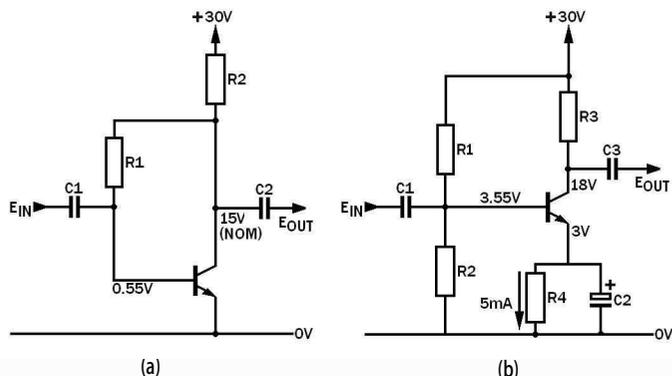


Fig. 3 (a) and (b) single transistor amplifier stages. Both these employ feedback in the setting of the operating point, but not in the signal path (assuming that the source output impedance is much lower than the value of R1 in (a)).

That last comment is, however, an important one, in that the performance which can be gained from the use of a group of transistors, acting in combination, is so much better than that of a single device that there is seldom any good reason for not using a more complex construction.

A typical two transistor amplifying stage, using complementary (NPN and PNP) devices is shown in Fig. 4. This employs some negative feedback (much more on this topic later on) to improve its linearity and bandwidth, and control its AC stage gain. With the circuit values shown, this has a gain of 100, a bandwidth of 10-500kHz, an output voltage swing of 28V p-p, and a distortion of less than 0.01%, as compared with a gain of about 40, a bandwidth of only about half this, and a distortion of some 5% for the single transistor circuit.

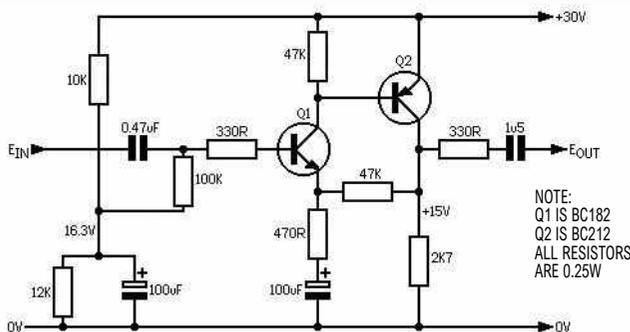


Fig. 4 A two stage transistor amplifier with a gain of 100.

This type of circuit can be elaborated still further as shown in Fig. 5, which will amplify DC as well. However, I am running ahead a little too fast. If we are to make use of circuits of this type, we must first be able to decide upon

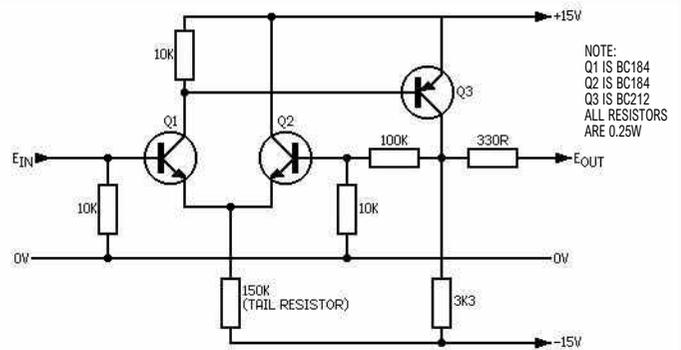


Fig. 5 DC amplifier (with a gain of 10) using an input long-tailed pair, Q1 and Q2.

our component values and types, with the intended use in mind. So let us do this for the circuit of Fig. 3(b), and while we are at it examine why 3(b) is a better circuit than 3(a). All we need at this stage is a knowledge of Ohms Law, a little familiarity with transistor characteristics, and a pocket calculator!

A typical small-signal plastic encapsulated transistor will have a maximum permitted dissipation of around 300 milliwatts, a current gain of 100 to 500, which will depend a little on collector current and a maximum operating voltage in the range 20-80 volts, with 30 volts being a typical value. In addition, to make the transistor work, there will need to be a forward bias voltage between the base and emitter of some 0.55 volts at room temperature (0.2 volts for a germanium device).

So, let us choose a 30 volt supply line for Fig 3(b), and decide to have about 15 volts across the transistor itself. A collector current of 5 mA will give a dissipation of 75

milliwatts ( $P_{watts} = VI$  or  $I^2R$ ), which is comfortably within its permitted range. This sort of collector current will also give a reasonable small signal performance. If we choose an emitter potential of 3 V, the required base voltage will be 3.55 volts, and the collector voltage will be 18 V, giving a voltage drop of 12 V across  $R_3$ .

From the ohms law relationships  $V = IR$ , which can be rearranged as  $R = V/I$  or  $I = V/R$ , where V is in volts, I is in amps, and R is in ohms, we can work out that  $R_3$  should be  $12/0.005$  or 2k4 ohms. For 3 volts dropped across  $R_4$ , this resistance, which carries virtually the same current, will need to be 1/4 of this, or 600 ohms. If we assume a minimum current gain for the transistor of 100, then the base current will be 50 uA. To make sure that this doesn't influence the voltage drop in the potential divider chain  $R_1/R_2$  too much, let us make the current through this 0.5 mA, which gives values for these resistors, calculated as above, of 53k/7k1, to provide a base voltage of 3.55 V.

Rounding these values off to the nearest 'preferred' values will give  $R_1 = 56k$ ,  $R_2 = 6k8$ ,  $R_3 = 2k7$  and  $R_4 = 680$  ohms. This will not affect the desired operating potentials too much. At this sort of collector current, the input impedance of the transistor itself will be about 5k, giving an input impedance to the whole amplifier circuit of some 2k7. ( $R_{in} = 1/(1/R_1 + 1/R_2 + 1/R_{in})$ ). A calculator with a reciprocal ( $1/x$ ) function make this kind of calculation very easy.

This leaves us only with the task of deciding what values to use for  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$  and  $C_3$ , which will be determined by the lowest frequency we want to amplify. The impedance of a capacitor is given by the formula  $Z_c = 1/(2\pi fC)$ , where f is the frequency, in Hz, and C is the value of the capacitor, in Farads.  $C_1$  and  $C_3$  should both have impedances which are a bit smaller at this frequency than the input impedance (2k7) and the output load impedance ( $Z_L$ ) presented to the circuit — say 10k.  $Z_{C2}$  should be less

than  $R3/M$ , where  $M$  is the hoped-for value of stage gain — say  $\times 100$ . Doing these calculations gives  $C1 = 6 \mu$ ,  $C2 = 600 \mu$  and  $C3 = 1.5 \mu$ , for a lowest operating frequency of 10 Hz.

The upper operating frequency will be determined mainly by the output stray capacitances of the circuit and its associated wiring, but could be a few hundred pF. The  $-3\text{dB}$  point (at which the output is down to 70% of its original value) is that frequency at which  $Z_{cs}$  is equal to  $R3$  in parallel with  $ZL$ . The useful formula here is  $f_i = 1/2\pi R3CS$ . If  $CS = 300\text{p}$ ,  $f_i$  will be 250 kHz.

Using the calculated resistor values shown above, we could swap transistors in the circuit of Fig. 3(b) with very little change in the DC operating conditions. How about Fig. 3(a)? In this case, the base current is determined by the collector-base voltage and the value of  $R1$ . If, as before, we make  $V_{ce} = 15\text{V}$ , and decide on a collector current of 5mA, then  $R2$  will be 3k. If we assume a current gain of 100, then  $R1 = 14.45/0.00005 = 289\text{k}$ . However, suppose that the transistor current gain turned out to be 500, instead of 100, then the collector current would increase and the collector voltage would fall to about 5.5 V to preserve the status quo. The circuit would still work, but one wouldn't be able to get nearly as much output voltage swing before it began to clip. So, although simpler, and a bit cheaper in components, the circuit of Fig. 3(a) would be much more influenced by transistor characteristics than that of 3(b).

Going through the same sort of calculations as above gives the component values shown for the two transistor circuits Figs. 4 and 5. A further advantage of the two transistor circuits not mentioned earlier is that the use of the internal negative feedback loop substantially increases the input impedance of the circuit, above the rather inconveniently low values given by the circuits of Fig. 3, which is typically a few kilohms.

The other frequently used transistor circuit configurations are the **common collector** (collector at zero AC potential) also referred to as **emitter follower**, and the **common base**, which is used mainly in RF circuits or low impedance, very low noise circuit configurations.

These are shown in Figs. 6 and 7. Once again the emitter follower unity gain circuit can be improved by the use of more than one transistor, giving in a two-transistor form the very valuable **compound emitter follower** arrangement of Fig. 8. This has a very high input impedance, determined mainly by the input resistor network, and a very low output impedance, so that it can drive low impedance loads with very little loss of signal. Moreover, as a circuit, it has a very low distortion indeed, and, with suitable transistors and operating values, also very low circuit noise, making it usable in a whole variety of low signal level arrangements. All in all, the two transistor compound emitter follower is one of the most useful of the unity-gain circuit building blocks, which can be made,

with complementary transistor types, to work from either a positive or a negative supply rail.

A word of warning is necessary at this point. All feedback circuits (and this includes those in Figs. 4,5,6 and 8) can oscillate if enough phase shift occurs within the input/output feedback loop. The emitter followers of Figs. 6 and 8 are very prone to this with suitable (though often unintended) combinations of lead inductance and stray circuit capacitance on input or output. To prevent this, it is useful to put a small value of resistance — a few hundred ohms will often suffice, or a bit more if the circuit conditions will tolerate this — in the input and output leads. This will not normally have any adverse effect on performance.

Combinations of transistors can be used to make oscillators and other waveform generators, but the numbers of circuits used for this are legion, and there is inadequate space to discuss these here, though they do have a part to play in audio testing.

## Field Effect Transistors

These come in two basic types, junction FETs — usually referred to as just FETs — and insulated gate FETs, normally known as MOSFETs, because of their construction (metal-oxide-silicon). Both types are made by much the same general manufacturing processes as bipolar transistors. However, they tend to be quite a bit more expensive, partly because they do use rather a larger area of the slice, but mainly because they are not made as discrete transistors in such large quantities (though very large numbers are made in CMOS and NMOS ICs) and therefore don't benefit from the same economies of scale.

Both of these devices have a much higher input impedance than bipolar devices — usually measured in millions of megohms — but do not give as high a stage gain as junction transistors when used in equivalent circuits. Junction FETs are not much bothered by static electrical charges, though some care is needed in handling MOSFETs. However, having said that, the only instance I have ever come across of them failing in handling was when a colleague of mine soldered them into an earthed circuit with a soldering iron whose case was not earthed and floated somewhere around 120 VAC!

The junction FET, whose circuit drawing is shown in Fig. 9(a), is now almost exclusively used in small signal circuitry — though Sony did produce some high power ones, a few years ago — with maximum working voltages in the range up to 50 VDC, and dissipations of a few hundred milliwatts. It is, however, a very linear device with a very high dynamic impedance. MOSFETs are very fast devices, capable of operating up to the 500MHz range, and, until comparatively recently, have been used almost exclusively as RF amplifiers. In the past few years, though, high power MOSFETs have come into service in audio output

Fig. 6 A basic emitter follower.

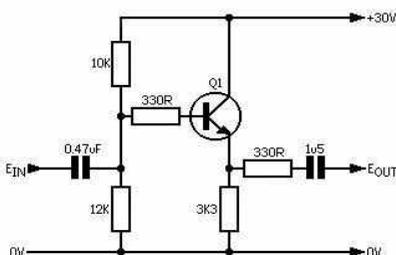


Fig. 7 Common base circuit, shown as an RF amplifier.

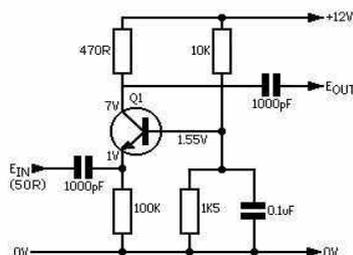
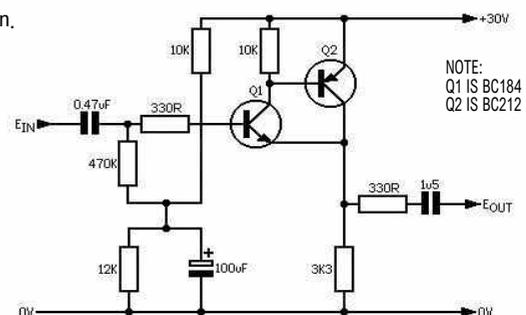


Fig. 8 Compound emitter follower, with gain very close to unity and 300k input impedance.



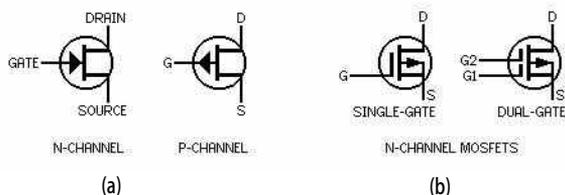


Fig. 9 FET circuit symbols: (a) junction FETs and (b) N-channel MOSFETs (P-channel would have the small arrow on the source pointing in the opposite direction).

stages, where their fast response and good linearity has conferred useful advantages. On the debit side, they do need more careful treatment in circuit design (mainly because their very high speed makes wiring inductances and circuit capacitances important where they are not even noticed in normal power transistor output stages) if troubles are to be avoided, which is why there are still relatively few power MOSFET audio amps in general use.

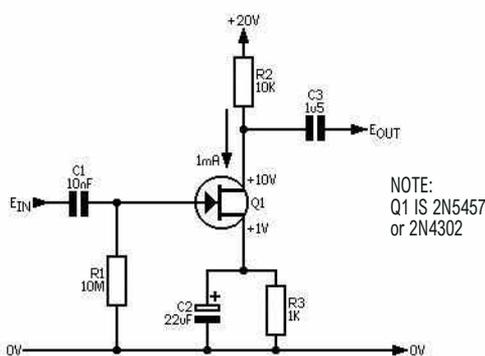


Fig. 10 Single stage FET amplifier.

The design of FET amplifier stages follows similar general principles to those indicated earlier in respect of bipolar circuit designs, but with a few significant differences, which we can consider in relation to the single FET amplifier circuit of Fig. 10, and the rather better two stage circuit shown in Fig. 11. To begin with, the normal junction FET is what is referred to as a 'depletion mode device, which is to say that it normally passes current, which is reduced by the application of a bias voltage {negative in respect to an N-channel device, and positive in respect of a P-channel one) to the gate electrode. This means that an input biasing network of the kind shown in Fig. 3 is unnecessary, and the correct operating conditions can be established by a resistor in the source lead, in an identical manner to that of cathode bias in the case of a thermionic valve. The second practical difference is that, unfortunately, the characteristics of FETs are nowhere near as precisely

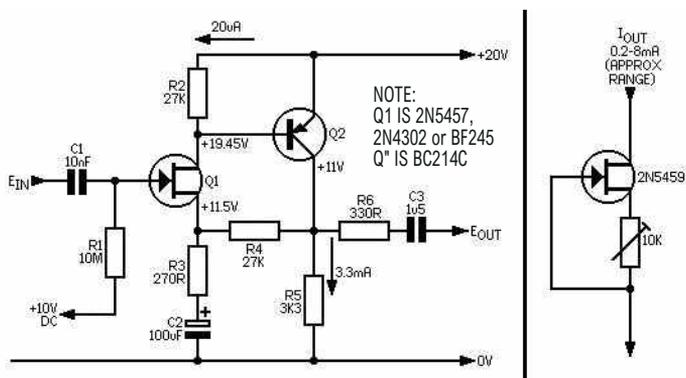


Fig. 11 (Left) Two stage FET amplifier with overall negative feedback gain will be 100 and input impedance will be 10 Megohms. Fig. 12 (right) Use of a junction FET as an adjustable constant current source.

controlled as in the case of the normal bipolar junction transistor, which will always begin to turn on at a forward bias between 0.5 and 0.6 V on its base. By contrast, the specification quoted by Motorola for their 2N5457 N-channel small signal junction FET, which is quite a popular and representative type of device, merely claims a current, at zero bias, somewhere in the range 1 to 5 mA, a slope ( $g_m$ ) which lies between 1 and 5 mA/volt, and a cut-off negative gate voltage between -0.5 and -6 volts. Happily these are extreme limit values quoted so that the users won't throw too many of their FETs back at them as being 'outside spec'. Nevertheless, although a typical 2N5457 might have a cut-off voltage of -2 to -3 V and a zero bias drain current of 2 mA.

In the case of the circuit shown in Fig. 10, the very low input leakage current means that we could make  $R_1$  10 M, which lets us use a relatively small and cheap input capacitor, while still having a good LF response. For a drain current of 1 mA, a source bias resistor of 1K will give an effective negative gate bias voltage of 1 V, and a 10K drain resistor will give (at 20V positive supply and 1mA drain current) a drain voltage of +10V. Unfortunately, this doesn't give a very good stage gain. The simple formula for stage gain, where one knows the device  $g_m$ , is  $Gain = g_m R_L$ . If  $g_m$  is still 10K, then the gain is 10 for a slope of 1mA/volt.

To retain the FET advantage of a very high input impedance, while still having a useful stage gain, coupled with the ability to use the stage with normal load impedances, we need to use a two stage circuit such as that shown in Fig. 11. In this, by using a very high current gain (C grade) transistor for Q2, and remembering that the input impedance of a transistor amplifier stage depends at LF on its base current, which becomes less as the current gain  $B$  increases, we can operate the FET at a low drain current, and a fairly high resistor for  $R_2$ . By making  $R_2$  and  $R_4$  of the same value, the voltage drop across both, due to the drain current {0.55 / 27k = 20 uA) will be 0.55 V, and the output DC voltage, at Q2 collector will be about + 11 V, with the FET having, say, -1.5 V effective gate bias. As in the circuit shown in Fig. 4, the gain is controlled by negative feedback to a value of 100; and the circuit will have a good output swing, very low distortion, and a wide bandwidth. This circuit is also quite tolerant of FET characteristics, in that variations in cut-off voltage will only make smallish changes in the DC output level.

To summarise, apart from their very much higher input impedance, and their low intrinsic distortion characteristics, FETs tend to offer rather better noise levels in high impedance circuitry than bipolar devices, but for very low impedance circuits, as would be used, for example, in a moving coil head amp, even the best of the FETs are less good than suitably chosen bipolar types. At low impedances MOSFETs tend to be rather noisy. One very useful facility of the junction FET is its capability of being used as a 'two terminal' constant current source, as shown in Fig. 10. The ability of the source current flowing through the adjustable source resistor to bias the device to a drain current level which is almost completely independent of drain voltage, within its possible working limits, makes an almost ideal arrangement for giving a constant, though adjustable, current source which is usable right up to the maximum gate-source voltage of the FET. This could be used to provide an almost perfect 'tail' for the long-tailed pair circuit (Q1 and Q2 in Fig. 5).

In the next part of this series, I propose to have a look, at ICs, and some of the circuit configurations which can be used with these in the audio field, before going on to look in rather greater detail at some of the problems such as noise and distortion and other unwanted effects.

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# NICAD CHARGER/ REGENERATOR

Many a Ni-Cad charger has graced these pages in the past; the Ni-Caddy is a bit different, in that it will regenerate the battery automatically for you. Design and development by Mike Punnett.

## HOW IT WORKS

Nickel-cadmium cells are becoming increasingly popular as replacements for conventional dry batteries in a wide range of equipment. Properly used, they can give an enormous cost saving over the life of the equipment, but if misused, tend to fail early.

Since Ni-cads have a tendency to self-discharge over a few months, they have to be charged regularly. Furthermore, to avoid the inconvenience of a flat battery, they are often "topped up" with charge even when far from discharged. This leads to an effect known as whiskering, where fine deposits of cadmium build up, which can partially short-circuit the cell, as well as reducing the active electrode size. This leads to a loss of capacity; a 500mAh cell may be reduced to 300mAh after a year of light service and frequent charges.

It has been found that "cycling" Ni-cads can return them to an almost-new condition. This process involves discharging the battery hard (at the 1 hour rate, e.g. 500mA for a 500mAh battery), until it reaches the minimum safe voltage - Ni-cads can be easily damaged by over-discharging. A full charge at the 10 hour rate follows. This rather rough treatment disintegrates the whiskers of cadmium, and the full charge redeposits the metal on the electrodes. However, cycling Ni-cads "by hand" is a risky business, since they can easily be damaged.

The ETI Ni-Caddy was designed to cycle Ni-cads correctly and easily. It uses a minimum of components, and has two "programs": **cycle** and **charge**.

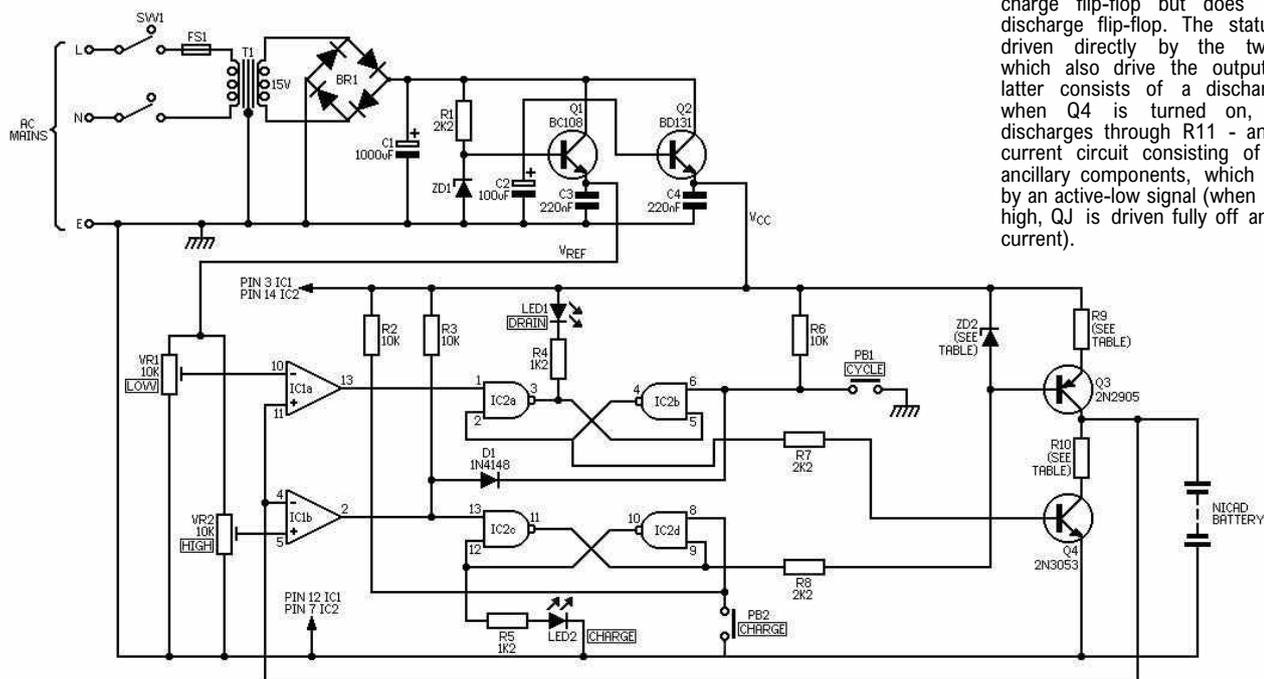
Operating the unit is very straightforward: the Ni-Cad is connected to it, and the appropriate button for the required program

The power supply section is quite straightforward, using a very simple voltage regulator.  $V_{CC}$  is not critical, but the reference voltage,  $V_{REF}$ , must be stable, even though the precise voltage is not important. With a separate regulating transistor (Q1) the circuit shown is quite adequate. The two reference levels (the points at which discharge and charge respectively terminate) are derived by RV1 and RV2.

IC1 is a dual comparator which has a number of advantages over similar units, including single-rail operation, the ability to accept inputs at near-ground potential, very low offset, and open-collector outputs. In the circuit, the output of IC1a goes low to indicate that the battery has reached minimum voltage, and that of IC1b goes low when maximum voltage is reached.

IC2 is wired as two flip-flops, one for discharging (IC2a,b) and one for charging (IC2c,d). Pressing "Cycle" sets the discharge flip-flop and clears the charge flip-flop (via Q2). When the battery reaches minimum voltage, or "Charge" is pressed, the discharge flip-flop is cleared and the charge flip-flop is set. The battery reaching full charge clears the charge flip-flop but does not set the discharge flip-flop. The status LEDs are driven directly by the two flip-flops, which also drive the output stage. The latter consists of a discharge circuit - when Q4 is turned on, the battery discharges through R11 - and a constant current circuit consisting of QJ and its ancillary components, which is turned on by an active-low signal (when IC2 pin 11 is high, QJ is driven fully off and passes no current).

Fig. 1 Circuit diagram.



pressed. Cycle mode discharges the battery to its minimum safe voltage, and then switches to charge mode, in which the unit functions as a constant-current charger, automatically turning off when the battery reaches full charge. If the Ni-Cad is already below its minimum safe voltage when connected up, the unit will automatically enter charge mode, overriding the switches, which are re-enabled when the battery rises above minimum safe voltage.

## Construction

Construction of the unit is quite straightforward, either on the PCB or Veroboard. Sockets are recommended for the ICs, particularly IC2 which is a CMOS device. Do not forget the three wire links on the PCB.

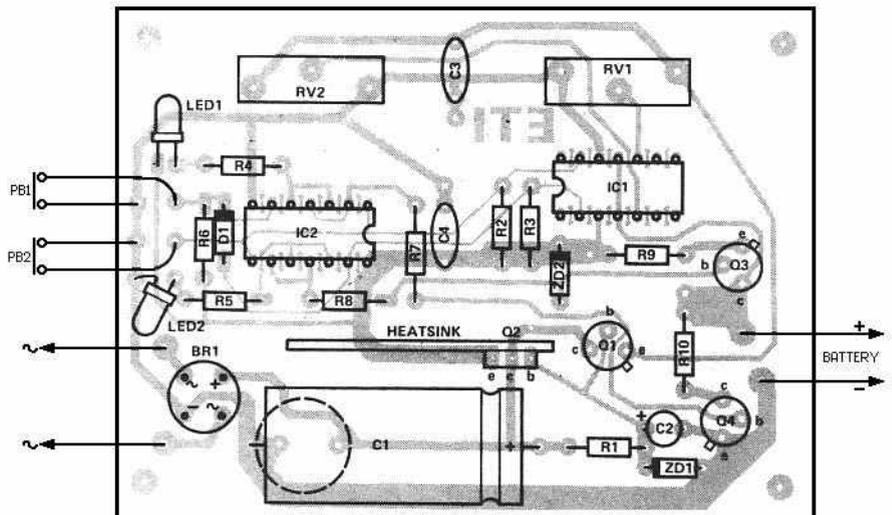
Table 1 gives component values for AA size (500mAh) cells (see later for details of use with other battery sizes). The circuit will work with batteries of up to eight cells. Remember that R11 will get hot, since the battery is discharged through this. For power ratings over 4W, this component should be mounted off the board, preferably outside the box, to aid heat dissipation. Some of the transistors are fitted with heat sinks; Q1 has an aluminium heatsink (see overlay), Q3 and Q4 have push fit TO5 heat sinks.

## Testing and Calibration

Check the voltages across C3 and C4. Both should be in the range 1.6.5 - 17.4 V. If not, the power supply section should be investigated. The precise values do not matter, since the calibration will allow for some variability.

If the power supply is working properly, the unit can be calibrated. RV1 is set to the minimum safe voltage for the battery; this is 1.1 V per cell (4.4V for a four cell battery).

An accurate, high resistance voltmeter connected to pin 8 of IC1 will enable the voltage to be checked. RV2 (full charge voltage) must be set rather more accurately, since the step in voltage which a Ni-Cad exhibits as it reaches full charge is quite small. The best method is to set the voltage too high at first; about 1.7 V per cell on IC1 pin 11 is adequate. The operation of the unit is then checked with a



## PARTS LIST

<b>RESISTORS</b> (all 1/4W 5% unless stated)	
R1,7,8	2k2
R2,3,6	10k
R4,5	1k2
R9,10	See text
VR1,2	10k multi-turn preset pot
<b>CAPACITORS</b>	
C1	1000u 40V PCB mounting electrolytic
C2	100u 25V PCB mounting electrolytic
C3,4	220n polyester
<b>SEMICONDUCTORS</b>	
IC1	LM339
IC2	4011B
Q1	BC108
Q2	BD131
Q3	2N2905 (but see text)
Q4	2N3053 (but see text)
D1	18V 400mW Zener
D2	1N4148 or similar
D3	400mW Zener (see Table 1)
LED1,2	Any 0.125" LED
BR1	WO2 or similar bridge rectifier
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	
PB1,2	Min push-to-make switches
SW1	Two-pole mains switch
FS1	1A mains fuse and holder
T1	Mains transformer, 15V 1A secondary (but see text)
Two 14-pin DIL sockets, case to suit, battery connectors, heatsinks as required (see text).	

battery which is known to be in full working order; at this stage the circuit should perform as described above, except that it will not turn off after charging. The charging current can be checked; it should be 0.1 of the cell capacity (e.g. about 50mA for 500mAh (AA) batteries). The test battery is then left on charge for a long period - 20 hours, if flat. This guarantees that it stabilises at full charge voltage. Since the charging is constant-current, there is no risk of damaging the battery by charging for too long. At this point, VR2 can be slowly turned down until the circuit just switches off, and the setting re-checked. The unit is now completed.

## Modifications

The circuit was originally designed for AA size (500mAh) Ni-Cads, since these are the most widely used, but it can easily be adapted for other sizes by changing R9 and R10. These are calculated from the quoted values simply by reducing the wattage in proportion to the capacity; so for a 1 Ah six-cell battery, R9 would be 50R 1W and R10, 6R 15W. (The values do not have to be absolutely exact, of course). For cells over 1 Ah capacity, it is best to upgrade Q3 and Q4; since the circuit will be on for long periods it is advisable to rate components generously, especially heat sinks. Replacing Q3/Q4 with BD132/BD131 respectively, mounted off the PCB on a suitable heat sink, will enable the

## BUYLINES

Nothing to cause any problems here. PCB through PCB service page, case a la carte (to choice), semiconductors all readily available -when was the last time we published such a trouble-free project?

No of cells	D3 voltage	R9 ohms/watts	R10 ohms/watt
2	10	210/1	4.7/2
4	8.2	160/0.5	10/4
6	5.1	100/0.5	13/7
8	3.6	68/0.25	18/10

unit to cope with cells up to about 4 Ah. As a rough guide, allow 1 Watt dissipation per Ah cell capacity when choosing heat sinks. Remember that the heat sink on Q1 may need upgrading also. Allow a dissipation of 1.2 W per Ah cell capacity.

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**H031** 22 range 10 AC/DC 2 meg ohms plus cont. buzzer £58.95  
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**Beckman T100** 34 range 10A AC/DC 20 meg ohm £56.35

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**TF230** 8 digit LCD 200 MHz £186.75  
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**TE105** Various facilities 5 Hz - 5 MHz £97.75  
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**LA627** 10 Hz to 1 MHz £90.85  
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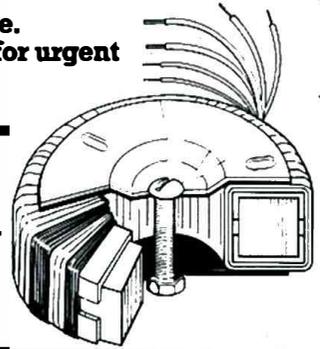
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<b>NEW!</b>	<b>NEW!</b>	<b>NEW!</b>												
15 VA 62 x 34mm 0.35Kg Regulation 19%	0x010 0x011 0x012 0x013 0x014 0x015 0x016 0x017	6+6 9+9 12+12 15+15 18+18 22+22 25+25 30+30	1.25 0.83 0.63 0.50 0.42 0.34 0.30 0.25	<b>£5.12</b> + p & p £0.78 + VAT £0.89 TOTAL £6.79	120 VA 90 x 40mm 1.2Kg Regulation 11%	4x010 4x011 4x012 4x013 4x014 4x015 4x016 4x017 4x018 4x028 4x029 4x030	6+6 9+9 12+12 15+15 18+18 22+22 25+25 30+30 35+35 110 220 240	10.00 6.66 5.00 4.00 3.33 2.72 2.40 2.00 1.71 1.09 0.54 0.50	<b>£7.42</b> + p & p £1.72 + VAT £1.37 TOTAL £10.51	300 VA 110 x 50mm 2.6Kg Regulation 6%	7x013 7x014 7x015 7x016 7x017 7x018 7x026 7x025 7x033 7x028 7x029 7x030	15+15 18+18 22+22 25+25 30+30 35+35 40+40 45+45 50+50 110 220 240	10.00 8.33 6.82 6.00 5.00 4.28 3.75 3.33 3.00 2.72 1.36 1.25	<b>£10.88</b> + p & p £2.05 + VAT £1.94 TOTAL £14.87
30 VA 70 x 30mm 0.45Kg Regulation 18%	1x010 1x011 1x012 1x013 1x014 1x015 1x016 1x017	6+6 9+9 12+12 15+15 18+18 22+22 25+25 30+30	2.50 1.66 1.25 1.00 0.83 0.68 0.60 0.50	<b>£5.49</b> + p & p £1.10 + VAT £0.99 TOTAL £7.58	160 VA 110 x 40mm 1.8Kg Regulation 8%	5x011 5x012 5x013 5x014 5x015 5x016 5x017 5x018 5x026 5x028 5x029 5x030	9+9 12+12 15+15 18+18 22+22 25+25 30+30 35+35 40+40 110 220 240	8.89 6.66 5.33 4.44 3.63 3.20 2.66 2.28 2.00 1.45 0.72 0.66	<b>£8.43</b> + p & p £1.72 + VAT £1.52 TOTAL £11.67	500 VA 140 x 60mm 4Kg Regulation 4%	8x016 8x017 8x018 8x026 8x025 8x033 8x032 8x028 8x029 8x030	25+25 30+30 35+35 40+40 45+45 50+50 55+55 110 220 240	10.00 8.33 7.14 6.25 5.55 5.00 4.54 4.54 2.27 2.08	<b>£14.38</b> + p & p £2.40 + VAT £2.52 TOTAL £19.30
50 VA 80 x 35mm 0.9Kg Regulation 13%	2x010 2x011 2x012 2x013 2x014 2x015 2x016 2x017 2x028 2x029 2x030	6+6 9+9 12+12 15+15 18+18 22+22 25+25 30+30 110 220 240	4.16 2.77 2.08 1.66 1.38 1.13 1.00 0.83 0.45 0.22 0.20	<b>£6.13</b> + p & p £1.35 + VAT £1.12 TOTAL £8.60	225 VA 110 x 45mm 2.2Kg Regulation 7%	6x012 6x013 6x014 6x015 6x016 6x017 6x018 6x026 6x025 6x033 6x028 6x029 6x030	12+12 15+15 18+18 22+22 25+25 30+30 35+35 40+40 45+45 50+50 110 220 240	9.38 7.50 6.25 5.11 4.50 3.75 3.21 2.81 2.50 2.25 2.04 1.02 0.93	<b>£9.81</b> + p & p £2.05 + VAT £1.78 TOTAL £13.64	625 VA 140 x 75mm 5Kg Regulation 4%	9x017 9x018 9x026 9x025 9x033 9x042 9x028 9x029 9x030	30+30 35+35 40+40 45+45 50+50 55+55 110 220 240	10.41 8.92 7.81 6.94 6.25 5.68 5.68 2.84 2.60	<b>£17.12</b> + p & p £2.55 + VAT £2.92 TOTAL £22.62
80 VA 90 x 30mm 1Kg Regulation 12%	3x010 3x011 3x012 3x013 3x014 3x015 3x016 3x017 3x028 3x029 3x030	6+6 9+9 12+12 15+15 18+18 22+22 25+25 30+30 110 220 240	6.64 4.44 3.33 2.66 2.22 1.81 1.60 1.33 0.72 0.36 0.33	<b>£6.66</b> + p & p £1.72 + VAT £1.26 TOTAL £9.64										

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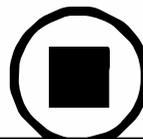
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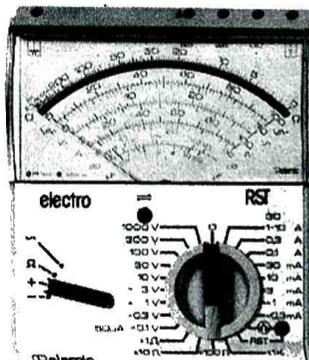
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# IC UPDATE

Here are some more new ICs this month - ones that we do know you can buy!

## 74LS608 Memory Cycle Controller

- Provides correct timing for memory cycles
  - read cycle
  - write cycle
  - read-modify-write cycle
  - "RAS"-only refresh cycle
- Page or normal modes
- Stand alone controller for CPU-to-memory interface
- Also designed to be part of a three-chip set consisting of LS600 through LS603, LS604 through LS607, and LS608
- RAS output is 3-state to share bus with LS600
- Critical times are user RC-programmable to optimise system performance

The LS608 memory cycle controller is designed to interface between a microprocessor and dynamic RAM memories. It contains six RS latches, five D-type flip-flops, and more than 50 miscellaneous gates on a single chip. The LS608 combines maximum flexibility and ease of programming via RC nodes to allow optimum memory cycle performance.

After the user has selected and attached RC networks to pins 1, 12 and 15, the LS608 will deliver proper RAS, CAS, and READ/WRITE output signals to execute one memory cycle as the start input is switched from low to high. The actual cycle executed will depend upon steady state input conditions of the LS608 as indicated in the table below.

MEMORY CYCLE	MODE	INPUT CONDITIONS						
		P/N IN	R/W IN	RMW IN	RAS ENABLE IN	CAS HOLD IN	START IN	REFRESH IN
READ	PAGE	H	H	H	L	H	+	L
WRITE		H	L	H	L	H	+	L
READ-MODIFY-WRITE		H	H	L	L	H	+	L
READ	NORMAL	L	H	H	L	H	+	L
WRITE		L	L	H	L	H	+	L
READ-MODIFY-WRITE		L	H	L	L	H	+	L
REFRESH	REFRESH				L	H	+	H
EXTERNAL REFRESH					H	H		L

### Absolute Maximum Ratings

Supply voltage, $V_{CC}$	7 V
Input voltage	7 V
Off state output voltage	5.5 V
Operating free-air temperature range	0°C to 70°C

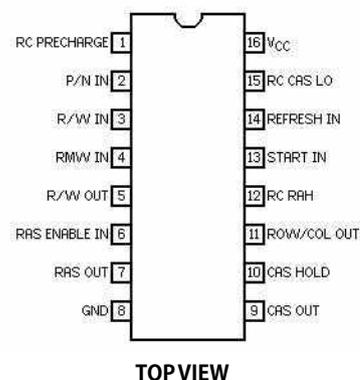


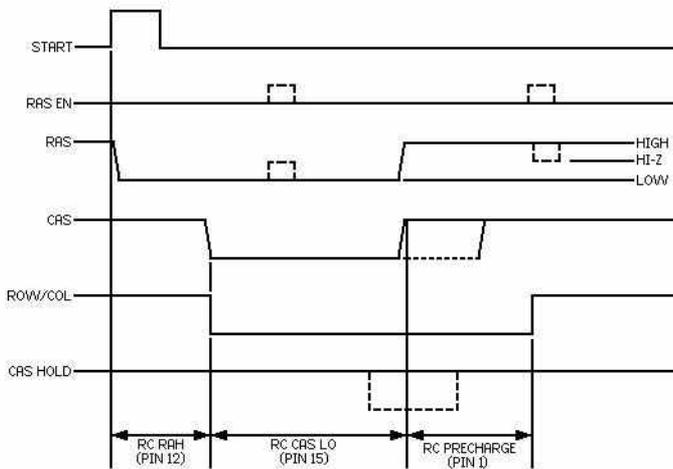
Fig. 1 Pin out of the 74LS608.

### Pin Function Table

PIN	PIN NAME	FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTION
1	RC PRECHARGE	User-programmable timing mode for precharge/CAS high and RAS high.
2	P/N IN	When low, allows a normal read or write cycle. When high allows page mode read or write cycle. Holds RAS continuously low while CAS and column addresses are sequenced.
3	R/W IN	When high, initiates a read cycle (holds R/W OUT high) and, when low, initiates a write cycle (holds R/W OUT low) if pin 4 is high and pin 14 is low.
4	RMW IN	When low, enables read-modify-write cycle. R/W IN must be high at the start of the RMW cycle.
5	R/W OUT	When high, indicates a read cycle is in progress. When low, indicates a write cycle is in progress. Normally ties to a W memory input in a system.
6	RAS ENABLE IN	When low, enables RAS output. When high, RAS is in the high-impedance or third state.
7	RAS OUT	3-state row-address-strobe output controlled by RAS ENABLE IN. In the three-chip controller set, the RAS output of the LS608 ties to the RAS output of the refresh controller (LS600 through LS603).
8	GND	Device and substrate ground.
9	CAS OUT	Column-address-strobe output.
10	CAS HOLD IN	When low, allows CAS to latch in low state. When high, latch is removed. Can be used to improve data retrieval during read cycle.
11	ROW/COL (or MEMBSY) OUT	Drives memory address multiplexer select input, and indicates BUSY condition to processor.
12	RC RAH	User-programmable timing mode* for row address hold time (high level at ROW/COL OUT).
13	START IN	When changed from low to high, initiates a memory cycle.
14	REFRESH IN	When high, enables RAS-only refresh cycle.
15	RC CAS LO	User-programmable timing mode* for column address strobe low time.
16	V <sub>CC</sub>	5-volt power supply terminal.

\* All timing modes require a resistor to  $V_{CC}$  and a capacitor to ground. Programmed time is approximately 0.29 RC.

# FEATURE



NOTE: TAKING RAS EN HIGH TAKES RAS TO HIGH IMPEDANCE STATE AS INDICATED

Fig. 2 Normal read mode.

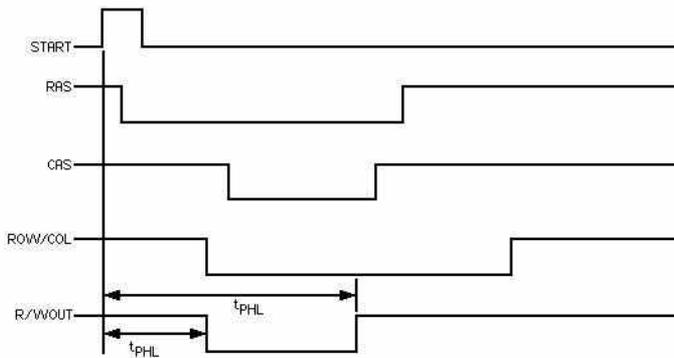


Fig. 3 Normal write mode.

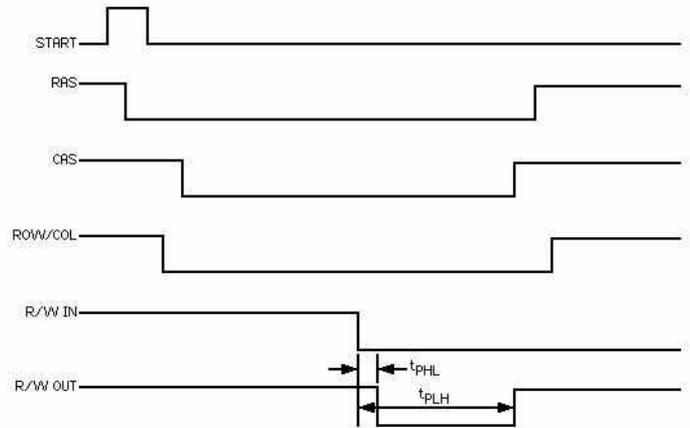


Fig. 4 Normal read-modify-write mode.

Note that the read-modify-write cycle requires that R/W should go low at a suitable time after CAS (depending on the memory used). This cycle can be aborted (no write) by taking RMW high to terminate it, as shown in Fig. 5.

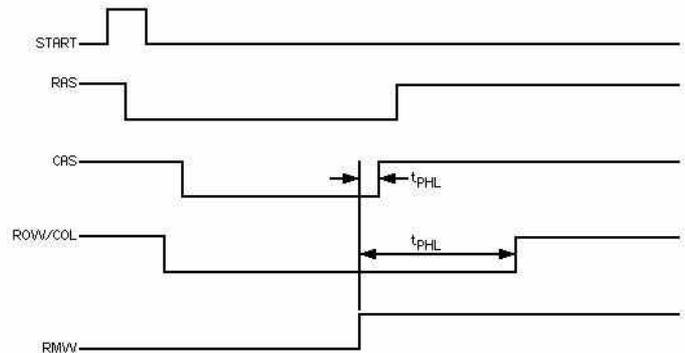


Fig. 5 Normal read-modify-write with abort after read.

Switching Characteristics (see waveforms for more detail)  $V_{CC} = 5V$ ,  $T_A = 25^\circ C$ ,  $C_L = 45$  pf to GND

PARAMETER	FROM (INPUT)	TO (OUTPUT)	TEST CONDITIONS	MODE	TYP	UNIT
$t_{PHL}$	START ↑	RAS	$R_L = 667 \Omega$ R to $V_{CC}$	NORMAL READ	12	ns
$t_{PLH}$ [1]	START ↑	RAS			425	ns
$t_{PHL}$ [2]	START ↑	CAS			140	ns
$t_{PLH}$ [1]	START ↑	CAS			405	ns
$t_{PHL}$ [2]	START ↑	R/W			115	ns
$t_{PLH}$ [1]	START ↑	R/W	$R_L = 2 \text{ k}\Omega$ to $V_{CC}$	NORMAL WRITE	440	ns
$t_{max}$	CAS HOLD ↓	CAS			10	ns
$t_{PHL}$ [2]	START ↑	ROW/COL			125	ns
$t_{PLH}$ [3]	START ↑	ROW/COL			670	ns
$t_{PHL}$	R/W ↓	R/W			$R_{4L} = 667 \Omega$ R to $V_{CC}$	NORMAL RMW
$t_{PLH}$ [4]	R/W ↓	R/W	355	ns		
$t_{PHL}$	RMW ↓	CAS	40	ns		
$t_{PLH}$ [5]	RMW ↓	ROW/COL	320	ns		
$t_{PZ1}$	RAS EN ↑	RAS	$R_L = 667 \Omega$ R to GND	NORMAL READ		
$t_{PZ1}$	RAS EN ↓	RAS			17	ns
$t_{PZ2}$	RAS EN ↑	RAS			10	ns
$t_{PZ2}$	RAS EN ↓	RAS			17	ns

NOTE: Measurement point for all  $t_{PHL}$  output pulses is 2.9 V. Measurement point for all  $t_{PLH}$  output pulses is 0.8 V. All other measurement points are 1.3 V.

[1] Depends on RC network at pin 12 (2k $\Omega$ , 180 pF used for testing) and the RC network at pin 15 (5k $\Omega$ , 180 pF).

[2] Depends on RC network at pin 12 (2k $\Omega$ , 180 pF).

[3] Depends on RC network at pin 12 (2k $\Omega$ , 180 pF), pin 15 (5k $\Omega$ , 180 pF), and pin 1 (5k $\Omega$ , 180 pF).

[4] Depends on RC network at pin 15 (5k $\Omega$ , 180 pF).

[5] Depends on RC network at pin 1 (5k $\Omega$ , 180 pF).

Recommend Operating Conditions	MIN	NOM	MAX	UNIT
Supply Voltage, $V_{CC}$	4.75	5	5.25	V
High-level output current, $I_{OH}$	ROW/COL RAS All others		-0.4 -2.6 -1.2	mA
Low-level output current, $I_{OL}$	ROW/COL All others		8 24	mA
Set up time, $t_p$	R/W, RMW, P/N, or REFRESH to START	20		nS
	CAS HOLD to CAS	20		nS
Hold time, $t_h$		0		nS
External timing resistor, $R_{ext}$	RC, RAH RC CAS LO, RC PRECHARGE	0.1 1	2 6	$\Omega$
Operating free-air temperature, $T_A$		0	70	$^{\circ}C$

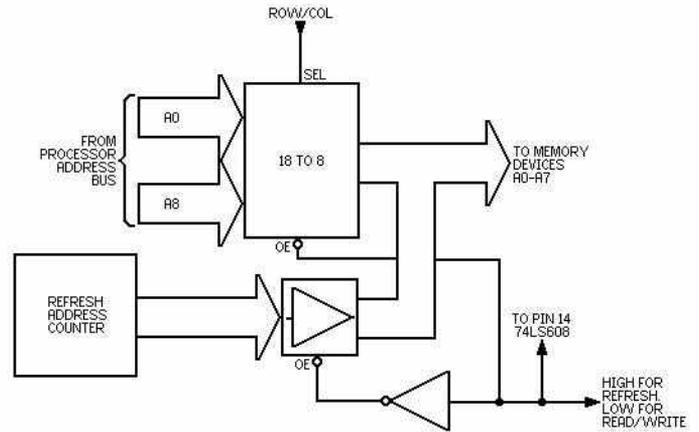


Fig. 6 Typical circuit for use with 64K by 1 DRAMs; for refresh, pin 14 is taken high, pin 13 is pulsed high, and refresh address is placed on the memory devices address pins.

## LF13331/2/3, LF13201/2 Quad Analogue Switches

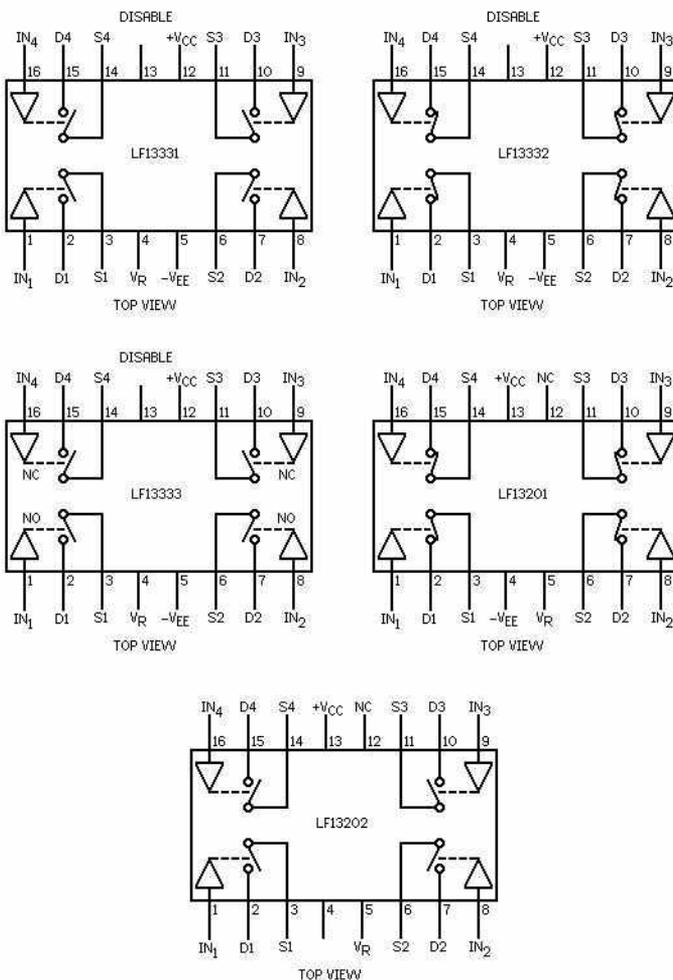


Fig. 7 Pin outs: LF13331 is four normally closed switches with disable; LF13332 is two normally closed and two normally open with disable; LF13201/2 are as LF13331/2 but without disable.

These devices are a monolithic combination of bipolar and JFET technology producing the industry's first one chip quad JFET switch. A unique circuit technique is employed to maintain a constant resistance over the analog voltage range of  $\pm 10V$ . The input is designed to operate from minimum TTL levels, and switch operation also ensures a break-before-make action.

These devices operate from  $\pm 15V$  supplies and swing a  $\pm 10V$  analog signal. The JFET switches are designed for applications where a DC to medium frequency analog signal needs to be controlled.

### General Information

"ON" resistance are essentially independent of analog voltage or analog current. The leakage currents are typically less than  $1nA$  at  $25^{\circ}C$  and less than  $100nA$  at  $125^{\circ}C$  in both the "OFF" and "ON" switch states and introduce negligible errors in most applications. Each switch is controlled by minimum TTL logic levels at its input and is designed to turn "OFF" faster than it will turn "ON". This prevents two analogue sources from being transiently connected together during switching.

Because these analogue switches are JFET rather than CMOS, they do not require special handling.

### Logic Input

The logic input (IN), of each switch, is referenced to two forward diode drops ( $1.4V$  at  $25^{\circ}C$ ) from the reference supply (YR) which makes it compatible with DTL, RTL, and TTL logic families. For normal operation, the logic "0" voltage can range from  $0.8V$  to  $-4.0V$  with respect to  $V_R$  and the logic "1" voltage can range from  $2.0V$  to  $6.0V$  with respect to  $V_R$ , provided  $V_{in}$  is not greater than ( $V_{CC} - 2.5V$ ). If the input voltage is greater than  $V_{CC} - 2.5V$ , the input current will increase. If the input voltage exceeds  $6.0V$  or  $-4.0V$  with respect to  $V_R$ , a resistor in series with the inputs should be used to limit the input current to less than  $100\mu A$ .

### Analog Voltage

Each switch has a constant "ON" resistance ( $R_{on}$ ) for analog voltages from ( $V_{EE} + 5V$ ) to ( $V_{CC} - 5V$ ). For analog

# FEATURE

voltages greater than  $(V_{CC} - 5V)$ , the switch will remain ON independent of the logic input voltage. For analog voltages less than  $(V_{EE} + 5V)$ , the ON resistance of the switch will increase. Although the switch will not operate normally when the analog voltage is out of the previously mentioned range, the source voltage can go to either  $(V_{EE} + 36V)$  or  $(V_{CC} + 6V)$ , whichever is more positive, and can go as negative as  $V_{EE}$  without destruction. The drain (D) voltage can also go to either  $(V_{EE} + 36V)$  or  $(V_{CC} + 6V)$ , whichever is more positive, and can go as negative as  $(V_{CC} - 36V)$  without destruction.

## Analog Current

With the source (S) positive with respect to the drain (D), the  $R_{ON}$  is constant for low analog currents, but will increase at higher currents ( $>5$  mA) when the FET enters the saturation region. However, if the drain is positive with respect to the source and a small analog current loss at

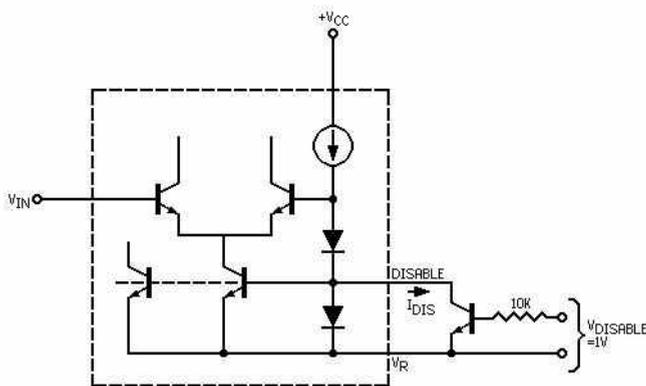


Fig. 8 Use of the disable node.

high analog currents is tolerable, a low  $R_{ON}$  can be maintained for analog currents greater than 5 mA at 25°C.

## Power Supplies

The voltage between the positive supply ( $V_{CC}$ ) and either the negative supply ( $V_{EE}$ ) or the reference supply ( $V_R$ ) can be as much as 36V. To accommodate variations in input logic reference voltages,  $V_R$  can range from  $V_{EE}$  to  $(V_{CC} - 4.5V)$ . Care should be taken to ensure that the power supply leads for the device never become reversed in polarity or that the device is never inadvertently installed backwards in a test socket. If one of these conditions occurs, the supplies would zener an internal diode to an unlimited current, and result in a destroyed device.

## Disable Node

This node can be used, as shown in Fig. 8, to turn all the switches in the unit off independent of logic inputs. Normally, the node floats freely at an internal diode drop ( $\approx 0.7V$ ) above  $V_R$ . When the external transistor in Fig. 8 is saturated, the node is pulled very close to  $V_R$  and the unit is disabled. Typically, the current from the node will be less than 1 mA.

## Absolute Maximum Ratings

Positive Supply – Negative Supply ( $V_{CC} - V_{EE}$ )	36V
Reference Voltage	$V_{EE} \leq V_R \leq V_{CC}$
Logic Input Voltage	$V_R - 4.0V \leq V_{IN} \leq V_R + 6.0V$
Analog Voltage	$V_{EE} \leq V_A \leq V_{CC} + 6V; V_A \leq V_{EE} + 36V$
Analog Current	$ I_A  < 20$ mA
Power Dissipation (Note 1)	500 mW
Moulded DIP (N Suffix)	900 mW
Cavity DIP (D Suffix)	900 mW
Operating Temperature Range	0°C to +70°C

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
"ON" Resistance	$V_A = 0, I_O = 1$ mA		$T_A = 25^\circ C$		$\Omega$
"ON" Resistance Matching			$T_A = 25^\circ C$		$\Omega$
Analog Range		$\pm 10$	$\pm 11$		V
Logical "1" Input Voltage		2.0			V
Logical "0" Input Voltage				0.8	V
Delay Time "ON"	$V_S = \pm 10V$		$T_A = 25^\circ C$	500	ns
Delay Time "OFF"	$V_S = \pm 10V$		$T_A = 25^\circ C$	90	ns
Break-Before-Make Time	$V_S = \pm 10V$		$T_A = 25^\circ C$	80	ns
Source Capacitance	Switch "OFF," $V_S = \pm 10V$		$T_A = 25^\circ C$	4.0	pF
Drain Capacitance	Switch "OFF," $V_D = \pm 10V$		$T_A = 25^\circ C$	3.0	pF
Active Source and Drain Capacitance	Switch "ON," $V_S = V_D = 0V$		$T_A = 25^\circ C$	5.0	pF
"OFF" Isolation	(Note 3)		$T_A = 25^\circ C$	-50	dB
Crosstalk	(Note 3)		$T_A = 25^\circ C$	-65	dB
Analog Slew Rate	(Note 4)		$T_A = 25^\circ C$	50	V/ $\mu s$
Disable Current	(Note 5)		$T_A = 25^\circ C$	0.6	mA
				0.9	mA
Negative Supply Current	All Switches "OFF," $V_S = \pm 10V$		$T_A = 25^\circ C$	4.3	mA
Reference Supply Current	All Switches "OFF," $V_S = \pm 10V$		$T_A = 25^\circ C$	2.7	mA
Positive Supply Current	All Switches "OFF," $V_S = \pm 10V$		$T_A = 25^\circ C$	7.0	mA
				9.0	mA

**Note 1:** For operating at high temperature the molded DIP products must be rated based on a +100°C maximum junction temperature and a thermal resistance of +150°C maximum junction temperature and are rated at +100°C/W.

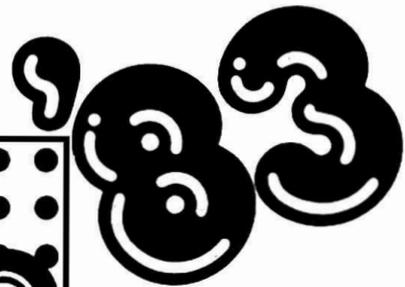
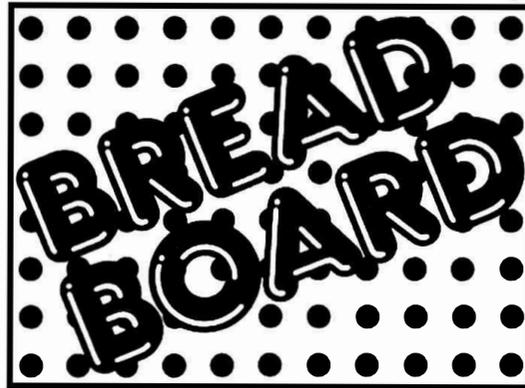
**Note 2:** Unless otherwise specified,  $V_{CC} = +15V$ ,  $V_{EE} = -15V$ ,  $V_R = 0V$ , and limits apply; -25°C  $T_A$  +85°C for the LF13331, 2, 3 and the LF13201,2.

**Note 3:** These parameters are limited by the pin capacitance of the package.

**Note 4:** This is the analog signal slew rate above which the signal is distorted as a result of finite internal slew rates.

**Note 5:** All switches in the device are turned "OFF" by saturating a transistor at the disable diode as shown in Fig. 8. The delay times will be approximately equal to the  $t_{ON}$  or  $t_{OFF}$  plus the delay introduced by the external transistor.

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# UNIVERSAL EPROM PROGRAMMER

To use our Universal EPROM programmer, you've got to have the software to drive it. Mike Bedford fills us in on what's needed.

The logical choice of programming language for a software package which is required to perform critical timing and which contains large frequently repeated loops, is assembler. On the other hand, the obvious choice of language for a package which is intended to run on a variety of different personal computers is BASIC. The software presented here is a compromise between the two: a BASIC program which performs the I/O but which calls an assembler subroutine for the time critical or time consuming tasks.

The assembler routine starts at address 1C00, but this may need to be relocated in order to fit in with the memory map of some systems. If this routine is relocated, the variable MC on line 290 of the BASIC program will have to be changed to the decimal start address of the routine. Another portion of the BASIC program which may require tailoring to a particular system is line 310. The variable PA on this line contains the start address of the EPROM programmer hardware as selected by the links on the board. This address should also be updated in the assembler subroutine on line 23 which equates IC9PIA to the start address.

Microtan 65 BASIC uses the statement I =USR(X) to call a machine code subroutine, having first POKE'd the low order byte of the M/C address to 34 and having POKE'd the high order byte to 35. This is done on lines 4040-4060, 5030-5050, 6040-6060 and 7040-7060 of the BASIC program and may require modification on other machines.

Finally, the programming timing loop in the assembler routine assumes a processor clock frequency of the 750KHz as used on the Microtan. The value loaded into register Y on line 143 of the routine will have to be modified

accordingly for other clock speeds (use hexadecimal 27 for 1 MHz).

As far as entering the program is concerned, the main BASIC program is rather long and it would be advisable to enter it in relatively small portions, saving it after the addition of each new section. This suggestion is made for two reasons: firstly it is difficult to concentrate for sufficiently long to enter the whole program at once without making errors; and, secondly it would be extremely frustrating if the computer were to crash for some reason after having typed in over 200 lines of code!

The assembler listing is rather long, and will only be of interest to readers wishing to modify the software. For this reason we haven't reproduced it here, but a copy may be obtained by sending a large

stamped addressed envelope (or international reply coupon) to the ETI office -please mark the outer envelope "PROGRAMMER LISTING".

Most users will find it easiest to enter the hex code directly.

Once the program and subroutine have been entered and recorded on cassette, it will be worthwhile investing some time carefully checking through the program. It is quite possible that a mistake may cause more than the appearance of the all too familiar SYNTAX ERROR on the screen: an error in the software could easily turn an EPROM programmer into an EPROM destroyer!

## Sample Run

On page 39 is a reproduction of

```

1C00 4C 4C 1C 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 3C 3C 3C
1C10 3C 3C 3C 34 34 34 18 18 18 10 10 18 12 10 12 3C
1C20 3C 3C 34 34 3C 3C 3C 3C 08 08 08 05 25 08 22 00
1C30 22 01 01 01 01 01 08 02 08 02 06 06 06 06 05
1C40 06 05 06 01 01 01 01 01 00 01 00 01 20 87 1D AD
1C50 0B 1C C9 02 D0 03 4C BC 1C A9 30 8D 25 BC A9 00
1C60 8D 24 BC A9 34 8D 25 BC AE 0C 1C BD 0D 1C 8D 23
1C70 BC A9 00 8D 20 BC A9 3C 8D 25 BC BD 16 1C 8D 26
1C80 BC 20 9C 1D 20 62 1D D0 03 4C 13 1D 20 17 1D AD
1C90 25 BC 49 08 8D 25 BC 20 9C 1D AD 24 BC 8D 0A 1C
1CA0 A2 00 AC 0B 1C F0 10 30 07 C9 FF F0 BB 4C 13 1D
1CB0 C1 35 F0 B4 4C 13 1D 81 35 4C 68 1C A9 30 8D 25
1CC0 BC A9 FF 8D 24 BC A9 34 8D 25 BC AE 0C 1C BD 0D
1CD0 1C 8D 23 BC A9 00 8D 20 BC BD 1F 1C 8D 25 BC BD
1CE0 28 1C 8D 26 BC 20 9C 1D 20 62 1D F0 26 20 17 1D
1CF0 A2 00 A1 35 8D 24 BC AE 0C 1C BC 3A 1C B9 20 BC
1D00 5D 31 1C 99 20 BC A0 1D A2 FF CA D0 FD 88 D0 FA
1D10 4C CB 1C 20 87 1D 60 AD 05 1C 8D 22 BC BD 43 1C
1D20 F0 09 AD 06 1C 8D 20 BC 4C 52 1D AD 20 BC 0D 09
1D30 1C 8D 20 BC AD 06 1C 29 10 F0 08 AD 20 BC 09 08
1D40 8D 20 BC AD 06 1C 29 08 F0 08 AD 26 BC 09 01 8D
1D50 26 BC AD 06 1C 29 20 F0 08 AD 23 BC 09 08 8D 23
1D60 BC 60 E6 35 D0 02 E6 36 EE 05 1C D0 03 EE 06 1C
1D70 AD 06 1C 29 E7 8D 09 1C AD 05 1C CD 07 1C D0 06
1D80 AD 06 1C CD 08 1C 60 A6 35 A4 36 AD 03 1C 85 35
1D90 AD 04 1C 85 36 8E 03 1C 8C 04 1C 60 A0 80 88 D0
1DA0 FD 60

```

Fig. 1 Hex dump of the machine code -see text for details of how to obtain the assembler listing, should you need it.

# PROJECT

LIST

```
10 REM ... EPROM SUPPORT PACKAGE
20 REM ... M D BEDFORD MARCH 83
30 DIM C$(9)
40 DATA "NEW", "BASE", "HELP", "READ"
50 DATA "PROGRAMME", "VERIFY", "TEST"
60 DATA "LIST", "MODIFY"
70 FOR N=1 TO 9
80 READ C$(N)
90 NEXT
100 DIM H$(15)
110 DATA "0 123456789ABCDEF"
120 READ H$
130 FOR N=0 TO 15
140 H$(N) = MID$(H$,N+1,1)
150 NEXT N
160 DIM T$(9)
170 DATA "2750", "2716", "2516", "2732"
180 DATA "2732A", "2532", "2744", "2564"
190 DATA "27128"
200 FOR N=1 TO 9
210 READ T$(N)
220 NEXT N
230 DIM S(9)
235 DATA 1024,2048,2048,4096,4096
240 DATA 4896,8192,8192,16384
250 FOR N=1 TO 9
260 READ S(N)
270 NEXT
280 REM ... START ADDRESS OF M/C ROUTINES
290 MC=7168
300 REM ... START ADDRESS OF PROGRAMMER
310 PA=48160
320 HR = INT(MC/256)
330 LR = MC-256*HR
340 POKE PA+1,48
370 POKE PA,255
380 POKE PA+3,48
390 POKE PA+2,255
400 POKE PA+7,48
410 POKE PA+6,255
700 PRINT CHR$(12)
710 PRINT "EPROM PROGRAMMER SUPPORT PACKAGE" 720
PRINT:PRINT
730 GOSUB 1000
740 GOSUB 2000
750 GOSUB 3000
760 GOSUB 13000
760 PRINT
770 INPUT "X";A$
780 IF A$="E" OR A$="EXIT" THEN STOP
790 FOR N=1 TO 9
800 IF A$=C$(N) OR A$=LEFT$(C$(N),1) THEN 820
810 NEXT N
820 ON N GOSUB 1000,2000,3000,4000,5000,6000,7000,8000,9000,900
830 PRINT
840 GOTO 770
900 REM...NO SUCH COMMAND
910 PRINT "COMMAND INVALID"
920 RETURN
1000 REM...(N)EH
1010 INPUT "EPROM TYPE" ;A$
1020 FOR EN=1 TO 9
1030 IF A$=T$(EN) THEN 1065
1040 NEXT EN
1050 PRINT "TYPE INVALIO"
1060 GOTO 1010
1065 POKE MC+12,EN-1
1070 RETURN
2000 REM...(B)ASE
2010 INPUT "BASE ADDRESS" ;A$
2020 GOSUB 10000
2030 IF A=99999 THEN 2010
2040 B=A+1;B=A-A$
2050 RETURN
3000 REM...(H)ELP
3010 PRINT:PRINT
3020 PRINT "COMMANDS AVAILABLE ";:PRINT
3030 PRINT "(N)EW";TAB(16);"(B)ASE"
3040 PRINT "(R)EAD";TAB(16);"(T)EST"
3050 PRINT "(P)ROGRAMME";TAB(16);"(V)ERIFY"
3060 PRINT "(L)IST";TAB(16);"(M)ODIFY"
3070 PRINT "(H)ELP";TAB(16);"(E)XIT"
3080 PRINT
3090 PRINT "TYPE = ";T$(EN);TAB(16);"BASE = ";B$
3100 RETURN
4000 REM...(R)EAD
4010 POKE MC+11,0
4020 GOSUB 11000
4030 GOSUB 14000
4040 POKE 34,LR
4050 POKE 35,HR
4060 I=USR(X)
4070 GOSUB 13000
4080 RETURN
5000 REM...(P)ROGRAMME
5005 POKE MC+11,2
5010 GOSUB 11000
5020 GOSUB 14000
5030 POKE 34,LR
5040 POKE 35,HR
5050 I=USR(X)
5060 GOSUB 6015
5070 GOSUB 13000
5080 RETURN
6000 REM...(V)ERIFY
6010 GOSUB 11000
6015 LN=-1
6020 POKE MC+11,128
6030 GOSUB 14000
6040 POKE 34,LR
6050 POKE 35,HR
6060 I=USR(X)
6070 B=256*PEEK(MC+6)+PEEK(MC+5)
6080 IF B>FA THEN 6230
6090 A=PEEK(BA+B)
6100 GOSUB 12000
6110 B=A$
6120 A=B
6130 GOSUB 12000
6140 C=A$
6150 A=PEEK(MC+10)
6160 GOSUB 12000
6170 LN=LN+1
6180 IF LN<15 THEN 6210
6190 GET Z$
6200 IF ASC(Z$) = 13 THEN 6230
6210 LN=0:PRINT
6220 PRINT C$;" EPROM = ";MID$(A$,3,2);" MEMORY = ";MID$(B$,3,2)
6230 GOSUB 13000
6240 RETURN
7000 REM...(T)EST
7010 POKE MC+11,1
7020 SA=0:FA=S(EN)-1
7030 GOSUB 14000
7040 POKE 34,LR
7050 POKE 35,HR
7060 I=USR(X)
7070 IF 256*PEEK(MC+6)+PEEK(MC+5)>FA THEN 7100
7080 PRINT "EPROM NOT ERASED"
7090 GOTO 7110
7100 PRINT "EPROM ERASED"
7110 GOSUB 13000
7120 RETURN
9000 REM...(L)IST
9010 GOSUB 11000
9020 PRINT
9030 LN=-1
9040 FOR N=BA+SA TO BA+FA
9050 LN=LN+1
9060 IF LN<15 THEN 8100
9070 GET A$
9080 IF ASC(A$) = 13 THEN 8170
9090 LN=0:PRINT
9100 A=N-BA
9110 GOSUB 12000
9120 B=A$
9130 A=PEEK(N)
9132 Z$=""
9134 IF A>32 AND A<128 THEN Z$=CHR$(A)
9140 GOSUB 12000
9150 PRINT B$;TAB(7);MID$(A$,3,2);TAB(12);Z$
9160 NEXT N
9170 RETURN
9000 REM...(M)ODIFY
9010 INPUT "ADDRESS" ;A$
9020 GOSUB 10000
9025 IF A=99999 THEN 9010
9030 B=A
9040 A=PEEK(A+BA)
9050 GOSUB 12000
9060 PRINT "VALUE = ";MID$(A$,3,2);TAB(16);"NEW VALUE = ";
9070 INPUT A$
9075 IF A$="X" THEN 9110
9080 A$="00"+A$
9090 GOSUB 10000
9095 IF A=99999 THEN 9060
9100 POKE B+BA,A
9110 RETURN
10000 REM...HEX DECODE
10010 IF LEN(A$)>4 THEN 10070
10020 A=0
10030 FOR N=1 TO 4
10040 FOR I=0 TO 15
10050 IF H$(I) = MID$(A$,N,1) THEN 10080
10060 NEXT I
10070 A=99999:GOTO 10110
10080 A=A+1*16^(4-N)
10090 NEXT N
10100 GOTO 10120
10110 PRINT "INVALID"
10120 RETURN
11000 REM...START, FINISH ADDRESSES
11010 INPUT "START, FINISH ADDRESSES";A$,B$
11020 GOSUB 10000
11025 IF A=99999 THEN 11010
11030 SA=A
11040 AS=B$
11050 GOSUB 10000
11055 IF A=99999 THEN 11010
11060 FA=A
11070 IF SA<FA THEN 11100
11080 PRINT "RANGE INVALID"
11090 GOTO 11010
11100 IF FA-SA+.99 <=S(EN) THEN 11130
11110 PRINT "RANGE/TYPE INCOMPATIBLE"
11120 GOTO 11010
11130 RETURN
12000 REM...HEX ENCODE
12010 A$=""
12015 JJ=16*16*16
12020 FOR J=3 TO 0 STEP -1
12030 I=INT(A/JJ)
12040 A=A-I*JJ
12050 AS=AS+H$(I)
12055 JJ=JJ/16
12060 NEXT J
12070 RETURN
13000 REM...ZEROISE PIA'S
13002 POKE PA+7,52
13004 POKE PA+6,48
13010 POKE PA+1,52
13020 POKE PA,0
13050 POKE PA+5,48
13060 POKE PA+4,255
13070 POKE PA+5,52
13080 POKE PA+4,0
13090 POKE PA+3,52
13100 POKE PA+2,0
13110 RETURN
14000 REM...M/C PARAMETERS
14010 IF SA>0 THEN 14030
14020 HI=255;LO=255;GOTO 14050
14030 HI=INT((SA-1)/256)
14040 LO=SA-1-256*HI
14050 POKE MC+5,LO
14060 POKE MC+6,HI
14062 IF SA+BA>0 THEN 14070
14064 HI=255;LO=255;GOTO 14090
14070 HI=INT((SA+BA-1)/256)
14080 LO=SA+BA-1-256*HI
14090 POKE MC+3,LO
14100 POKE MC+4,HI
14110 HI=INT((FA+1)/256) LO=FA
+1-256*HI
14120
14130
14140 POKE MC+7,LO
14150 POKE MC+8,HI
15000 RETURN
END
```

Fig. 2 The main BASIC program.

# PROJECT

a printout obtained by running the EPROM programmer support package on a Tangerine Microtan system. Note that a base address of 2000 has been selected - this being the lowest reasonable-size area of RAM on the system, the BASIC program occupying about 6K and the machine code routine being

located at 1C00.

In answer to the question about EPROM type, a response of 2716 was given. A 2716 EPROM was inserted into the ZIF socket when the first \*? prompt was printed and this was tested for erasure using the (T)EST command. The program indicated that the device was not

erased. At this point, the entire contents of the 2716 (0000-07FF) was transferred into computer memory using the (R)EAD command before listing the contents of a portion of this data by use of the (L)IST command. The (M)ODIFY command was then used to modify location 0007 before attempting to re-program this single byte in the EPROM using the (P)ROGRAMME command. It will be noticed that this was unsuccessful, a fact indicated by the verification message. This should come as no surprise in view of the fact that an attempt to re-program a non-erased device had been made and that programming can only set high bits low (ultra-violet erasure being required to set low bits high).

At this point the 2716 was replaced by a 2732 and the programmer was instructed of this change by use of the (N)EW command. Its entire contents (0000-0FFF) were read into memory and listed as before, by use of the (E)XIT command. Note that the (L)(S)T command gives both the hexadecimal value of each byte and, where appropriate, the ASCII symbol.

```

EPROM PROGRAMMER SUPPORT PACKAGE

EPROM TYPE? 2716
BASE ADDRESS? 2000

COMMANDS AVAILABLE :
(N)EW      (B)ASE
(R)EAD     (T)EST
(P)ROGRAMME (V)ERIFY
(L)IST     (M)ODIFY
(H)ELP     (E)XIT

TYPE = 2716      BASE = 2000

X? T
EPROM NOT ERASED

X? R
START, FINISH ADDRESSES? 0000,07FF

X? L
START, FINISH ADDRESSES? 0000,0000

0000 12
0001 13
0002 14
0003 15
0004 16
0005 17
0006 18
0007 19
0008 1A

X? M
ADDRESS? 0007
VALUE = 19      NEW VALUE = ? AF

X? P
START, FINISH ADDRESSES? 0007,0007
0007 EPROM = 09  MEMORY = AF

X? N
EPROM TYPE? 2732

X? R
START, FINISH ADDRESSES? 0000,0FFF

X? L
START, FINISH ADDRESSES? 0200,0210

0200 E9
0201 00
0202 0E
0203 52 R
0204 26 &
0205 48 H
0206 09
0207 14
0208 26 &
0209 50 P
020A 09
020B 16
020C 26 &
020D 48 0
020E 09

020F 18
0210 03

X? E
BREAK IN 700
OK
    
```

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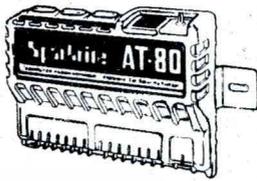


Step-by-step fully illustrated assembly and fitting instructions are included together with circuit descriptions. Highest quality components are used throughout.

# Sparkrite

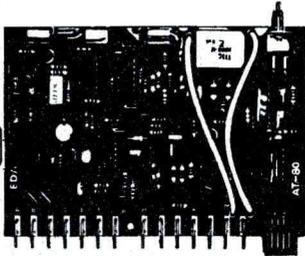
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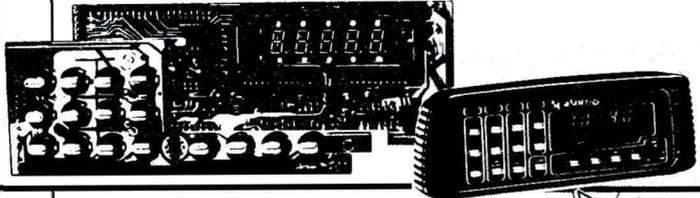
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- Programmable personal code entry system
- Armed and disarmed from outside vehicle using a special magnetic key fob against a windscreen sensor pad adhered to the inside of the screen ● Fits all 12v neg earth vehicles
- Over 250 components to assemble



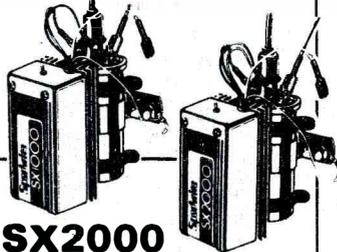
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- A real challenge for the electronics enthusiast!



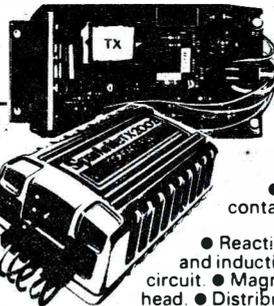
## SX1000 Electronic Ignition

- Inductive Discharge
- Extended coil energy storage circuit
- Contact breaker driven
- Three position changeover switch
- Over 65 components to assemble
- Patented clip-to-coil fitting
- Fits all 12v neg. earth vehicles



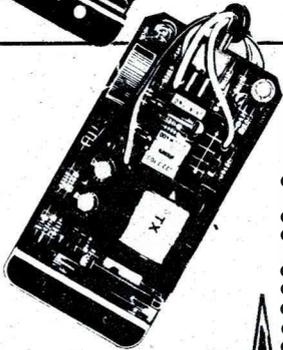
## TX1002 Electronic Ignition

- Contactless or contact triggered
- Extended coil energy storage circuit
- Inductive Discharge ● Three position changeover switch ● Distributor-triggerhead adaptors included ● Die cast weatherproof case ● Clip-to-coil or remote mounting facility ● Fits majority of 4 & 6 cyl. 12V. neg. earth vehicles ● Over 145 components to assemble.



## TX2002 Electronic Ignition

- The ultimate system ● Switchable contactless. ● Three position switch with Auxiliary back-up inductive circuit.
- Reactive Discharge. Combined capacitive and inductive. ● Extended coil energy storage circuit. ● Magnetic contactless distributor triggerhead. ● Distributor triggerhead adaptors included.
- Can also be triggered by existing contact breakers.
- Die cast waterproof case with clip-to-coil fitting ● Fits majority of 4 and 6 cylinder 12v neg. earth vehicles
- Over 150 components to assemble

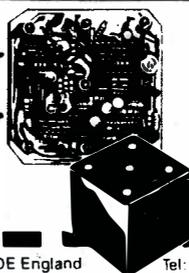


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- Contact breaker driven
- Three position changeover switch
- Over 130 components to assemble
- Patented clip-to-coil fitting
- Fits all 12v neg. earth vehicles

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# 1/3 OCTAVE GRAPHIC EQUALISER

## PART 2

We conclude this studio-quality unit with the constructional details. Design by Dave Tilbrook, with additional work by Phil Walker.

The third octave equaliser divides the audio frequency band into 28 segments so a total of 28 slider pots are used.

Cutting the required slots in a front panel is an extremely difficult task so we strongly recommend using the special case from Newrad - see Bylines for details. We've deliberately chosen to use fairly small switches and indicator on the front panel - if you use larger ones, you can always enlarge the hole sizes.

Construction of the PCB is not difficult. The usual precautions should be taken with the orientation of all polarised components such as electrolytic capacitors, transistors, diodes and ICs. Note that the two voltage regulator ICs are mounted in the same direction.

Check the component overlay for the correct orientation. It is probably wise to leave the insertion of the quad op-amps until last since these are FET devices and are therefore more

sensitive to static electricity than the other components in the unit. Be careful when handling these devices before insertion on the board. Use an earthed soldering iron and discharge yourself by touching an earthed metal appliance before handling the ICs. The inputs are protected and should therefore be reasonably safe from damage by static electricity.

The method of construction we have chosen is to mount the slider pots directly on to the front panel (using short, countersunk M3 bolts) with the PCB behind.

The potentiometer wipers are attached alternately to the top and bottom of the PCB; if you use a type of pot that has only one wiper connection (as we did), then you'll have to make sure that adjacent pots are reversed on the front panel.

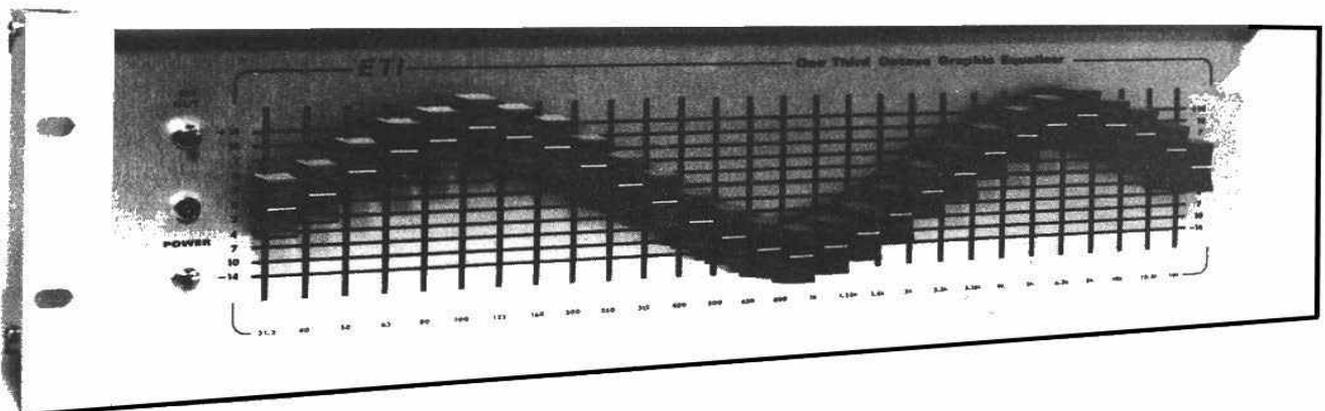
### Interwiring

Before we mounted the PCB into the case, we soldered leads into the correct position on the PCB

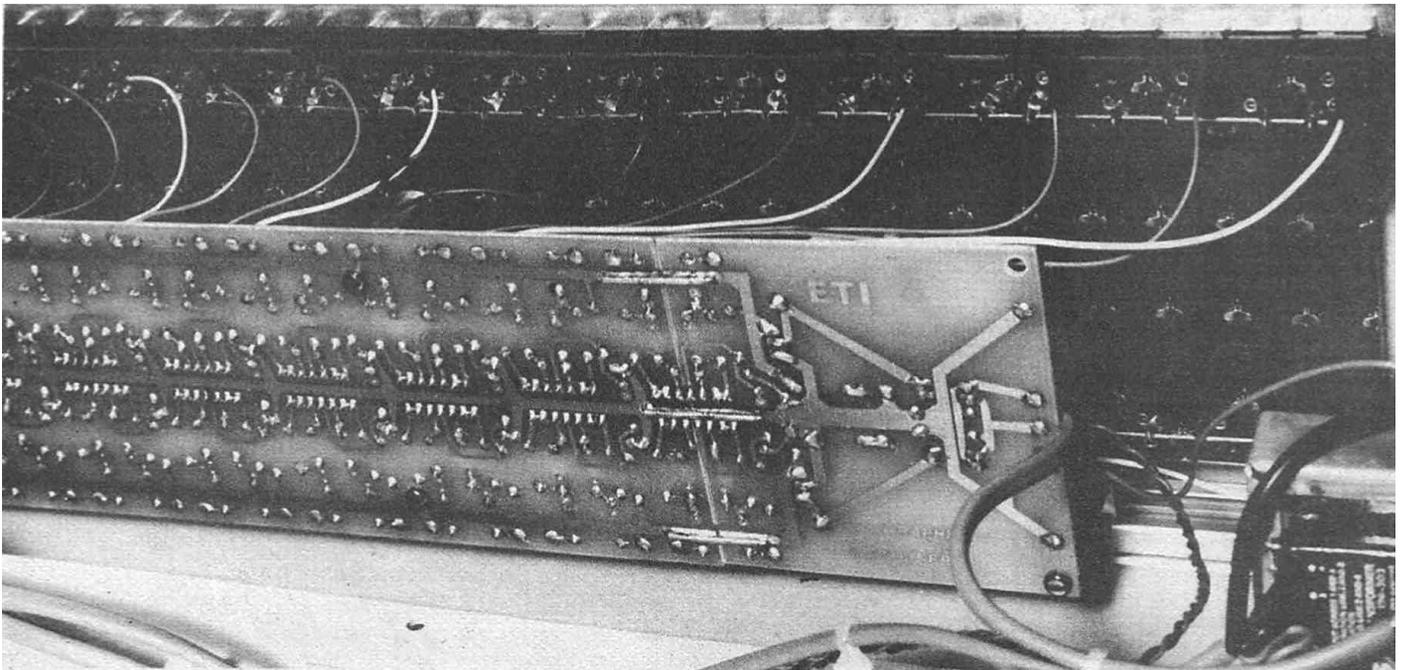
for joining onto the potentiometer wipers. Note that the tops and bottoms of the slider tracks should all be joined up before the board is mounted.

We mounted the board using metal struts and plastic pillars. The struts can be attached to the aluminium extrusion by sliding the head of a 1/2" (we really mean 12mm!) M3 bolt into the aluminium extrusion, and then clamping this in the correct position using a nut (or three, in our case, to get the spacing of the strut correct). If you don't use plastic pillars, you'll have to make sure that the PCB tracks are not inadvertently earthed by the fixing screws.

We've left the drilling of the holes in the rear panel to you, as you'll almost certainly decide to use different connectors, etc, from us! Because the case is fairly compact (neat, in ETI speak) you'll need to take care over the positioning of the fuse, mains input socket and transformer, to make sure that you



# PROJECT



This photograph shows the connections between the slider pots on the front panel and the PCB - and the mounting of the front panel using struts and spacers. Note that we couldn't fit the prototype PCB into our equipment and had to make it in two sections - hence the join!

don't foul the PCB. Remember that the earth on the input and output sockets must be kept separate from the case. But make sure that the case and the transformer are well earthed - we suggest making doubly sure by removing paint or

varnish around the earthing point(s) (on the inside, in the case!). To cut down mains hum, we used a screened twin cable for the internal mains lead - this needs to have adequate conductor and insulation thickness, though.

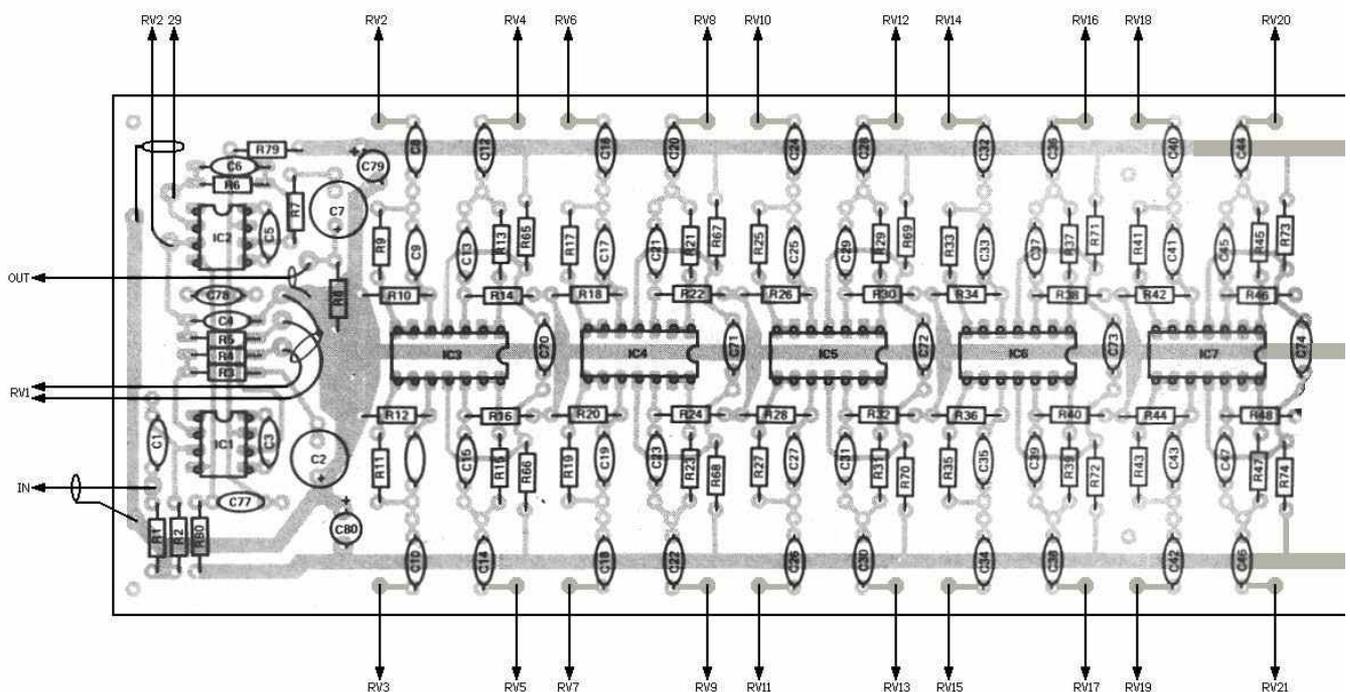


Fig 1 Overlay diagram for the PCB.

## PARTS LIST

We used universal adhesive to glue on the pot knobs, otherwise they all kept falling off!

### Power up

Once construction is complete, check all power supply wiring before powering up. This is especially important if a transformer has been included inside the case. In the latter case, make certain all 240 V connections are secure and check the chassis earth. If all is correct, power the unit up. The LED should light to indicate that the unit is on.

An equaliser in/out switch has been provided to ensure that a flat response can be obtained easily and without the necessity of changing the equalisation that may have been taken some time to set up. The equaliser is intended for use immediately before the power amplifier. If used in this position the level control will probably not be used. In this case turn the control fully counterclockwise. The overall gain of the equaliser with the controls set at centre will be approximately unity. If the equaliser is intended for use from a typical line level output, the gain control can be used to supply the output levels needed by the power amplifier input.

#### RESISTORS (all 1/4W, 5%)

R1, 5, 6	15k
R2	47k
R3, 9, 11,	
13, 15, 17,	
19, 21, 23,	
25, 27, 29,	
31, 33, 35,	
37, 39, 41,	
43, 45, 47,	
49, 51, 53,	
55, 57, 59,	
61, 63	1k
R4	100R
R7	100R
R8	100k
R10, 12, 14,	
16, 18, 20,	
22, 24, 26,	
28, 30, 32,	
34, 36, 38,	
40, 42, 44,	
46, 48, 50,	
52, 54, 56,	
58, 60, 62,	
64	220k
R65-80	10R
R81	1k5
RV1	rotary pot, 10k log
RV2-29	slider pots, 100k or 50k linear (see Buylines)

#### CAPACITORS

C1, 10	470n
C2, 7	47u/25 V
C3	3p3 ceramic
C4, 6	33p ceramic
C5	4p7 ceramic
C8	680n
C9, 18	180n
C11, 20	150n
C12	390n
C13, 22	120n
C14	330n
C15, 24	100n
C16	270n
C17, 28	68n
C19	56n
C21, 30	47n
C23, 32	39n

C25, 36	27n
C26	82n
C27, 38	22n
C29	18n
C31, 40	15n
C33	12n
C34	33n
C35, 44,	
70-78	10n
C37, 48	6n8
C39	5n6
C41, 50	4n7
C42	12n
C43, 52	3n9
C45, 56	2n7
C46	8n2
C47, 58	2n2
C49	1n8
C51, 60	1n5
C53, 62	1n2
C54	3n3
C55	1n0
C57	680p polystyrene
C59	560p polystyrene
C61	470p polystyrene
C63	390p polystyrene
C64, 65	10u polycarbonate
C66, 67	2200u/25 V electro
C68, 69, 79,	
80	4u7/16 V tantalum

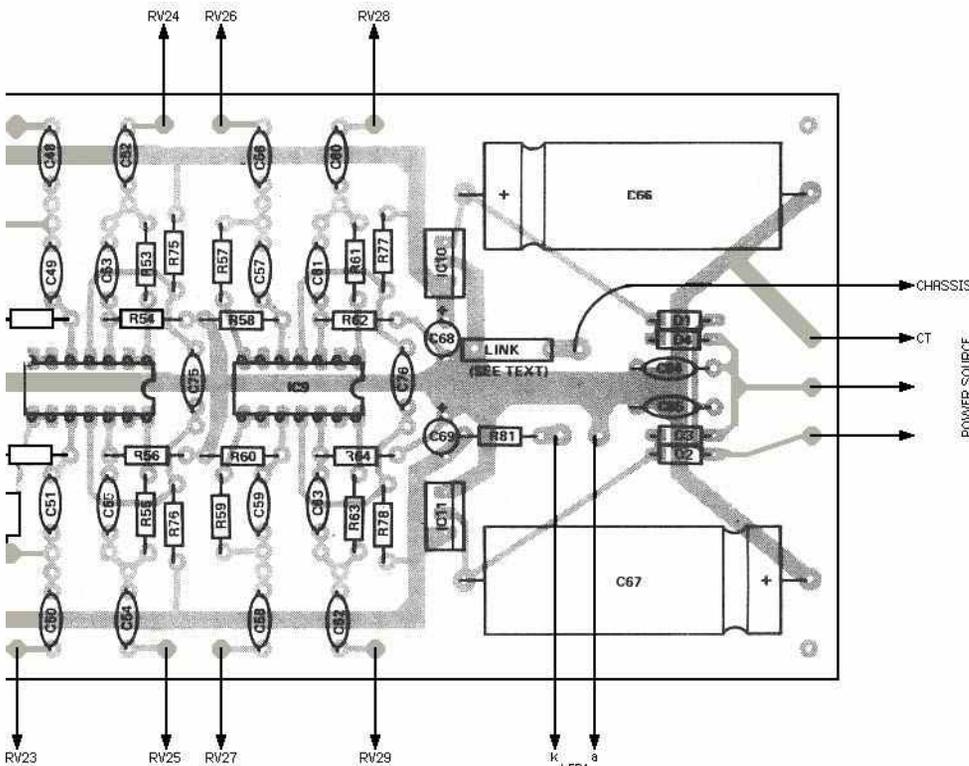
#### SEMICONDUCTORS

IC1, IC2	NE5534A (or N)
IC3-9	TL074
IC10	7812
IC11	7912
D1-4	1N4001
LED1	red LED

#### MISCELLANEOUS

T1	12-0-12V, 6 VA transformer
SW1	DPST mains switch
SW2	SPDT toggle switch

Mains neon (or LED plus 1k5 resistor; cable clamp; fuse (500 mA) and holder; insulated connector sockets to choice (jacks, phono, BNC, etc); 28 knobs for sliders; case (see Buylines); PCB; nuts, bolts, wire, etc.



## BUYLINES

The case is available by post only from Newrad Instrument Cases Ltd, Tiptoe Road, Wootton, New Milton, Hants BH25 551 for the special price of £21.00 all inclusive to ETI readers only (this is for either the rack mounting version we used or one with plain ends - please state which you require when ordering). The PCB is, as ever, available through our PCB service. We've already mentioned the slight problem of obtaining the capacitors and how we solved it, last month. None of the other components should present problems, though as you'll be buying a number of slider pots, it's obviously worth shopping around for a good price. The cheapest we found were those from Rapid, and that's where we bought ours from.

## OOPS!

Note that the value of R65-80 is 10R, not 1k0 as shown on the circuit diagram. We recommend that you switch the unit out of circuit (using the EQ OUT switch) before removing or connecting the supply, because it is capable of issuing a nasty squawk!

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 100pF 10p

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 680nF 300V 32p  
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 Cement coated  
 2.2pF 3.3pF  
 10pF 30pF  
 20pF 100pF  
 100pF 220pF  
 220pF 470pF  
 680pF 1nF 33pF

**TANTALUM BEADS**  
 1.5 20pF 14p  
 2.2 20pF 14p  
 3.3 33pF 14p  
 4.7 33pF 14p  
 6.8 33pF 14p  
 10 33pF 14p  
 15 33pF 14p  
 22 33pF 14p  
 33 33pF 14p  
 47 33pF 14p  
 68 33pF 14p  
 100 33pF 14p  
 150 33pF 14p  
 220 33pF 14p  
 330 33pF 14p  
 470 33pF 14p  
 680 33pF 14p  
 1000 33pF 14p

**MINI FILM MULLARD TRIMMERS**  
 1.4 5.5pF  
 (800MHz) 23p  
 2.10pF  
 (600MHz) 27p  
 3.3 63pF  
 (400MHz) 29p  
 4.7 63pF  
 (200MHz) 30p  
 5.5 63pF  
 (200MHz) 30p

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 22nF 10p  
 47nF 10p  
 100nF 32p  
 220nF 32p

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 3.75 x 3.75 9p  
 2.5 x 17 20p  
 3.75 x 17 20p  
 4.75 x 17 40p

**Very high thermal & electrical stability. Extremely low noise**  
 0.4W 10% 10MΩ 2% E24 4p  
 0.4W 10% 10MΩ 1% E24 8p

**LOW OHMIC VALUE RESISTORS**  
 (% WOR x W)  
 0.22Ω 8 2% E12 11p

**WIREWOUND RESISTORS**  
 2.5W 0.22Ω 330Ω E12 28p  
 4.7W 0.47Ω 8K8 E12 33p  
 10.1W 1.0Ω 33K E12 37p

**LOW NOISE ROTARY POTS**  
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 As above with DP switch 80p  
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 95p each

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 10pF 10p  
 22pF 10p  
 47pF 10p  
 100pF 10p

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 5% 7mm 500V CAPACITORS  
 E12  
 1nF 68pF 10p  
 2.2nF 150pF 10p

**5% 7mm 100V CAPACITORS**  
 E12  
 100nF 160V 12p  
 220nF 170V 16p  
 330nF 300V 20p  
 470nF 350V 27p  
 680nF 300V 32p  
 1μF 10mm 3p  
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 10pF 30pF  
 20pF 100pF  
 100pF 220pF  
 220pF 470pF  
 680pF 1nF 33pF

**TANTALUM BEADS**  
 1.5 20pF 14p  
 2.2 20pF 14p  
 3.3 33pF 14p  
 4.7 33pF 14p  
 6.8 33pF 14p  
 10 33pF 14p  
 15 33pF 14p  
 22 33pF 14p  
 33 33pF 14p  
 47 33pF 14p  
 68 33pF 14p  
 100 33pF 14p  
 150 33pF 14p  
 220 33pF 14p  
 330 33pF 14p  
 470 33pF 14p  
 680 33pF 14p  
 1000 33pF 14p

**MINI FILM MULLARD TRIMMERS**  
 1.4 5.5pF  
 (800MHz) 23p  
 2.10pF  
 (600MHz) 27p  
 3.3 63pF  
 (400MHz) 29p  
 4.7 63pF  
 (200MHz) 30p  
 5.5 63pF  
 (200MHz) 30p

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 30p  
 35p  
 40p  
 45p  
 50p  
 55p  
 60p  
 65p  
 70p  
 75p  
 80p  
 85p  
 90p  
 95p  
 100p

**Very high thermal & electrical stability. Extremely low noise**  
 0.4W 10% 10MΩ 2% E24 4p  
 0.4W 10% 10MΩ 1% E24 8p

**LOW OHMIC VALUE RESISTORS**  
 (% WOR x W)  
 0.22Ω 8 2% E12 11p

**WIREWOUND RESISTORS**  
 2.5W 0.22Ω 330Ω E12 28p  
 4.7W 0.47Ω 8K8 E12 33p  
 10.1W 1.0Ω 33K E12 37p

**LOW NOISE ROTARY POTS**  
 E3 Series  
 4.7K 2M Lin 32p  
 7.5K 2M Lin 32p  
 As above with DP switch 80p  
 As above but stereo line switch only 8p

**MICRO MINIM 100V CERAMIC PLATE CAPS**  
 8% or better  
 E12 Series  
 1K, 2K, 5K, 10K, 20K, 50K, 100K, 200K, 500K, 1MΩ  
 95p each

**MINI MONDLYTHIC CERAMIC**  
 10pF 10p  
 22pF 10p  
 47pF 10p  
 100pF 10p

**SIEMENS POLY-C**  
 5% 7mm 500V CAPACITORS  
 E12  
 1nF 68pF 10p  
 2.2nF 150pF 10p

**5% 7mm 100V CAPACITORS**  
 E12  
 100nF 160V 12p  
 220nF 170V 16p  
 330nF 300V 20p  
 470nF 350V 27p  
 680nF 300V 32p  
 1μF 10mm 3p  
 Complete range of other voltages in stock. Please phone

**SILVER MICA CAPS 1% 500V**  
 Cement coated  
 2.2pF 3.3pF  
 10pF 30pF  
 20pF 100pF  
 100pF 220pF  
 220pF 470pF  
 680pF 1nF 33pF

**TANTALUM BEADS**  
 1.5 20pF 14p  
 2.2 20pF 14p  
 3.3 33pF 14p  
 4.7 33pF 14p  
 6.8 33pF 14p  
 10 33pF 14p  
 15 33pF 14p  
 22 33pF 14p  
 33 33pF 14p  
 47 33pF 14p  
 68 33pF 14p  
 100 33pF 14p  
 150 33pF 14p  
 220 33pF 14p  
 330 33pF 14p  
 470 33pF 14p  
 680 33pF 14p  
 1000 33pF 14p

**MINI FILM MULLARD TRIMMERS**  
 1.4 5.5pF  
 (800MHz) 23p  
 2.10pF  
 (600MHz) 27p  
 3.3 63pF  
 (400MHz) 29p  
 4.7 63pF  
 (200MHz) 30p  
 5.5 63pF  
 (200MHz) 30p

**80VDC 200VAC POLYESTER CAPS**  
 10pF 10p  
 15nF 10p  
 22nF 10p  
 47nF 10p  
 100nF 32p  
 220nF 32p

**Fully enclosed Filter Pre sets**  
 E 3 Series  
 100Ω-10M

**Veroboard 0.1" Hole PCB**  
 Copper clad  
 2.5 x 3.75 9p  
 2.5 x 5 9p  
 3.75 x 3.75 9p  
 2.5 x 17 20p  
 3.75 x 17 20p  
 4.75 x 17 40p

**Very high thermal & electrical stability. Extremely low noise**  
 0.4W 10% 10MΩ 2% E24 4p  
 0.4W 10% 10MΩ 1% E24 8p

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 As above with DP switch 80p  
 As above but stereo line switch only 8p

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 1K, 2K, 5K, 10K, 20K, 50K, 100K, 200K, 500K, 1MΩ  
 95p each

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 10pF 10p  
 22pF 10p  
 47pF 10p  
 100pF 10p

**SIEMENS POLY-C**  
 5% 7mm 500V CAPACITORS  
 E12  
 1nF 68pF 10p  
 2.2nF 150pF 10p

**5% 7mm 100V CAPACITORS**  
 E12  
 100nF 160V 12p  
 220nF 170V 16p  
 330nF 300V 20p  
 470nF 350V 27p  
 680nF 300V 32p  
 1μF 10mm 3p  
 Complete range of other voltages in stock. Please phone

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 Cement coated  
 2.2pF 3.3pF  
 10pF 30pF  
 20pF 100pF  
 100pF 220pF  
 220pF 470pF  
 680pF 1nF 33pF

**TANTALUM BEADS**  
 1.5 20pF 14p  
 2.2 20pF 14p  
 3.3 33pF 14p  
 4.7 33pF 14p  
 6.8 33pF 14p  
 10 33pF 14p  
 15 33pF 14p  
 22 33pF 14p  
 33 33pF 14p  
 47 33pF 14p  
 68 33pF 14p  
 100 33pF 14p  
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 220 33pF 14p  
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 470 33pF 14p  
 680 33pF 14p  
 1000 33pF 14p

**MINI FILM MULLARD TRIMMERS**  
 1.4 5.5pF  
 (800MHz) 23p  
 2.10pF  
 (600MHz) 27p  
 3.3 63pF  
 (400MHz) 29p  
 4.7 63pF  
 (200MHz) 30p  
 5.5 63pF  
 (200MHz) 30p

**80VDC 200VAC POLYESTER CAPS**  
 10pF 10p  
 15nF 10p  
 22nF 10p  
 47nF 10p  
 100nF 32p  
 220nF 32p

**Fully enclosed Filter Pre sets**  
 E 3 Series  
 100Ω-10M

**Grade One**  
 12p  
 15p  
 20p  
 25p  
 30p  
 35p  
 40p  
 45p  
 50p  
 55p  
 60p  
 65p  
 70p  
 75p  
 80p  
 85p  
 90p  
 95p  
 100p

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 47nF 10p  
 100nF 32p  
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**Fully enclosed Filter Pre sets**  
 E 3 Series  
 100Ω-1

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<b>1T620</b> 1.00 <b>1T621</b> 1.00 <b>1T622</b> 1.00 <b>1T623</b> 1.00 <b>1T624</b> 1.00 <b>1T625</b> 1.00 <b>1T626</b> 1.00 <b>1T627</b> 1.00 <b>1T628</b> 1.00 <b>1T629</b> 1.00 <b>1T630</b> 1.00 <b>1T631</b> 1.00 <b>1T632</b> 1.00 <b>1T633</b> 1.00 <b>1T634</b> 1.00 <b>1T635</b> 1.00 <b>1T636</b> 1.00 <b>1T637</b> 1.00 <b>1T638</b> 1.00 <b>1T639</b> 1.00 <b>1T640</b> 1.00 <b>1T641</b> 1.00 <b>1T642</b> 1.00 <b>1T643</b> 1.00 <b>1T644</b> 1.00 <b>1T645</b> 1.00 <b>1T646</b> 1.00 <b>1T647</b> 1.00 <b>1T648</b> 1.00 <b>1T649</b> 1.00 <b>1T650</b> 1.00 <b>1T651</b> 1.00 <b>1T652</b> 1.00 <b>1T653</b> 1.00 <b>1T654</b> 1.00 <b>1T655</b> 1.00 <b>1T656</b> 1.00 <b>1T657</b> 1.00 <b>1T658</b> 1.00 <b>1T659</b> 1.00 <b>1T660</b> 1.00 <b>1T661</b> 1.00 <b>1T662</b> 1.00 <b>1T663</b> 1.00 <b>1T664</b> 1.00 <b>1T665</b> 1.00 <b>1T666</b> 1.00 <b>1T667</b> 1.00 <b>1T668</b> 1.00 <b>1T669</b> 1.00 <b>1T670</b> 1.00 <b>1T671</b> 1.00 <b>1T672</b> 1.00 <b>1T673</b> 1.00 <b>1T674</b> 1.00 <b>1T675</b> 1.00 <b>1T676</b> 1.00 <b>1T677</b> 1.00 <b>1T678</b> 1.00 <b>1T679</b> 1.00 <b>1T680</b> 1.00 <b>1T681</b> 1.00 <b>1T682</b> 1.00 <b>1T683</b> 1.00 <b>1T684</b> 1.00 <b>1T685</b> 1.00 <b>1T686</b> 1.00 <b>1T687</b> 1.00 <b>1T688</b> 1.00 <b>1T689</b> 1.00 <b>1T690</b> 1.00 <b>1T691</b> 1.00 <b>1T692</b> 1.00 <b>1T693</b> 1.00 <b>1T694</b> 1.00 <b>1T695</b> 1.00 <b>1T696</b> 1.00 <b>1T697</b> 1.00 <b>1T698</b> 1.00 <b>1T699</b> 1.00 <b>1T700</b> 1.00 <b>1T701</b> 1.00 <b>1T702</b> 1.00 <b>1T703</b> 1.00 <b>1T704</b> 1.00 <b>1T705</b> 1.00 <b>1T706</b> 1.00 <b>1T707</b> 1.00 <b>1T708</b> 1.00 <b>1T709</b> 1.00 <b>1T710</b> 1.00 <b>1T711</b> 1.00 <b>1T712</b> 1.00 <b>1T713</b> 1.00 <b>1T714</b> 1.00 <b>1T715</b> 1.00 <b>1T716</b> 1.00 <b>1T717</b> 1.00 <b>1T718</b> 1.00 <b>1T719</b> 1.00 <b>1T720</b> 1.00 <b>1T721</b> 1.00 <b>1T722</b> 1.00 <b>1T723</b> 1.00 <b>1T724</b> 1.00 <b>1T725</b> 1.00 <b>1T726</b> 1.00 <b>1T727</b> 1.00 <b>1T728</b> 1.00 <b>1T729</b> 1.00 <b>1T730</b> 1.00 <b>1T731</b> 1.00 <b>1T732</b> 1.00 <b>1T733</b> 1.00 <b>1T734</b> 1.00 <b>1T735</b> 1.00 <b>1T736</b> 1.00 <b>1T737</b> 1.00 <b>1T738</b> 1.00 <b>1T739</b> 1.00 <b>1T740</b> 1.00 <b>1T741</b> 1.00 <b>1T742</b> 1.00 <b>1T743</b> 1.00 <b>1T744</b> 1.00 <b>1T745</b> 1.00 <b>1T746</b> 1.00 <b>1T747</b> 1.00 <b>1T748</b> 1.00 <b>1T749</b> 1.00 <b>1T750</b> 1.00 <b>1T751</b> 1.00 <b>1T752</b> 1.00 <b>1T753</b> 1.00 <b>1T754</b> 1.00 <b>1T755</b> 1.00 <b>1T756</b> 1.00 <b>1T757</b> 1.00 <b>1T758</b> 1.00 <b>1T759</b> 1.00 <b>1T760</b> 1.00 <b>1T761</b> 1.00 <b>1T762</b> 1.00 <b>1T763</b> 1.00 <b>1T764</b> 1.00 <b>1T765</b> 1.00 <b>1T766</b> 1.00 <b>1T767</b> 1.00 <b>1T768</b> 1.00 <b>1T769</b> 1.00 <b>1T770</b> 1.00 <b>1T771</b> 1.00 <b>1T772</b> 1.00 <b>1T773</b> 1.00 <b>1T774</b> 1.00 <b>1T775</b> 1.00 <b>1T776</b> 1.00 <b>1T777</b> 1.00 <b>1T778</b> 1.00 <b>1T779</b> 1.00 <b>1T780</b> 1.00 <b>1T781</b> 1.00 <b>1T782</b> 1.00 <b>1T783</b> 1.00 <b>1T784</b> 1.00 <b>1T785</b> 1.00 <b>1T786</b> 1.00 <b>1T787</b> 1.00 <b>1T788</b> 1.00 <b>1T789</b> 1.00 <b>1T790</b> 1.00 <b>1T791</b> 1.00 <b>1T792</b> 1.00 <b>1T793</b> 1.00 <b>1T794</b> 1.00 <b>1T795</b> 1.00 <b>1T796</b> 1.00 <b>1T797</b> 1.00 <b>1T798</b> 1.00 <b>1T799</b> 1.00 <b>1T800</b> 1.00 <b>1T801</b> 1.00 <b>1T802</b> 1.00 <b>1T803</b> 1.00 <b>1T804</b> 1.00 <b>1T805</b> 1.00 <b>1T806</b> 1.00 <b>1T807</b> 1.00 <b>1T808</b> 1.00 <b>1T809</b> 1.00 <b>1T810</b> 1.00 <b>1T811</b> 1.00 <b>1T812</b> 1.00 <b>1T813</b> 1.00 <b>1T814</b> 1.00 <b>1T815</b> 1.00 <b>1T816</b> 1.00 <b>1T817</b> 1.00 <b>1T818</b> 1.00 <b>1T819</b> 1.00 <b>1T820</b> 1.00 <b>1T821</b> 1.00 <b>1T822</b> 1.00 <b>1T823</b> 1.00 <b>1T824</b> 1.00 <b>1T825</b> 1.00 <b>1T826</b> 1.00 <b>1T827</b> 1.00 <b>1T828</b> 1.00 <b>1T829</b> 1.00 <b>1T830</b> 1.00 <b>1T831</b> 1.00 <b>1T832</b> 1.00 <b>1T833</b> 1.00 <b>1T834</b> 1.00 <b>1T835</b> 1.00 <b>1T836</b> 1.00 <b>1T837</b> 1.00 <b>1T838</b> 1.00 <b>1T839</b> 1.00 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# SERVICE SHEET

## Enquiries

We receive a very large number of enquiries. Would prospective enquirers please note the following points:

We undertake to do our best to answer enquiries relating to difficulties with ETI projects, in particular non-working projects, difficulties in obtaining components, and errors that you think we may have made. We do not have the resources to adapt or design projects for readers (other than for publication), nor can we predict the outcome if our projects are used beyond their specifications;

Where a project has apparently been constructed correctly but does not work, we will need a description of its behavior and some sensible test readings and drawings of oscillograms if appropriate. With a bit of luck, by taking these measurements you'll discover what's wrong yourself. Please do not send us any hardware (except as a gift!);

Other than through our letters page, Read/Write, we will not reply to enquiries relating to other types of article in ETI. We may make some exceptions where the enquiry is very straightforward or where it is important to electronics as a whole;

We will not reply to queries that are not accompanied by an SAE (or international reply coupon). We are not able to answer enquiries over the telephone. We try to answer promptly, but we receive so many enquiries that this cannot be guaranteed.

Be brief and to the point in your enquiries. Much as we enjoy reading your opinions on world affairs, the state of the electronic industry, and so on, it doesn't help our already overloaded enquiries service to have to plough through several pages to find exactly what information you want.

## Subscriptions

The prices of ETI subscriptions are as follows:

UK	£13.15
Overseas	£16.95 Surface Mail
	£36.95 Air Mail

Send your order and money to: ETI Subscriptions Department, 513 London Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR4 6AR (cheques should be made payable to ASP Ltd). Note that we run special offers on subscriptions from time to time (though usually only for UK subscriptions, sorry). ETI should be available through newsagents, and if readers have difficulty in obtaining issues, we'd like to hear about it.

## Back-numbers

Below we list the back-numbers that are available from our back-numbers department. Please note that this list will be out of date if you use an old copy of the magazine. Back-numbers cost £1.50 (UK or overseas by surface mail) and are available from: ETI Back-numbers Department, 513 London Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR4 6AR (cheques should be made payable to ASP Ltd).

Even if the copy of ETI you need is not listed, all may not be lost, because we run a photocopying service. For £1.50 (UK and overseas) we will photocopy an entire article (note that parts of a series of articles count as separate articles). Your request should clearly state what article you require and the month and year in which it appeared (the index for 1980 and 1981 was published in January 1982, and the index for

1982 appeared in December 1982). Send your request to ETI Photocopies, Argus Specialist Publications Ltd, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0EE (cheques should be made out to ASP Ltd).

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November 79	November 81
April 80	December 81
September 80	March 82
October 80	May 82
November 80	June 82
December 80	July 82
January 81	August 82
February 81	September 82
March 81	October 82
April 81	December 82
May 81	February 83

## Write for ETI

We are always looking for new contributors to the magazine, and we pay a competitive page rate. If you have built a project or you would like to write a feature on a topic that would interest ETI readers, let us have a description of your proposal, and we'll get back to you to say whether or not we are interested and give you all the boring details.

We don't bother with the bureaucracy for Tech-Tips - all you do is to send in your idea, stating clearly if you want an acknowledgment of receipt. If possible, please type your explanation of why the circuit is different, what it does and how it works, on a separate sheet from the circuit diagram; both sheets should carry your name, address and the circuit title. We'll let you know (within a month or so) if we want to use your Tech Tip.

## Trouble With Advertisers

So far as we know, all our advertisers work hard to provide a good service to our readers. However, problems can occur, and in this event you should:

1. Write to the supplier, stating your complaint and asking for a reply. Quote any reference number you may have (in the case of unsatisfactory or incomplete fulfillment of an order) and give full details of the order you sent and when you sent it.
2. Keep a copy of all correspondence.
3. Check your bank statement to see if the cheque you sent has been cashed.
4. If you don't receive a satisfactory reply from the supplier within, say, two weeks, write again, sending your letter recorded delivery, or telephone, and ask what they are doing about your complaint.

If you exhaust the above procedure and still do not obtain a satisfactory response from the supplier, then please drop us a line. We are not able to help directly, because basically the dispute is between you and the supplier, but a letter from us can sometimes help to get the matter sorted out. But please, don't write to us until you have taken all reasonable steps yourself to sort out the problem.

We are a member of the mail order protection scheme, and this means that, subject to certain conditions, if a supplier goes bankrupt or into liquidation between cashing your cheque and supplying the goods for which you have paid, then it may be possible for you to obtain compensation. From time to time, we publish details of the scheme near our classified ads, and you should look there for further details.

## OOPS!

We have in the past published small corrections to projects on the letters page, and major corrections separately. From now on corrections will appear on this page, and will be repeated for several months (just to increase our embarrassment). If a correction is too large to fit on here, we will publish it just once, but will note the fact that a correction does exist, and that copies of it can be obtained from us provided you send in an SAE. But please request copies only if you really do need them; if this service is abused, we may be forced to withdraw it.

## ZX A to D (Jan '83)

D2 is shown the wrong way round on the overlay; wires on the RH side of the switch SW1 should go to top contacts. Some of the early PCBs had an error: pins 2 & 4 of IC1 should go to pin 16 (top) of edge connector (published foil pattern is OK).

## Stage Lighting Unit (Jan, Feb, April, May '83)

Transformer specs are as follows: Primaries all 250 V; secondaries T1: 0-6, 0-6 V, 12 VA tot; T2: 0-12, 0-12 V, 12 VA tot; D: 0-6 V, 3 VA. ICs 34, 35, 36 are 7805 SV regulators.

## ZX Sound Board Design Comp. results, Feb '83

The first line of the program has to be entered in reverse order to get it to go in (COS, GOSUB, COPY, ASN and RND are functions). The line should read:

```
10 REM "Y =?COS GOSUB 5 COPY ??  
ASN ?RND??RND
```

## Alarm Module (March '83)

R21 is 220k (parts list OK, circuit diagram wrong) Q5 is BC182L (left off parts list).

## Max Min Thermometer (April '83)

A revised foil pattern was published in July ETI. To get original PCB to work, replace D4 and D5 with wire links, cut tracks from pins 7 and 8 on IC6, and solder 15k resistor across cut - remove ICs while doing this! (It's messy but it works.)

## Real Time Clock (April '83)

Frequency of XTAL1 is 32.768 kHz.

## NDFL Power Amplifier (May '83)

C13 is 33pF (parts list correct, circuit diagram wrong).

Table 1: lengths of wire quoted do not allow for lead lengths - add 40 mm or so to them. This is particularly important for L3. Resistors R29 and R30 can be wire wound types, it isn't necessary to use carbon types (their inductance will be small).

## Flash Sequencer (July '83)

Q1 should be BC184L; Q2-5 should be BC182L.

## Telescope (August 1983)

We had a shower of annotation falling off our diagrams! On Fig. 1, C19 (below IC14) was not labeled nor was Q2 (above R1), and there were two C23s - one should be IC22 and it doesn't matter which. In Fig. 5, IC1 2 was not labeled. Unfortunately, there was a mistake in the correction (blush!): C14 is the 22µF tantalum on the -5 V line.

## Universal EPROM Programmer (August 1983)

We had the same problem with falling annotation as above. On the overlay, IC7 is between SK2 and SK1; IC6 is between SK1 and C10; IC1 1 is between R7 and R10.

## Z80 Controller Computer

Same problem yet again. On the overlay, SW1 is the rectangle beside IC5 and 6; a link through was missed to the right of pin 18 IC11.



# TECH TIPS

### Dual Trace Unit John Hesketh, Pontefract

There have recently been two circuits published in ETI which allow two waveforms to be displayed simultaneously on a single beam oscilloscope. Both of these circuits have drawbacks, namely poor preamp performance, inadequate control over waveform position, a tendency towards instability and poor switching circuitry. The design shown overcomes these problems and will display waveforms clearly over the frequency range DC to 200kHz.

The design may be divided into three sections, two pre-amplifiers (one for each channel) and a switching circuit. The switching circuit is identical to that in J. C. Harris's circuit (ETI Feb 82).

The input signal is applied to an attenuator network either via a 100nF capacitor for AC coupling or directly

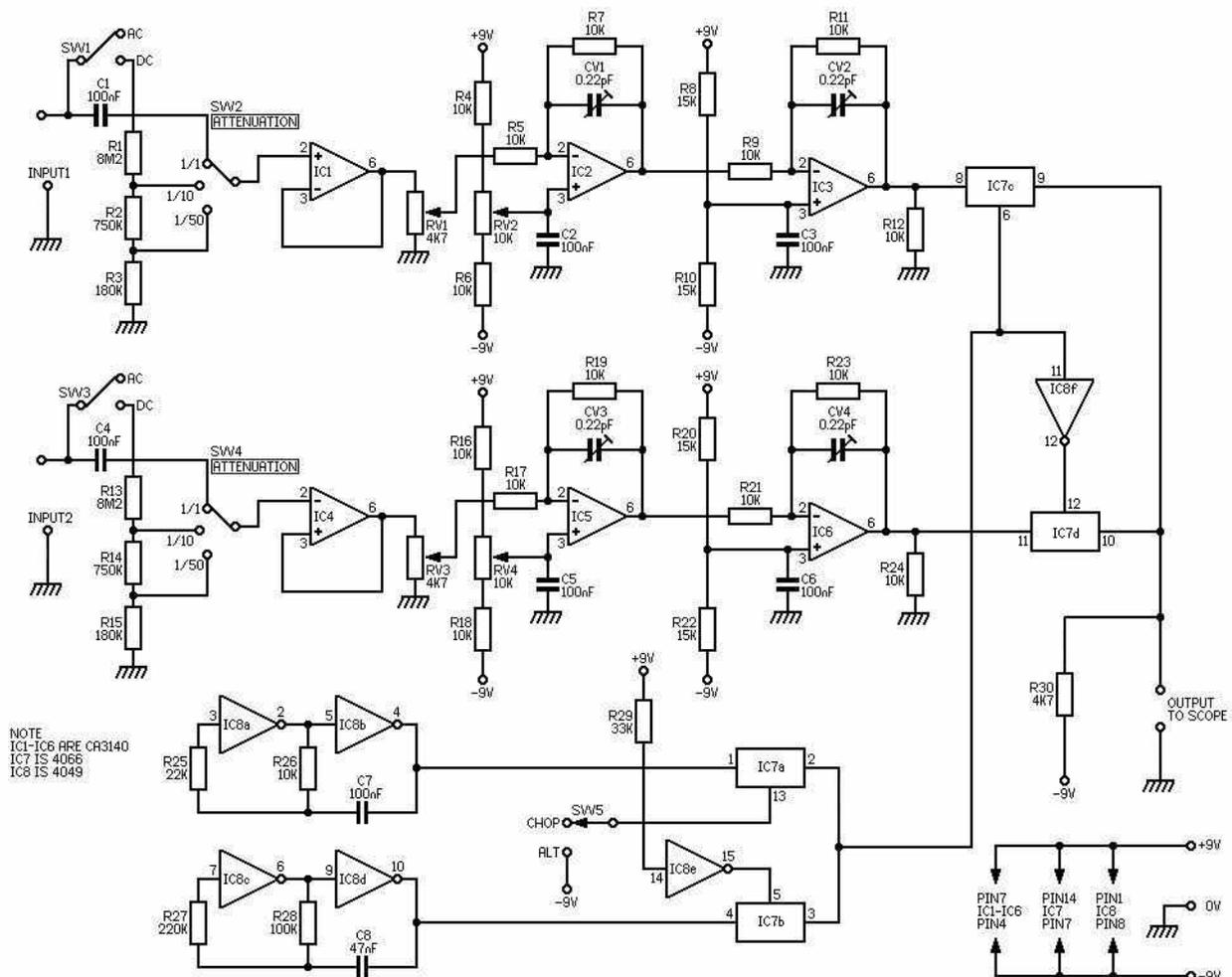
for DC coupling. The attenuated signal is then fed to IC1 which is wired for a gain of one and functions as an impedance matcher. This stage gives the instrument a high input impedance (approximately 9MO). A portion of the output signal from IC1 is derived via RV1, which serves as an amplitude control, and is fed to IC2 and associated components which is also wired for a gain of one. This stage provided a means of shifting the vertical position of the waveform by introducing a DC voltage onto the non-inverting input of IC2 via RV2. This stage inherently inverts the waveform and therefore a further inverting stage is employed (IC3 and associated components) to restore the original sense of the waveform. The outputs from the preamplifier's IC3/6 are fed into the signal switching arrangement consisting of IC7 and IC8. The output from the electronic switch is then fed to the oscilloscope.

In order that a wide range of

signal frequencies may be displayed, two modes of switching are employed. The two modes are 'chop' and 'alternate' and the mode of switching is determined by SW5. When displaying frequencies from DC to 15 kHz, it will be necessary to use the 'chop' mode but for frequencies above 15 kHz the 'alternate' mode should be used.

The settings of VC1-4 are quite critical at high frequencies (200 kHz), and the following procedure should be adopted in order to obtain the optimum setting of these trimmers. (The procedure is described for channel No 1 as channel No 2 is identical). Inject a 200 kHz 1Vp-p square wave into channel No 1 input and set the attenuator switch (SW2) to the 1/1 position. The setting of SW1 is unimportant. Set RV1 to maximum and RV2 to mid position. Connect an oscilloscope to the output of IC2 and adjust VC1 for a perfect square wave with no overshoot or corner rounding. Remove the oscilloscope and connect to the output of IC3. Adjust VC2 for a perfect square wave. Repeat the procedure for channel No 2.

Note that the circuit requires a split supply of  $\pm 9V$ .



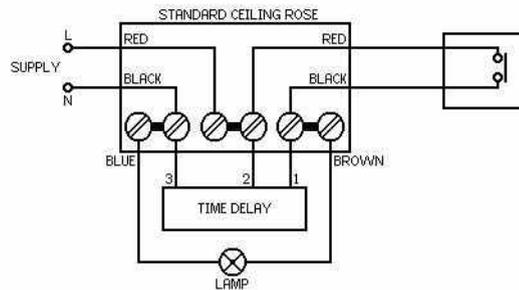
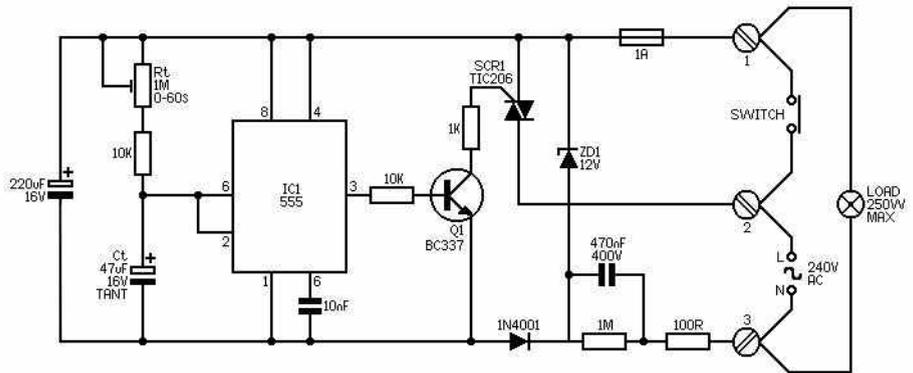
## Low-Cost Mains Time Delay Switch Alex Gray, Emberton, Bucks

This circuit offers a cheap, reliable replacement for mechanical and pneumatic time-delay switches such as used for corridor lights. It can also be used to protect equipment which is upset by power being applied and removed too rapidly.

When the switch is closed and reopened, the load is switched on for a preset time  $\approx 1.1 R_1 C_1$ . During this period, the circuit also switches on its own power. At the end of the time-delay both the load and the circuit are disconnected. In the event of a circuit failure, the push button will still allow the load to be switched on for safety (e.g. in corridor lighting).

If the switch is a normal latching type, the load will be powered as long as the switch is closed, subject to a minimum period. This prevents rapid cycling of the power on and off and may be used to protect equipment susceptible to damage from this situation.

There are only three connections and the circuit may be wired in at the ceiling rose of a conventional 'looped through circuit without any additional wiring.



The usual precautions with mains wiring must be observed. In particular, remember that, although the 555 is on a 12V supply, that supply is

superimposed on 240V AC above earth. The switch and the 470nF capacitor must be types designed for mains operation.

## Karnaugh Map Display K. J. Beeden, Crawley

The Karnaugh map is a common way of representing the function of a four-input logic system. It is often taught in schools and colleges, when students are given a logic system and have to draw the Karnaugh map for it. This device allows the student to go away and test his map with the actual map generated by this device and a wired-up system on a breadboard.

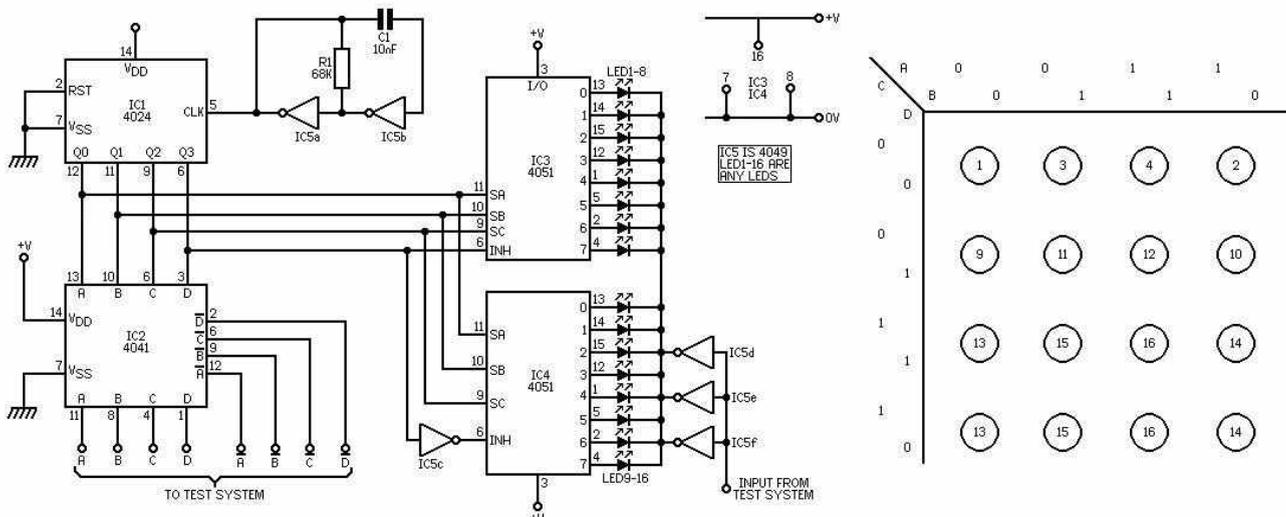
IC5a and b form an astable, which clocks the 4-bit binary counter IC1. The outputs of this are fed into the quad true complements buffer, IC2, providing buffered true and inverted outputs to the system under test. The counter outputs are also used to decode the display - the three LSBs are used as select lines for the eight-way analogue switches, IC3 and 4, and the MSB is used to select the chip by connecting the true value to INH IC3 and the inverted (by IC5c) value into INH IC4.

The output of the system is connected to the input of IC5d,e,f. Thus if the output

output of the system is high for a given 4-bit number, then the output of IC5d, etc, will be low, and so current will flow from the +ve supply, via the selected analogue switch (resistance of which is conveniently about 160R) through the appropriate LED. If the output of the system is low, then the output of IC5d, etc, will be high, and so no current will flow.

This means that an illuminated LED represents a "1" from the system, and an unlit LED a "0".

Figure 2 shows the arrangements of LED's 1-16 required to obtain the desired Karnaugh map display.



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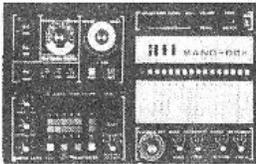
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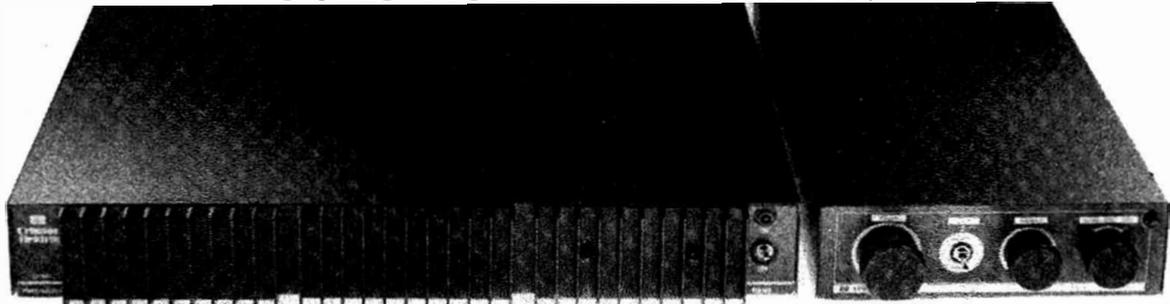


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# THE DIGGER

No, no, it's nothing to do with tubes of amber nectar, billabongs, tucker bags or any other antipodean artifacts. Just a device for digging around in a digital circuit using an oscilloscope - a digital trigger. Design, development, and bad puns by Phil Walker.

The ETI Digger is a very simple device which will make fault finding on digital circuits very much easier. The basic unit is in reality an eight bit comparator which provides an output signal when the input signal is the same as that set up on the unit's switches. The unit as described will handle up to eight logic inputs which will probably be sufficient for most purposes. However, it is designed so that additional units may be plugged into the first to expand the total capability in blocks of eight.

## Use

The unit must be provided with a normal TTL type +5 volt power supply (probably conveniently derived from the equipment under test). The output can then be taken to the external trigger input of your oscilloscope. In case you hadn't guessed, your next move is to set the scope to external trigger; you may have to adjust the trigger controls for best results, especially if the circuit under test contains ripple counters. The reason for this is that signal propagation delays in the devices will cause glitches in the

## HOW IT WORKS

Not much to say here really. The LED, switch and resistor combination on four inputs to each IC provides a low when the switch is open and a high when it is closed. Also when the switch is closed the LED will light showing that a high has been selected for that channel.

When the logic input pattern on the input pins matches that on the switches the output from each IC will change state and thus trigger a scope connected to the final output. The outputs from one IC will directly drive the cascade inputs of another and so extend the width of the comparison. The inputs from the test circuit are provided with pull up resistors so any unused input will appear as a high and this must be set on the corresponding switch. C1 and C2 are pre-sent to decouple the supply rails. R1 is a pull up for the "-" cascade input.

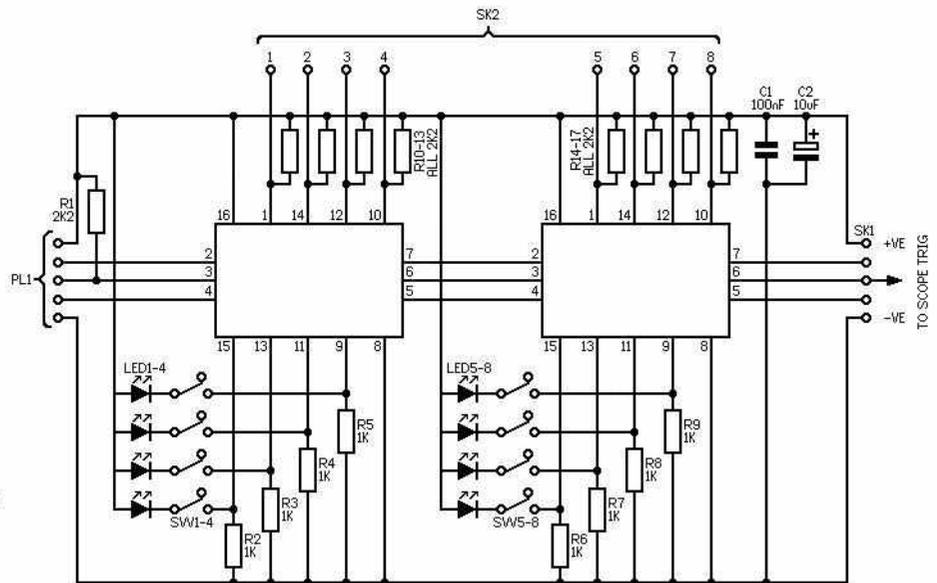


Fig. 1 Circuit diagram.

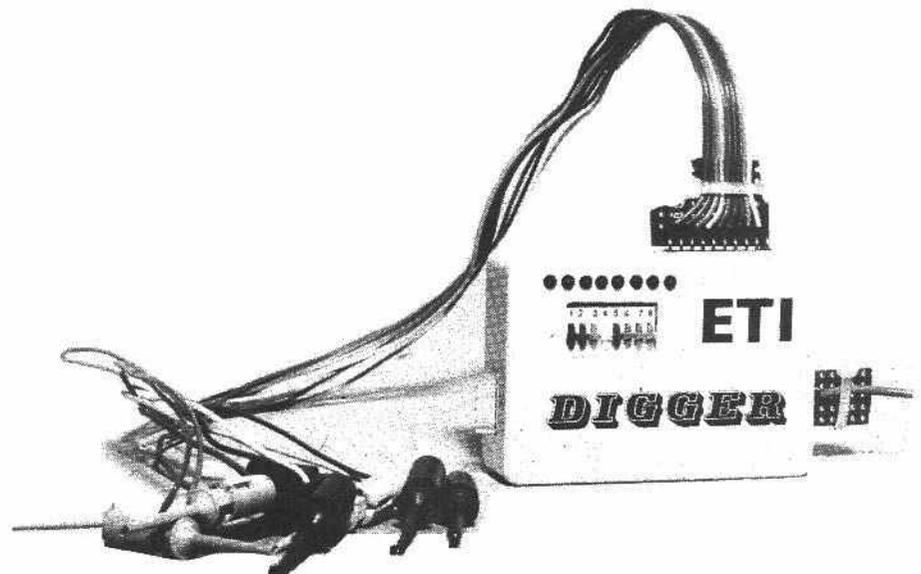
output from the Digger unit. This is not a fault, as the input conditions are in fact true, even if only for a short time. Actually this property of the Digger could be quite useful if you suspect this action in your own circuit.

The leads from the device can be connected to the test circuit in any order but remember to set the switches in the corresponding order

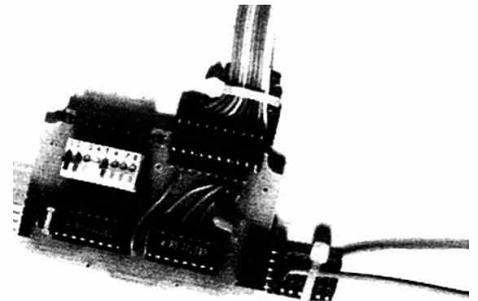
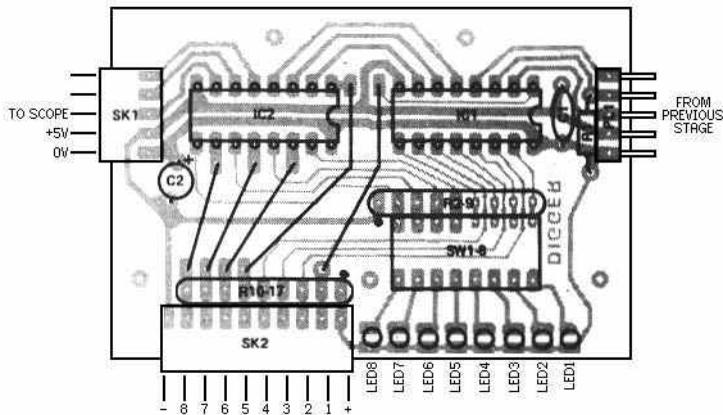
or your results will be wrong. It is a good idea to use the input nearest (the output as a clock input, as this will eliminate a good many ambiguities. Don't forget to set any unused input channels to HIGH or the unit will not trigger!

## The Circuit

The circuit for this device is very simple. Most of the work is



# PROJECT



Left: Overlay of the Digger; above: the Digger itself, less case.

## PARTS LIST

### RESISTORS (1/4 W 5% carbon film unless stated)

R1	2K2
R2 - R9	1K (SIL resistor pack 8 x 1K)
R10 - R17	2K2 (SIL resistor pack 8 x 1K)

### CAPACITORS

C1	100nF ceramic
C2	10uF 16V electrolytic

### SEMICONDUCTORS

IC1, IC2	74LS85
LED1 - LED8	3mm Red LED

### MISCELLANEOUS

SW1 - SW8	8 pole SPST DIL switch
10 way PCB socket 0.1" pitch; 5 way PCB socket, 0.1" pitch; 5 way right angle PCB plug 0.1" pitch; box (Vero G.P. plastic box 72 x 50 x 25 mm 202-21025K); PCB; 10, 5 way free plugs and 5-way socket for above.	

done by the two ICs which are 74LS85 devices. These are TTL four-bit magnitude comparators, and give outputs which show whether one of the two four-bit binary numbers presented to their inputs is equal to, greater than, or less than the other. In addition to the normal inputs, there is also a set of inputs which take the outputs from another similar device. When these are connected, the final output depends on all the comparisons of all the inputs to the devices connected in this way.

The rest of the circuit is devoted to providing the requisite comparison inputs to the ICs and giving a visible indication of it. The method of doing this is to use resistors to hold the inputs normally at a low level, but with switches that can force them high via an LED which will light up to show that it has been selected. The logic inputs from the test circuit are provided with pull up resistors so as to define unused inputs.

## Construction

Construction of the PCB is quite simple so long as the ICs are inserted the right way round. The LEDs and capacitors must likewise be put in correctly. If you are going to use resistor packs as we did, the end with the dot or similar mark is the common terminal. Verify this with a meter if in doubt. If you use discrete resistors, mount them vertically and join all the top ends to the common terminal with a piece of stripped solid-core wire.

It will be necessary to use a 16 pin wire-wrap type socket for the DIL switch so that it can be positioned through a hole in the box. The LED leads will probably be long enough without extension. We would also recommend using ordinary sockets for IC1 and IC2.

There are 5 links to insert on the board as marked on the overlay which connect the inputs to SK2. Use thin insulated wire for these. Mounting the PCB in the box is a little tricky. First make sure that the corners have been cut off at the marks shown and check that the board will fit into the box. We found it easier to fit the PCB upside down in the box (with the track side facing the lid), so that only a little of the side walls have to be cut away to allow SK1, SK2 and PL1 to fit. Also a rectangular cut-out must be made in

the bottom of the box to allow SW1-SW8 through. Finally eight 3 mm holes should be drilled for the LED's.

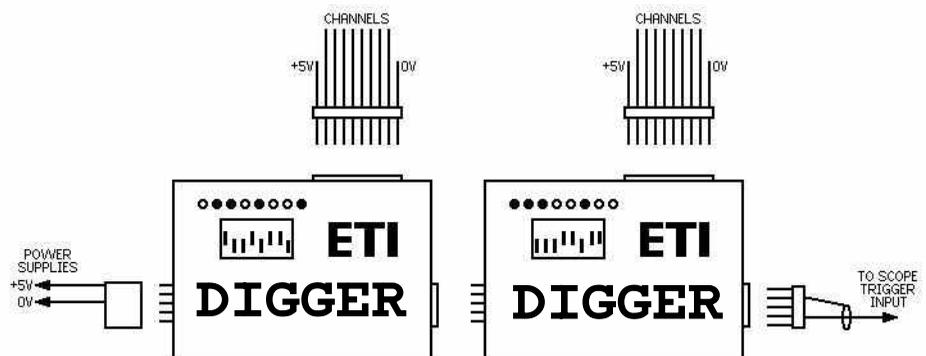
The PCB can now be bolted to the lid and the box put together. Connections to the outside world are made via the plugs and sockets. If you use right-angled plug parts, then a small piece of Veroboard soldered to them makes a robust connector. The socket should be a socket housing with crimp terminals.

For greatest convenience the power connections can be made via the free socket and PL 1 while the trigger output goes from SK1. The switch can be mounted either way round in its socket allowing you the option of the test leads coming out of the top or bottom of the device, while the switch position is still up for high, for example.

## BUYLINES

Nothing in this project should cause much difficulty; the SIL resistors are fairly widely available from suppliers such as Watford, Cricklewood, etc. The connectors are available from Maplin, and the PCB is available through our very own service.

Two or more Diggers can be cascaded.



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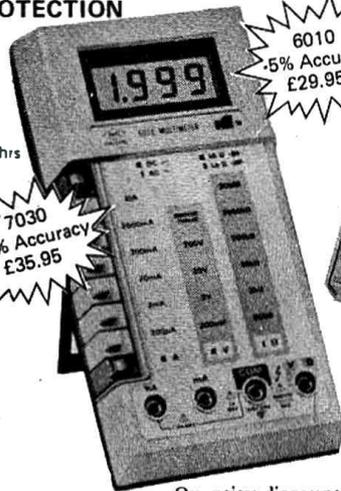
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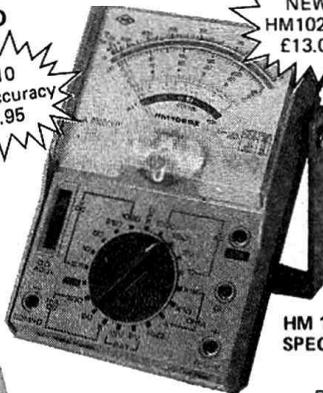
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# AUDIOPHILE

Audiophile returns with a look at a new version of an old favourite. Ron Harris (Who's he? -Ed) has been playing with little boxes.

What do you mean "Oh no, not again?" Thought you'd got rid of me, huh? It's not as easy as *that* my friends. Audiophile returns to ETI with a look at some new boxes with an old and revered name - Minimax 2.

The Minimax 2s are a two-unit ported design of tiny proportions. This is a complete redesign from the originals and the speakers have a lot to live up to.

All by themselves, the original Minimaxes practically rewrote the hi-fi gospel that speakers must be big to be credible. This led to a host of manufacturers taking a serious look at the idea of high performance small enclosures, witness the

plethora of imitations there are now.

Presumably the idea behind the redesign is to re-establish the Videotones as the leading small speakers and the indications are that they are selling very well. Celestions magnificent SL6s have unquestionably taken this field a good deal further forward, but at a price. The Minimax 2s are considerably cheaper and are not intended to be directly competitive.

## Moving Experiences

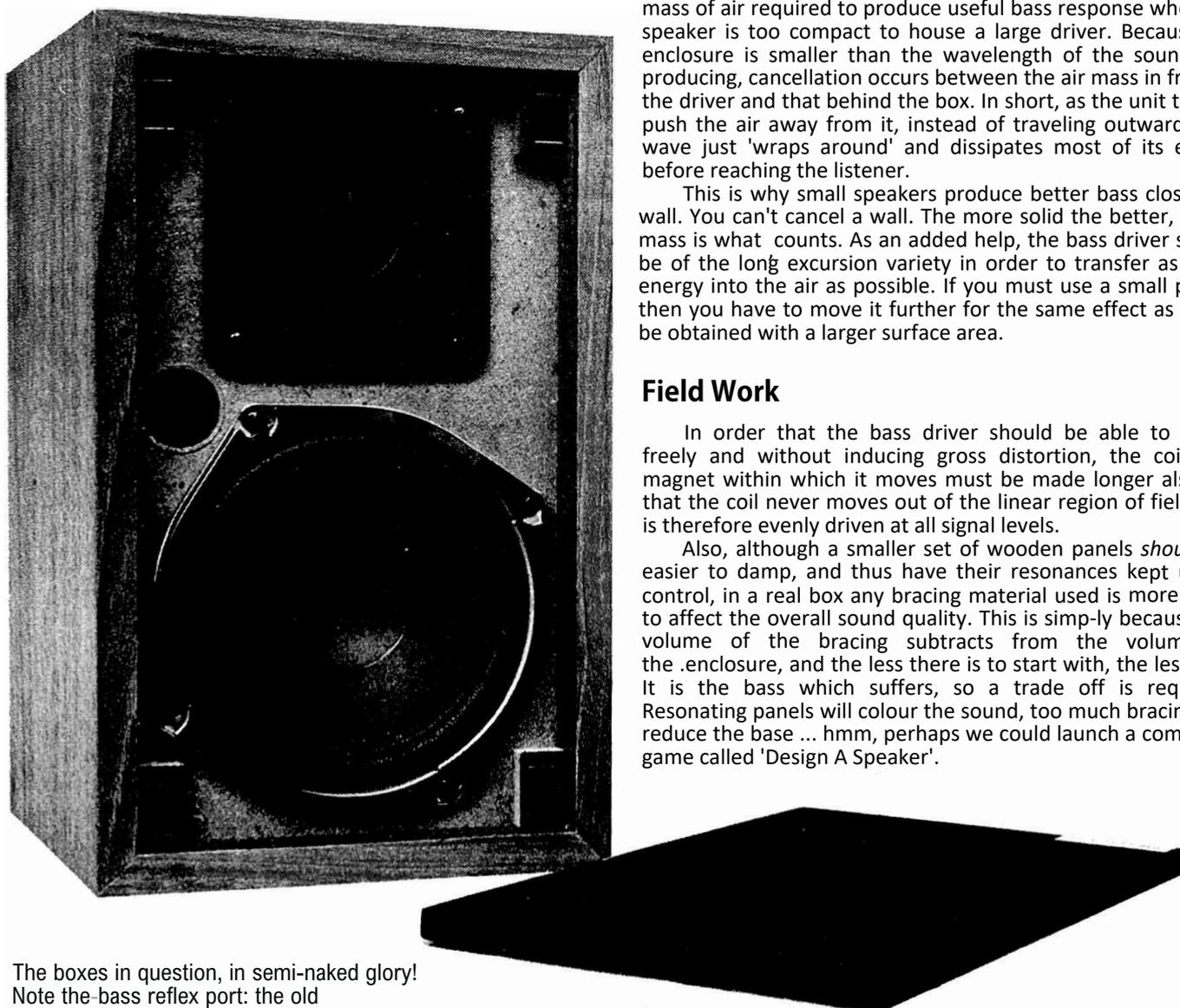
The main problem with any small box is how to move the mass of air required to produce useful bass response when the speaker is too compact to house a large driver. Because the enclosure is smaller than the wavelength of the sound it is producing, cancellation occurs between the air mass in front of the driver and that behind the box. In short, as the unit tries to push the air away from it, instead of traveling outwards, the wave just 'wraps around' and dissipates most of its energy before reaching the listener.

This is why small speakers produce better bass close to a wall. You can't cancel a wall. The more solid the better, as the mass is what counts. As an added help, the bass driver should be of the long excursion variety in order to transfer as much energy into the air as possible. If you must use a small paddle then you have to move it further for the same effect as would be obtained with a larger surface area.

## Field Work

In order that the bass driver should be able to move freely and without inducing gross distortion, the coil and magnet within which it moves must be made longer also, so that the coil never moves out of the linear region of field and is therefore evenly driven at all signal levels.

Also, although a smaller set of wooden panels *should* be easier to damp, and thus have their resonances kept under control, in a real box any bracing material used is more likely to affect the overall sound quality. This is simply because the volume of the bracing subtracts from the volume of the enclosure, and the less there is to start with, the less left! It is the bass which suffers, so a trade off is required. Resonating panels will colour the sound, too much bracing will reduce the base ... hmm, perhaps we could launch a computer game called 'Design A Speaker'.



The boxes in question, in semi-naked glory! Note the bass reflex port: the old Minimaxes didn't have that!

## In Use

Having now run briefly through the horrors of designing small speakers, how do the Minimax 2s measure up? Despite all the pitfalls do they actually produce a creditable result? In a word yes. The originals were very worthy units and the Mark 2s should carry on the tradition admirably.

I wired in the units, somewhat unfairly, in a direct comparison to my usual reference speakers, KEF105 II's which are anything but small. The Minimax was positioned off the floor, clear of walls and for a second attempt on a shelf flat against the wall to simulate more usual conditions of usage.

The amplifier was a Denon PRA2000/POA3000 Class A set-up and the record source provided by the well trusted TD160S/SME III carrying a Shure V1 SV cartridge.

To those of you who think it 'unfashionable' to use an SME rude words and expletives. Unaffected by the frantic pursuit of something new for the sake of it often to the detriment of the results the SME continues to out-perform the pretenders. So there!

On an absolute scale the Minimax 2 is a worthwhile product. Taking into account its size, it is positively brilliant. Its greatest asset is the ability to project the sound image away from the enclosures, out into the room: This makes it very easy to forget the boxes and the size of them.

## The Wall

Used in 'free-space' i.e. clear of all room boundaries, the Minimax understandably loses body in its presentation. Given a wall to help out, however, it can make a nonsense of its dimensions.

The new high frequency unit appears to improve both the smoothness and the spread of the presentation. The image is now much less dependent upon the listener's position and is free of any noticeable frequency response irregularities. Integration between the two units is good and the mid-range has a good solid sound to it.

Someone used to big, free standing enclosures, with a good deal of power behind them, would of course notice the lack of bass extension at once. However, as a starting point in hi-fi, or as a compromise answer in a small room, the Minimax 2s have much to recommend them. At the low price of £75 per pair, they are very good value and should be listened to seriously if you are thinking of buying a pair of small speakers, for whatever purpose.

One word of caution, they are relatively inefficient and hooking up less than 20W a channel is unlikely to elicit the best results from these diminutive demons.



Above: the trusted reference. An SME III doing it's bit whilst sat on a Thorens TD160S. A great deal of mud has been slung at several excellent products lately, including the SME. Ignore it. Let your own ears decide. The SME will stand up to ANY properly conducted comparison (i.e. scientifically). If you think I'm getting upset you could be right. I'm thoroughly cheesed off with unqualified, unprincipled and unsound review techniques. A mandatory qualification for producing some of this stuff seems to be that the applicant must be able to prove he has achieved brain death. End of tantrum.

would recommend around 50W per channel, despite the manufacturer's indrawn breath of cowardice. Take it easy on the volume, to the extent of not pushing in Status Quo full up, and you will be returned a smooth, well imaged sound with good hi-fi extension and more bass than you thought feasible from a box this size!

## The Preamp And The Packing Case!

Also this month I was going to review Musical Fidelity's "The Preamp", an audiophile unit of modest cost and high aspirations. Due entirely to the fact that I am moving house and my entire reference system, nay life, is packed into cardboard boxes and is presently being shuffled through the lanes of Kent, I am unable to do so!

My apologies for this and as soon as normal service is resumed I will complete the findings. Meanwhile, have a topless photo.

Exit Ron Harris pursued by the office chapter of the Womens Liberation Movement, in a none-too benevolent mood.



The Preamp. Not royal, but well titled. Soon, all will be revealed in even *more* detail!

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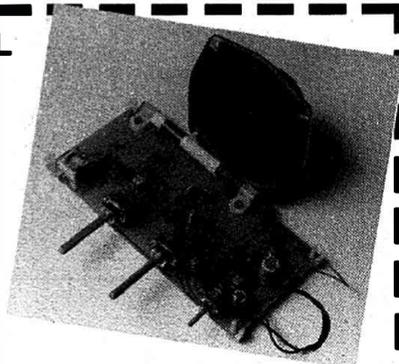
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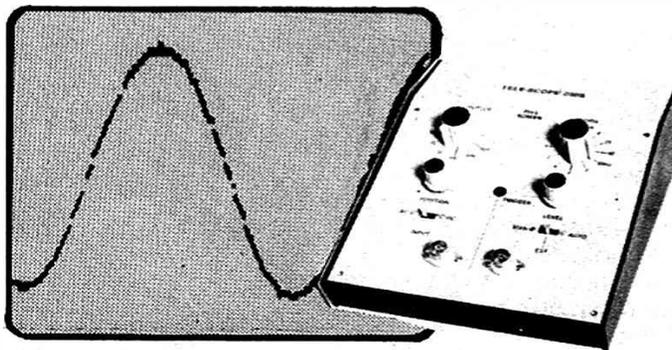
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# Z80 CONTROLLER COMPUTER

## PART TWO

The only way to give MARVIN a sense of proportion is to connect him with the outside world. Peter Grigson and David Harris show us how it's done.

No computer can talk to the outside world on its own - it needs interfaces to achieve this. As we've already mentioned, MARVIN is a modular computer, and so his interfaces are built on separate boards. There are two types of interface - the I/O board, and the interrupt board, both of which we will now proceed to describe.

### The I/O Board

The I/O board is seen by the CPU board as two I/O ports, which we've labelled A and B. Each port

has eight output lines (ie, one byte in either direction) making a total of sixteen lines and eight either direction per board. As we

### HOW IT WORKS I/O BOARD

The circuitry divides into three parts - the control logic (IC1 and 2), Port A (IC3 and 4) and Port B (IC5 and 6). In fact there are four ports per board the input, and to enable the relevant IC. Note that separate but sharing the same addresses.

The port selection logic is very simple; four AND gates are used to detect when one of the ports is being addressed and to enable the relevant IC. Note that the selection signals are active low. Because the system is quite simple, it was not judged necessary to include circuitry to avoid more than one port being enabled at once.

The output ports (ICs 3 and 5) are based on the 74LS373 octal D-type transparent latches: while the EN G input is high, the outputs follow the in-puts. When EN G is taken low, the latches will be set to the current data. There is also an output control which may be useful in some circumstances. When this is taken high, the outputs from the 74LS373 go into a high impedance state, irrespective of the latch contents. However, the latches themselves are unaffected by the output control, and they will retain their current data, or can be set to new data. R1 and R2 keep the output control (OC) inputs, to ICs 3 and 5 respectively, low in the case of no external control signal.

The input ports (ICs 4 and 6) use 74LS244s: these are octal buffer/line drivers with tri-state outputs (the outputs are connected directly to the data bus internally, the buffers are in two groups of four, with separate gate inputs (G1 and G2), and when these inputs are taken low, whatever information is at their data inputs will be placed on to the data bus.

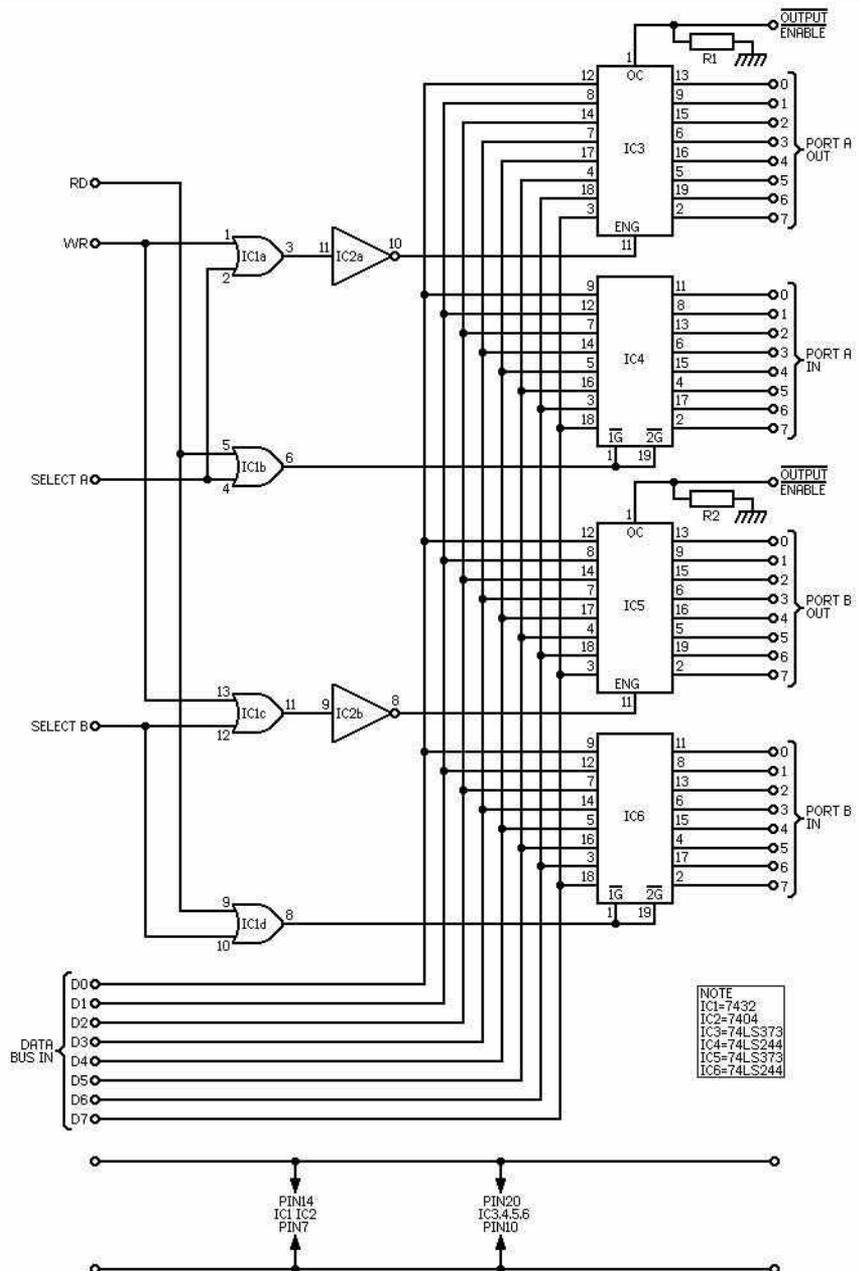


Fig. 1 Circuit of the I/O Board.

mentioned last month, there can be up to five I/O boards (i.e. ten ports) in use with the system as it is presently configured.

To write to a port, the CPU places the required data on the data bus and makes the WR and the relevant port selection line low. The data is actually latched into the port when one or both of these lines goes high again, and until this point the outputs will follow the input data. The data will remain set until that port is written to again.

To change just one bit, the whole byte will have to be rewritten. To the port, with repeat data in the bits you don't want to change.

The output control (OC) can be used to isolate the port from its output lines. This could be useful if the system receiving the output from MARVIN is to any extent autonomous, e.g. it contains another processor. Note, however, that the output lines should never be driven beyond TTL limits (with respect to Marvin's earth), otherwise damage may occur.

When an input port is selected, the inputs to it are buffered on to the data bus. Thus, while they are being accessed, they should be held stable to avoid errors.

Note that there is no way for the I/O board to signal the CPU board that it wishes to transfer data - like a shy little wallflower at a noisy disco, it has to wait until it's asked, and the CPU does the asking by taking RD and the relevant port selection line low.

## Interrupt Board

This board is intended for use with external timing and triggering devices. Via this board, external equipment can make the CPU stop whatever it is doing and pay attention!

Eight interrupt input lines are

## PARTS LIST I/O BOARD

**RESISTORS** (1/4W 5%  
1K

**SEMICONDUCTORS**

IC1 7432 or 74LS32  
IC2 7404 or 74LS04  
IC3, IC5 74LS373  
IC4, IC6 74LS244

**MISCELLANEOUS**

PCB; four 20-pin DIL sockets; pins or edge connector as required

## HOW IT WORKS INTERRUPT BOARD

All the inputs are fed to IC2, an eight-input NAND gate. In the normal state, all the inputs will be high, the output from IC2 will be low, and C1 will not be charged. INT SEL will be inactive, (high) so the OC input to IC1 will be high, disconnecting its outputs from the data bus (IC1 is a 74LS373, as used in the I/O card). The output to IC3a is high, so INT is inactive.

This scene of domestic bliss is rudely disturbed when any input line is pulled down to low. This makes the output of IC2 go high, pulling the node formed at the junction of C1 and R1 high until C1 charges via R1. This makes the output from IC3a go low for about one microsecond, pulling the INT line low and generating the interrupt to the CPU. Also, the EN G input to IC1 is taken high then back to low, which has the effect of latching the data of the input lines into its internal latches.

When the CPU wants to find out which line caused all the trouble, it takes INT SEL and RD low, which enables the outputs of IC1 and places its data on to the data bus.

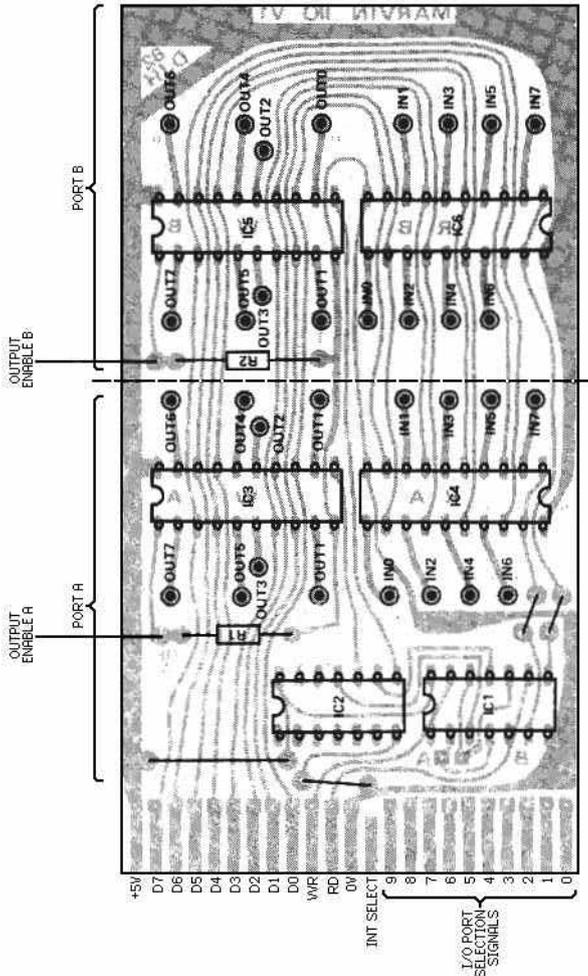


Fig. 2 Overlay of the I/O Board: note that the connections to the edge connector are in the reverse order from the other two types of board. See text before inserting pins.

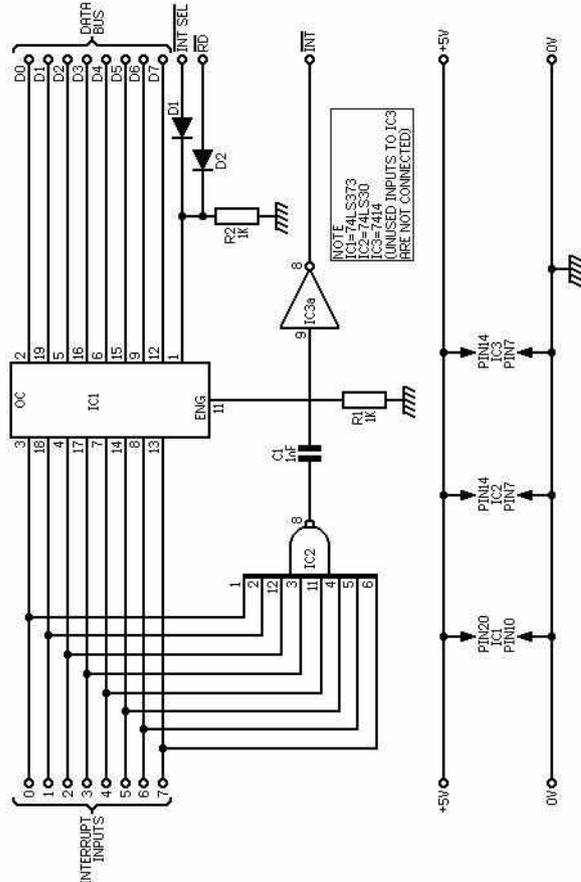
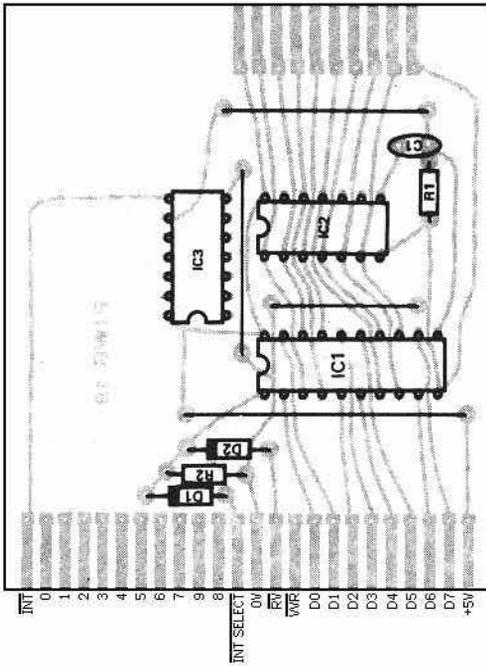


Fig. 3 Circuit of the interrupt board.

Fig. 4 Overlay of the interrupt board.



## Construction

provided, and these should normally be at logic high. If any line is pulled down to low, the CPU will accept the interrupt provided it has executed an enable interrupts (EI) command since the last interrupt occurred or disable interrupts (DI) command was executed. The CPU will not accept further interrupts until EI has been executed again.

The CPU will complete executing the current instruction, then go to the interrupt servicing routine in the operating system. As described in the "How it Works" section, the interrupt board latches the data on the interrupt input lines when one makes the high-to-low transition, and then the monitor instructs the CPU to read this data. This will consist of all 1s except for the bit that corresponds to the input that's causing all the fuss. According to which bit it is that is zero, the CPU will look for the address of the next instruction to be executed from one of eight memory locations in RAM.

Note that the board cannot generate another interrupt until the line that generated the first interrupt is reset to high (and any other lines that have gone high in the mean time have also been reset).

Construction of both these boards should be absolutely straightforward. We recommend using sockets for all but the simplest of the TTL gates (ie, don't bother for IC1 and 2 on the I/O Board, or with IC3 on the Interrupt -Board). Don't forget to insert the wire links as shown, and if you're not bothering with edge connectors, you'll need to insert pins in the PCB next to the edge connector strips. In any case, you may wish to put pins in the positions marked on the I/O board, for defining the address of the ports -but see the I/O Port Identification Section first, and decide whether you'll be changing around the system much.

## Making The Connections

Well, now you've got all the three types of board -how do you connect them up together? As we've already stated, you have a choice between using edge connectors (the rich hobbyists' option) or pins and ribbon cable. In either case, all three boards use

## PARTS LIST INTERRUPT BOARD

**RESISTORS** (1/4 W 5%)  
R1 1K

**CAPACITORS**  
C1 1nF ceramic or polystyrene

**SEMICONDUCTORS**  
IC1 74LS373  
IC2 7430 or 74LS30  
IC3 7414 or 74LS14  
D1, D2 1N4001

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
PCB; one 14-pin DIL socket; one 20-pin DIL socket; pins or edge connector as required

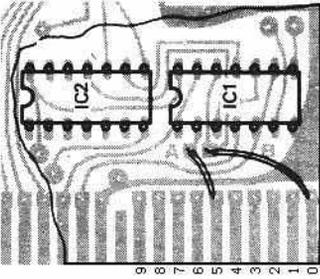
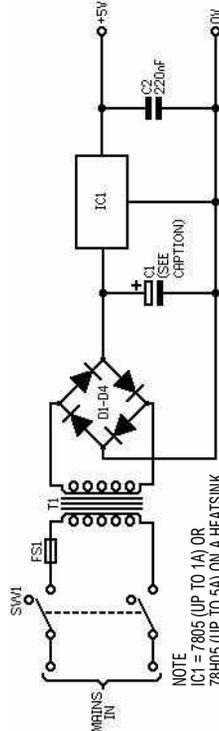


Fig. 5 An example of how the port addresses can be defined on the I/O board itself. In this case, port A has address 5, port B has address 0. There is no need to use pins unless you will be changing around port addresses quite a lot -permanent wire links should do the job otherwise.



NOTE  
IC1 = 7805 (UP TO 1A) OR  
78H05 (UP TO 5A) ON A HEATSINK  
D1 - D4 ARE ANY SUITABLE  
RECTIFIER DIODES (eg. 1N4001)

Fig.6 If you don't have a suitable power supply to hand, you'll have to build one. Here is a fairly standard circuit: allow current consumptions of 500 mA for the CPU board, 200 mA per I/O board, and 100 mA for the interrupt board. The transformer should be able to supply more than enough current to meet the maximum demand, and C1 should be about 5000uF per amp of supply current drawn.

exactly the same connections, but with two irregularities for the I/O board: there is one less tab (INT is omitted), and the tabs are in the opposite order from the other two boards (thus if the boards were mounted in a rack, the I/O board(s) would face in the opposite direction from the CPU and interrupt boards).

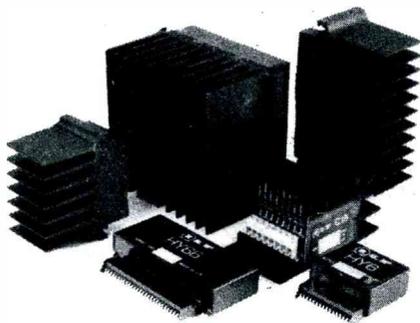
## I/O Port Identification

As we've already mentioned, the CPU sees the I/O boards as two separate ports per board, and each of these two ports must have a unique address. Thus each port selection line (SELECT A and SELECT B in Fig.1) must be connected to just one port selection signal on the main board (in the top right hand corner of Fig.2 last month); furthermore, only one port must be connected to each selection signal. This can be achieved in two ways:

## BUYLINES

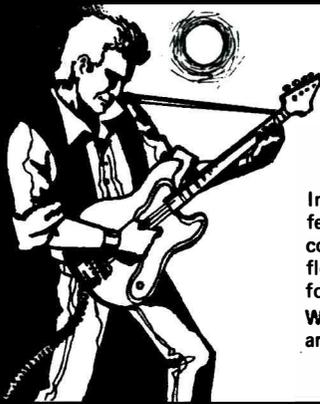
The following will be available from ARK Electronics, 3 Barnhill, Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 2SY (please note this change of address).  
EPROM containing the monitor program, 4 MHz clock, £6.00; 3 MHz (or lower) clock £4.00; Main board PCB, £6.00; Complete 4 MHz kit for the Main Board excluding the operating system EPROM £26.00.  
I/O Board PCB £1.50; Interrupt Board PCB £1.50.  
Because the remaining components for the boards described this month are very easily obtainable, ARK have not judged it worthwhile making kits available from them.

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HY60	30	4-8	0.015%	<0.006%	$\pm 25$	76 x 68 x 40	240	£9.55
HY60B60	30 + 30	4-8	0.015%	<0.006%	$\pm 25$	120 x 78 x 40	420	£18.69
HY124	60	4	0.01%	<0.006%	$\pm 25$	120 x 78 x 40	410	£20.75
HY12B	60	8	0.01%	<0.006%	$\pm 35$	120 x 78 x 40	410	£20.75
HY244	120	4	0.01%	<0.006%	$\pm 35$	120 x 78 x 50	520	£25.47
HY24B	120	8	0.01%	<0.006%	$\pm 50$	120 x 78 x 50	520	£25.47
HY364	180	4	0.01%	<0.006%	$\pm 45$	120 x 78 x 100	1030	£38.41
HY36B	180	8	0.01%	<0.006%	$\pm 60$	120 x 78 x 100	1030	£38.41

Protection: Full load line. Slew Rate: 15v/ $\mu$ s. Rise time: 5 $\mu$ s. S/N ratio: 100db. Frequency response (-3dB) 15Hz - 50KHz. Input sensitivity: 600mV rms. Input Impedance: 100K  $\Omega$ . Damping factor: 100Hz > 400.

#### PRE-AMP SYSTEMS

Module Number	Module	Functions	Current Required	Price inc. VAT
HY6	Mono pre amp	Mic/Mag. Cartridge/Tuner/Tape/Aux + Vol/Bass/Treble	10mA	£7.80
HY66	Stereo pre amp	Mic/Mag. Cartridge/Tuner/Tape/Aux + Vol/Bass/Treble/Balance	20mA	£14.32
HY73	Guitar Pre amp	Two Guitar (Bass Lead) and Mic + separate Volume Bass Treble + Mix	20mA	£15.38
HY78	Stereo pre amp	As HY66 less tone controls	20mA	£14.20

Most pre-amp modules can be driven by the PSU driving the main power amp. A separate PSU 30 is available purely for pre-amp modules if required for £5.47 (inc. VAT). Pre-amp and mixing modules in 18 different variations. Please send for details.

#### Mounting Boards

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PSU 42X	1 x HY12B	£15.90
PSU 43X	1 x MOS12B	£18.70
PSU 51X	2 x HY12B, 1 x HY244	£17.07

Please note: X in part no. indicates primary voltage. Please insert "0" in place of X for 110V, "1" in place of X for 220V, and "2" in place of X for 240V.

#### MOSFET MODULES

Module Number	Output Power Watts rms	Load Impedance $\Omega$	DISTORTION		Supply Voltage Typ	Size mm	WT gms	Price inc. VAT
			T.H.D. Typ at 1KHz	I.M.D. 60Hz/7KHz 4:1				
MOS 12B	60	4-8	<0.005%	<0.006%	$\pm 45$	120 x 78 x 40	420	£30.41
MOS 24B	120	4-8	<0.005%	<0.006%	$\pm 55$	120 x 78 x 80	850	£39.86
MOS 364	180	4	<0.005%	<0.006%	$\pm 55$	120 x 78 x 100	1025	£45.54

Protection: Able to cope with complex loads without the need for very special protection circuitry (fuses will suffice).

Slew rate: 20v/ $\mu$ s. Rise time: 3 $\mu$ s. S/N ratio: 100db. Frequency response (-3dB): 15Hz - 100KHz. Input sensitivity: 500mV rms. Input impedance: 100K  $\Omega$ . Damping factor: 100Hz > 400.

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PSU 71X	2 x HY244	£21.75

Model Number	For Use With	Price inc. VAT
PSU 72X	2 x HY24B	£22.54
PSU 73X	1 x HY364	£22.54
PSU 74X	1 x HY36B	£24.20
PSU 75X	2 x MOS24B, 1 x MOS36B	£24.20

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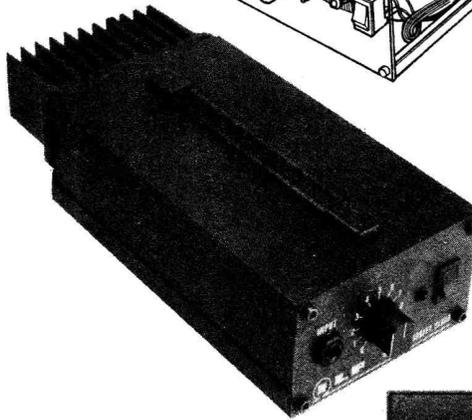
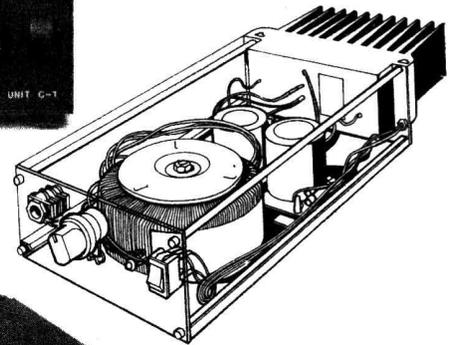
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# 64K DRAM BOARD

Mucking around in memory? Seeking space? Look no further, here's a bounty (no connection with those distracting TV ads) of bits, rapacious in real-estate, for your 6502 or 6800 system to gorge itself on. Design and development by Bob Campbell.

Most microcomputer users find out fairly quickly that there is no such thing as too much memory. But even today with memory as cheap as it is, many systems are on sale with less, often considerably less than the 64K that most eight-bit microprocessors are capable of addressing. The independent suppliers are usually very quick to provide units to fill this gap, but one system not well covered in this respect is the Tangerine Micron/Microtan 65. Until recently, there was only the TAN RAM, but now there is the CMOS alternative. However, despite advantages in power consumption and battery back-up, the CMOS unit, like the TANRAM, is large and fairly expensive. More than one board is required to provide the maximum possible memory. The approach here is to use the highest density dynamic RAM chips readily available and allow the user to access all of it except where it would clash with essential EPROM, I/O or CPU board RAM. This leads to an extremely flexible and cost effective system. Although specifically designed for the Microtan 65 computer together with either a disc system or TUG's Eprom Storage Card (the MOS Disc concept) the design retains enough flexibility to accommodate almost any desired configuration of computer and operating system, the only prerequisite is a 6502 or 6800 CPU.

## Design

The board uses the latest 64K by 1 bit dynamic RAM chips, TMS 4164-15. These are decoded into 64 1K blocks, with all but four of the blocks used in its standard configuration. Making almost 6 1/4% of the RAM effectively redundant may at first sight seem a little extravagant, however even allowing for this the cost per K is less than £1.00. If one adds the other savings on hardware, sockets, power supply requirements board space etc., the

64k chip route stands out above all the other alternatives.

The heart of the system is the 74LS608 memory cycle-controller (MCC). This chip generates all the signals the RAM requires to perform the two types of cycles necessary for proper operation. The MCC generates these signals from the CPU's clocks O1 and O2 together with the decoded signal RE, RAM enable. It is important not to confuse this signal with the Tanbus signal RAME. The only signals used from the bus are the address and data lines together with R/W, O1 and O2 and because of this and the use of a PROM address decoder, this board is very flexible. in design and easily adapted to suit other systems.

## Dynamic RAMs

The two great advantages of dynamic RAM are its extremely low power consumption and its packing density. This is achieved by the design of the actual memory element which is in fact a very small capacitor. The logic level stored being defined by the presence or

absence of a charge on that capacitor. Because all capacitors have a finite leakage, the charge on the capacitors must be periodically topped up. This procedure is called refreshing and is accomplished by performing what is known as a RAS only refresh cycle.

This RAS only refresh cycle consists of first setting up an eight bit address at the input latches and strobing RAS low, while maintaining CAS high. The complete chip is refreshed when all 256 row addresses have been treated similarly. Data retention is assured if all these 256 cycles are completed at least once every 4 msec.

Apart from the necessity to refresh every 4 msec there is one other penalty to pay for the 16 pin packing density and that is the multiplexed address bus. Figure 1 shows the internal architecture of the 4164.

To address every memory element within the IC, 16 address bits must be applied; These are separated into the row address and the column address, each latched onto the multiplexed address bus

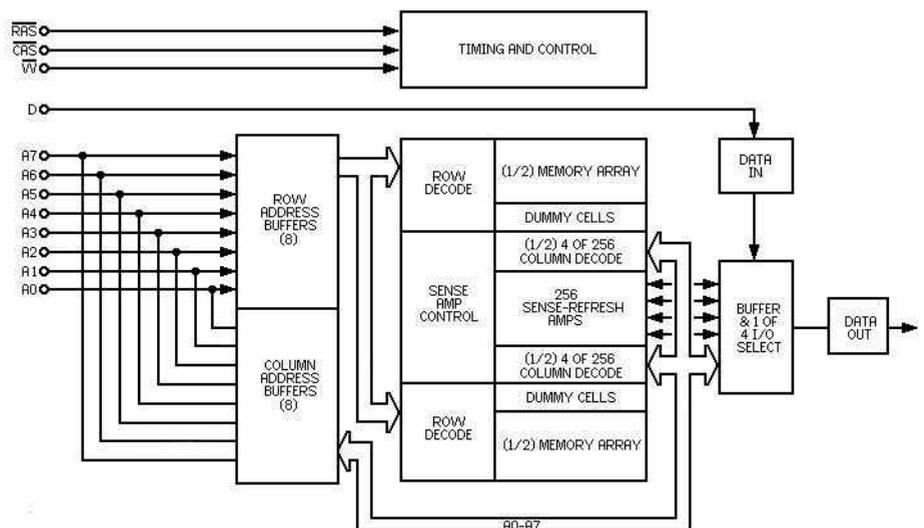


Fig.1 Internal architecture of the TMS4164 DRAMs used in the project.

# PROJECT

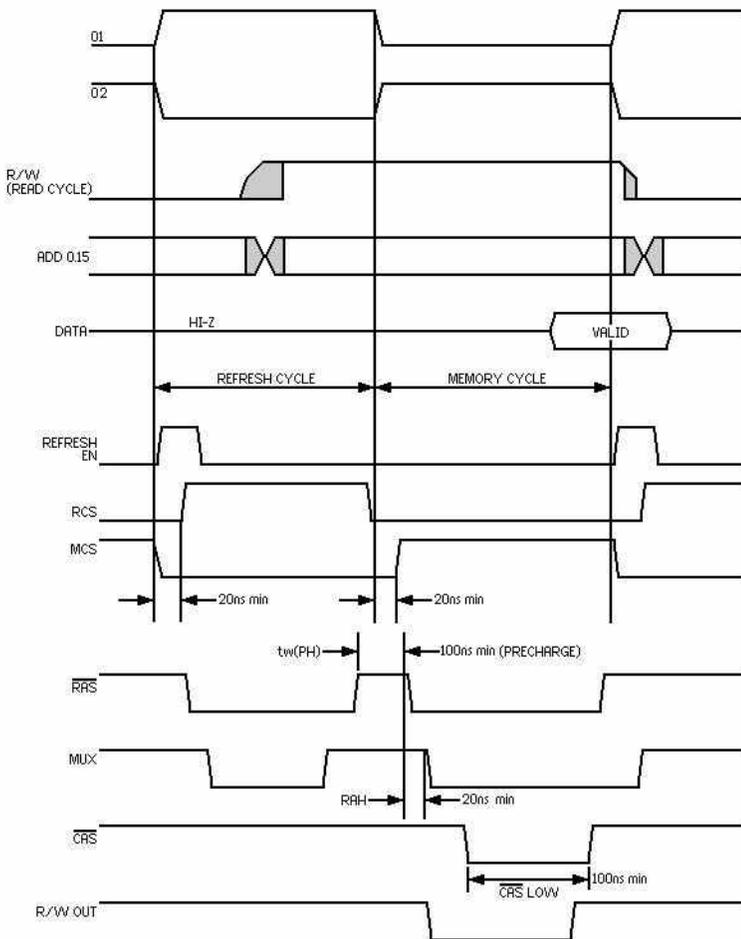


Fig. 2 Processor and memory cycle controller timing.

upon the appropriate signal RAS or CAS.

In full, the memory cycle consists of five stages. Firstly the row address pins and RAS pulled low. Then the address multiplexers are switched placing the other eight bits, the column address, onto the address pins and CAS pulsed low. This last operation enables the chip and, depending on the status of the R/W line, enables the input or output buffers, thus completing a read or write cycle.

There are two other possible types of cycle, the page mode read/write and the read modify write cycles. However since neither of these apply to the 6502 or 6800 type of processor it is not necessary to consider them further here.

It is important to note that the 6502 operates in what is known as the early write cycle where the R/W line is set up long before CAS goes low. This enables the data in (D) and data out (Q) pins to be connected together and thus have a common data bus.

Obviously the sequence and timing of the two cycles, refresh and memory, is extremely important. The RAS only refresh cycle is particularly significant for two reasons: firstly, it is necessary to perform it regularly (256 times every 4 msec), and secondly, it is effectively a dead cycle, when the CPU cannot access memory.

Refresh cycles can be carried out in either burst mode or hidden transparent mode. Burst refresh is a technique where all the memory elements are refreshed consecutively whilst the processor is held in a wait or halted state. This dead time is called the refresh overhead, which, more accurately, is defined as the ratio of the time taken to refresh all the memory elements and the maximum refresh interval. In well-designed systems with the 4 msec 64K rams this overhead can be as low as 2%. As the circuitry needed to maintain this type of refresh system is complex it is not commonly used outside the realms of very fast microcomputers, minis and mainframe systems.

The other technique, hidden refresh, is the more commonly used. This technique relies upon the fact that the CPU will always have a period within any instruction or machine cycle when it will not access the system bus, and one refresh cycle can be accomplished during this period. Thus after a maximum of 256 instruction cycles all the memory elements will have been serviced. This technique has the great advantage of a zero refresh overhead rate and is totally transparent to the CPU and thus the user.

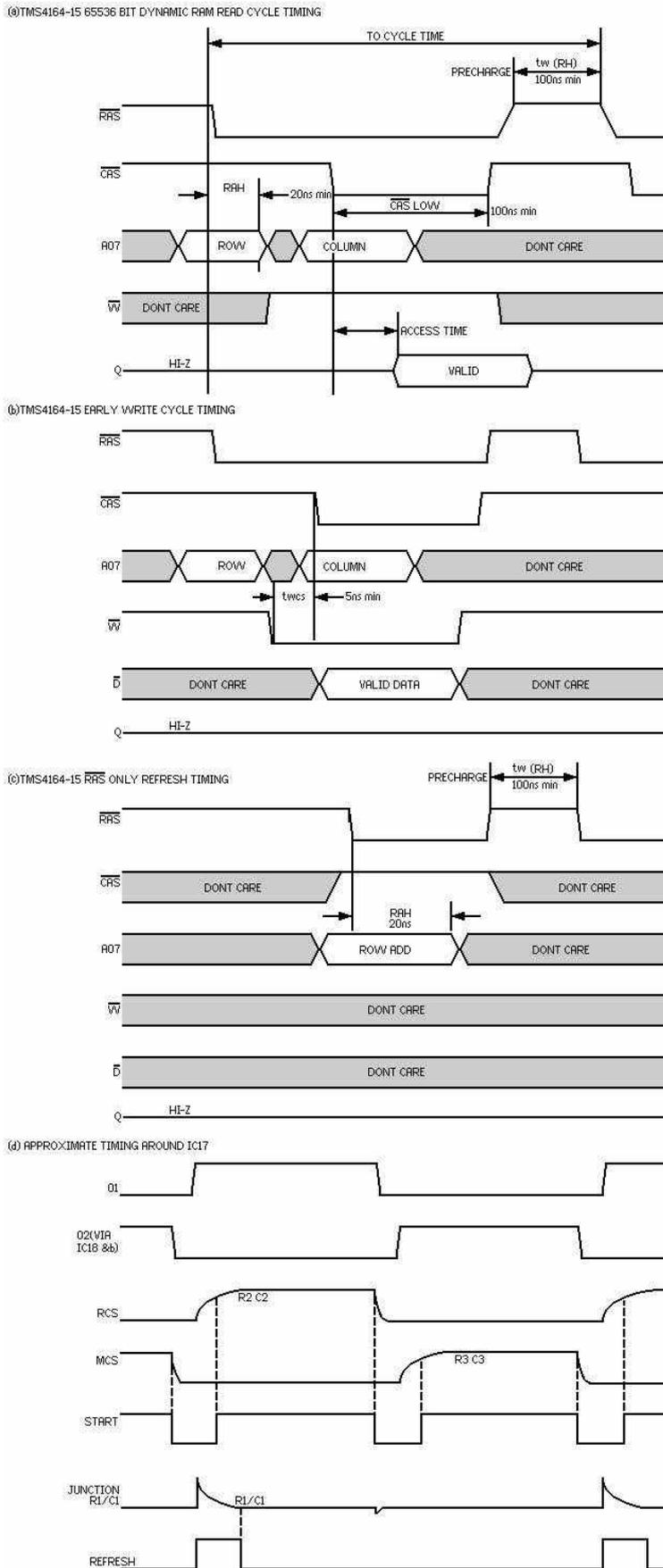
In this design the two cycles, refresh and memory, are sequenced by the main CPU clocks O1 and O2. While O1 is high, the CPU sets up the R/W and address lines, the rising edge of O2 signifying a valid memory address. This edge of O2 is normally used to enable the address and data buffers. Thus while O1 is high, the CPU is normally isolated from the system bus, and the refresh cycle can be accomplished during this period. In addition by using O1 to clock the eight bit refresh row address counter all 256 row addresses can be refreshed sequentially. Figure 3 shows exactly the relationship and timing of these events.

## PROM Program Design

The memory map of the RAM board is controlled directly by the TBP24S10 PROM, which acts as a complex address decoder. Before programming the PROM, the desired memory map must be established. The minimum requirement for most systems will be the system monitor, the I/O area and unless there is a serial VDU as the screen, some screen memory. Some systems use a relocatable area of memory for the screen RAM, the video controller accessing the system bus directly. If the target system is of this type then no provision should be made for the screen RAM in the PROM program. Remember the overriding factor when designing the memory map is that there must not be two components within the system which have the same address. Taking the standard configuration of the Microtan as our worked example, the minimum memory map is as shown in Fig 4.

Once you've determined the memory map(s) required, the upper six address lines should be written out bit fashion (bit by bit ...?). Each bit corresponds to a PROM address bit; however because of the PCB board layout, the one-to-one

Fig. 3 Memory timing for various operations and approximate timing round the MCC.



response is not in numerical order.

In addition, by using the two extra PROM address lines A7 and A8, there is the facility to have up to four programs and therefore four memory maps resident on the board at one time, selectable by means of the DIL switch SW1. Using the two tables 1 and 2 it is possible to calculate all the PROM addresses which are required to be 'blown'.

Remember that PROMs are not erasable, once a memory location is altered from the "all 1's" condition, it cannot be reversed. There is however an escape route if a mistake is made during programming. The program is created by blowing only the operative bits within the data word from a 1 to a 0. In this design, only one of the four bits available is used (bit 4). If an error is made during programming, then it is possible to use an alternative bit by breaking the PCB track at pin 9 IC15, installing a link to either pin 10, 11 or 12 (bits 1-3 inc.) and reprogramming the PROM using the appropriate data word. (Alternatively, this would make it possible to hold a total of 16 memory maps in the PROM).

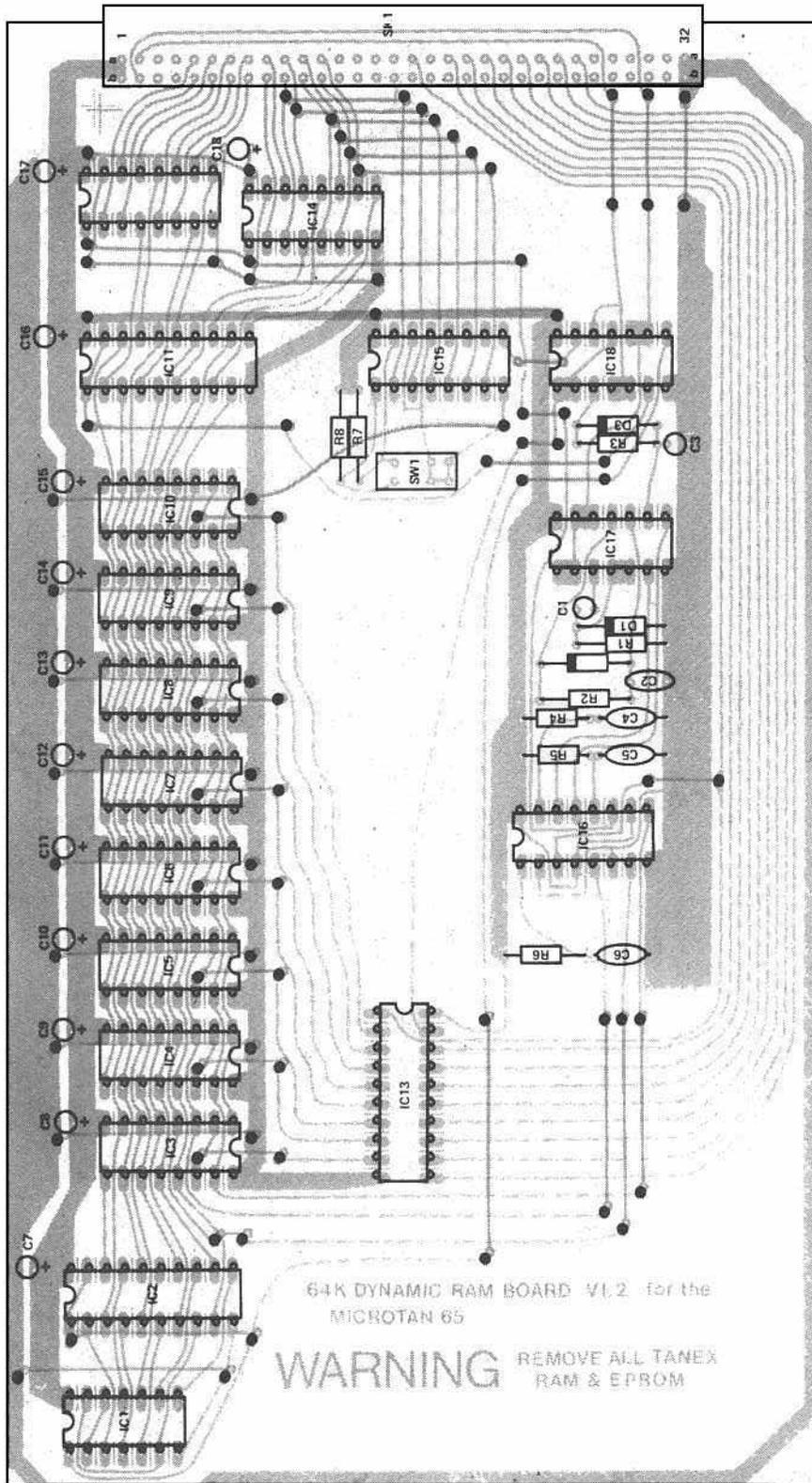
It is beyond the scope of this article to describe the methods for actually programming the PROM, suffice to say that the amount of programming by nature of its use, is small, so it would be feasible to use the switchbox type of programmer.

## Construction and Setting Up

The construction of the board is very straightforward, particularly if the PCB design presented here is followed exactly: there are, after all, only 18 ICs. The PCB is a double sided design but to keep costs down it doesn't use plated-through holes. To make the necessary interconnections, track pins or short lengths of wire must be soldered between the two in the positions marked on the overlay diagram with a black dot. These pins must be soldered in first,

AREA	HEX ADD	SIZE
A) TANBUG	FFFF	2K
RAM	F800	
	C000	14K
B) I/O	BFFF	1K
	BC00	
RAM	BBFF	46K
	0400	
C) CPU BOARD	03FF	1K
RAM	0000	

Fig. 4 Minimum memory map for the Microtan.



## BUYLINES

One or two not so easy to obtain items here. The TBP24S10 PROM and 74LS608 memory cycle controller chip were tracked down to Farnell Electronic Components Ltd, Canal Road, Leeds LS12 2TU. At £2.42 and £6.44 respectively plus 55p p&p plus VAT these shouldn't break the bank. The 1% metal film resistors are available from Rapid, Cricklewood, Watford and many others. The specified memories and other TIL devices are advertised by Midwich Computer Company Ltd. And, in case you hadn't guessed, the PCB will be available through our own service.

## PARTS LIST

### RESISTORS

R1, R2, R3  
R4, R6  
R5  
R7, R8

1K hi-stab metal film 1%  
4K3 hi-stab metal film 1%  
1K1 hi-stab metal film 1%  
1K carbon 1/4W 5%

C3

68p ceramic plate 2% or better, or silver mica 1%

C4

220p ceramic plate 2% or better, or silver mica 1%

C5

68p ceramic plate 2% or better, or silver mica 1%

C6

120p ceramic plate 2% or better, or silver mica 1%

C7, C17

10u tantalum

C8-C16, C18

1u tantalum

### CAPACITORS

C1  
C2

100p ceramic plate 2% or better, or silver mica 1%  
150p ceramic plate 2% or better, or silver mica 1%

### SEMICONDUCTORS

IC1  
IC2, IC11  
IC3-IC10  
IC12, IC13  
IC14  
IC15  
IC16  
IC17  
IC18  
D1, D2, D3

74LS393  
74LS244  
TMS4164-15p  
74LS157  
74LS245  
TBP24S10  
74LS608  
74LS32  
74LS00  
1N4148

### MISCELLANEOUS

DIN 41612 64 way double-sided connector;  
DIL 2 pole on/off switch; DIL sockets: 3 off 20 pin, 12 off 16 pin, 3 off 14 pin; PCB;

# PROJECT

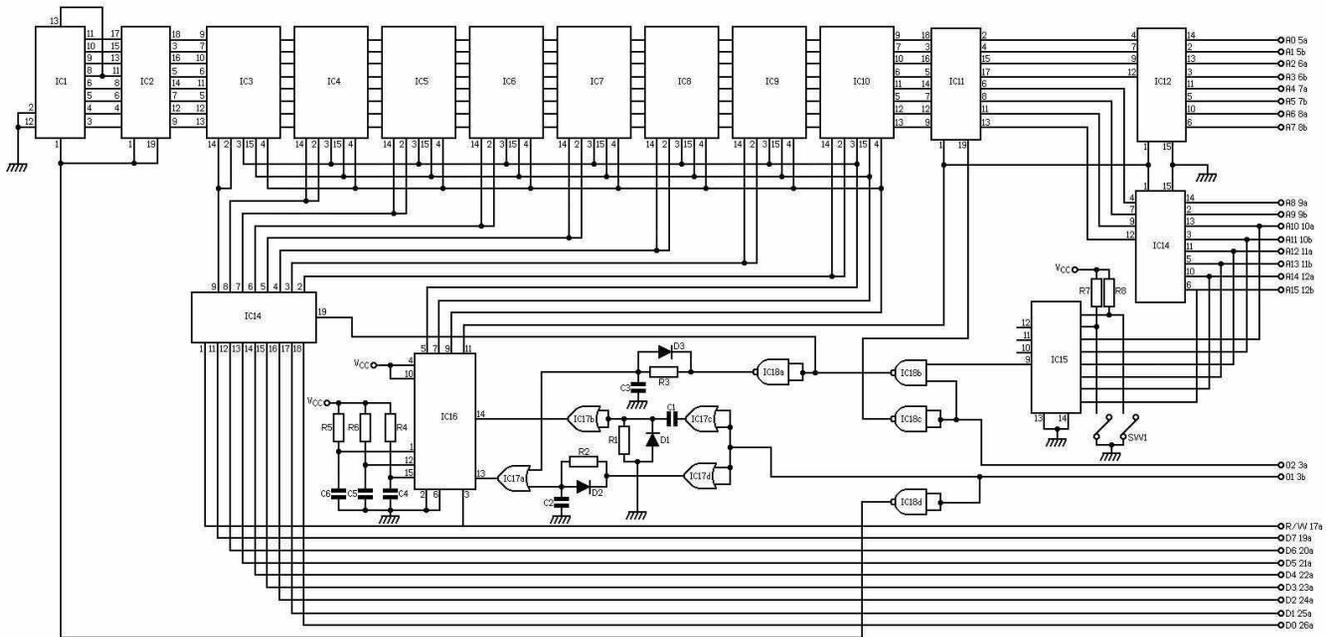
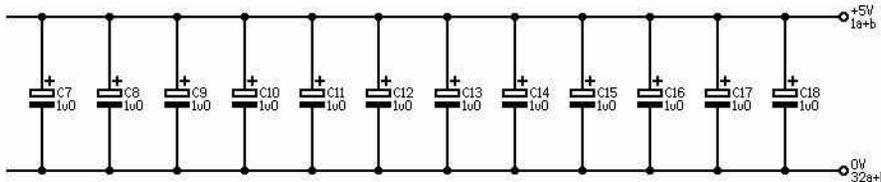


Fig.5 Circuit diagram of the complete project.



Power lines & decoupling capacitors. 1u0 all tantalum. 10u tantalum or low leakage solid electrolytic.

prior to any other components, as there are some beneath the DIL sockets; I advise checking the continuity of each one thoroughly, as mistakes are difficult to rectify later. The remainder of the soldered components can be assembled in almost any order, but I've found that it pays to be systematic and to follow a list, checking off each component as it is soldered in.

All the usual checks should be carried out before the ICs are inserted into their sockets. Particular attention should be given to avoiding solder bridges in the daisy chained RAM area of the board.

It is useful to insert the chips in three stages and perform some functional checks on the system at each stage. The first of these stages is to insert the PROM and all the TTL, with the exception of the 74LS608

(IC16) and the 74LS245 data bus buffer (IC14). Now powering up the board on the bus can be performed with all the Tanex RAM and EPROM still resident without the risk of any memory conflict occurring. This procedure will allow you to check the following items with the system running.

A dual beam oscilloscope is really desirable particularly if you have

deviated from the timing component values for any reason. However it should be possible if you don't have access to an oscilloscope to use a good logic probe to check that all the appropriate signals are present.

The most relevant signals to check first are 01 and 02 and their complements 01, 02, RE and DBE should be active only when a valid address within your programmed memory map is accessed. Next check that the two address buffers, IC2 and IC11, are switching correctly

SYSTEM ADDRESS						HEX ADD.	COMMENTS
A15	A14	A13	A12	A11	A10		
1	1	1	1	1	1	FFFF	TANBUG
1	1	1	1	1	0	F800	
1	0	1	1	1	1	BFFF	I/O
1	0	1	1	1	1	BC00	
0	0	0	0	0	0	03FF	CPU BOARD RAM
0	0	0	0	0	0	0000	

Table 1 Revised system memory map.

Table 2. Programming sheet for the PROM.

64K DYNAMIC RAM BOARD PROM PROGRAMMING SHEET ... OF ... 4										
SYTEM ADDRESS	SW1	SW2	11	10	13	14	15	12	HEX PROM ADD	
PROM ADDRESS	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	BLOW TO 07	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	00	
	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	3F	
	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	2F	
	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	3B	

exactly 180° out of phase with each other, and that the refresh address counter IC1 is functioning correctly as an eight-bit counter. The final check at this stage is to measure the pulse delay and shaper circuits formed by the diode/resistor networks and IC17. The three signals RAS cycle start (RCS), memory cycle start (MCS) and refresh (RFSH) should all correspond to the timing diagram in Figure 3. Any deviation should be adjusted by altering the value of the capacitor and/or resistor within the relevant RC network. However if the stated tolerances of the components are adhered to there should be no problems.

Having completed all the checks and adjustments so far the next stage is to insert the 74LS608 memory cycle controller, which should produce the necessary signals RAS, CAS, MUX and R/W. These four main signals should be checked against the timing diagrams in Figures 2 and 3. The important factors are the relationships between cycle start, CS, and RAS, MUX, CAS sequence and the RAS refresh cycle. The row address hold time RAH, CAS low and the precharge time are the major controlling times and are all programmable via the three RC networks on the 74LS608. Under standard conditions with the 750KHz Microtan system clock these times have quite a large latitude. However with faster clock rates the times become proportionally more critical. All these times can be calculated from the memory data sheets.

One fault which may occur at this point has the symptoms RAS permanently low, CAS, MUX and R/W permanently high. If this situation exists try shorting very briefly pin 12 to ground. If the controller then starts to function correctly then the 74LS608 is at fault. I understand from Texas that on a number of the older batches of chips there is a fault with the power-on-reset circuit, newer batches, I am assured, are all O.K.

Having checked that all the relevant signals are present at the RAM chip sockets, the RAM chips themselves can now be inserted. Power down first. These are very static sensitive so take all the usual precautions, they are also upside down in relation to the other ICs on the board.

Be warned that if they are inserted with pin 1 to the upper edge of the board they will be irrevocably damaged, and at £4.00 each a mistake could be very expensive. Finally insert the data buffer IC13. With construction and testing completed there is still one task to finish before the board is inserted back into the rack and powered up. Remove all Tanex RAM and EPROM, and all other memory map conflicts, for example the hires graphics board, failure to do this will probably destroy ALL the memory components in the system.

After powering up the board in the now "minimised" system, unless you've chosen to create a memory map option which retains the Tanex EPROM your system will be running in Tanbug or TUG bug. The quickest way to check the RAM from here is to boot up Basic and XBUG from disc or ESC and let it do the check. 47103 BYTES FREE should appear as the message header. Note some difficulties may be experienced because the F7F7 error jump will not exist immediately. This will show up only if an error occurs during the boot up procedure e.g. miss keying; simply RESET and start again to recover.

Assuming this initial check appears to be OK then a more comprehensive memory test routine should be performed; the one published in the November 1981 issue of Computing. Today is most suitable. However it should be noted that these types of test do not pick out the periodic bit drop out and only extensive usage in BASIC or similar will show up this problem.

### Other Systems

The board relies only upon signals derived directly from the CPU 01, 02, R/W and the address and data buses. Since all these signals will be present in any 6502-6800 system, conversion is relatively simple.

The only component that needs to be altered in anyway is the PROM which does all the decoding. The essential considerations are those concerning the design of the memory map and, in particular, possible address conflicts. Remember no two components, be they RAM or I/O should have the same address! A suggestion for those with a Microtan but no discs or ESC is to leave the XBUG EPROM resident (F000-F7FF) and use the tape routines instead.

As so much detail has been given in the general section, this 'How It Works' is going to be fairly brief. During 01 high the main bus buffers IC11 and IC13 are disabled, removing the RAM from the system bus. The refresh row address counter IC1 is connected directly to the RAM ICs (IC3-10) via the enabled buffer IC2. The rising edge of 01 is first buffered by two OR gates and then, via the pulse generator network D1, C1, R1, IC17, it applies a pulse to the REFRESH ENABLE pin (14) of the memory cycle controller IC16. The same rising edge is delayed by D2, C2, R2, IC17, before reaching the CYCLE START pin 13 of IC16. This delay is necessary to satisfy the refresh hold time of the memory cycle controller, and must be maintained at 20ns minimum. The MCC then responds by pulsing RAS low for a period of time determined by the RC network at pin 12, the row address hold time. The rising edge of RAS is the end of the refresh cycle.

The memory cycle starts with the rising edge of 02 (falling edge of 01) at which point the address bus buffer is enabled directly by 02 and assuming the address is within the memory map, the PROM output 04 is already high. This output combined with 02 produces via IC18 two signals DBE and RE.

DBE enables the data buffer IC13; RE delayed via 03, C1, R3, IC17 is fed to the CYCLE START input of IC16 the memory cycle controller. This last event causes the MCC to start the actual memory access cycle. The RAS output (pin 7) goes low then, after the programmed RAH time, the R/W line is allowed to pass through and the MUX output then goes low switching over the address multiplexers IC12 and IC14 to the column address. CAS then goes low for a period of time CAS LO. All three outputs RAS, CAS, MUX then go high. This point should coincide with the falling edge of 02 when the data from or to the RAM is latched by either the CPU or the memory depending on the status of the R/W line.

The next refresh cycle then occurs on the rising edge of 01 and so the system carries on until the power is removed.

Those who design their own PCBs should take care to heed the memory manufacturer's recommendations on decoupling and PCB layout around those chips. Particular attention should be given to the ground and power supply lines, which effectively surround each chip; the arrangement of interlocking fingers on the typical breadboard is definitely out. Similarly the decoupling of the TTL chips should be comprehensive enough to avoid too much power supply noise, a major culprit of periodic bit drop out. Lastly, the 74LS608 MCC gets hot, but since the lead-frame is directly coupled with both the substrate and the ground pin, a large area of copper around pin 8 should alleviate the problem and improve reliability. With regards to systems employing faster clock rates than 1 MHz, as long as, the RAH, PRECHARGE CAS low times and the refresh hold time for the MCC are satisfied (calculating them from the manufacturer's data sheets), no significant problems should occur.



# READ/WRITE

## Switch Troubles

Dear Sir,

I have recently had an unfortunate incident with an EPROM programmer, in which two PIRs and a 7805 regulator were destroyed. The incident happened when throwing a switch (which swapped a certain supply line between 25V and 5V). The result was that the programmer went dead, along with the 5V power supply and the two PIR's. (The 25V supply was not affected as it was simply two car batteries in series.) The cause was simple, when the switch was half way across when switching over, it joined the 25V and the 5V supplies with the aforementioned results.

To be honest I now consider myself lucky that the 5V power supply was only supplying the programmer, if it supplied the rest of the computer as well then I have no doubts. whatsoever that I would be left with a PCB of fried chips of the silicon sort of course.

To get to the point, I am now very wary about what switch I use for such purposes, and I would advise that others watch out for these type of switches, which should not really be sold.

Yours faithfully,  
R. P. D. Mallett,  
Sandwich, Kent

P.S: If you don't believe that a firm would make such a switch then try out the enclosed one. (You can keep it!)

P.P.S: Thanks for an excellent magazine!

This reader has demonstrated all too effectively that it's important to distinguish between make-before-break and break-before-make types of switches! For instance, so far as we are aware, all toggle switches are break-before-make, and a large proportion (but not all) slider switches are make-before-break. In fact, it was a slider switch that was sent to us by the above correspondent.

## Induction Loops

Dear Sir,

I was very impressed by the excellence of the article on 'Inductance Loops' by Vivian Capel in the February 1983 issue of Electronics Today. It is a very clear exposition of the way to design an induction loop for hearing-aid users and to decide on the amplifier and transformers required for most systems.

As manufacturers of every sort of audio transformer for more than 40 years we have been approached on many occasions to give advice on inductor installation, particularly in churches, where frequently there is a limited budget and the volunteer from the congregation who undertakes the work is generally non-technical. In future we propose to refer him to Mr Vivian Capel's article and to co-operate by supplying the most reasonably priced transformers for the project. These can be specially designed without additional cost to fit in with the usual PA system amplifier already installed or separate amplifier if desired. The transformer audio outputs we have encountered within the last year or so are mostly between 20 and 700 watts, although last year in a large theatre up north, we supplied four 700 watt transformers which were used presumably for the stall, circles and gallery areas.

Inductor loops are not new although in connection with deaf aids they have come into prominence of recent years. In about 1934 - nearly 50 years ago- the following pioneering experiments were carried out by the undersigned who was building a new house at the time. It was decided for the purpose of listening to radio to install a continuous twin wire cable behind the wainscoting around every room in the house with sockets provided so that a loudspeaker could be plugged in anywhere and this still exists. Whilst working on inductor devices for HM Services at that time, it occurred to me that by putting my twin wires in parallel and feeding the loops in the rooms from my amplifier with two LS5 valves for output, I was creating an audio magnetic field everywhere. I then took various annealed mumetal rods about 1/4" diameter and tried them on different search coils which were connected to my very sensitive S.G. Brown A type adjustable gap earphones normally used for my ham radio reception

(my call sign then, and now was G205). Incidentally these phones had conical diaphragms like miniature moving coil speakers which were operated by a cantilever reed.

I found that by wearing the phones connected to the search coil I could sit in any room without being connected by wires and listen to the radio programs. It did occur to me that by having loops upstairs and downstairs I had a Helmholtz coil system which tended to give excellent magnetic field distribution, particularly in the middle of the room. (We use much smaller Helmholtz coils nowadays to determine the screening effect of mumet I can by taking voltages picked up by a search coil in air and then enclosed in the can).

All my experiments were published by me in an article in the Wireless World in the mid 1930's. I remember suggesting that the pick up device in cinemas and theaters could be in the form of a mumetal walking stick or umbrella stick fitted with a search coil, and for the ladies (shades of Queen Victoria) - a mumetal handle with search coil on lorgnette spectacles.

I do not claim to be the originator of induction loops but my amateur pioneering experiments were certainly carried out and published more than 45 years ago.

Yours truly,  
Dr G. A. V. Sowter,  
Consultant to Sowter Transformers  
PO Box 36, Ipswich IP1 2EG

## Holophony

Dear E.T.I.

I was interested to read about Mr Zuccarelli and his Holophony in July ETI, and thought you might be interested to hear of my own experiments with the idea.

About 15 years ago, having built a stereo tape recorder, I then got to wondering why two microphones did not give a very clear recording when two ears were obviously adequate for us. The obvious difference seemed to be the ears.

I then conducted experiments at the dead of night under the bedclothes (not having an anechoic chamber!), trying to decide in the dark where the tick of a pocket watch appeared to come from. I discovered that the various lobes on the outer ear give us a means of judging direction of sound. By pressing down and 'blanking off' different bits of the ear I discovered which bit did which - those at the

top tell us about sound above the head, and the bits at the back are to do with front-back direction, and so on.

I then modeled two Plasticine ears and fitted them to omni-directional mic inserts. Fitted to a paper-mache head (filled with cloth, to damp self resonance), the results were quite spectacular - especially using headphones.

I enlisted the help of a few school friends and found that the 'head' gave quite repeatable results. We found we had to put felt 'hair' on the back to aid front-back discrimination.

There seemed to be some variation in perceived results between different people - which seemed to be due to variations in the size of ear, and different hair lengths.

When I was at university, I excitedly announced my findings to my tutor - who was at one time an accomplished recording engineer - He Said: "Oh yes, they did all that research in the '30's at Bell Telephone Labs!" So there I rather left it - but I am sure the principle has possibilities, although there will always be greater or lesser variations between the dimensions of the head and ears used to record and the head and ears which receive the recording, and therefore

some subjective variation of results. As to the idea being new - it seems that truly nothing is.

Yours sincerely  
Richard Buswell  
Buswell Machine Electronics  
Skelmersdale

We're now convinced that there is something more to the holophonic technique than we thought when we published Vivian Capel's report. This is due to Dave Bradshaw having had the opportunity of visiting Hugo Zuccarelli and hearing holophonic sound at first hand, through loudspeakers as well as headphones. We're hoping to do a full report on this at some stage in the future, time and space permitting, but in the meanwhile ETI readers might like to try explaining the results of the following experiment, that you can do for yourselves. It takes two people, one of whom we'll call the experimenter, and the other is the subject.

The subject should shut his or her eyes, and firmly jam a finger in one ear, so that all sound is excluded (so far as possible). The experimenter should take a box of matches (or a ring of keys) and shake it, moving it around the subject's head. The subject should be asked to point in the direction from which the sound is coming. Most people with normal hearing (provided their ears aren't blocked up with wax!) should be able to point approximately in the direction of the sound, even when it is on the other side of the head from the open ear. To make the conditions more stringent, you could start shaking the matches from this side, so that there is no possibility of the brain having a 'reference sound with which to refer the (ear lobe modified) sound to.

If any of our readers have access to an anechoic chamber we'd be most interested in hearing of the results of doing the above experiment in it. We'd also like to hear of anyone who has access to a conventional dummy head recording (Sennheiser did have such a recording, but their UK office was unable to help us).

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19 x 3.5	17 x 3 x 10	24.09 20.09
19 x 3	17 x 2.5 x 10	24.09
19 x 2.5	17 x 2 x 10	22.94 18.94
19 x 6	17 x 5.5 x 12	28.89 24.69
19 x 5	17 x 4.5 x 12	27.54 23.54
19 x 4	17 x 3.5 x 12	25.24 21.24
19 x 3.5	17 x 3 x 12	24.09 20.09
17 x 3.5	15.5 x 3 x 9	21.79 17.79
17 x	15.5 x 2 x 9	20.64 18.64
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# ETI PCB SERVICE

Up till now PCBs were always the hardest component to obtain for a project. Of course you could make your own, but why bother anymore! Now you can buy your board straight from the designers - us! As of this issue all (non-copyright) PCBs will be available automatically from the ETI PCB Service. Each board is produced from the same master used to build our prototypes, so you can be sure it's accurate, and will be finished to the high standard you would expect from ETI. In addition to the PCBs for this month's projects, we are making available some of the more popular designs from our recent past. See the list below for details. Please note that NO OTHER BOARDS ARE AVAILABLE. If it's not listed, we don't have it!

## ALWAYS QUOTE THE PCB CODE WHEN ORDERING PLEASE

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|--|--|---|---|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> E/794-2 Click Eliminator . . . . . 6.64                     | <input type="checkbox"/> E/8111-1 Voice Over Unit . . . . . 3.97               | <input type="checkbox"/> E/8111-2 Car Alarm . . . . . 2.81        | <input type="checkbox"/> E/8212-4 Spectracolumn . . . . . 4.82                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E/796-1 Accented Beat Metronome 3.60                        | <input type="checkbox"/> E/8111-3 Phone Bell Shifter . . . . . 2.96            | <input type="checkbox"/> E/8112-1 Alcometer (2 boards) . 5.21     |   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> E/8112-3 Bodywork Checker . . . . . 1.75              | <input type="checkbox"/> E/8112-4 Component Tester . . . . . 1.49 |   |
| <b>1980</b>  |  | <b>1982</b>   | <b>1983</b>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E/803-1 Signal Tracer . . . . . 2.27                        | <input type="checkbox"/> E/808-1 CMOS Logic Tester . . . . . 2.64              | <input type="checkbox"/> E/821-1 Parking Timer . . . . . 2.20     | <input type="checkbox"/> E/831-1 Fuel Gauge . . . . . 3.00                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E/808-3 Ultrasound Burglar Alarm . 2.87                     | <input type="checkbox"/> E/8010-1 Cassette Interface . . . . . 2.93            | <input type="checkbox"/> E/821-3 Guitar Tuner (2 boards) . 5.55   | <input type="checkbox"/> E/831-2 ZX ADC . . . . . 2.25                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E/8010-2 Fuzz/Sustain Box . . . . . 3.27                    | <input type="checkbox"/> E/8011-5 RIAA Preamp . . . . . 1.93                   | <input type="checkbox"/> E/822-1 Ripple Monitor . . . . . 1.92    | <input type="checkbox"/> E/831-3 Programmable PSU . . . . . 3.00                |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> E/8012-3 Four Input Mixer . . . . . 2.64                    | <input type="checkbox"/> E/8012-3 Four Input Mixer . . . . . 2.64              | <input type="checkbox"/> E/822-5 Moving Magnet Stage . . . 3.49   | <input type="checkbox"/> E/833-2 Alarm Module . . . . . 3.15                    |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> E/823-4 Capacitance Meter (2 Bd) 10.14   | <input type="checkbox"/> E/833-3 ZX81 User Graphics . . . . 0.93                |
| <b>1981</b>  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> E/824-5 Voltage Monitor . . . . . 1.86   | <input type="checkbox"/> E/833-4 Logic Probe . . . . . 2.17                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E/811-1 LED Tacho . . . . . 4.13                            | <input type="checkbox"/> E/811-2 Multi-Option Siren . . . . . 3.20             | <input type="checkbox"/> E/825-1 DV Meg . . . . . 2.72            | <input type="checkbox"/> E/834-1 Real Time Clock . . . . . 7.60                 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> E/814-2 Drum Machine (2 boards) . 5.60                      | <input type="checkbox"/> E/814-4 Guitar Note Expander . . . 3.20               | <input type="checkbox"/> E/826-4 MOSFET Amp Module . . . 6.78     | <input type="checkbox"/> E/834-5 Stage Lighting - Display . . 3.00              |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> E/817-1 System AS- Input<br>(MM or MC) . . . . . 2.65       | <input type="checkbox"/> E/817-2 System A - Preamp . . . . . 5.17              | <input type="checkbox"/> E/826-6 Digital PWM . . . . . 3.34       | <input type="checkbox"/> E/835-2 Single PSU . . . . . 2.75                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E/817-3 Smart Battery Charger . . . 1.97                    | <input type="checkbox"/> E/818-3 Hand Clap Synth . . . . . 3.97                | <input type="checkbox"/> E/826-7 Optical Sensor . . . . . 1.74    | <input type="checkbox"/> E/835-3 Dual PSU . . . . . 3.49                        |
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|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> E/8210-1 Message Panel (2 Boards) 10.70  | <input type="checkbox"/> E/837-2 Trigger Unit Main Board . . 2.32               |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> E/8211-4 Pulse Generator . . . . . 5.29  | <input type="checkbox"/> E/837-3 Trigger Unit Transmitter . . 1.44              |
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|  |  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> E/839-3 64K DRAM . . . . . 12.24                       |

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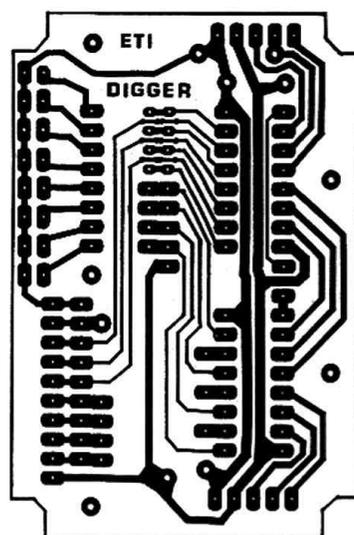
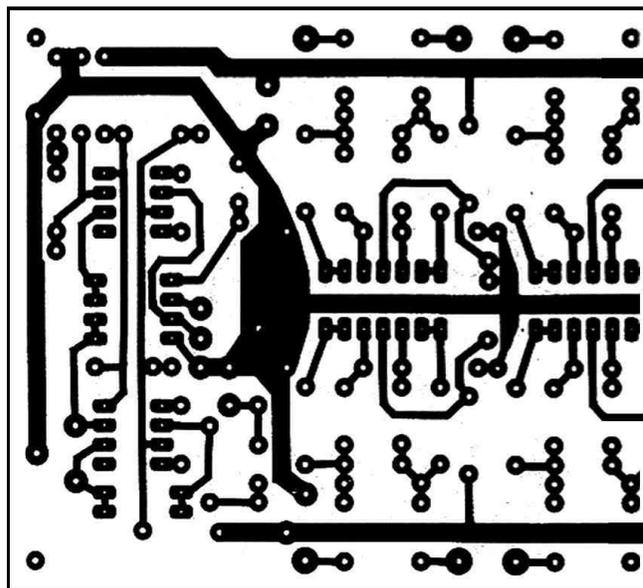
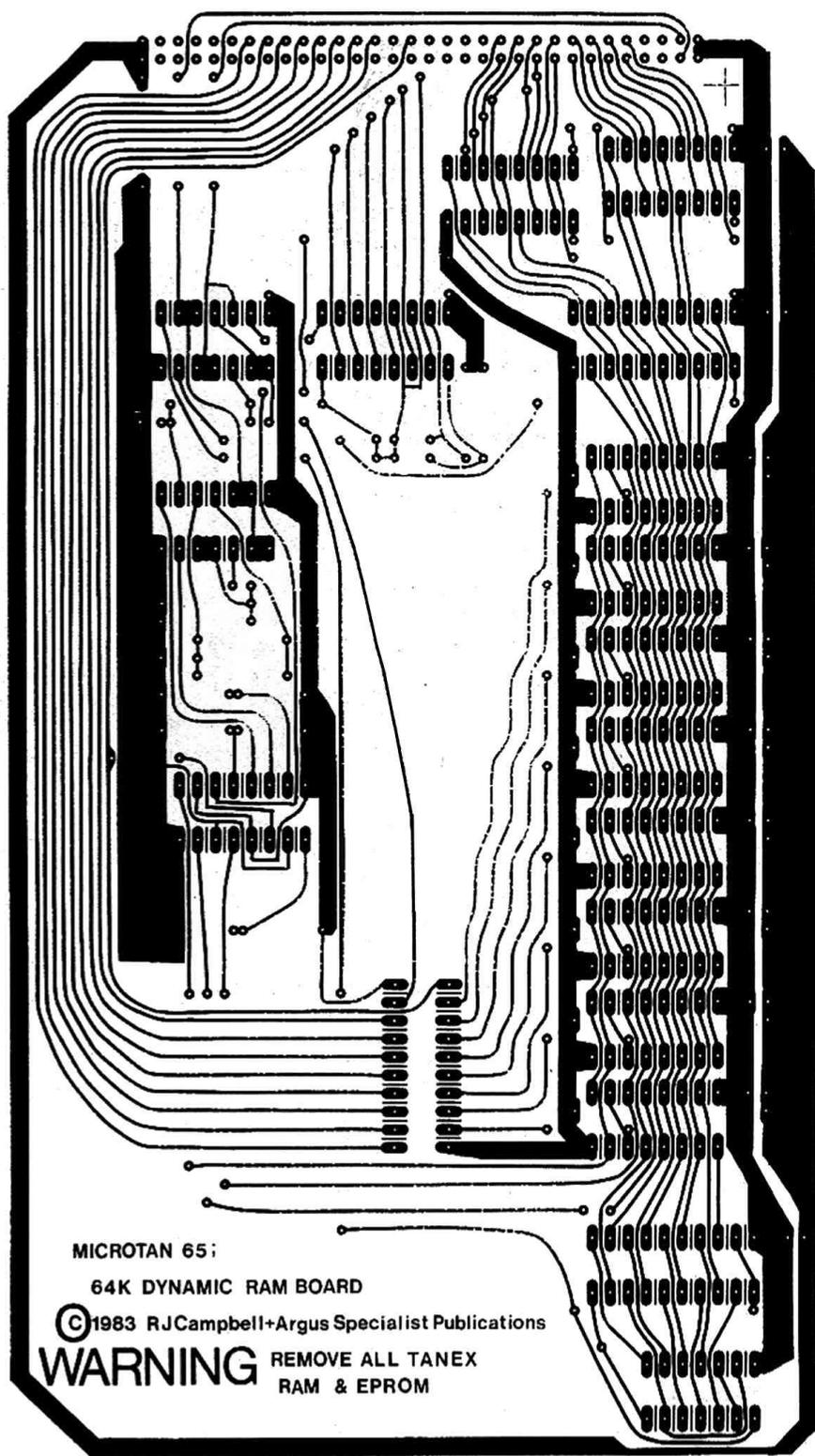
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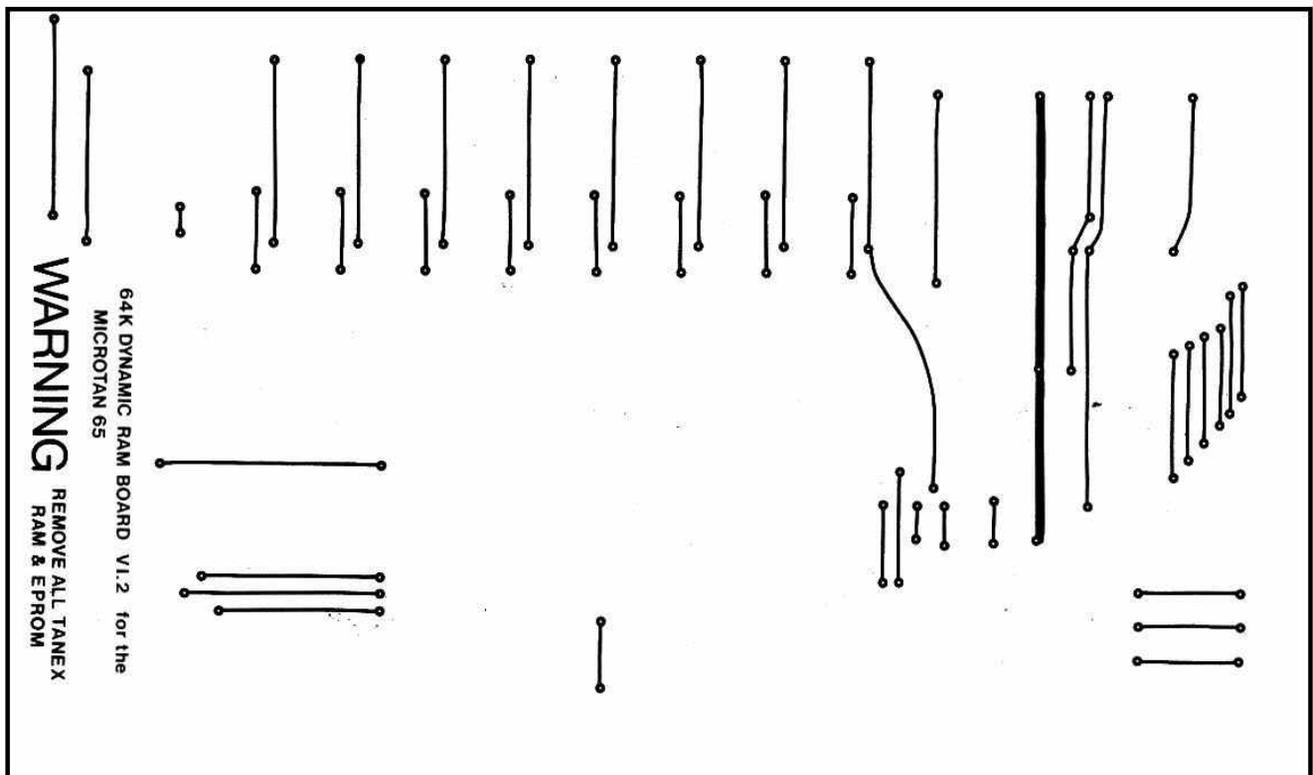
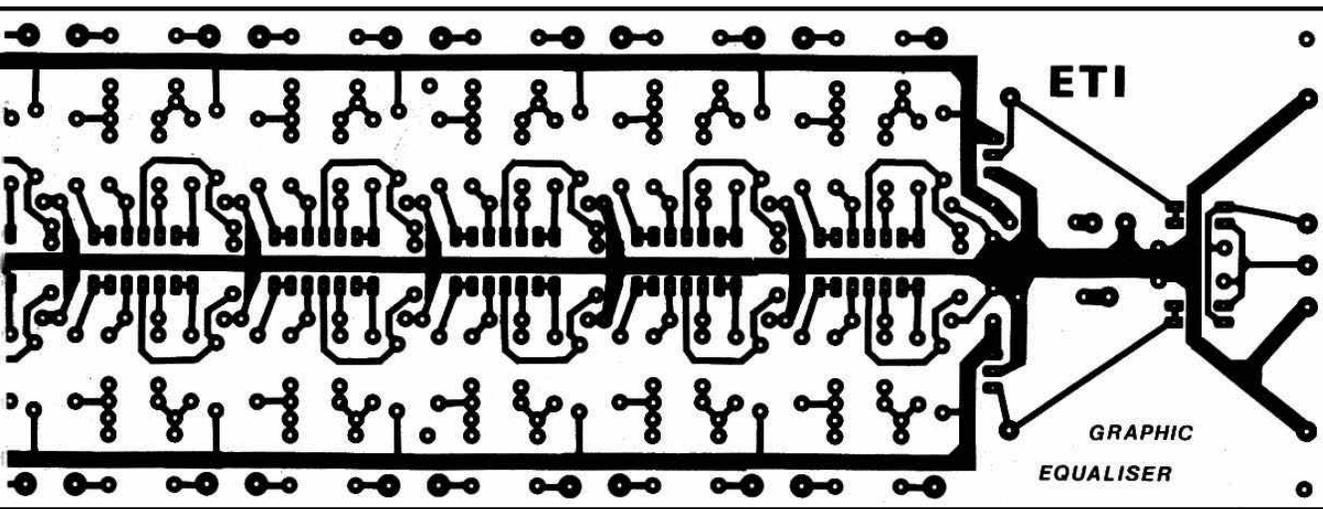
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# PCB FOIL PATTERNS



# PCB FOIL PATTERNS

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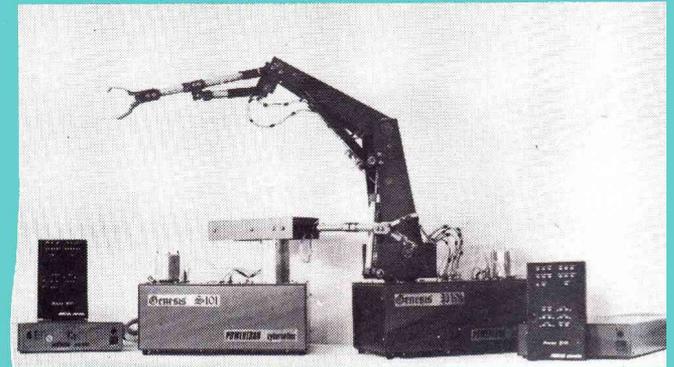
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\* Projects for Book 8 were in an advanced state at the time of writing, but contents may change prior to publication (due 13th August 1983).

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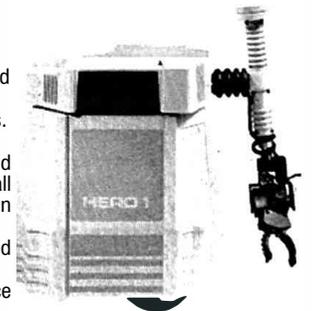
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