

**SPECIAL COLLECTOR'S EDITION**

# **electronics today**

ISSN. 0142-7229

INTERNATIONAL

APRIL 1982 85p

# 10<sup>th</sup>

**BIRTHDAY ISSUE!**

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Supplement**

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**SP2 200** twice the power with two of the reliable, durable and economic amps from the MPA200; fed by separate power supplies from a common toroidal transformer. Superb finish and quality components throughout — up to (even over!) the standard of high priced factory-built units.



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- **Ordering** — Full ordering details, delivery service, and sales counter opening — outside back of this issue.

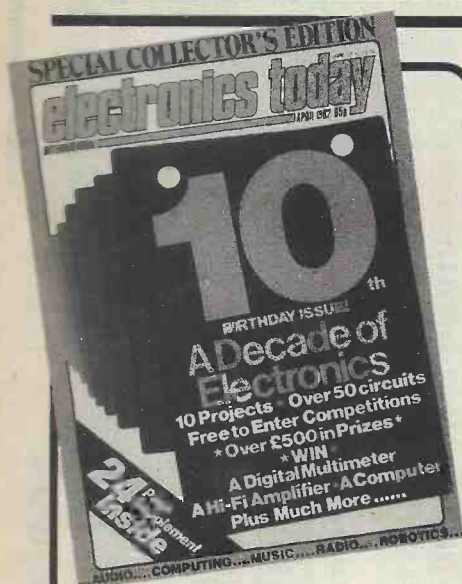
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# electronics today

INTERNATIONAL APRIL 1982 VOL 11 NO 4



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## 5



# Sinclair ZX81 Personal Comp the heart of a system that grows with you.

1980 saw a genuine breakthrough – the Sinclair ZX80, world's first complete personal computer for under £100. Not surprisingly, over 50,000 were sold.

In March 1981, the Sinclair lead increased dramatically. For just £69.95 the Sinclair ZX81 offers even more advanced facilities at an even lower price. Initially, even we were surprised by the demand – over 50,000 in the first 3 months!

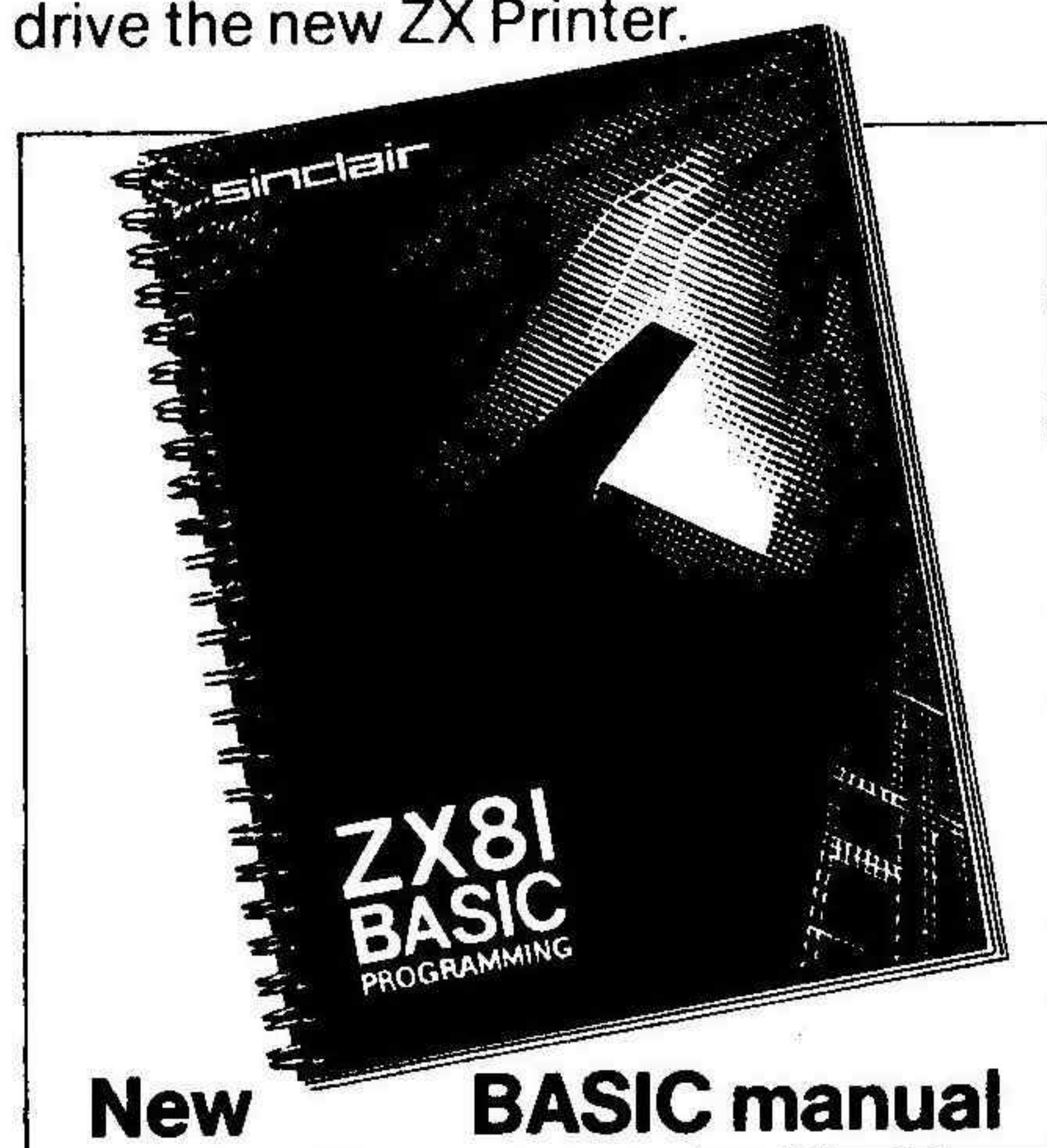
Today, the Sinclair ZX81 is the heart of a computer system. You can add 16-times more memory with the ZX RAM pack. The ZX Printer offers an unbeatable combination of performance and price. And the ZX Software library is growing every day.

## Lower price: higher capability

With the ZX81, it's still very simple to teach yourself computing, but the ZX81 packs even greater working capability than the ZX80.

It uses the same micro-processor, but incorporates a new, more powerful 8K BASIC ROM – the 'trained intelligence' of the computer. This chip works in decimals, handles logs and trig, allows you to plot graphs, and builds up animated displays.

And the ZX81 incorporates other operation refinements – the facility to load and save named programs on cassette, for example, and to drive the new ZX Printer.



**New BASIC manual**

Every ZX81 comes with a comprehensive, specially-written manual – a complete course in BASIC programming, from first principles to complex programs.

## Kit: £49.<sup>95</sup>

## Higher specification, lower price – how's it done?

Quite simply, by design. The ZX80 reduced the chips in a working computer from 40 or so, to 21. The ZX81 reduces the 21 to 4!

The secret lies in a totally new master chip. Designed by Sinclair and custom-built in Britain, this unique chip replaces 18 chips from the ZX80!

## New, improved specification

- Z80A micro-processor – new faster version of the famous Z80 chip, widely recognised as the best ever made.
- Unique 'one-touch' key word entry: the ZX81 eliminates a great deal of tiresome typing. Key words (RUN, LIST, PRINT, etc.) have their own single-key entry.
- Unique syntax-check and report codes identify programming errors immediately.
- Full range of mathematical and scientific functions accurate to eight decimal places.
- Graph-drawing and animated-display facilities.
- Multi-dimensional string and numerical arrays.
- Up to 26 FOR/NEXT loops.
- Randomise function – useful for games as well as serious applications.
- Cassette LOAD and SAVE with named programs.
- 1K-byte RAM expandable to 16K bytes with Sinclair RAM pack.
- Able to drive the new Sinclair printer.
- Advanced 4-chip design: micro-processor, ROM, RAM, plus master chip – unique, custom-built chip replacing 18 ZX80 chips.



## Built: £69.<sup>95</sup>

## Kit or built – it's up to you!

You'll be surprised how easy the ZX81 kit is to build: just four chips to assemble (plus, of course the other discrete components) – a few hours' work with a fine-tipped soldering iron. And you may already have a suitable mains adaptor – 600 mA at 9 V DC nominal unregulated (supplied with built version).

Kit and built versions come complete with all leads to connect to your TV (colour or black and white) and cassette recorder.





# uter-



## Available now- the ZX Printer for only £49.<sup>95</sup>

Designed exclusively for use with the ZX81 (and ZX80 with 8K BASIC ROM), the printer offers full alpha-numerics and highly sophisticated graphics.

A special feature is COPY, which prints out exactly what is on the whole TV screen without the need for further intructions.

At last you can have a hard copy of your program listings – particularly

useful when writing or editing programs.

And of course you can print out your results for permanent records or sending to a friend.

Printing speed is 50 characters per second, with 32 characters per line and 9 lines per vertical inch.

The ZX Printer connects to the rear of your computer – using a stackable connector so you can plug in a RAM pack as well. A roll of paper (65 ft long x 4 in wide) is supplied, along with full instructions.

## 16K-byte RAM pack for massive add-on memory.

Designed as a complete module to fit your Sinclair ZX80 or ZX81, the RAM pack simply plugs into the existing expansion port at the rear of the computer to multiply your data/program storage by 16!

Use it for long and complex programs or as a personal database. Yet it costs as little as half the price of competitive additional memory.

With the RAM pack, you can also run some of the more sophisticated ZX Software – the Business & Household management systems for example.

### How to order your ZX81

BY PHONE – Access, Barclaycard or Trustcard holders can call

01-200 0200 for personal attention 24 hours a day, every day.

BY FREEPOST – use the no-stamp-needed coupon below. You can pay

by cheque, postal order, Access, Barclaycard or Trustcard.

EITHER WAY – please allow up to 28 days for delivery. And there's a 14-day money-back option. We want you to be satisfied beyond doubt – and we have no doubt that you will be.

To: Sinclair Research Ltd, FREEPOST, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3BR.

Qty	Item	Code	Item price £	Total £
	Sinclair ZX81 Personal Computer kit(s). Price includes ZX81 BASIC manual, excludes mains adaptor.	12	49.95	
	Ready-assembled Sinclair ZX81 Personal Computer(s). Price includes ZX81 BASIC manual and mains adaptor.	11	69.95	
	Mains Adaptor(s) (600 mA at 9 V DC nominal unregulated).	10	8.95	
	16K-BYTE RAM pack.	18	49.95	
	Sinclair ZX Printer.	27	49.95	
	8K BASIC ROM to fit ZX80.	17	19.95	
	Post and Packing.			2.95

☐ Please tick if you require a VAT receipt

TOTAL £

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Name: Mr/Mrs/Miss

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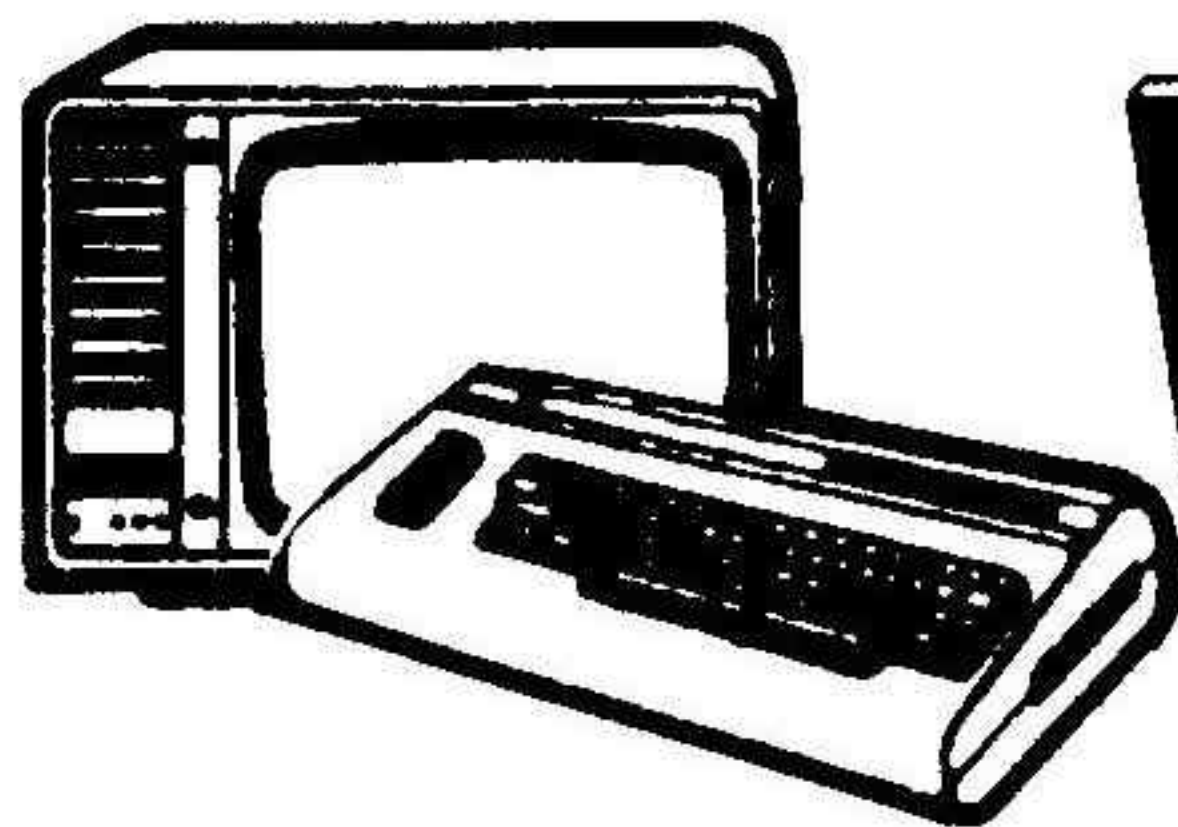
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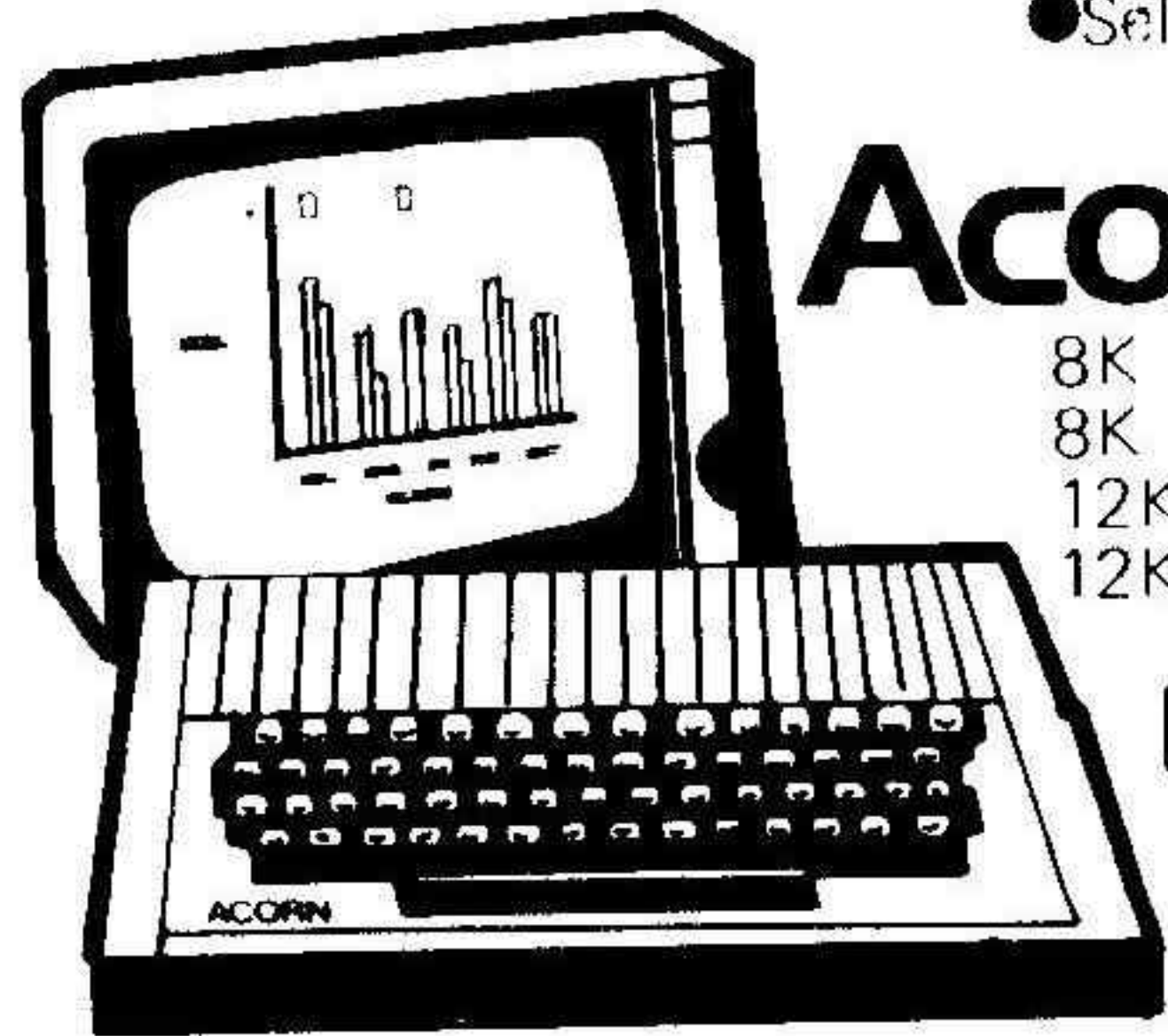


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12K ROM + 12K RAM kit .....	£255.00	Mains Power Supply .....	£ 9.20
12K ROM + 12K RAM Ass. ....	£289.50		

## TANGERINE microtan

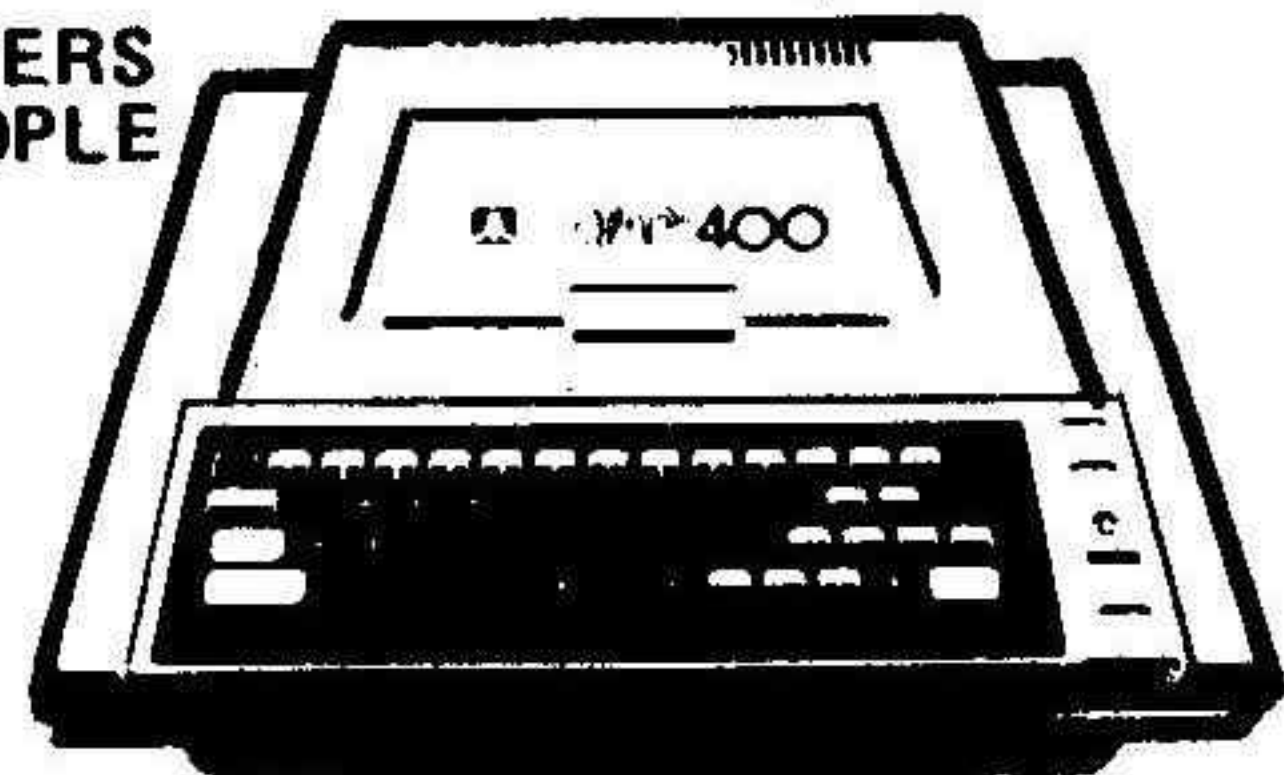
Microtan 65 Kit .....	£79.35
Microtan 65 Built .....	£90.85
Tanex Min. Config. Kit.....	£49.45
20 way Keypad .....	£11.50

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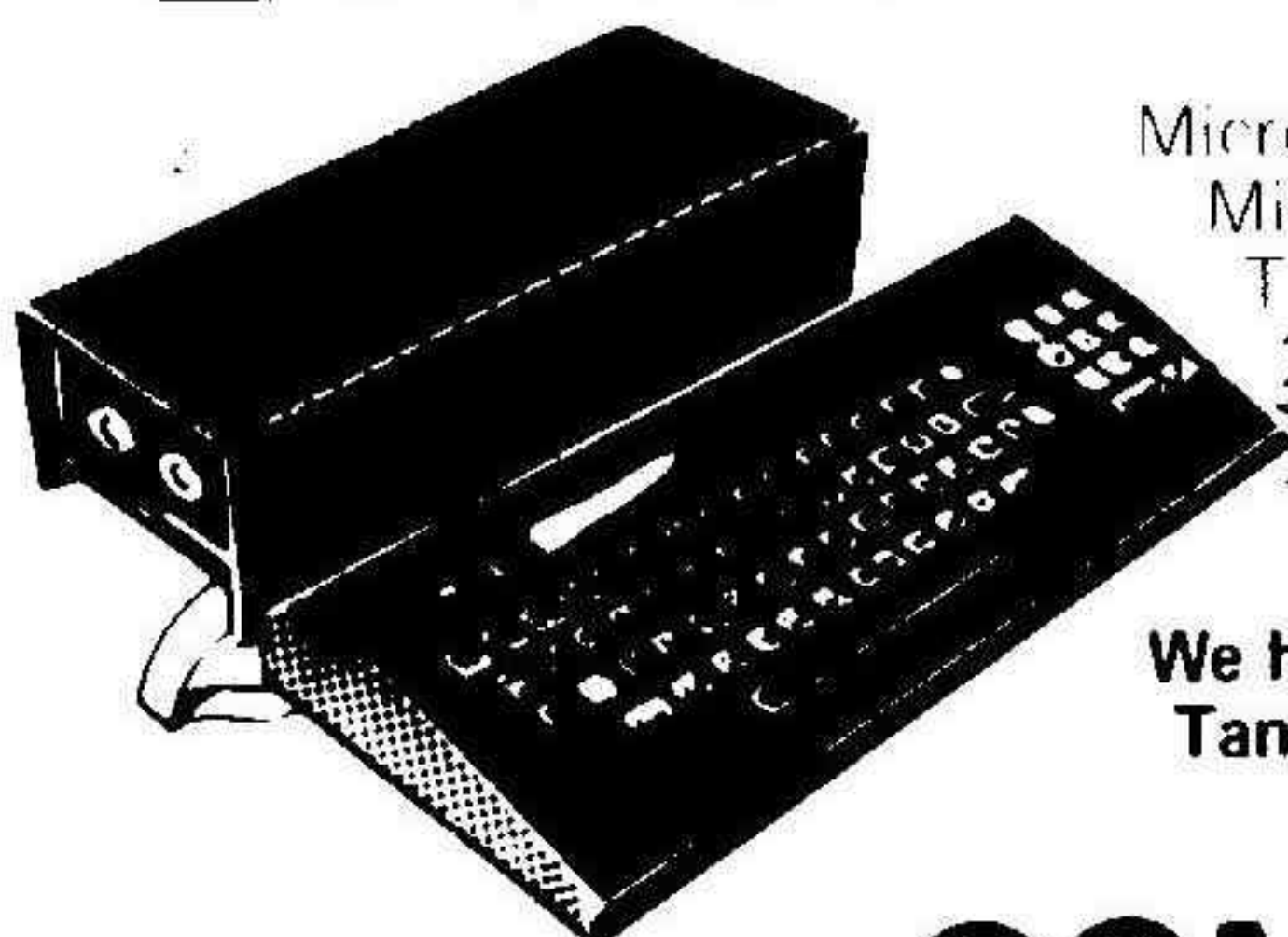


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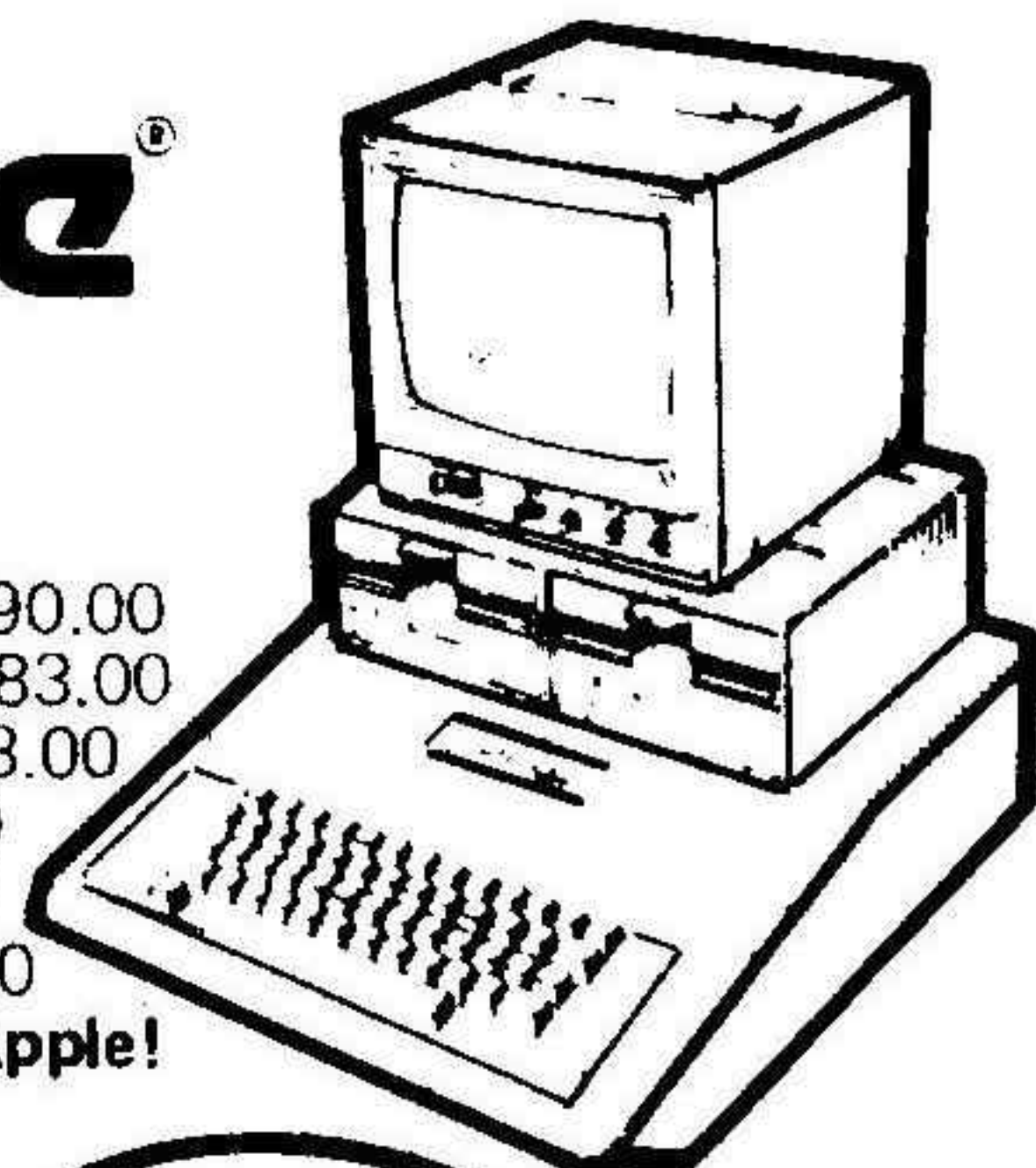
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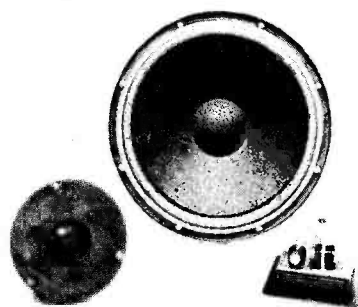
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# DIGEST



## ETI PRICE DECREASE

Readers will have no doubt noticed (painfully!) the cover price increase on this issue of ETI. We apologise for this, but are happy to say it is **ONLY FOR THIS ISSUE** and the price returns to 75p with the May issue.

The one-month jump was made necessary by the sheer size of this special issue. We hope you will agree it is worth it. If you could see the price of paper these days...(moan, moan).

Thank you for sticking with us through thick and thin... (and 10p!)

## Tempus Fugit

It's felt a little uncomfortable working in the ETI office this month; must be something to do with the sackcloth and ashes we're wearing. During the last few issues several of our reviews have featured Casio products, but we have consistently failed to credit the company which lent us the review models. The kindly folk in question are Tempus of 38 Burleigh Street, Cambridge CB1 1DG and we'd like to thank them for all the help they've been giving us. Tempus are leading Casio specialists and if there's something from Casio you're having problems obtaining, they will doubtless be as nice to customers as they are to us.

## Sun-Day Driving

A Volkswagon Dasher car is presently being tested carrying a roof-rack of AEG-Telefunken solar modules which convert solar energy directly into electric current. The small 160 W 'solar power plant' of the test car complements the dynamo and charges the battery. This means that fuel consumption can be reduced by approximately five percent. As yet the cost of manufacturing these solar panels makes them uneconomical to use, but with the rising prices of fuel, it is foreseeable that low-priced solar generators will enter the market. Not only that, future car generations will make increased use of electricity, for example with automatic start-stop devices and pollution-free electrical energy for air conditioning in cars in warm countries. Great idea — but where will you put the luggage?



## Tweeters That Go Cheap

Well, not just the tweeters, in fact. Mullard have a 40 W speaker system consisting of an 8" woofer as well as a high-power textile dome tweeter. They form part of a new low-price, two-way, self-build audio kit (whew!) being marketed by BK Electronics. The

BK Electronics crossover unit have been combined with spring-loaded terminals and recessed mounting panel. The complete system, when built into the 23 litre enclosure, is capable of handling 40 W comfortably. All this for the small outlay of £13.90 plus VAT and £1.50 carriage per kit! Get yours now from BK Electronics Ltd, 37 Whitehouse Meadows, Eastwood, Leigh-On-Sea, Essex SS9 5TY.



## Heading For The Top

Headphones seem to be getting lighter and smaller these days, so Sennheiser, that well-known manufacturer of headphones, has decided to launch a pair of their own lightweight 'phones. The new model HD40 is soon to be released in the UK and weighs only 60 grammes with extremely light contact pressure. They can be supplied with either a three or seven metre lead, the seven metre variety incorporating a volume control in the lead so that you don't have to march all that way back to the amp if it's too loud. Another feature is that each ear-piece can be revolved on the headband by 90 degrees if you have a funny shaped head or if you want to store them compactly (!). The Sennheiser HD40 will be launched in the UK with a suggested selling price, including VAT, of £16.55. For those of you interested in technical specs; frequency response is 22 to 18,000 Hz, impedance is 600 ohms, characteristic SPL is 90 dB and distortion factor < 1.2%.

## Electroware, OK?

OK Machine and Tool (UK) Ltd have launched a new division aimed at providing the electronics user with a really wide range of electronic hardware. All the products in the range will be available to everyone involved in building electronic equipment — that includes engineers, students, teaching staff, laboratory technicians and, not least, the hobbyist. The 40-page catalogue contains various products selected from OK's bench tool range — plus some new items — and includes soldering irons, wire-wrapping kits, IC tools, PCBs, cases, enclosures, connectors, sockets and test instruments to name just a few. Electroware is distributed throughout the UK by leading electronic and computer stores. Catalogues are free, but send 30p for postage and packing. If you want any further information or one of their catalogues contact OK Machine & Tool (UK) Ltd, Dutton Lane, Eastleigh, Hants SO5 4AA.



# Lack of ZX81 memory giving you headaches..?



## The Memotech 64K Memopak

The growth of interest in computer use caused by the introduction of the Sinclair ZX81 has made new and exciting demands on the ingenuity of electronic engineers. At Memotech we have focused our attention on the design of an inexpensive, reliable memory extension.

The Memopak is a 64K RAM pack which extends the memory of the ZX81 by a further 56K. Following the success of our 48K memory board the new memory extension is designed to be within the price range expected by Sinclair users. It plugs directly into the back of the ZX81 and does not inhibit the use of the printer or other add-on boards. There is no need for an additional power supply or for leads.

The Memopak together with the ZX81 gives a full 64K, which is neither switched nor paged, and is directly addressable. The unit is user transparent and accepts such basic commands as 10 DIM A(9000)

0-8K ...Sinclair ROM

8-16K...Memopak memory which can switch in or out in 4K blocks to leave space for memory mapping.

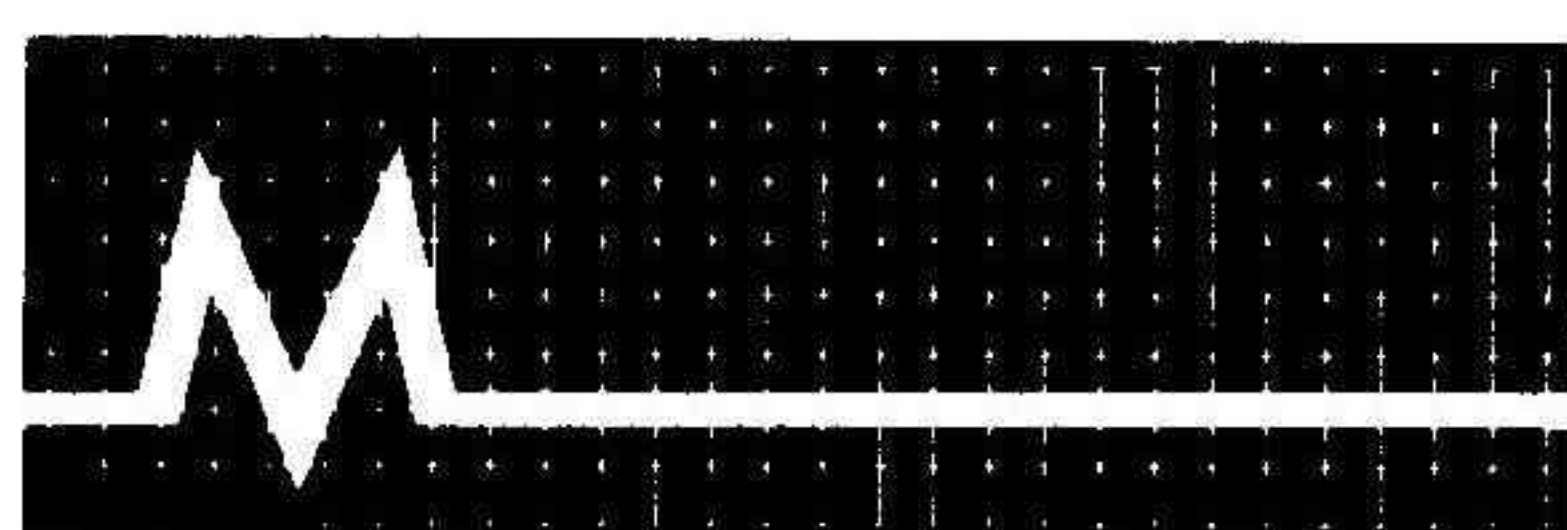
12-16K...Memopak memory which holds its contents during cassette loads and allows communication between programmes.

16-32K...This area can be used for basic programmes and assembly language routines.

32-64K...32K of RAM memory for basic variables and large arrays.

With the Memopak extension the ZX81 is transformed into a powerful computer, suitable for business, leisure and educational use, at a fraction of the cost of comparable systems.

**64K-£79**



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Payroll Programme	£ 25.00	

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ETI **TOTAL**

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### I.C. SOCKETS

A range of high quality, low cost, low profile DIL sockets ideally suited for both the OEM and hobbyist. All types feature double sided phosphor bronze contacts, tin-plated for low contact resistance.

8 x 0.3" 12p	22 x 0.3" 20p
14 x 0.3" 13p	22 x 0.4" 20p
16 x 0.3" 13p	24 x 0.6" 22p
18 x 0.3" 18p	28 x 0.6" 25p
20 x 0.3" 19p	40 x 0.6" 35p
20 x 0.4" 19p	42 x 0.6" 38p

### DISCRETES

BC237 8p	BC556 12p	2SK168 35p
BC238 8p	BC550 12p	J310 69p
ZTX238 9p	BC580 12p	J176 65p
BC239 8p	BC639 22p	40823 65p
BC307 8p	BC640 23p	3SK45 49p
BC308 8p	2SC1775A 22p	3SK51 54p
BC309 8p	2SA872A 18p	3SK60 58p
BC413 10p	2SD666A 30p	3SK88 99p
BC414 11p	2SB648A 30p	MEM680 75p
BC415 10p	2SD668A 30p	BF960 99p
BC416 11p	2SB648A 40p	BF961 70p
BC546 12p	BF256 38p	BF963 99p
	2SK55 28p	

### XTALS

1MHz 3.00
3.2768MHz 2.00
4MHz 1.70
4.194MHz 1.70
4.43MHz 1.25
5MHz 2.00
6.5536MHz 2.00
7MHz 2.00
8MHz 2.00
9MHz 2.00
10MHz 2.00
11MHz 2.00

### VOLTAGE REGULATORS

78XX1A TO-220 pos 0.58
79XX1A TO-220 neg 0.60
78G 1A TO-220 adj pos 1.10
78G 1A TO-3 adj pos 3.95
78H5A TO-3 5v pos 4.25
78H5A TO-3 12v pos 5.45
78HG5A TO-3 adj pos 7.45
79HG5A TO-3 adj neg 7.45
LM317.5A adj pos 1.30
LM337.5A adj neg 1.75
78S401.5A adj pos sw reg 1.20

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### CMOS

4000 0.11
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# SOLID STATE REVERB UNIT

Where have all the spring lines gone? Gone to lesser projects in other magazines, that's where. Meanwhile we present this cheap, simple, but high-quality unit using solid state technology.

Design by Charles Blakey.



**A**t last — a reverberation unit which is not a pseudo echo effect and does not suffer from the defects of spring line devices. The unit described below will interface with virtually any preamplified signal and is ideal for direct use with most musical instruments or for incorporating in the 'echo-send' line of mixers. The design has been made possible by a new 3328-stage bucket brigade device having six tapped delays and capable of producing a useful reverberation time of about three seconds.

Sound emitted in an enclosed space will be subjected to both simple and multiple reflections from internal surfaces. Since these surfaces are at varying distances, the time for these reflections to occur and then decay by absorption will vary. The effect is a build-up of sound known as reverberation. When playing a musical instrument in the home, small studio or some other venue, the decay time can be very small coupled with a high absorption loss; the result is a weak sound when compared to recorded music or to live music played in a large hall.

Until now the only low-cost method of simulating acoustic reverberation has been the use of spring lines. These units, however, are prone to vibration, require a high

power consumption for effective driving and are prone to producing distorted resonant peaks. Furthermore it is not possible to adjust the reverberation time and in many instances a short reverberation can be very effective. Another option has been available for some years, namely, the use of bucket brigade devices to electronically delay signals. While claims have been made for reverberation effects based on these products, a realistic unit would require at least three dual 512-stage BBDs, such as the Reticon SAD1024A. The cost and complexity of the latter approach puts it beyond the reach of the average constructor.

## Beyond The Pail

The reverberation unit utilises the MN3011, which is the latest in a series of bucket brigade devices for audio applications to come from National Panasonic. They are all fabricated in PMOS and for a start you can forget most of what you may have read about the disadvantages of PMOS BBDs. It is a fact that they are somewhat limited in clocking speed (10 kHz to 100 kHz) and also have a limited bandwidth, typically 10 to 12 kHz. The latter, however, is not usually a limitation since the bandwidth is often restricted

by the desire for long delay times. What makes the series ideal for audio applications is their low insertion loss, low distortion and excellent signal-to-noise ratio and for the MN3011 the specified values are 0 dB, 0.4% and 76 dB respectively.

The IC is unusual in that it has 12 pins but is the length of a normal 18-pin package; the functional block diagram and pinout for the MN3011 is shown in Fig. 1. As is normal with such devices it requires two power supplies,  $V_{DD}$  and  $V_{CC}$ ; the former may be up to  $-18$  V with respect to ground while  $V_{CC}$  should be  $+1$  V higher than  $V_{DD}$ . Bucket brigade, or charge coupled, devices are analogue shift registers which operate by sampling the input signal at a rate determined by an external clock. The signal level at the time of sampling is stored on an internal capacitor; this charge is then clocked down a series of capacitors by means of internal switches. The transfer process is accomplished by a dual clock whose outputs are in antiphase and so are alternately opening and closing adjacent switches. It will be apparent that the slower the clock speed the longer the delay. Since the devices operate at high clocking speeds the input signals are faithfully reproduced at the output.

The most interesting feature of the



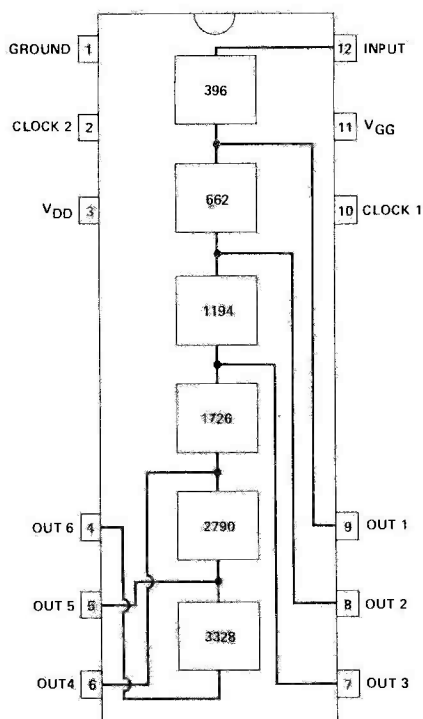


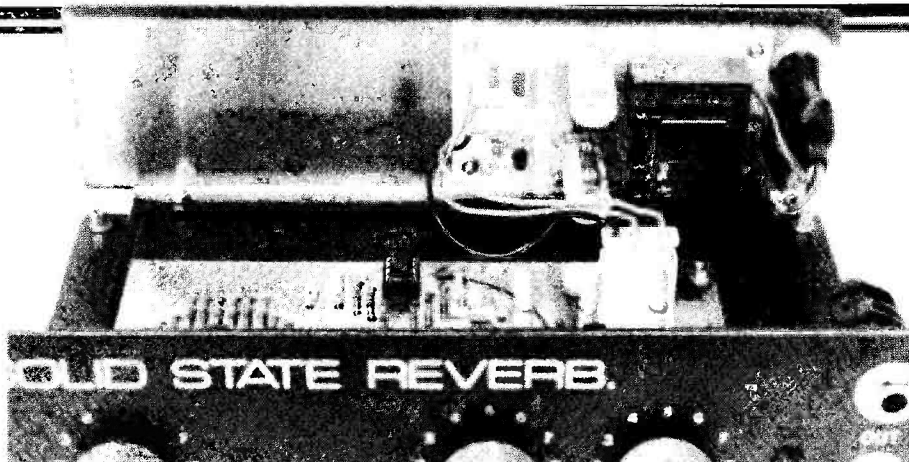
Fig. 1 Pinout and internal layout of the MN3011. The centre three pins on each side of this 18 pin package are absent.

MN3011 is that it has six tapped delays and Fig. 1 shows the number of stages for each tapping. The tappings are not evenly spaced since otherwise the reverberant sound would have a distinct flutter. If the device was being clocked at 10 kHz then the delays from outputs one to six would be 19.8, 33.1, 59.7, 86.3, 139.5 and 166.4 milliseconds respectively. If these delay times are multiplied by 0.33 then one obtains the equivalent room path length for one trip, ie the longest delay is equal to a room length of 55 metres (181 feet). Reverberation time is usually measured as the time taken for the power to decay to one millionth of its initial level (60 dB down). For the present design the time was measured for the output level to fall to one hundredth of its initial level (-40 dB) and at the longest delay this was found to be about three seconds.

## Blocks 'n Clocks

The block diagram of the circuit for the reverberation unit is shown in Fig. 2. First there is the dual clock driver, which is another National Panasonic device, the MN3101. It has an oscillator, divider and wave form shaping and produces the dual clock pulses required by the MN3011. It reduces component count and is lower in cost than other alternatives, such as a 4007. A further advantage is that it also generates the required  $V_{GG}$  voltage.

The unit will operate satisfactorily



with any input signal greater than 280 mV RMS and higher input signals are attenuated by the input potentiometer. The signal is also reduced by half in amplifier A1 and inputs higher than 140 mV to the first filter are indicated by a LED peak detector circuit. Although the MN3011 will accept signal levels up to 780 mV before the distortion value stated earlier is exceeded, it will become apparent that the effect of reverberation can lead to reinforcement of signals and consequently this has to be allowed for. The only preset in the circuit is used to apply a bias voltage to the signal. The precise value of this voltage is not very critical in the current design and the object is to keep the signal at a level where it will not be distorted or clipped within the BBD.

The main problem with BBDs is the inability to completely cancel out the clock pulses and these can form audible cross products with the input signal. In order to prevent this foldover distortion, the bandwidth of the input signal should be limited to between a half and a third of the clock frequency. Filter F1 in Fig. 2 is a lowpass filter with a cut-off frequency of 3.6 kHz. This may seem rather low but in fact it is equivalent to the upper reverberation limit of most spring lines and the BBD scores in respect of low frequency responses since springs usually give rise

to 'booming' below 100 Hz. The limited bandwidth is compensated by mixing the original signal with the reverberated signal at the output stage. The filtered signal goes to the MN3011 and the six output stages are summed to give a composite signal with different delay times. This signal is again filtered with a lowpass filter with a cut-off frequency of 3.6 kHz, to remove residual clock glitches, prior to mixing with the original signal at the output amplifier, A2.

The most important feature, however, is that the signal from the longest delay is returned, slightly attenuated, to the input and subjected to further delays. This is the reverberation effect and with the times given earlier the sound will simulate the effect of the first reaching a surface 55 metres away (assuming slowest clocking rate) and then being reflected back as well as being reflected from other surfaces closer than the 55 metre surface. The whole process is repeated until the original delayed signal and its reflections die away. In the meantime new signals are being recycled and the overall effect is a build-up of sound — reverberation.

## Construction

The construction is very straightforward but the following precautions should be observed. First,

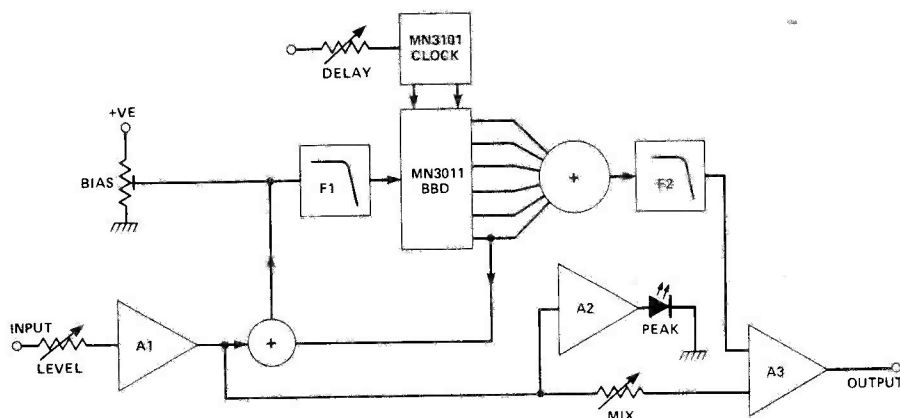


Fig. 2 Block diagram of the ET1 Solid State Reverberation unit.

## BUYLINES

The PCB and a kit of components for the reverberation unit is available for £32.00, inclusive of postage and VAT, from Digisound Limited, 13 The Brooklands, Wrea Green, Preston, Lancs PR4 2NQ. The power supply may also be obtained for an inclusive price of £7.00. As the PCBs are copyright they will not be available from our PCB Service; however, the foil patterns are reproduced at the back of the magazine. National Panasonic do not distribute active components in the UK and the ICs may *only* be obtained from Digisound.

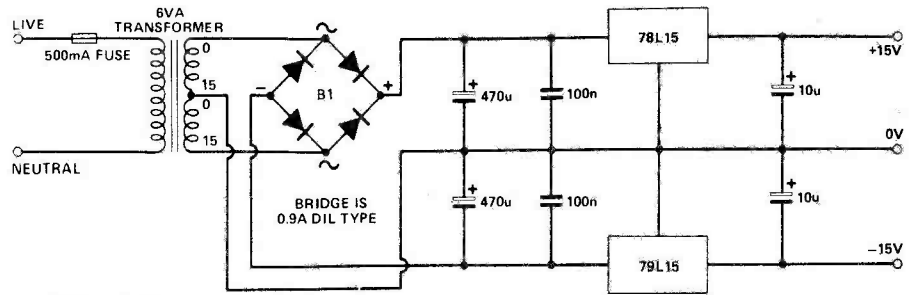


Fig. 4 Circuit diagram of a suitable PSU for this project.

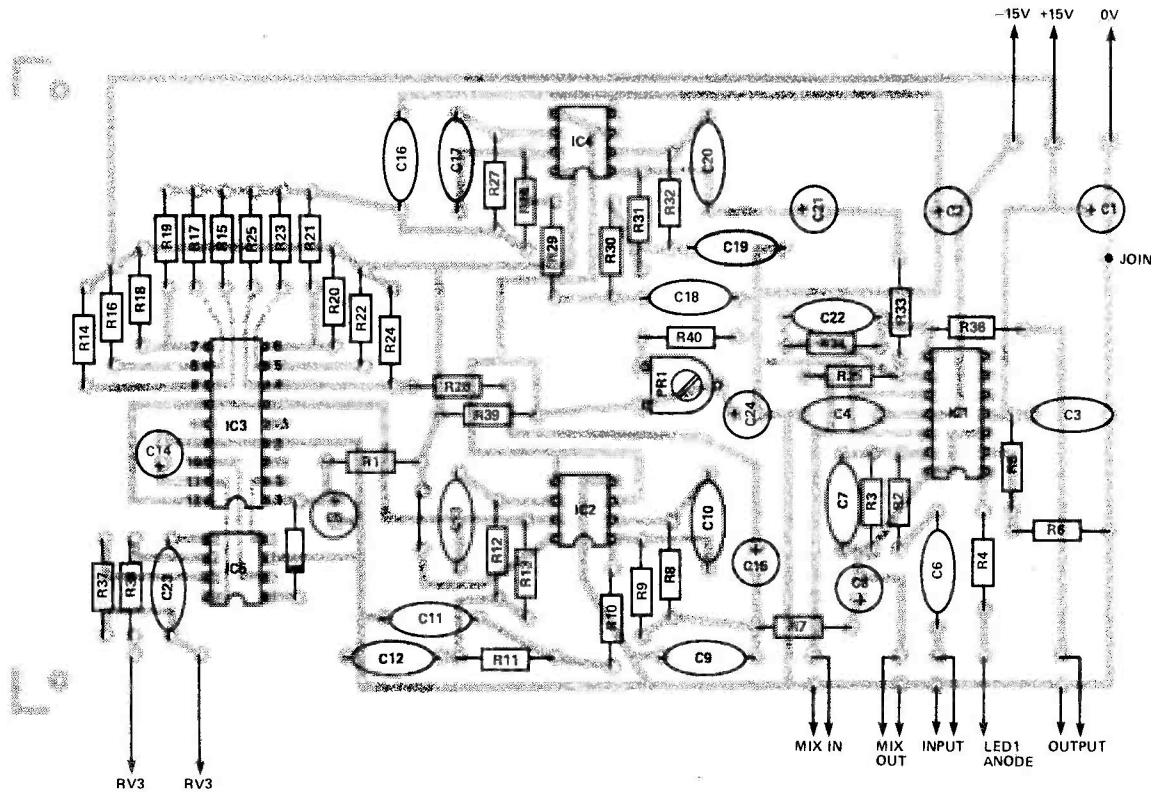


Fig. 3 Component overlay for the reverberation unit.

make sure you get the correct orientation of the ICs which are clearly shown on the component overlay. Second, the MN3011 is a CMOS device and with the advent of 'B' series devices we have all become rather careless as regards handling such ICs. For the MN3011, however, take the precaution of working on a grounded

## PSU PARTS LIST

**Capacitors**  
C1,2 470u 35 V PCB electrolytic  
C3,4 100n polyester  
C5,6 10u 35 V PCB electrolytic

**Semiconductors**  
IC1 78L15  
IC2 79L15  
BR1 0A9 DIL type

**Miscellaneous**  
PCB (see Buylines); PCB-mounting transformer (15-0-15, 6 VA); 500 mA mains fuse and chassis-mounting holder.

## PARTS LIST

**Resistors (All 1/4 W 5% except where stated)**

R1 10R 1/2 W  
R2,5,7,9 100k  
R3,34 51k  
R4 330R  
R6 1k3  
R8,12,27,31 33k  
R10,29,37 47k  
R11, 30 56k  
R14,16,18,20, 22,24 56k 1%  
R15 100k 1%  
R17 110k 1%  
R19 120k 1%  
R21 130k 1%  
R23 150k 1%  
R25 160k 1%  
R26 200k  
R28 82k  
R35 18k  
R36 1k0  
R38 36k  
R40 68k

**Potentiometers**  
RV1 100k logarithmic  
RV2 10k logarithmic  
RV3 470k linear

PR1 47k miniature horizontal preset

**Capacitors**

C1,2 10u 35 V PCB electrolytic  
C3,4 100n polyester  
C5 22u 35 V PCB electrolytic  
C6 220n polyester  
C7,10,13, 20,22 220p polystyrene  
C8,14,15, 21,24 3u3 63 V PCB electrolytic  
C9,11,12, 18,19 2n7 polystyrene  
C16 2n2 polystyrene  
C17 270p polystyrene  
C23 33p polystyrene

**Semiconductors**

IC1 TL074  
IC2, 4 LM358  
IC3 MN3011  
IC5 MN3101  
D1 1N4148  
LED1 5 mm red LED

**Miscellaneous**

SK1,2 mono jack sockets  
PCB (see Buylines); IC sockets; case (Vero order no. 91-2673G).



metal surface, such as a piece of aluminium foil, do not insert the IC with the power on and do not use a soldering iron on the PCB with the IC installed.

The PCB supplied with the kit has a ground plane to reduce interference from and to other electronic equipment as well as to reduce noise. This feature allows greater freedom in locating the unit, eg it does not have to be housed in a separate metal case. A ground plane comprises a metallized surface on the component side except for small areas around the holes for the components. Ensure that the component leads do not touch the ground plane — which is not difficult — and preferably solder the resistors and axial capacitors in place with a thin piece of card between the component and the board so that the former are not in physical contact with the ground plane. After soldering the card is removed. The latter step is not essential. The one wire link must be made with insulated wire. The ground plane has to be connected to the 0 V line and some 15 mm from where the latter is connected to the PCB there is a hole marked 'join'. A piece of wire should be placed through this hole and soldered on both sides of the PCB.

The PCB has been laid out such that the BBD and clock are as far away as practical from the signal input and output. This separation should be maintained if the unit is housed in a

box and all wiring should be kept as short and as neat as practical, with the audio connections being made with miniature screened cable.

The unit requires a  $\pm 15$  V power supply and the current consumption is a miserly 13 mA at +15 V and 9 mA on the -15 V line. If a separate power

supply is required then a suitable PSU is shown in Fig. 4. A PCB-mounted transformer is preferred, and it should be mounted as far away from the BBD as practical. The photographs show the unit inside a Vero 'C' range case with internal dimensions of approximately 218 x 138 x 50 mm.

## HOW IT WORKS

The input signal is attenuated by RV1 and also by the inverting amplifier built around IC1a which has a gain of about 0.5. From IC1a the signal goes three ways. A comparator built around IC1b forms a peak detector to indicate optimum signal level, while RV2 and R35 allow mixing of the original signal with the reverberated signal in the inverting amplifier configured around IC1c. The component values in this section are such that equal proportions of the two signals may be mixed. Finally the signal also passes to two active filters constructed around IC2 which have a 12 dB/octave roll-off for each stage and a cut-off frequency of 3.6 kHz.

From the above filter stages the signal passes into the MN3011 and the six delay outputs are summed by the resistor network formed by R14 to R25. Note that the shorter the delay, the less the attenuation. From the longest delay (pin 4) the signal goes via R25 back to the input of the filter and thus provides recycling of the delayed signal in order to generate a true reverberation effect. The reverberated signal is filtered by two active filters constructed around IC4 and these have the same characteristics as the input filters. Between the active filter stages some passive filters have also been

added to increase the roll-off; the loss in these filters is compensated by increasing the gain of the active filters.

The dual clock for the MN3011 is provided by IC5 and with the components shown, the clock frequency may be manually varied with RV3 over the range 10 kHz to 100 kHz, allowing maximum first pass delays from 16.64 to 166.4 milliseconds. Pin 8 of IC5 provides the  $V_{GG}$  voltage for the MN3011. Since both IC3 and IC5 are P-channel CMOS it would be normal to operate them from a -15 V supply. Voltages are, however, relative and by connecting +15 V to the ground pin and ground (0 V) to the  $V_{DD}$  pin they will operate happily with positive signal inputs. R1 and C5 prevent clocking signals getting back into the power lines. The filters are also operated from a single +15 V supply and this avoids any problems which may arise from excessive bipolar signals, ie they will be clipped at +15 V or ground and not damage the BBD. The bias voltage required by the BBD and the filters is primarily to allow them to accept bipolar signals; this voltage is provided by the resistive divider using components R39, PR1 and R40 and is applied to the non-inverting input of the filter op-amps.

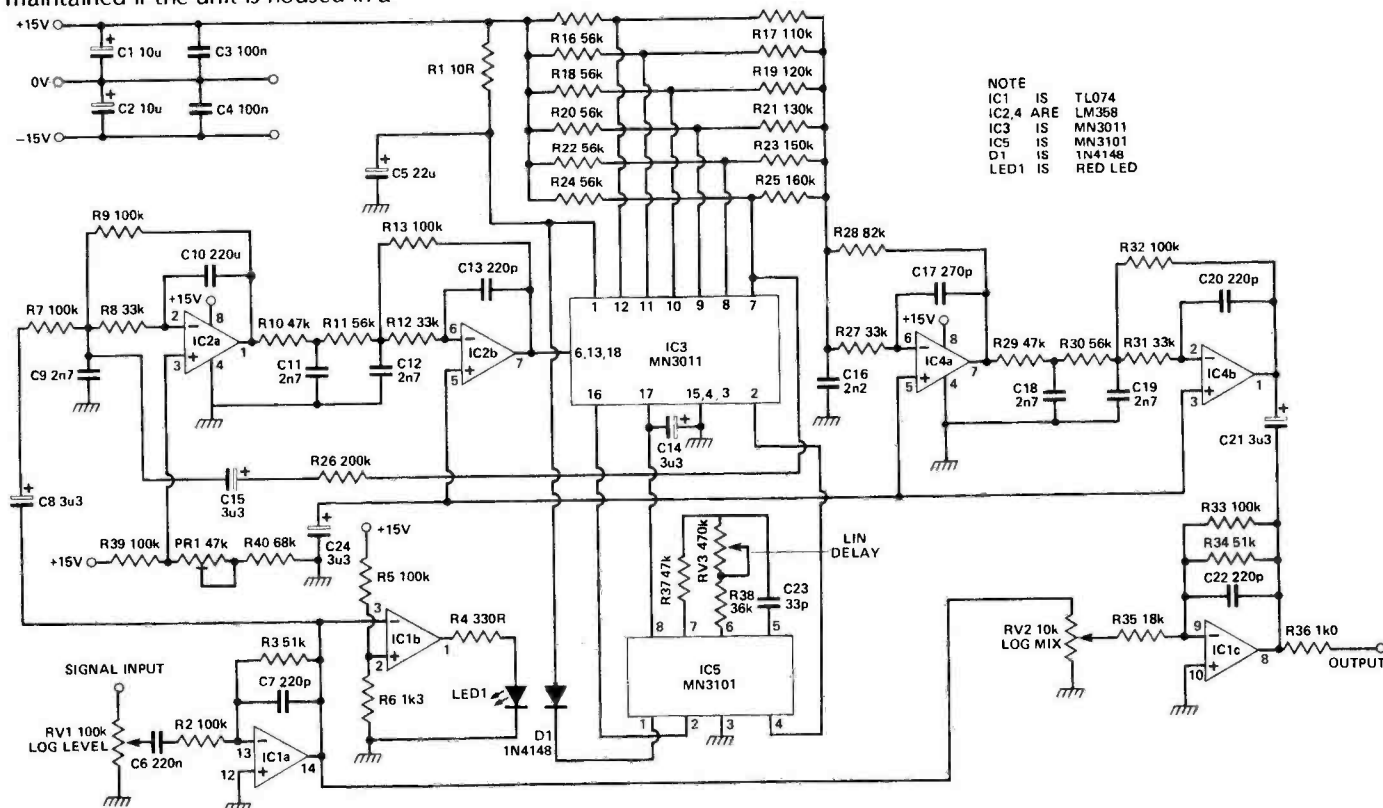
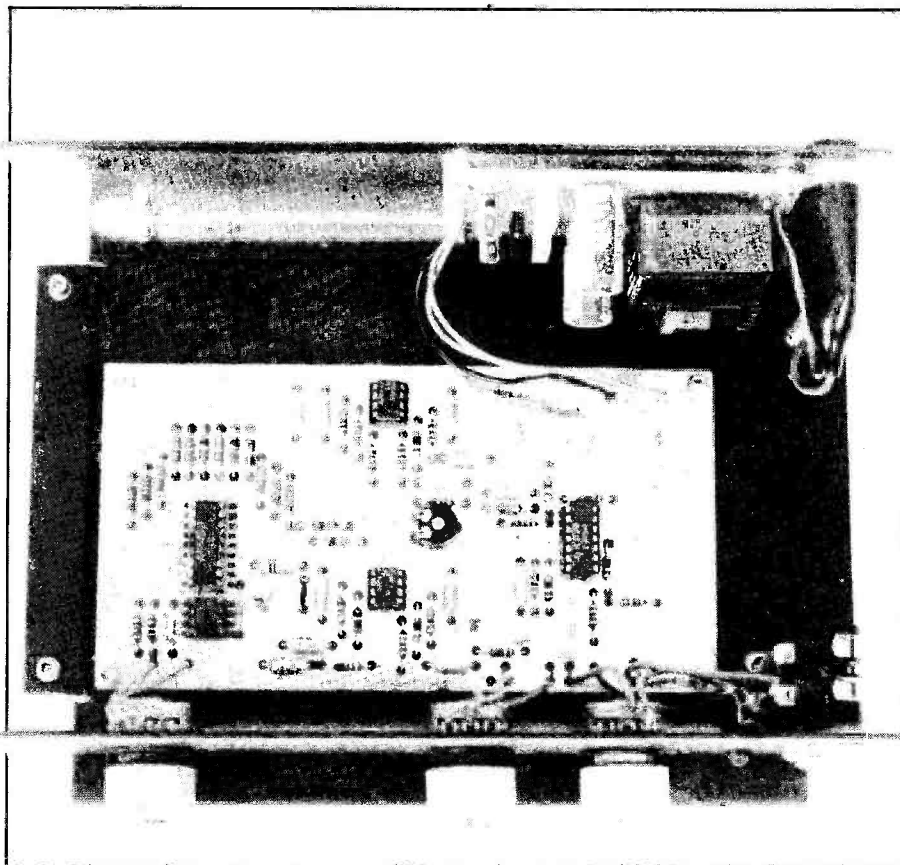


Fig. 5 Circuit diagram for the ETI Reverb.

## Setting Up And Use

The only setting up required is adjustment of PR1. If a sinewave source is available then the latter may be used as the signal source and PR1 adjusted by ear, or with an oscilloscope, for minimum distortion. Alternatively measure the voltage at the junction of PR1 and R40 and adjust PR1 to give a reading of 6V2.

The unit has a signal-to-noise ratio of better than 60 dB but this requires that it is operated with the peak indicator LED just glowing or occasionally illuminating. The output level will vary from about 0V5 to 1 V RMS, depending on the amount of mixing of the original signal, and these levels should ensure adequate response from most amplifiers, mixers, and so on. In other words, by keeping input signals at maximum level the amplifier setting will be such that during periods of no signal the residual noise will not be obtrusive. This is common practice with recorders, many of which have much lower signal-to-noise ratios.



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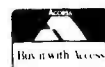
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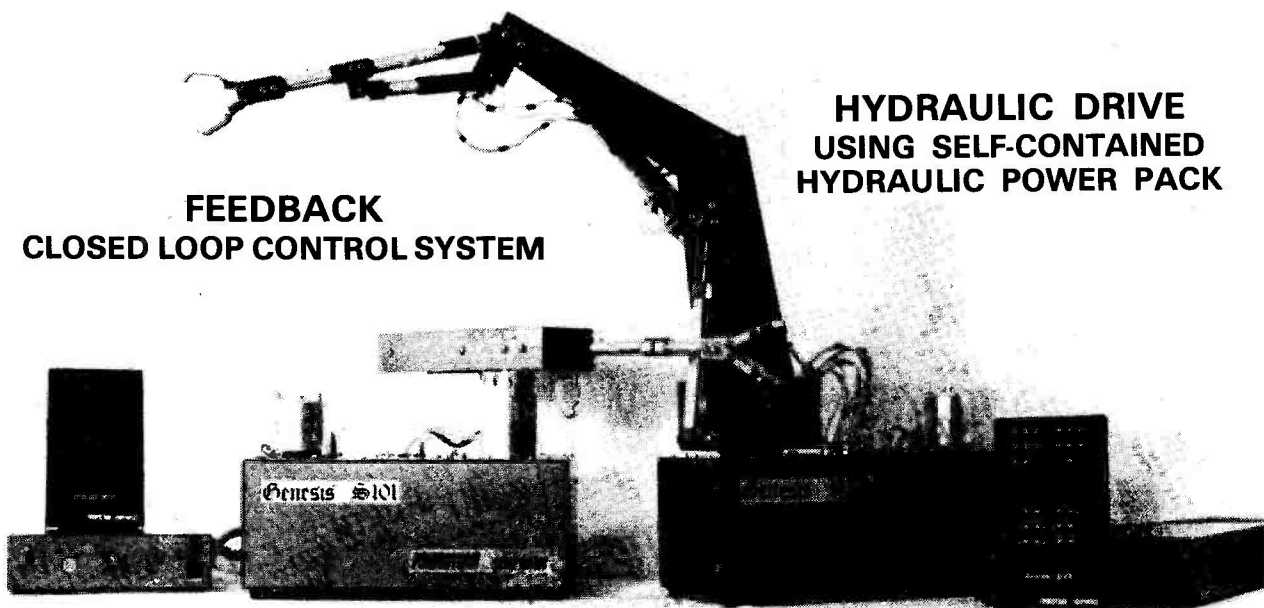
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# AUTORANGING CAPACITANCE METER

Look — no hands! The only control on this piece of test-gear is the on/off switch; the only connection is to the test terminals. This month — construction.

Design and development by Phil Walker.

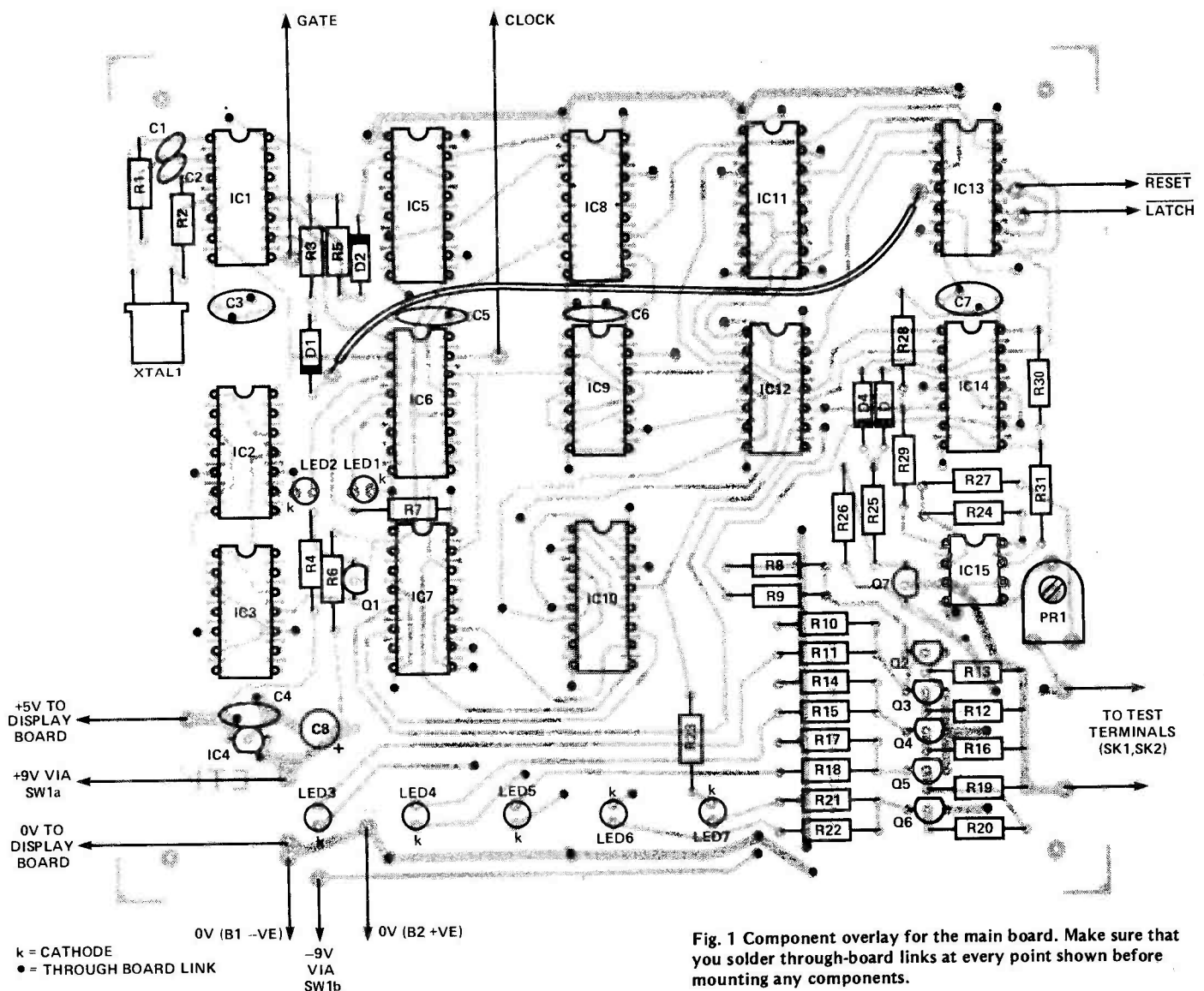


Fig. 1 Component overlay for the main board. Make sure that you solder through-board links at every point shown before mounting any components.

This is a fairly complex project and should only be attempted by those with a good deal of constructional experience. It is well worthwhile checking the PCB for shorts between tracks before doing anything else. Ensure that there is a hole through the board under the PR1 position to facilitate adjustment later.

Put links through the board at all positions marked with a dot on the overlay and solder on BOTH sides of the board. The other components may now be inserted into the board — preferably using sockets for all the ICs except IC4 and IC15. IC4 is a T092-type package 100 mA regulator and does not need a socket, while IC15 may foul PR1 if a socket is used.

The LEDs should not be fitted until the board is test-fitted in position as

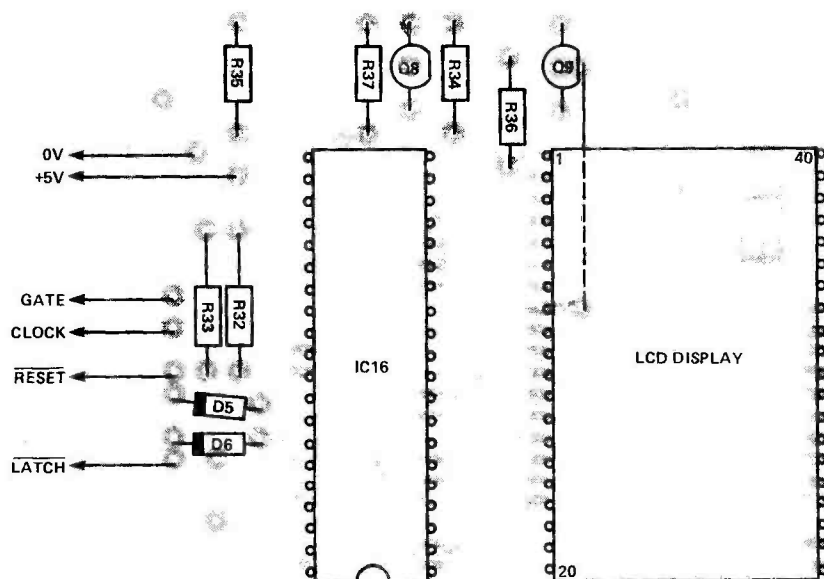
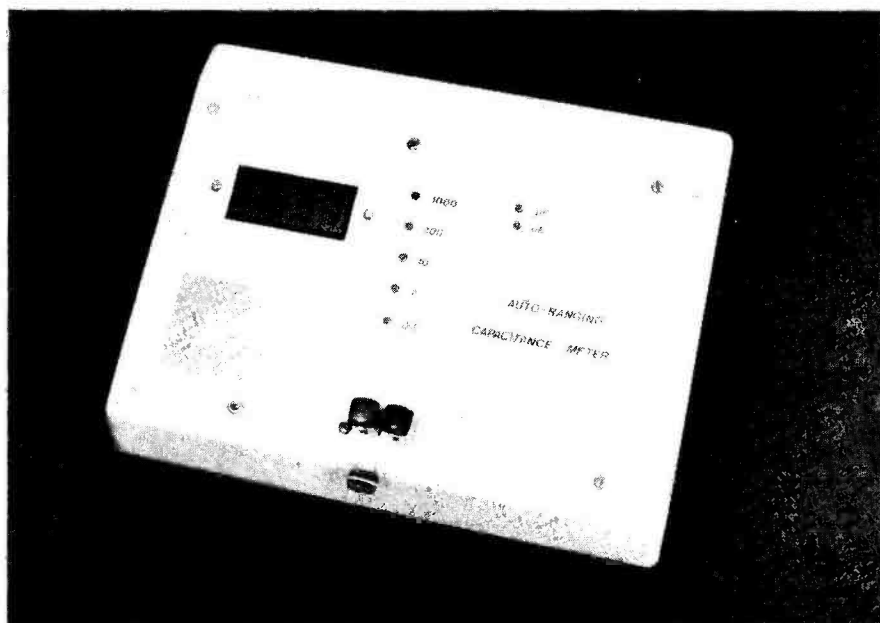


Fig. 2 Component overlay for the display board. Insert the link under the display first.

they are intended to protrude through the panel as indicators. Attach power supply wires and fit up to the panel, position the LEDs and solder in position.

Assemble the display board components and attach the logic and power supply wires from the main board. Wire the remaining power leads via the on/off switch to the battery connectors and attach the two boards to the front panel using pillars or long bolts and lock nuts. Our prototype just fitted into a slope fronted instrument case made by Vero Industries (see Parts List).

## BUYLINES

Very few unusual components in this project; all the logic is standard CMOS. The ICM7224 and the LCD display is stocked by Watford Electronics, while the LF353 is available from Rapid Electronics. The two PCBs can be obtained from our PCB Service, advertised on page 44.

## PARTS LIST

### Resistors (all 1/4 W, 5% except where stated)

R1,2	470R
R3,4,5,	
28-37	15k
R6,25	4k7
R9	10k
R10,14,17,	
21	100k
R11,15,18,	
22,23	1k0
R12	100R 1%
R13	1M0 5% or better
R16	1k0 1%
R19	10k 1%
R20	100k 1%
R24,27	27k 2%
R26	1k8
R24,27	27k 2%

Potentiometer  
PR1 47k miniature horizontal preset

### Capacitors

C1	10p ceramic
C2	1n0 ceramic
C3-7	100n ceramic
C8	100u 10 V tantalum

### Semiconductors

IC1	74LS04
IC2,3	74LS90
IC4	78L05
IC5,8	4518B
IC6	4053B
IC7	4029B
IC9	4013B
IC10	4051B
IC11	4049B
IC12	4012B
IC13	4011B
IC14	4001B

IC15	LF353
IC16	ICM7224
Q1,7,8,9,	BC182L
Q2-6	BC212L
Q3-7	BC212L
D1-6	1N4148
LED1-7	miniature green LEDs

### Miscellaneous

XTAL1	miniature 10 MHz crystal
SW1	DPDT toggle switch
SK1,2	press terminals (one red, one black)

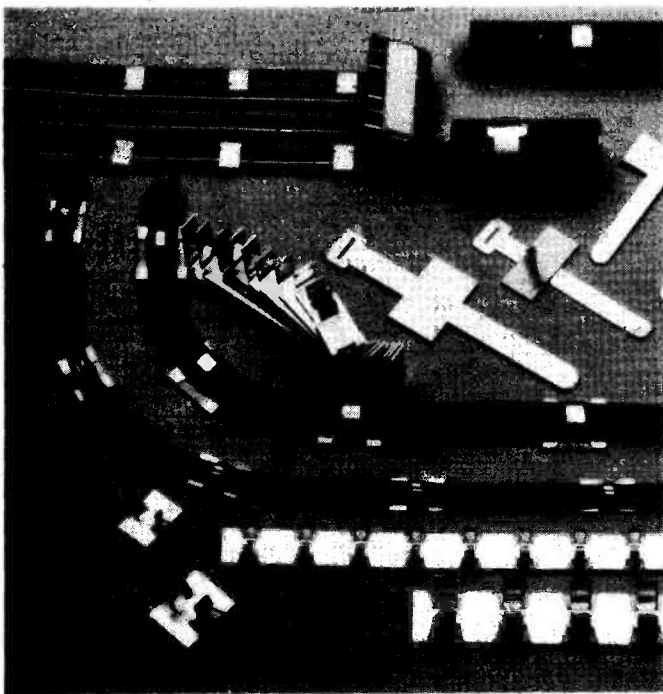
PCBs (see Buylines); 3 1/2 digit LCD display; IC sockets; display socket (if required); PP9 battery and connectors; PP3 battery and connectors; mounting hardware; case (Vero 220 x 156 mm sloping front box, order no. 65-2523E).



## High-res Printing

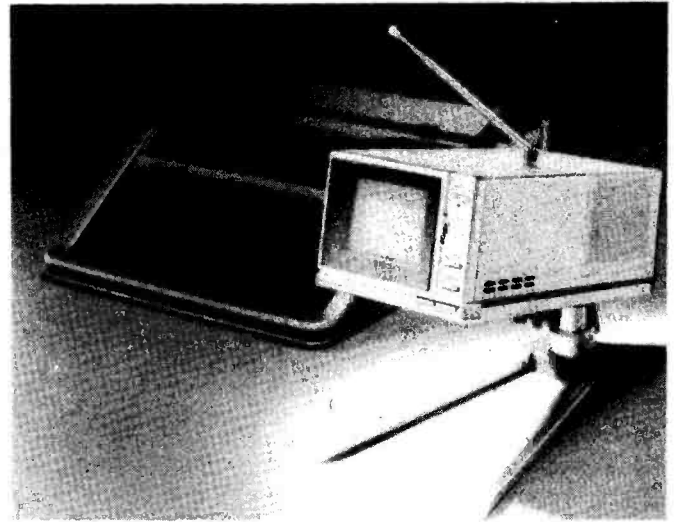
New from Hi-Tek is the Facit 4542, a high-speed, high-resolution printer which combines a new type of 'Flexhammer' print-head with advanced microprocessor control to make it equally suited to text printing, label or bar code production, and graphics output. Using 260-character-per-second bidirectional two-colour printing and a 14 x 9 dot-matrix format, the 4542 can produce a virtually unlimited range of characters as well as different grey scales in graphics applications. In normal text-printing applications, the 4542 features proportional spacing, justified right-hand margin and an extensive set of up to 512 characters in 11 national alphabets with red/black, elongated and underlining facilities. For label printing, a variable-size option is

available which allows characters or bar codes to be generated in 95 different sizes from 2.52 mm up to 240 mm. Selection of size and position is easily controlled by software commands. In the graphics mode, scanning, semi-graphics and 10 levels of grey/red scale are available to illustrate reports with histograms, curves and diagrams, as well as generating half-tone illustrations in applications such as tomography, process monitoring and computer-aided design. The key to the versatility of the 4542 is the print-head, which consists of a set of nine stored-force flexible metal hammers mounted directly on a magnet armature. No adjustment or lubrication is necessary, wear is minimal, and a 'floating' mount means that the correct paper/print-head distance is always maintained irrespective of the paper thickness or number of copies. Further information is available from Hi-Tek Distribution Limited, Trafalgar Way, Bar Hill, Cambridge, CB3 8SQ.



## Small And Beautiful

Hailed as 'the World's Smallest, Lightest and Lowest Power Consumption' television, the TH3-W3V from Matsushita certainly caught our editorial eye. Closer inspection revealed a colour TV set with a 3" colour picture tube, only 115 mm x 86 mm x 323.5 mm in size and 1.5 kg in weight. Power consumption is a mere 9.5 W and it operates on AC power, car batteries and on optionally available rechargeable batteries. Yet, despite its small size, it is equipped with video input/output terminals and operates as a colour monitor and a video tuner when connected to a video camera and a portable VTR, respectively. This 3" colour TV was launched on to the Japanese market in mid-December 1981 at the approximate price of £200. It is due for launch in the US in June this year and, hopefully, will be seen in this country shortly after. Further details will be supplied by National Panasonic (UK) Ltd, 300/313 Bath Road, Slough SL1 6JB.



## Sticky Clips

Brandauer adhesive cable clips from Stotron provide an inexpensive method of fixing round or ribbon cables to clean, dry surfaces. The range can handle round cables from just a few millimeters up to 19 mm and flat ribbon cables from 13 mm to 75 mm can be accommodated by a selection of clips with widths in stages of 6 mm. The adhesive is instant acting and polyethylene pads provide high levels of insulation, where necessary. Further information is available from Stotron Ltd, Unit 1, Haywood Way, Ivyhouse Lane, Hastings, East Sussex.

## Video Victory

Thorn EMI have just announced that agreements have been signed with Telefunken and JVC to form a holding company for the manufacture of video consumer electronics products in Europe. Thomson-Brandt was originally intended as a fourth partner, but this was not possible. However, the three other parties hope an opportunity will arise for Thomson-Brandt to join the venture.

Products manufactured by the joint venture will include VHS video cassette recorders, VHD video disc players and video cameras.

## BT Bill Beater

Following the success of the Telcost TNA25 from the Ansafone Corporation, it was decided that a single line unit should be manufactured. The new machine offers a range of functions which are all designed to save money by monitoring telephone use. Ansafone's single line Telcost 1 has features including a 24-hour clock display, which instantly shows the cost of a call as soon as a user is connected with a number dialled. The unit also has a built-in printer which records details of the call including cost and number dialled. It also prints out the date, time, machine identification number and the duration of the call. Telcost 1 has a built-in memory which retains information even if the machine is disconnected from a power source. It also gives a special security mid-night printout each night which frustrates any attempts to conceal the day's telephone costs by the destruction of the daily printout sheet. The machine is virtually tamper-proof as the printout will indicate if it has been disconnected from the line at any time or if any information parameters have been changed. The machine has provision for it to be reprogrammed at any time to enable the user to keep in line with British Telecom unit rate charges and the date, time and identification number can be changed for any reason if the machine is moved to a new location. This desk-top unit is no bigger than a telephone and for an investment of around £249 could help to cut out the abuse of telephones in both large and small companies.



# Greenbank

Greenbank Electronics  
(Dept T4E), 92 Chester Road, New Ferry  
Wirral, Merseyside L62 5AG  
(Tel. 051 645 3391)

TERMS, VAT, C.W.O. Cheques etc payable to Greenbank Electronics and crossed.  
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[+6p VAT = 46p] per order. Export: NO VAT but add 40p [Eire], E1 (Europe) and  
£3.50 elsewhere. Access: Barclaycard, Visa, telephoned orders accepted.  
[Pays: universities, govt. dept. etc can telephone their orders for immediate  
despatch on account.]



## QUARTZ

32.768KHz (watch)	£2.50
60 KHz	£2.95
100.0 KHz	£3.95
200.0 KHz	£3.70
204.8 KHz	£3.92
262.144 KHz	£3.92
307.2 KHz	£3.92
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5.6448 MHz	£2.23
6.400 MHz	£2.23
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10.92 MHz	£2.23
11.000 MHz	£2.23
12.000 MHz	£2.23
14.000 MHz	£2.23
14.31918 MHz	£2.23
16.000 MHz	£2.23
18.000 MHz	£2.23
18.432 MHz	£2.23
19.968 MHz	£2.23
20.000 MHz	£2.23
20.1134 MHz	£2.23
24.0 MHz	£2.23
26.890 MHz	£2.23
27.0 MHz	£2.23
27.145 MHz	£2.23
27.548 MHz	£2.23
38.666 MHz	£2.23
48.000 MHz	£2.23
100.000 MHz	£2.23
118.000 MHz	£2.23

## VEROBORD

0.1" Pitch with copper strips	
2 1/2" x 11" (pack of 5)	£1.01
2 1/2" x 5 1/2"	73p
2 1/2" x 5 1/2"	83p
2 1/2" x 17"	£2.51
3 1/2" x 3 1/2"	83p
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4 1/2" x 17"	£4.26
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3 1/2" x 2 1/2"	72p
3 1/2" x 5"	79p
3 1/2" x 17.0"	£2.11
Terminal pins 1.50/500	
V.Q. DIP boards	£1.58
U.P. breadboard	£3.19
Spot face cutter	£1.50
Pins insertion tool	£1.62

[Offered as an alternative to the well established International Size Computer Cards

## EuroCARD 280 COMPUTER BOARDS, CUSTOM 80 SYSTEM

The Custom 80 System has been designed as a fully expandable modular computer system. The circuits are supplied as a full kit of parts, all you need are tools and solder.

The colour VDU card gives a teletext format, 24 lines of 40 characters, upper case, lower case, pixel graphics, contiguous, non contiguous, single height, double height, memory mapped etc. The kit is supplied with all the components for colour and is used with your own colour or monochrome T.V. set.

The keyboard Port card is used to interface the ASCII keyboard to the computer. It is interrupt driven giving fast response to keystrokes. On this card is included 1K of user RAM (this is in addition to the 1K of VDU text RAM) and space for a 2K EPROM such as the CSYS operating system. The ROM and RAM can be switched by software, which is desirable if full use is to be made of the dynamic RAM expansion cards.

The CPU board uses the high speed version of the 280 microprocessor and operates at full 4MHz. Full use can be made of the 280A's powerful interrupt structures, including mode 2 (vectored) interrupts. The CPU can insert wait states when requested and utilises pulsed reset for use with dynamic RAM's.

For a full 64K system two RAM expansion cards are required. (These may be purchased singly if required. For example 32K at 90p for your initial needs).

The microcomputer cards plug into the Custom 80 Micro Bus circuit board which is mounted in the high quality Custom 80 rack, which is in turn fitted with a case conversion kit or a good looking instrument case.

For high speed machine code work the CSYS operating system has been designed to allow maximum use to be made by the user's own programs, of the various subroutines and utilities contained in the firmware.

Programs can be stored using named files on cassette. The dual cassette interface includes facilities for an RS232 or 20 mA. current loop to drive a printer. The band rate is software selectable between 300 and 2400 baud. The card also has a 280A counter timer circuit.

For users who would prefer to write programs in BASIC there is a 4K integer BASIC supplied on cassette tape. It includes commands for setting colour, black and white, graphics etc. PLOT (a point), draw (a line), erase (a line) etc. A 12K Custom 80 BASIC is in development and this will be produced in both interpreting and compiling versions.

Also in development is a floppy disk (and disk operating systems).

If you are working on a tight budget, the various kits of parts can be purchased one at a time, prices range from £34.09 (for the Micro Bus kit with 5 connectors) or £43.22 (for the CPU kit) up to £74.56 (for the colour VDU kit).

Send for more details (a large SAE is not essential but helps us) and a comprehensive Custom 80 price list.

## NEW RELEASE

We are now able to sell the bare PCB's without the components but including full documentation, Custom 80 CPU £18.83, Custom 80 KBP £19.39, Custom 80 Micro Bus £13.87, Custom 80 32K RAM £21.25, Custom 80 VDU £23.70. Ask us for details of Bare Boards for Custom 80 System.

## TEX MICROSYSTEMS 'EPROMPT' UV ERASER



A low-cost alternative to the above erasers (UV 140-141) claimed by the manufacturer to erase up to 32 chips in 15-30 mins. This is the cheapest eraser we have seen. The unit has no timer, power switch or safety interlock switch. The user places up to 32 chips into loose conducting foam in the erasure tray (16 along the base, 8 on each side). The chips are held in place by the UV tube which sits in the tray (Unlike the UV 140-141, no precautions have been taken to prevent the seepage of UV light, but the manufacturer states that "Incident light from this device is quite safe at distances above 12 inches).

## MODULAR COMPUTER SYSTEM CARDS

International cards (mostly Kemitron)  
A range of International (114 - 203mm) size cards which may be purchased individually as desired or to build up a complete system further details available on request. All boards are epoxy glass with gold plated edge plug.

New bare-board prices	
MZB-3200 CPU	£11.60
SCMP-2 SC/MP CPU	£11.60
MPA-2 Buffering SC/MP CPU	£10.76
MKD-2 16K of 4116	£11.60
MKA-2 1K of 2102	£11.60
MKA-38K of 2114	£11.60
PRM-68K of 2108	£10.76
IP-2 Input Port	£11.60
OP-3 Output Port	£11.60
SID-4 RS232 (two)	£11.60
P2-Prom Programmer	£11.60
DCR-2 SC/MP Tape Interface	£10.76
TPA-2 SC/MP Keyboard Interface	£10.76
VDU-A	£10.76
VDU-B	£10.76
VDU-G	£10.76
New boards expected soon:	
VDU-K (single board VDU 32x24)	£16.95
MP 87 (8070 CPU)	£16.95
MZB-4 (280A CPU)	£33.80
MKD-6 (256K Dynamic Ram)	£33.80
DC-2 (S.D. Disk Controller)	£33.80
DC-4 (D.D. Disk Controller)	£33.80
HDA-1 (Hard Disk Adaptor)	£33.80
SOFTWARE	
ZYMON 1 Monitor (12K)	£14.95
BSC BASIC (6K)	£16.95

## SWITCH MODE PSUs

AC 52215 5V/10A	£89.90
AC 54215 5V/20A	£99.20
AC 94215 5V/10A 12V/2A 12V/2A 5V/10A	£126.50

## OPEN CARD SWITCH MODE PSU

FULLY ASSEMBLED P.C.B. CARO 19" x 108	
52mm Outputs + 5V/6A, 5V/5A, 12V/1A, 12V/1A	
Type AC251	£17.75
AC353 5V/3A, 24V/3A, 12V/1A, 18V x 157	
x 52mm	£19.50

## NEW Eurocard Switch Mode PSU's

Fully Assembled Card, 100 x 160mm x 7E30V	
output power	
Type 7150 + 5V at 6A adjustable to +15V at 2A	£41.40
Type 7151 + 5V at 3A, +12V at 1.2A	£41.40

## T.V. MONITOR P.C.B. for OEM users

This is an assembled P.C.B. size 130 x 190mm, which you add to your own 12" 13" black and white C.R.T. (90 degree 20mm dia. neck), to obtain a T.V. monitor at modest cost. (Regrettably we cannot supply the C.R.T. at present).

Pre-set contrast, contrast brightness, etc. are included, and the only inputs needed are 15 Volts, 10" AC at 1.5 Amps and 1 Volt pk-pk composite video input.

Supplied with circuit diagram. £33.50

## KEYBOARD CASES

405 x 210mm. Panel size 330 x 188mm	£10.14
510 x 340mm. Panel size 430 x 115mm	£26.22

## CMOS

4001	14p	4042	60p	4093	43p	4409	£7.90	4531	£1.30
4001	14p	4043	70p	4093	£1.88	4410	£7.20	4532	£1.10
4002	14p	4044	65p	4096	90p	4411	£6.96	4534	£5.00
4006	68p	4045	£1.70	4096	90p	4412VP	£8.00	4536	£2.96
4007	18p	4046	75p	4097	£3.20	4415V	£4.80	4537L	£26.10
4008	82p	4047	75p	4098	86p	4422	£6.66	4538	£1.15
4009	35p	4048	55p	4098	95p	4433	£7.70	4539	£1.15
4010	40p	4049	55p	40100	£1.92	4435V	£5.40	4541	£1.19
4011	15p	4050	60p	40101	£1.30	4450	£3.50	4543	£1.36
4012	18p	4051	70p	40102	£1.80	4461	£3.93	4549	£3.96
4013	34p	4052	70p	40103	£1.76	4462	£4.41	4552	£1.85
4014	75p	4053	70p	40104	95p	4480VP	£3.90	4553	£2.99
4015	66p	4054	£1.25	40105	£1.15	4480VP	£3.14	4554	£1.38
4016	66p	4055	£1.25	40106	95p	4501	29p	4555	50p
4017	48p	4056	£1.20	40107	60p	4502	£1.20	4556	55p
4018	68p	4059	£4.80	40108	£4.50	4503	70p	4557	£3.20
4019	42p	4060	90p	40109	£1.00	4505	£5.71	4558	£1.20
4020	61p	4062T	£9.95	40110	£3.00	4506	50p	4559	£3.96
4021	70p	4063	99p	40111	£1.77	4507	40p	4560	£1.80
4023	£1.65	4066	90p	40112	£1.54	4508	£2.65	4561	81p
4024	20p	4067	£3.90	40113	£1.54	4509	68p	4562	£4.95
4024	45p	4068	22p	40114	£1.54	4511	68p	4566	£1.59
4025	19p	4069	20p	40115	£1.54	4512	75p	4568	£2.38
4026	£1.30	4070	26p	40116	£1.54	4513	£1.99	4569	£1.75
4027	38p	4071	20p	40117	£5.03	4514	£5.95	4572	36p
4028	50p	4072	20p	40118	£1.30	4515	£1.98	4580	£4.60
4029	77p	4073	20p	40119	£2.41	4516	75p	4581	£2.50
4030	50p	4075	20p	40120	£2.41	4517	£4.15	4582	98p
4031	£1.70	4076	60p	40121	£1.06	4518	42p	4583	90p
4032	£1.25	4077	26p	40122	£7.54	4519	29p	4584	46p
4033	£1.65	4078	26p	40123	£2.31	4520	78p	4597	£2.44
4034	£1.96	4079	26p	4160	95p	4521	£2.00	4598	£2.90
4035	95p	4082	26p	4161	99p	4522	£1.11	4599	£5.95
4036	£1.15	4085	66p	4162	99p	4526	95p	4700	£1.75
4037	£1.10	4086	66p	4163	99p	4527	£1.15	ICM7038A	£4.25
4038	£2.79	4089	70p	4174	99p	4528	80p		
4039	50p	4089	£1.40	4194	£1.06	4530	70p		

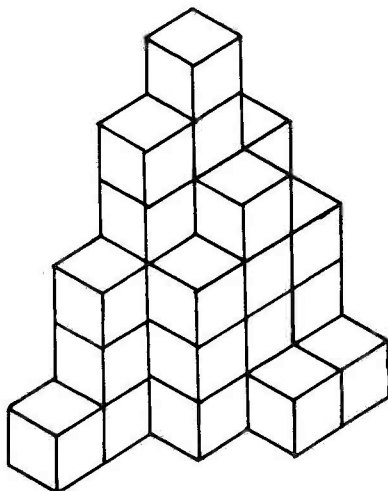
## 74C

74C00	28p	74C76	57p	74C163	£1.15	74C904	57p	74C926	£5.99
74C02	28p	74C83	£1.34	74C164	£1.00	74C905	£7.93	74C927	£5.99
74C04	28p	74C85	£1.34	74C165	£1.08	74C906	67p	74C928	£5.99
74C08	28p	74C88	67p	74C173	93p	74C908	67p	74C929	£17.90
74C10	28p	74C89	£4.82	74C174	93p	74C909	£1.69	74C930	£17.90
74C12	28p	74C90	89p	74C175	93p	74C909	£1.69	80C95	82p
74C14	30p	74C91	£1.06	74C182	£1.15	74C910	£7.45	80C96	82p
74C16	30p	74C107	£1.27	74C195	£1.00	74C911	£7.39	80C97	82p
74C20	28p	74C150	£3.81	74C200	£7.45	74C912	£7.39	80C98	82p
74C22	28p	74C151	£2.65	74C221	£1.41	74C915	£1.15	82C19	£8.20
74C24	28p	74C154	£3.81	74C237	£1.79	74C918	£1.10	88C29	£2.90
74C26	28p	74C157	£2.29	74C247	£1.79	74C921	£1.07	88C30	£2.90
74C28	28p	74C160	£1.40	74C291	57p	74C922	£3.78		
74C32	28p	74C161	£1.15	74C902	79p	74C923	£3.48		
74C34	28p	74C162	£1.15	74C903	57p	74C925	£5.99		

## 74LS

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74LS01	12p	74LS63	£1.15	74LS244	80p	74LS245	£1.18	74LS368	66p
74LS02	14p	74LS73	25p	74LS154	£1.1	74LS247	40p	74LS373	75p
74LS03	14p	74LS75	25p	74LS155	39p	74LS248	40p	74LS374	75p
74LS04	15p	74LS76	20p	74LS156	39p	74LS249	39p	74LS375	75p
74LS05	15p	74LS83	80p	74LS157	39p	74LS250	39p	74LS377	75p
74LS06	15p	74LS85	80p	74LS158	36p	74LS251	40p	74LS378	75p
74LS08	15p	74LS86	30p	74LS159	39p	74LS252	40p	74LS379	75p
74LS10	15p	74LS90	35p	74LS160	41p	74LS253	40p	74LS380	75p
74LS11	15p	74LS91	80p	74LS161	41p	74LS254	40p	74LS381	75p
74LS12	15p	74LS92	36p	74LS162	41p	74LS255	40p	74LS382	75p
74LS13	30p	74LS93	36p	74LS163	41p	74LS256	40p	74LS383	75p
74LS14	48p	74LS95	45p	74LS164	48p	74LS257	40p	74LS384	75p
74LS15	48p	74LS96	£1.16	74LS165	75p	74LS258	40p	74LS385	75p
74LS16	48p	74LS97	£1.16	74LS166	85p	74LS259	40p	74LS386	75p
74LS17	48p	74LS98	£1.16	74LS167	85p	74LS260	21p	74LS387	75p
74LS18	48p	74LS99	£1.16	74LS168	85p	74LS261	£1.96	74LS388	75p
74LS19	48p	74LS100	30p	74LS169	85p	74LS262	25p	74LS389	75p
74LS20	48p	74LS101	30p	74LS170	£1.70	74LS263	90p	74LS390	75p
74LS21	15p	74LS102	30p	74LS171	72p	74LS264	£2.50	74LS391	75p
74LS22	15p	74LS103	30p	74LS172	72p	74LS265	£2.50	74LS392	75p
74LS23	15p	74LS104	30p	74LS173	72p	74LS266	£2.50	74LS393	75p
74LS24	15p	74LS105	30p	74LS174	72p	74LS267	£2.50	74LS394	75p
74LS25	15p	74LS106	30p	74LS175	72p	74LS268	£2.50	74LS395	75p
74LS26	15p	74LS107	30p	74LS176	72p	74LS269	£2.50	74LS396	75p
74LS27	15p	74LS108	30p	74LS177	72p	74LS270	57p	74LS397	75p
74LS28	15p	74LS109	30p	74LS178	72p	74LS271	57p	74LS398	75p
74LS29	15p	74LS110	30p	74LS179	72p	74LS272	57p	74LS399	75p
74LS30	15p	74LS111	30p	74LS180	72p	74LS273	57p	74LS400	75p
74LS31	15p	74LS112	30p	74LS181	72p	74LS274	57p	74LS401	75p
74LS32	15p	74LS113	40p	74LS182	£2.75	74LS275	57p	74LS402	75p
74LS33	15p	74LS114	35p	74LS183	£2.75	74LS276	57p	74LS403	75p
74LS34	15p	74LS115	35p	74LS184	£2.75	74LS277	57p	74LS404	75p
74LS35	15p	74LS116	35p	74LS185	£2.75	74LS278	57p	74LS405	75p
74LS36	15p	74LS117	35p	74LS186	£2.75	74LS279	57p	74LS406	75p
74LS37	15p	74LS118	35p	74LS187	£2.75	74LS280	57p	74LS407	75p
74LS38	15p	74LS119	35p	74LS188	£2.75	74LS281	57p	74LS408	75p
74LS39	15p	74LS120	35p	74LS189	£2.75	74LS282	57p	74LS409	75p
74LS40	15p	74LS121	35p	74LS190	£2.75	74LS283	57p	74LS410	75p
74LS41	15p	74LS122	35p	74LS191	£2.75	74LS284	57p	74LS411	75p
74LS42	30p	74LS123	55p	74LS192	£2.75	74LS285	57p	74LS412	75p
74LS43	30p	74LS124	£1.06	74LS193	£5.65	74LS286	57p	74LS413	75p
74LS44	30p	74LS125	30p	74LS194	40p	74LS287	57p	74LS414	75p
74LS45	30p	74LS126	30p	74LS195	40p	74LS288	57p	74LS415	75p
74LS46	30p	74LS127	30p	74LS196	40p	74LS289	57p	74LS416	75p
74LS47	30p	74LS128	28p	74LS197	40p	74LS290	57p	74LS417	75p
74LS48	30p	74LS129	28p	74LS198	40p	74LS291	57p	74LS418	75p
74LS49	60p	74LS130	39p	74LS199	40p	74LS292	57p	74LS419	75p
74LS50	15p	74LS131	35p	74LS200	40p	74LS293	57p	74LS420	75p
74LS51	15p	74LS132	35p	74LS201	40p	74LS294	57p	74LS421	75p
74LS52	15p	74LS133	35p	74LS202	40p	74LS295	57p	74LS422	75p
74LS53	15p	74LS134	35p	74LS203	40p	74LS296	57p	74LS423	75p
74LS54	15p	74LS135	35p	74LS204	40p	74LS297	57p	74LS424	75p
74LS55	15p	74LS136	35p	74LS205	40p	74LS298	57p	74LS425	75p
74LS56	15p	74LS137	35p	74LS206	40p	74LS299	57p	74LS426	75p
74LS57	15p	74LS138	35p	74LS207	40p	74LS300	57p	74LS427	75p
74LS58	15p	74LS139	35p	74LS208	40p	74LS301	57p	74LS428	75p
74LS59	15p	74LS140	35p	74LS209	40p	74LS302	57p	74LS429	75p
74LS60	15p	74LS141	70p	74LS210	40p	74LS303	57p	74LS430	75p
74LS61	15p	74LS142	70p	74LS211	40p	74LS304	57p	74LS431	75p
74LS62	15p	74LS143	70p	74LS212	40p	74LS305	57p	74LS432	75p
74LS63	15p	74LS144	70p	74LS213	40p	74LS306	57p	74LS433	75p
74LS64	15p	74LS145	70p	74LS214	40p	74LS307	57p	74LS434	75p
74LS65	15p	74LS146	70p	74LS215	40p	74LS308	57p	74LS435	75p
74LS66	15p	74LS147	70p	74LS216	40p	74LS309	57p	74LS436	75p
74LS67	15p	74LS148	89p	74LS217	40p	74LS310	57p	74LS437	75p
74LS68	15p	74LS149	89p	74LS218	40p	74LS311	57p	74LS438	75p
74LS69	15p	74LS150	89p	74LS219	40p	74LS312	57p	74LS439	75p
74LS70	15p	74LS151	89p	74LS220	40p	74LS313	57p	74LS440	75p
74LS71	15p	74LS152	89p	74LS221	40p	74LS314	57p	74LS441	75p
74LS72	15p	74LS153	89p	74LS222	40p	74LS315	57p	74LS442	75p
74LS73	15p	74LS154	89p	74LS223	40p	74LS316	57p	74LS443	75p
74LS74	15p	74LS155	89p	74LS224	40p	74LS317	57p	74LS444	75p
74LS75	15p	74LS156	89p	74LS225	40p	74LS318	57p	74LS445	75p
74LS76	15p	74LS157	89p	74LS226	40p	74LS319	57p	74LS446	75p
74LS77	15p	74LS158	89p	74LS227	40p	74LS320	57p	74LS447	75p
74LS78	15p	74LS159	89p	74LS228	40p	74LS321	57p	74LS448	75p
74LS79	15p	74LS160	89p	74LS229	40p	74LS322	57p	74LS449	75p
74LS80	15p	74LS161	89p	74LS230	40p	74LS323	57p	74LS450	75p
74LS81	15p	74LS162	89p	74LS231	40p	74LS324	57p	74LS451	75p
74LS82	15p	74LS163	89p	74LS232	40p	74LS325	57p	74LS452	75p
74LS83	15p	74LS164	89p	74LS233	40p	74LS326	57p	74LS453	75p
74LS84	15p	74LS165	89p	74LS234	40p	74LS327	57p	74LS454	75p
74LS85	15p	74LS166	89p	74LS235	40p	74LS328	57p	74LS455	75p
74LS86	15p	74LS167	89p	74LS236	40p	74LS329	57p	74LS456	75p
74LS87	15p	74LS168	89p	74LS237	40p	74LS330	57p	74LS457	75p
74LS88	15p	74LS169	89p	74LS238	40p	74LS331	57p	74LS458	75p
74LS89	15p	74LS170	89p	74LS239	40p	74LS332	57p	74LS459	75p
74LS90	15p	74LS171	89p	74LS240	40p	74LS333	57p	74LS460	75p
74LS91	15p	74LS172	89p	74LS241	40p	74LS334	57p	74LS461	75p
74LS92	15p	74LS173	89p	74LS242	85p	74LS335	57p	74LS462	75p
74LS93	15p	74LS174	89p	74LS243	85p	74LS336	37p	74LS463	75p
74LS94	15p	74LS175	89p	74LS244	85p	74LS337	37p	74LS464	75p
74LS95	15p	74LS176	89p	74LS245	85p	74LS338	37p	74LS465	75p
74LS96	15p	74LS177	89p	74LS246	85p	74LS339	37p	74LS466	75p
74LS97	15p	74LS178	89p	74LS247	85p	74LS340	37p	74LS467	75p
74LS98	15p	74LS179	89p	74LS248	85p	74LS341	37p	74LS468	75p
74LS99	15p	74LS180	89p	74LS249	85p	74LS342	37p	74LS469	75p
74LS100	15p	74LS181	89p	74LS250	85p	74LS343	37p	74LS470	75p
74LS101	15p	74LS182	89p	74LS251	85p	74LS344	37p	74LS471	75p
74LS102	15p	74LS183	89p	74LS252	85p	74LS345	37p	74LS472	75p
74LS103	15p	74LS184	89p	74LS253	85p	74LS346	37p	74LS473	75p
74LS104	15p	74LS185	89p	74LS254	85p	74LS347	37p	74LS474	75p
74LS105	15p	74LS186	89p	74LS255	85p	74LS348	37p	74LS475	75p
74LS106	15p	74LS187	89p	74LS256	85p	74LS349	37p	74LS476	75p
74LS107	15p	74LS188	89p	74LS257	85p	74LS350	37p	74LS477	75p
74LS108	15p	74LS189	89p	74LS258	85p	74LS351	37p	74LS478	75p
74LS109	15p	74LS190	89p	74LS259	85p	74LS352	37p	74LS479	75p
74LS110	15p	74LS191	89p	74LS260	85p	74LS353	37p	74LS480	75p
74LS111	15p	74LS192	89p	74LS261	85p	74LS354	37p	74LS481	75p
74LS112	15p	74LS193	89p	74LS262	85p	74LS355	37p	74LS482	75p
74LS113	15p	74LS194	89p	74LS263	85p	74LS356	37p	74LS483	75p
74LS114	15p	74LS195	89p	74LS264	85p	74LS357	37p	74LS484	75p
74LS115	15p	74LS196	89p	74LS265	85p	74LS358	37p	74LS485	75p
74LS116	15p	74LS197	89p	74LS266	85p	74LS359	37p	74LS486	75p
74LS117	15p	74LS198	89p	74LS267	85p	74LS360	37p	74LS487	75p
74LS118	15p	74LS199	89p	74LS268	85p	74LS361	37p	74LS488	75p
74LS119	15p	74LS200	89p	74LS269	85p	74LS362	37p	74LS489	75p
74LS120	15p	74LS201	89p	74LS270	85p	74LS363	37p	74LS490	75p
74LS121	15p	74LS202	89p	74LS271	85p	74LS364	37p	74LS491	75p
74LS122	15p	74LS203	89p	74LS272	85p	74LS365	37p	74LS492	75p
74LS123	15p	74LS204	89p	74LS273	85p	74LS366	37p	74LS493	75p
74LS124	15p	74LS205	89p	74LS274	85p	74LS367	37p	74LS494	75p
74LS125	15p	74LS206	89p	74LS275	85p	74LS368	37p	74LS495	75p
74LS126	15p	74LS207	89p	74LS276	85p	74LS369	37p	74LS496	75p
74LS127	15p	74LS208	89p	74LS277	85p	74LS370			

# WIN £50's WORTH OF VEROBOXES!



There's no doubt that no matter how clever the project you've built is, your friends and family are not going to be impressed with it if you display it in a cardboard box or the proverbial tobacco tins. What's more, the feeling of satisfaction you get from project-building can be that much greater if you end up with something that looks as good as commercial equipment.

One of the companies with the largest range of cases is Vero Industries. They've given us a collection of their cases worth £50, and we're going to give them to one of you — but the lucky recipient has to have

answered these three questions correctly.

(1) How many boxes in the pile on the left? (There are no concealed box tops).

(2) How many of this month's projects are housed in Veroboxes?

(3) Is the Vero 'G' range of cases made from plastic or metal?

Answers on the form on page 133 please, together with your name and address, to reach us before April 30th, 1982.

## RULES

1. Closing date is April 30th 1982, and all entries post-marked later than this date will be discounted.
2. The coupon provided in the magazine must be used. Photocopies are NOT acceptable.
3. Employees of ASP and their relatives are not eligible for entry.
4. The judges' decision is to be considered final and no correspondence will be entered into concerning the competition.

TTL CMOS 74LS LEDs		LB ELECTRONICS		LINEAR RAMS EPROMS SURPLUS		TELEPHONE UXBRIDGE 55399			
<b>D TYPE CONNECTORS</b> 9 way r/angle skt £1.25 9 way (solder) skt £0.75 9 way (crimp) plg £0.75 15 way (w/wrap) plg £1.00 15 way (solder) plg £0.95 15 way (solder) skt £0.95 25 way (solder) plg £1.85 25 way (solder) skt £1.85 25 way (ins/peirce) plg £2.65 25 way (ins/peirce) skt £2.65 25 way (w/wrap) skt £2.00 37 way (solder/tail) plg £1.80 37 way (solder/tail) £1.80 50 way (solder/tail) plg £2.00 50 way (solder/tail) skt £2.00  <b>'D' TYPE COVERS</b> Plastic 9 way £0.60 Plastic 15 way £0.50 Plastic 25 way £0.95 Plastic 37 way £1.00 Plastic 50 way £1.20 Metal 15 way £0.95 Metal (ITT) 25 way £1.00 Metal 25 way £1.25 Metal (ITT) 50 way £1.25 Metal 50 way £1.85 P/P on all above items 45p  <b>SUPERSAVER 30</b> PAPST Minifan 3 1/4" sq. 1 1/2" deep 220V. 50 HZ. Brand new and boxed £9.50 P/P 50p  <b>SUPERSAVER 31</b> UECL Gold plated Edge connector. 1" 75 way £1.65 PP 45p (wire wrap)  <b>SUPERSAVER 32</b> 12 Volt Relay. P.C.B. Mntg S/pole d/CHANGE over £0.65 P/P 25p		<b>SUPERSAVER 33</b> JACKSON NICAD £8.75 Batt charger for 4 x AA, D, D. Same as above plus P.P.3. £10.00 P/P £1.00 each  <b>SUPERSAVER 34</b> ANTEX 15 watt solder iron £4.95 P/P 75p  <b>SUPERSAVER 35</b> A Treat '82. 16 meters of 16 core cable with non-standard 'D' type plg/skt £1.50 P/P £1.00  <b>SUPERSAVER 36</b> Mains lead 2 meters + with moulded I.E.C. mains plug 6A 250V £1.00 each P/P 50p  <b>SUPERSAVER 37</b> MEKTRON M-823793 16 way buss rail. 4 for £1.00 P/P 35p  <b>SUPERSAVER 38</b> T&B Ansley I.D.C. Connectors 26 way straight plug 65p 40 way straight plug 90p 40 way R/A plug £1.00 16 way skt 55p P/P 25 each  <b>SUPERSAVER 39</b> MOLEX 6W skt. 1" will butt end to end still giving 1" PCB mounting. 4 for 12p; 12W plg 12p each. 16W plg & skt 45p for pair. 2W plg & skt 25p for pair. 3V plg & skt (mains) 45p for pair P/P 25p.		<b>SUPERSAVER 40</b> .1" 30 x 30 Gold plated P.C.B. plug. £1.00 each. .1" 20 way PCB skt 20p each. 36W plg .1" R/A 50p each. P/P 25p each.  <b>SUPERSAVER 41</b> AUGAT IC skts (The best available) round turned pins. The I.C. pin cuts a groove in the skt for 100% connection reliability. 16 way 20p; 18 way 25p; 24 way 50p each. P/P 25p.  <b>SUPERSAVER 42</b> Header plgs (gold plated) 14 way (no CVR) 18p each 16 way (no CVR) 25p each 24 way (no CVR) 95p each 14 way HDR plgs with CVR 45p each 16 way HDR plgs with CVR 60p each Ansley 14 way HDR plgs RBN I/P 75p Ansley 16 way HDR plgs RBN I/P 95p Ansley 24 way HDR plgs RBN I/P £1.50 P/P 15p each		<b>SUPERSAVER 43</b> 2516 used fully erased guaranteed replacement single rail EPROM 350ns £1.95 each; Ten for £17.00 P/P FREE  <b>SUPERSAVER 44</b> Tangerine Microtan 65 blank P.C.B. Brand new + circ. diagram £4.50 (6502 based, 1K on board) P/P 50p each.  <b>MICRO REVOLUTION</b> The new Z8 Processor complete P.C.B. and parts to produce this new R.S. 232 CPU. Built in tiny BASIC and 4K RAM only 4.5" by 4.5". Price on application. Further details to follow.  <b>SUPERSAVER 45</b> M.C. 1489 RS 232 Receiver I.C. 46p each P/P 20p  <b>SUPERSAVER 46</b> 2708 £1.85 ea. 1702 £5.00 ea. 2732 £5.50 ea. 2532 £6.50 ea. 2114 (450ns) £1.00 ea. 2114L (450ns) £1.35 ea. 2114 (200ns) £1.45 ea. 4116 (200ns) £1.00 ea. Quantity on above P.O.A. P/P FREE		<b>SUPERSAVER 47</b> Approx. 2 meters + coax lead with plgs either end £1.00 each P/P 35p  <b>SUPERSAVER 48</b> FND 500 .5" LED displays. 7 seg. Red. 65p each. Large quantity P.O.A. P/P 35p  <b>SUPERSAVER 49</b> 64 way DIN41612 edge connectors to fit Microtan etc. plg or skt £3.45 each P/P 35p each Amphenol 36 way plg & skt (used) to fit all your printers £2.75 per pair P/P 35p  <b>SUPERSAVER 50</b> 2.5mm Power plg + 2 metres of cable to fit Acorn Atom ZX81 etc. etc. Only £1.00 for 10. P/P 25p. TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME  POSTAGE STATED IS FOR ONE ITEM. IF YOU ORDER SEVERAL ITEMS, PLEASE USE YOUR OWN DISCRETION.  <b>SUPPORT DEVICES</b> 8251 £3.00 each 8253 £6.00 each 8224 £2.00 each P/P 35p	



**L.B. ELECTRONICS**

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 TEL: UXBRIDGE 55399





# CLEF ELECTRONIC MUSIC



**ELECTRONIC PIANOS**  
**SPECIALISTS SINCE 1972**  
Clef Pianos adopt the most advanced form of Touch Sensitive action which simulates piano Key inertia using a patented electronic technique.

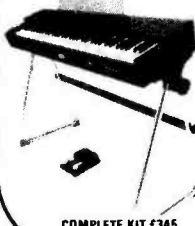
**7 1/2 OCTAVE DOMESTIC MODEL COMPONENT KIT £244**  
**COMPLETE KIT £395.70**  
**MANUFACTURED £875**

Two Domestic Models are available including the 88-note full-size version. Four intermixable Voice Controls may be used to obtain a wide variation of Piano tone, including Harpichord. Both Soft and Sustain Pedals are incorporated in the Design and internal Effects are provided in the form of Tremolo, Honky-Chorus, and Phase/Flange.

**SIX OCTAVE DOMESTIC MODEL COMPONENT KIT £217**  
**MANUFACTURED £595**

Component Kits include Keyboard, Key-switch hardware, and all electronic components and may be purchased in four stages at no extra cost. Complete Kits further contain Cabinets, wiring harness, Pedals and in the case of Domestic Models both Power Amplifier and Speaker.

**SIX OCTAVE STAGE MODEL COMPONENT KIT £217**  
**MANUFACTURED £530**



Since 1972 Clef Products have consistently produced leading designs in the field of Electronic Musical Instruments, many of which have been published in technical magazines. With musical quality of paramount importance, new techniques have been evolved and the latest musically valid technology has been incorporated into projects which have been successfully completed by constructors over a wide range of technical capability. Back-up TELEPHONE advice to our customers is available from the Designer of all Kits advertised.

## STRING ENSEMBLE

(As Published in conjunction with 'Practical Electronics')  
A very popular Keyboard Synthesizer Kit, for Group or Home use, with a four octave compass and split Keyboard facility.

The instrument is fully polyphonic and has two rich Multi-String Voices plus Woodwind and Brass Effects for individual or Mixed use. Variable Attack and Sustain Controls give a good Orchestral Mix with the added concert hall reverberation effect produced by sustain coupled with phase modulation in the Chorus Unit. The Component Kit includes Keyboard, Key-switch hardware, and all electronic components plus tone generator linking wire and Volume Pedal. A copy of the P.E. project series can be supplied for £3.00 inc. post.

**COMPONENT KIT £179.00**

**PRICES INCLUDE VAT, UK CARRIAGE & INSURANCE (CARRIAGE EXTRA ON MFD PIANOS).** Please send S.A.E. for our complete lists, or use our telephone VSA/ACCESS Service. Competitive quotations can be given for EXPORT orders - in Australia please contact JAYCAR in Sydney.

## CLEF PRODUCTS (ELECTRONICS) LIMITED

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## "THE COMPUTER BAND-BOX"

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**COMPLETE KIT £289**

**£399 MANFD.**



**PRICES INCLUDE MASTER RHYTHM**

A revolution in the field of Computer Music Generation!

**A MUSICIANS INSTRUMENT FOR: SOLOISTS - SINGERS - RECORDING - PRACTICE LIVE PERFORMANCE - COMPOSITION**

The BAND-BOX provides an Electronic Backing Trio consisting of Drums, Bass, and a Chord Instrument (one of 16 Waveform/Envelope combinations), with the capacity to store over 3,000 User Programmable Chord Changes on more than 120 different Chords. Using advanced Microprocessor technology, Playback of 50-100 Scores can be executed in any Key and at chosen Tempo. Complete Music Pad is electronically Indexed and stored on secondary battery back-up. Facility exists for composition of Intro, Repeat Chorus, and Coda sections including Multiple Score Sequences. Sockets are provided for Volume Pedal and Footswitch plus separate and mixed instrument Outputs. Total size 19" x 11" x 4 1/2" incorporating Master Rhythm.

## THE Programmable DRUM MACHINE

(As Published in conjunction with 'Practical Electronics')

**EIGHT TRACK PROGRAMMING TWENTY-FOUR PATTERNS/TWELVE INSTRUMENTS SEQUENCE OPERATION COMPLETE KIT £79.00**  
**MANFD. £119.00**



The Clef Master Rhythm is capable of storing 24 selectable rhythmic drum patterns, invented, modified, and entered by the Operator on to Eight Instrumentation tracks. A three position Instrumentation control expands the number of instruments available to twelve, grouped into sounds typical of playing with Drumsticks, Brushes, or Latin American Bongos and Claves. Sequence operation allows two rhythm sections to be coupled with the second (B) section appearing at four, eight or sixteen Bar repetition. All drums can be adjusted for level and resonance on internal controls to suit individual taste, thus producing good musical sounds in a battery driven unit 8 1/2" x 5" x 2 1/4".

## POWER DIMMING MODULES

- ★ Fully isolated
- ★ Multi channel common wiring lines
- ★ Master dimming over banks
- ★ Remote override
- ★ Dead "kill" and "all on"
- ★ Low voltage feed lines
- ★ Common neutral or live outputs

A range of isolated digitally controlled dimming modules, complete with panels. Each type requires connection to the supply/reference board.

**Slave power controllers (SPC)**  
Controls up to 1000W via the slider.  
RFI suppressed/fused.  
**Slave power unit (SPU)**  
Controls up to 1000W via a logic signal from a remote slave.  
**Master controllers (MC)**  
Will master dim from 1 to a bank of 20 SPC units.  
**Remote slaves (RS) - (Prased)**  
Will override an SPC at a remote location to the main system or control an SPU.  
**Supply/reference board**  
Provides the necessary supply voltages and signals to all units. Facilities for "Kill" and "all on". Supplies up to any combination of 50 modules.

PRICES (1 of)	
SPC	£13.90
SPU	£9.90
MC	£7.20
RS	£8.50
Supply	£18.20

**SPECIAL DISCOUNTS**  
Are available on power dimmers. Total your order up and deduct:  
£100 to £199... 20%  
£200 to £299... 25%  
£300 to £399... 30%  
£400 + ... 40%

## 3 CHANNEL SOUND/LIGHT CHASER

LB31000SLC

**£35.70**

A high performance sound to light system which automatically switches to a chase when the music ceases. Super sensitive with an anti-interference circuit, the unit will operate from practically any amp and control up to 1,000W/channel, 5KHz to 70K. Controls: bass/mid/treble/master sensitivity/chase speed.



The Multi-4 is a comprehensive sound and chase module, offering a wide range of forward, reverse or random effects, with additional sound modulation facilities. Modes of operation are set on control pots which act as electronic switches. The unit has a wide speed range and will accept virtually any sound level input. The Multi-4 also provides monitor circuits for LED driving. The triac outputs may be used to drive up to 4000W of lighting or up to 10 metres of rope lights.

## STEREO DISCO MIXER/PREAMP

LBPA3  
M - Magnetic  
C - Ceramic

**£33.70**

Magnetic or ceramic deck versions - please state on one board left and right deck mixers/controls/misc. mixer/tones/mic auto fade over decks/and P.F.L. The unit can be used with either LB 100/150/250.



**MULTI - 4 £48.90**

Attractive blue panels with white letters, complete with LED monitors, knobs and mains illuminated switch.

**extra £9.70**

## NEW NEW NEW

### 4 CHANNEL SOUND LIGHT AUTO-CHASER

- ★ Bass/mid/presence/treb
- ★ Automatic level filter control
- ★ Automatic input gain control
- ★ L.E.D. monitor drivers
- ★ 10Hz to 30KHz response
- ★ Super sensitive
- ★ Zero reference triggering
- ★ Fascia/LED, etc. available

**\* £49.90 (panels, etc. £9.20)**

Phone or write for immediate details of the LB41000SLC

## NEW NEW NEW

### 2/4/8 CHANNEL CHASER LB81000LC



**£28.00**

An all logic chaser system for use with up to 8 channels at 1,000 watts each. Facilities include footswitch trigger and module cascading (16, 24, 32 channel, etc.), chase speed and re-cycle delay.

### 4 CHANNEL SEQUENCER LB41000LS



**£19.20**

A 4 channel sequence generator for banks of lamps up to 1,000W per channel. Two speed controls, cross effect to provide settings between seconds and rapid burst.

## PROGRAMMABLE - 8

**£114.90**

P/P INS  
£1.50



- ★ 8 channel 400W each
- ★ 16, 32, 64, 128 patterns
- ★ Automatic program recycle
- ★ Adjustable cue on/off speed
- ★ Optically isolated, suppressed
- ★ Either common Neutral or live lamps

An advanced lighting module allowing any chase or sequence effects to be programmed, stored and recalled. Up to 128 patterns can then be replayed in the stored order, with control over the cycle on and off. At the end of the program the system re-cycles to the start to maintain a continuous display. Full monitoring on the control panel over the outputs and control status is provided, and the program may be halted at any time. Although removing the mains supply to the module will delete the stored patterns the use of calculator type push buttons allows speedy programming ready for the following night's performance. The module obviously provides unlimited effects and is a must for all serious lighting shows.

## 3 CHANNEL SOUND/LIGHT LB31000SL



**£22.70**

All the advantages of the SLC without chase. Controls: bass/mid/treble/master sensitivity.

## 3-WAY ACTIVE CROSSOVER LBACO1

**£17.90**

Bass/mid/treble active crossover with stage booster! Available with crossover points of 200 or 300Hz, and 2K or 3KHz (please specify) LBPSU1 supply for LBACO1 (1 or 2).



## L & B ELECTRONIC MODULES

**PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING BY PROFESSIONALS**

45 Wortley Road, West Croydon Surrey CR0 3EB. Tel. 01-689 4138

Each module is manufactured from the highest quality components, fully tested, supplied with a connection and circuit diagram and guaranteed for twelve months.

All prices shown are VAT inclusive. Please include 76p post/packing except where individually stated. To mail order send cheque/P.O./Registered cash/Access number. C.O.D. service £1 extra. For further information send a s.a.e. stating which model.

**PLEASE NOTE THIS COMPANY HAS NO CONNECTION WITH LB ELECTRONICS OF HILLINGDON**



**Dilbay Singh (B.Tech), Crawley**

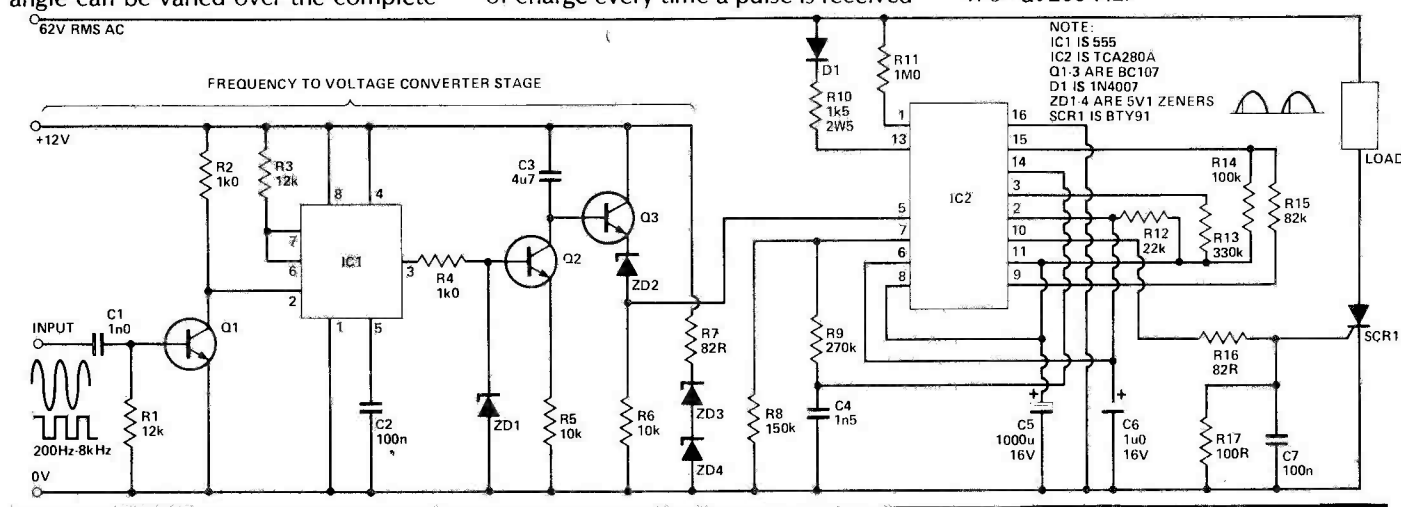
cycle period and is dependent on the frequency of the input. Clearly the circuit can be used to control resistive loads such as lamps or motors.

The first stage of the circuit consists of a frequency-to-voltage converter. C1, R1, and Q1 effectively differentiate and amplify the input signal waveform to provide triggering pulses for the 555 timer, which is used in the monostable mode. The output of the monostable is used to charge C3 by a constant amount of charge every time a pulse is received

at the base of Q2. The voltage across C3 acts as an input to the common collector stage formed by Q3. The voltage across C3 is DC-shifted by means of the zener diode ZD2 to a suitable value, providing the input to the trigger IC (the Mullard TCA280A). The TCA280A provides the phase control signal for the gate of the thyristor.

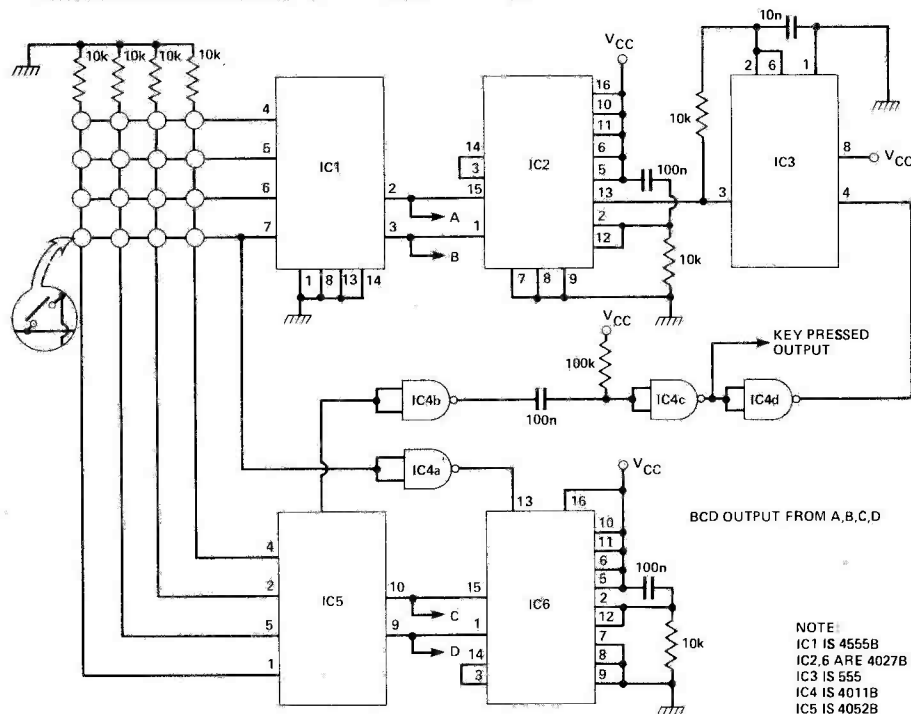
A triac may be used in place of the thyristor, if phase-controlled AC is required.

The component values shown are suitable for providing phase control using frequencies in the range 200 Hz–8 kHz on the control input. The firing angle can be varied from  $0^\circ$  at 8 kHz to  $170^\circ$  at 200 Hz.



**Graham Kyte, Bexleyheath**

**T**his circuit produces a debounced output whenever a key is pressed. Each matrix point is scanned in turn and the output of the 4052 data distributor goes high when a pressed key is detected. This stops the scanning oscillator (555) for about 10 mS and a 'key pressed' output is produced, thus enabling the BCD output to be stored in a latch or otherwise made use of. The use of CMOS ICs enables current consumption to be minimised, making the circuit suitable for operation in a car. The circuit is easily modified for a larger number of keys by using an eight-way data distributor (with relevant counter made from three J-K flip-flops rather than the two as used here).



Task Force is an open forum and is not aimed at the beginner. We regret we cannot accept queries or short items. It is proposed to publish drawings as those submitted by readers for this page. All items used will be paid for at a nominal rate. Drawings should be as clear as possible and the text should be typed. Text and drawings must be on separate sheets. Details must not be subject to copyright. Items for consideration should be sent to ETI TECH-TIPS, International Technological Exchange, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC6H 8EL.



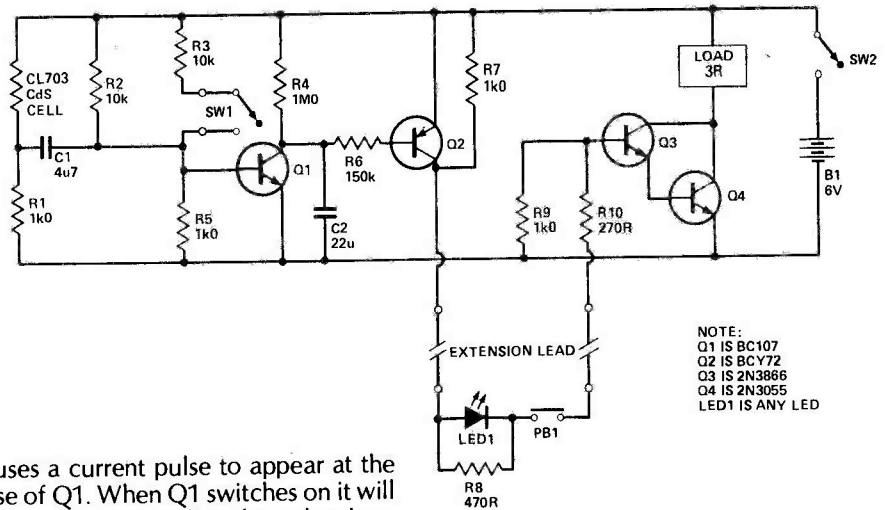
## Remote Camera Release

Geoffrey Ammon, Welling

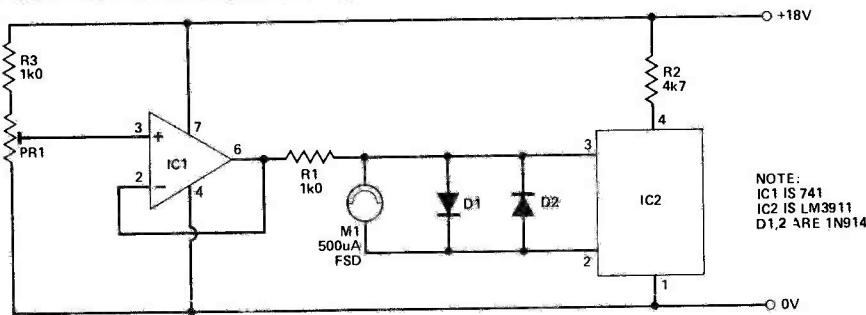
When taking photographs from a distance, a pneumatic remote release is normally used. These will only work over a limited distance and it is not always possible to tell if the camera has operated. This simple circuit uses a low current trigger circuit to operate the camera and provides a visible indication that the camera or flashgun has worked correctly.

The circuit operation is as follows. When the remote release push-button PB1 is operated, a current flows via the extension lead, which may be a 100 metres or more in length, to switch transistors Q3 and Q4. This combination provides the load current of up to 2 A for the camera release solenoid. When the flashgun fires, light falling on the CdS cell

causes a current pulse to appear at the base of Q1. When Q1 switches on it will discharge C2, extending the pulse duration to about one second. While C2 is charging Q2 will be turned on, causing a large enough current to flow in the extension lead to operate LED1. If a flashgun is



not used, the camera flash contacts (SW1) may be connected to bypass the CdS cell and remotely operate the indicator LED1.



## Room Thermometer

J. P. Macaulay, Crawley

With the advent of the LM3911 temperature controller IC the task of measuring temperature has become simple in the extreme. The internal circuitry of this device comprises a temperature sensing element, an op-amp and a stable reference voltage. The device gives, in its simplest form, a stable 10 mV change in output for every 1° change in temperature over the range -25 to 85°C. For the application of room thermometer it is only necessary to utilise part of this range from, say, 0° - 50°C. The circuit to be described measures this range.

The figure shows the complete circuit of the thermometer. The meter, a 500 uA FSD type, is connected between the output and inverting input of the internal op-amp. Resistor R1 connects the inverting input to the output of the 741 op-amp. This is used with 100% AC and DC feedback to form a unity gain voltage follower with a current output capacity of several milliamps. The input of the 741 is connected to the slider of PR1 which in turn is connected across the stable supply voltage produced by the IC. D1 and D2 protect the meter from overrange temperatures and thus protect its delicate movement from harm.

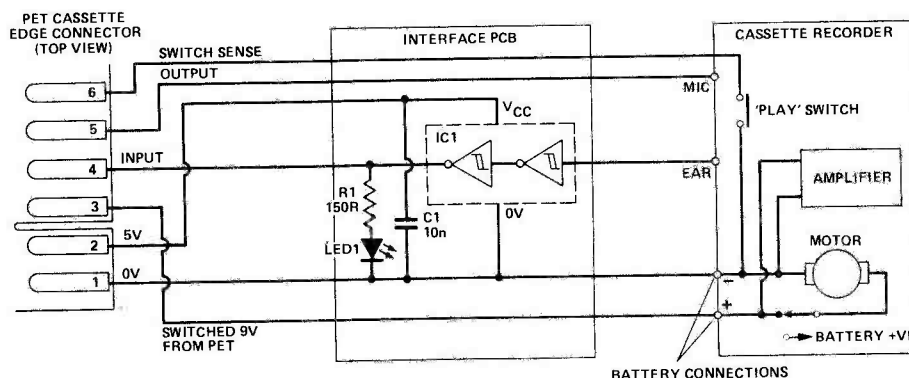
Once completed, a calibration can be made with a room thermometer of known accuracy. Simply leave the equipment in the room for 10 minutes or so for its own temperature to stabilise and then adjust PR1 until both thermometers read the same; the calibration is now complete.

## Cheap PET Cassette

D.J. Cocker, Portsmouth

In view of the price of the Commodore cassette unit, the following adaptation may be of interest. I have been using this arrangement for some time and have experienced very few problems. In order to signal the PET when the PLAY key has been pressed, a switch must be incorporated into the cassette key assembly—a small microswitch is ideal. This is an improvement on the Commodore unit,

in which any key activates the switch, leading to confusion and ambiguity. The 'signal present' LED is very useful in locating the start and end of the data tape. The cassette recorder is supplied with power from the PET, batteries only being required for fast forward and rewind functions—a switch should be fitted to facilitate this. When the PLAY key is depressed, the PET has control of the tape motor. It may be found necessary to disable any tone control circuitry or AGC which may be fitted in the cassette recorder. Any suitable TTL Schmitt gate may be used as IC1.





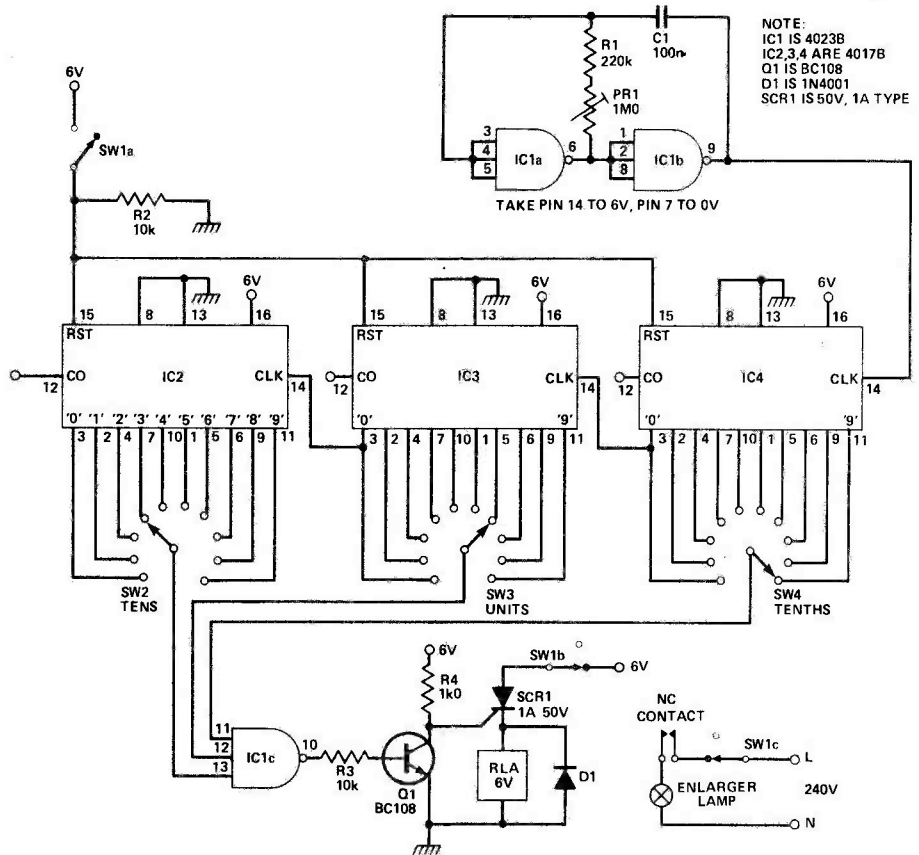
## Enlarger Timer

C. E. Basson, South Africa

The circuit of the enlarger timer can time periods from 0 to 99.9 seconds in 0.1 second steps. PR1, C1, R1, IC1a,b form an oscillator that feeds a 10 Hz signal to the first 4017 counter stage. Either the 'carry out' or '0' outputs of IC2 and IC3 can be used to feed the next stage, as the frequencies are the same and the positive-going edges of the pulses appear at the same time. Outputs '0' to '9' go high in sequence as the pulses are received at the 'clock in'. The desired time is selected by SW2, SW3 and SW4.

Q1 is used as an inverter and with the NAND gate it performs the same function as an AND gate. As soon as the desired time is reached, all the inputs on the gate will be high and this will trigger SCR1. The relay will be turned on and switch off the enlarger lamp. The lamp will remain off until the circuit is reset.

The circuit can be reset by closing SW1a and opening SW1b and SW1c. SW1a will reset the 4017s and keep them in the reset condition. SW1b will remove the current from SCR1 to reset it. SW1c prevents the light from going on when in the reset condition. When SW1 is switched back to normal, the light will go on and remain on for the desired time.



## Comprehensive CMOS Logic Gate Test Rig

David Ian, Surrey

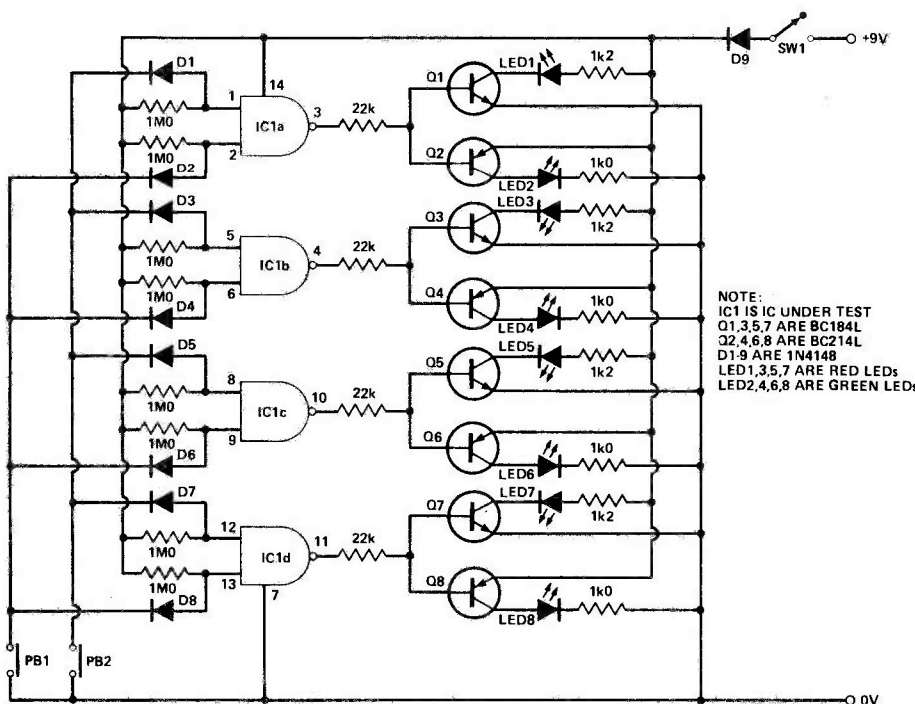
This simple test rig will check out all possible functions of any type of dual input CMOS logic gate allowing, for example, a faulty gate to be pinpointed so that the rest of the IC may still be used.

Each gate is provided with a green LED to indicate a high output and a red LED to show a low output.

Use a 14-pin holder for the IC and orientate the LEDs to relate to their appropriate gate.

SW1 connects power and a logic 1 to all inputs: press A to put a 0 onto one input of each gate; B puts 0 onto the other inputs; A and B together force all inputs low.

A milliammeter in series with a 9 V supply should only indicate the current drawn by the LEDs, ie about 7 mA per LED. An appreciably higher reading indicates a completely faulty IC.



4011 (NAND)			
	GREEN	RED	
SW1	ON	OFF	
PB1	OFF	ON	
PB2	OFF	ON	
BOTH	OFF	ON	
4001 (NOR)			
	GREEN	RED	
SW1	ON	OFF	
PB1	ON	OFF	
PB2	ON	OFF	
BOTH	OFF	ON	

4081 (AND)			
	GREEN	RED	
SW1	OFF	ON	
PB1	ON	OFF	
PB2	ON	OFF	
BOTH	ON	OFF	
4071 (OR)			
	GREEN	RED	
SW1	OFF	ON	
PB1	ON	OFF	
PB2	ON	OFF	
BOTH	ON	OFF	

4070 (EXOR)			
	GREEN	RED	
SW1	ON	OFF	
PB1	ON	OFF	
PB2	ON	OFF	
BOTH	ON	OFF	
4077 (EXNOR)			
	GREEN	RED	
SW1	OFF	ON	
PB1	ON	OFF	
PB2	ON	OFF	
BOTH	OFF	ON	

SW1 ONLY - BOTH INPUTS HIGH  
PB1 PRESSED - ONE INPUT LOW  
PB2 PRESSED - OTHER INPUT LOW  
BOTH PRESSED - BOTH INPUTS LOW



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4116-200	.65	38	.15
6116	4.75	40	.12
5516	7.50	42	.33
6800	2.75	47	.38
6802	3.60	48	.59
6809	8.75	49	.59
6810	1.15	51	.14
6821	1.15	54	.14
6850	1.40	55	.12
8085A	5.25	73	.21
8224	1.85	74	.16
8228	3.75	75	.24
8255	3.30	76	.20
Z80 CPU	3.25	78	.19
Z & ACPU	3.60	83	.44
Z80 P10	3.60	85	.60
Z80 AP10	3.60	86	.15
Z80 CTC	2.75	90	.30
Z80 ACTC	3.25	91	.74
		92	.33
		93	.33
		95	.42
74LS Series		109	.21
00	.10	112	.21
0104	.12	113	.21
05	.14	123	.43
08-13	.12	124	.90
14	.38	125	.24
15-22	.12	126	.25
26	.16		
		132	.44
		138	.33
		145	.74
		148	.95
		151	.30
		153	.28
		154	.80
		155	.38
		156	.36
		157	.30
		161	.37
		162	.40
		163	.38
		164	.46
		165	.90
		173	.69
		174	.46
		175	.46
		193	.45
		196	.57
		197	.60
		240	.87
		241	.87
		242	.78
		244	.60
		245	.88
		247	.60
		248	.60
		257	.43
		259	.78
		266	.22
		273	.70
		290	.55
		373	.70
		374	.72
		393	.60

## Voltage Regu:

7805 5V +	.35
7812 12V +	.35
7812 15V +	.35
7905 5V +	.35
7912 12V	.35
7915 15V	.35
7924 24V	.35
LM323K	3.00

## Crystals

100Hz	2.75
2.00MHz	2.65
3.276MHz	1.00
3.579MHz	1.00
3.932MHz	1.00
4.000MHz	1.58
4.194MHz	1.35
6.000MHz	1.00
6.144MHz	1.25
6.400MHz	1.50
10.000MHz	1.50

## IC Sockets

8 PIN	.06
14 PIN	.09
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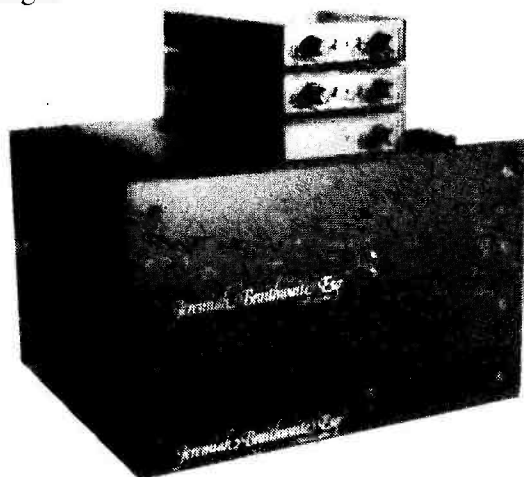
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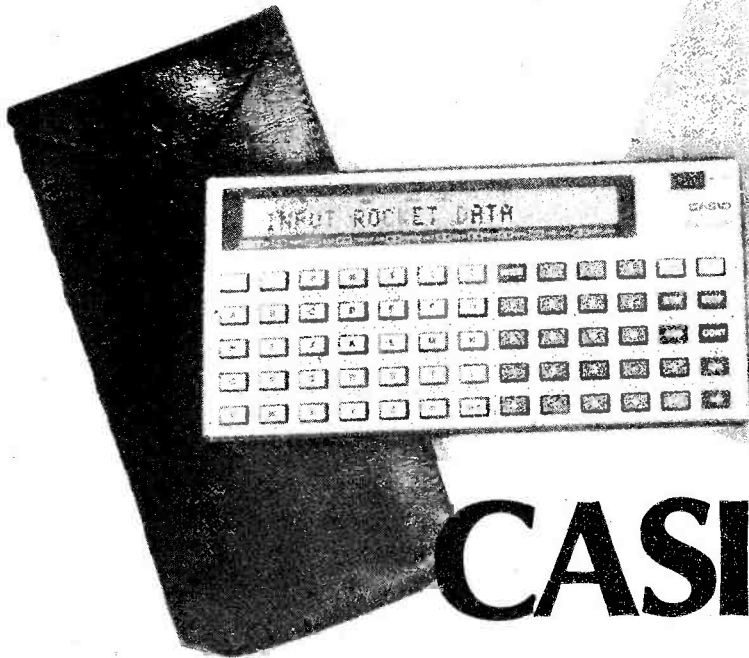
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First, let  $A\$ = \text{STR}\$(\text{the product of } 7K \text{ (in decimal) and the standard audio bandwidth})$ . We'll use this later. Now, add the UK AC mains frequency to yellow/violet/red and divide by the number of our modular synth project. Divide the result into  $\text{VAL}(\text{RIGHT}\$(A\$,4)) - \text{VAL}(\text{MID}\$(A\$,5,3)) / \text{LEN}(A\$)$ . Add to this result the difference between our office street number and the TTL prefix. Multiply by the log (to base 10) of the sum of the digits of a CMOS quad EXNOR IC divided by the number of pins on a 555. Finally, add the decimal number represented in binary by 10111.

If you've managed all that (hint — people who know BASIC well have an advantage), write the answer on the entry form (page 133) with your name and address and send it to us by April 30th 1982. Answers to six decimal places, please.

### RULES

1. Closing date is April 30th 1982, and all entries post-marked later than this date will be discounted.
2. The coupon provided in the magazine must be used. Photocopies are NOT acceptable.
3. Employees of ASP and their relatives are not eligible for entry.
4. The judges' decision is to be considered final and no correspondence will be entered into concerning the competition.



# SOUND EFFECTS 2: STEAM TRAIN

Railway modellers looking for something special to improve their layout need look no further. Our second sound effect project simulates a steam train and whistle. Design by Phil Wait.

Ahhh, the nostalgia! If you're young at heart, old in years, or both, then this is for you — a steam train (chuff-chuff) and whistle. The *electronic* construction details are given on page 50 in the bomb drop project; but for that *authentic* touch, deft constructors can also fashion a cow-catcher out of tinned copper wire to attach to the unit!

The chuff-chuff runs continuously once power is applied and the whistle sounds when the push-button is pressed. The VCO is used to provide the whistle while the SLF modulates the noise generator/filter output to produce the steam train's chuff-chuff sound. The chuff-chuff rate may be varied by changing the values of R1 and C1, while the chuff-chuff sound may be varied by changing the values of R2 and C2. For a special effect, you can control the chuff-chuff rate manually by replacing R1 with a 1MΩ potentiometer.

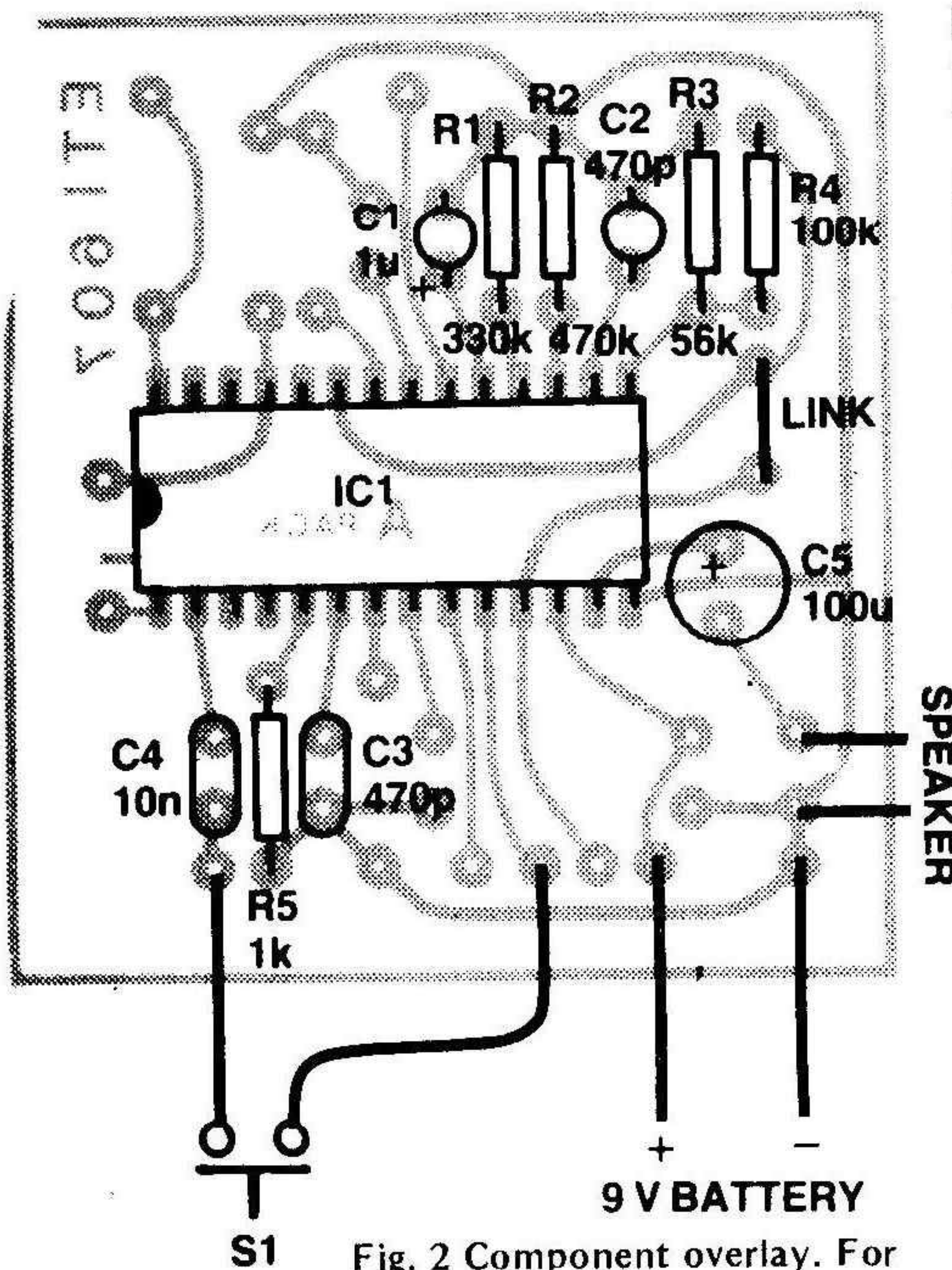


Fig. 2 Component overlay. For Buylines, see page 51.

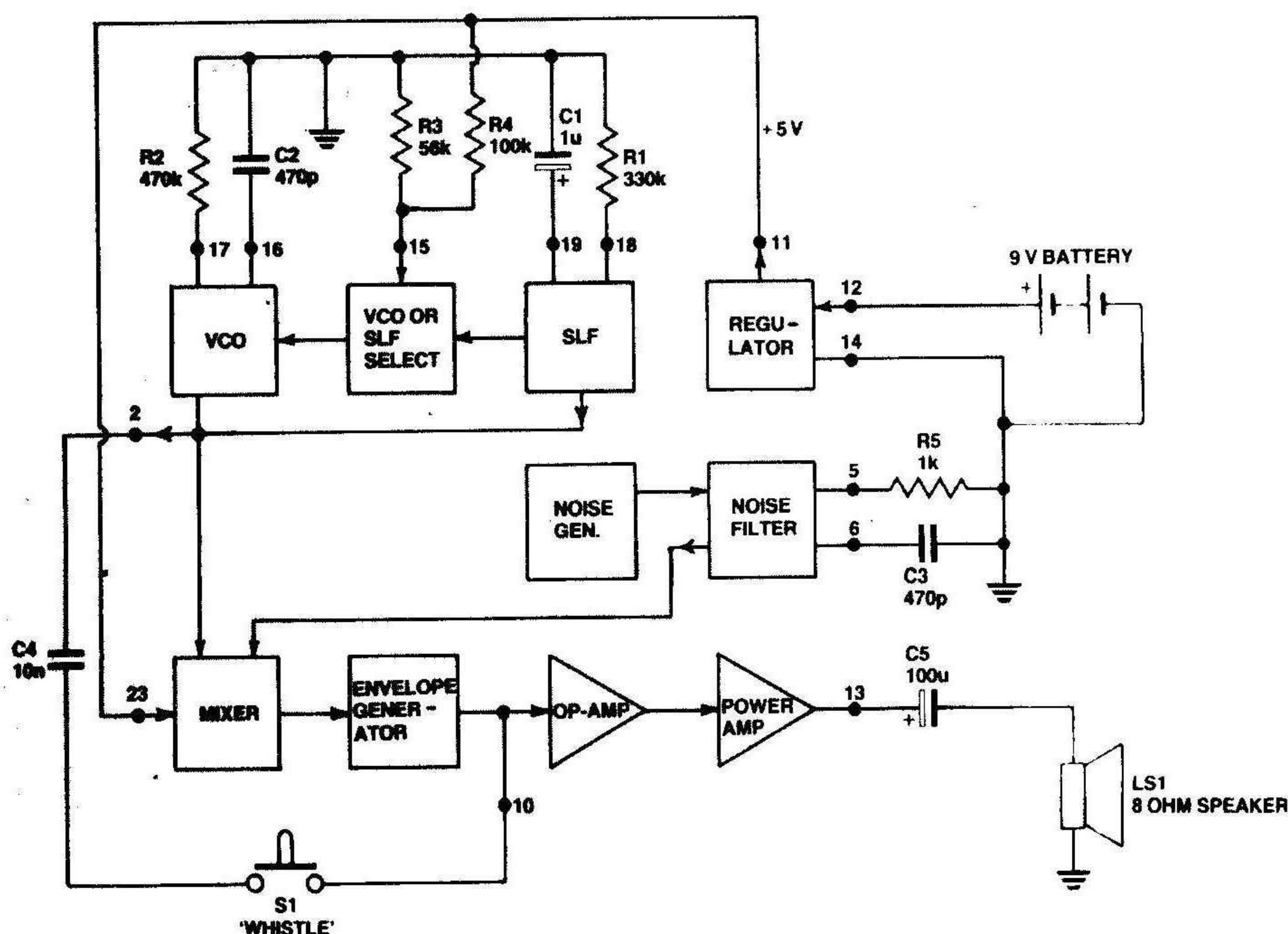


Fig. 1 Circuit diagram of the Steam Train and Whistle unit.

## HOW IT WORKS

In this unit the Noise Generator/Filter is employed to produce the basic 'steam engine' sound, this being modulated by the SLF to produce the 'chuff-chuff' so characteristic of steam locomotives. The whistle is produced by the VCO, which is set to a particular non-varying pitch, and the output is switched into the audio input pin to produce the whistle.

The broadband noise from the Noise Generator is modified by the Noise Filter, the frequency characteristics being determined by R5 and C3 connected to the Noise Filter Control pins (5 and 6). The Noise Filter Output is fed via the Mixer and the Envelope Generator (which doesn't function here) to the audio output stages. The SLF square wave output effectively modulates the noise to produce a noise burst followed by a silent period, then another noise burst. Thus the chuff-chuff sound is produced. This sound is continuous whilst power is applied to the unit.

A resistive divider, R3/R4, provides about 1V8 at the VCO frequency to a convenient pitch within its range, providing a suitable pitch for the whistle. The VCO output is coupled to the audio input (pin 10) via C4 and the push-button, PB1. When PB1 is pressed, the whistle is heard over the chuff-chuff sound.

The SLF frequency is determined by C1 and R1, while the combination of R2/C2 and the voltage on pin 15 determines the VCO frequency. Output to the loudspeaker is coupled via C5, a 100uF electrolytic capacitor.

## PARTS LIST

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

R1	330k
R2	470k
R3	56k
R4	100k
R5	1k0

### Capacitors

C1	1u0 16 V tantalum
C2, 3	470p ceramic
C4	10n ceramic
C5	100u 16 V PCB electrolytic

### Semiconductors

IC1	SN76488 (see Buylines)
-----	------------------------

### Miscellaneous

PB1	SPST push-button switch
PCB (see Buylines)	50 mm diameter 8 ohm speaker; PP3 battery and clip.



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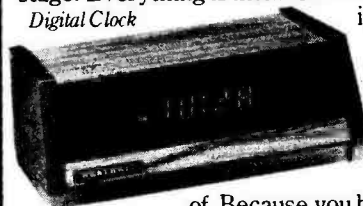
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★ 741	14	CA3189E	290	★ LM380	65	LM3909	70	NE567	100	TLO71	45
748	35	ICL7106	790	★ LM381	100	LM3911	120	NE571	425	TLO72	75
AY-3-1270	840	ICL8038	320	★ LM382	120	★ LM3914	200	RC4136	90	TLO84	90
AY-3-8910	700	ICM7555	80	★ LM386	65	★ LM3915	200	SN76018	150	XR2206	300
★ AY-3-8912	625	★ LF351	40	★ LM387	120	LM13600	120	SN76477	150	ZN414	100
		★ LF353	85	★ LM393	100	MC1310	150	TBA641B11250	150	ZN423	195
		★ LF356	90	★ LM709	25	MC3302	150	TBA800	80	ZN424	135
CA3046	60	★ LM10	395	★ LM710	50	MC3340	135	TBA810	95	ZN425E	390
CA3080	65	★ LM301A	25	★ LM725	350	NE515	270	TBA820	80	ZN426E	330
CA3089	215	★ LM311	70	★ LM733	75	NE529	225	TCA950	290	ZN427E	650
CA3090AQ	375	★ LM318	85	★ LM741	14	NE531	150	TCA940	170	ZN428E	480
CA3130E	90	★ LM324	40	★ LM747	75	NE544	185	TDA1004	300	ZN1034E	200
CA3140E	45	★ LM339	50	★ LM748	35	★ NE555	16	TDA1008	320		
CA3160E	100	★ LM348	90	★ LM1458	40	★ NE556	45	TDA1010	225		
CA3161E	140	★ LM358	50	★ LM2917	200	NE565	120	TDA1022	560		

## CMOS

4000	14	★ 4017	43	4036	285	4055	115	4082	20	4502	70	4529	150
★ 4001	12	★ 4018	60	★ 4039	295	4059	480	4085	65	4503	50	4532	95
4002	14	★ 4020	55	4040	55	4060	85	4086	65	4507	38	4534	495
4006	65	4021	65	4041	75	4063	90	4089	140	4508	200	4538	110
4007	17	4022	70	4042	55	4066	35	★ 4093	33	4510	65	4543	110
4008	58	4023	18	4043	60	4067	395	4094	14	★ 4511	50	4549	380
4009	30	4024	40	4044	65	★ 4068	15	4095	90	4512	70	4553	295
4010	35	4025	18	4045	70	4069	18	4097	340	4514	180	4555	45
★ 4011	13	★ 4026	96	4046	70	4070	18	4098	85	4515	180	4556	48
4012	17	4027	30	★ 4049	28	4071	18	4099	95	4516	75	4559	390
★ 4013	12	4028	55	4050	28	4072	18	4106	50	★ 4518	45	4560	180
★ 4014	60	4029	75	4051	60	4073	20	4109	100	4520	70	4584	45
4015	60	4030	35	4052	70	4074	20	4113	100	4521	200	4585	99
★ 4016	22	4031	170	4053	60	4075	20	4115	100	4522	80	4724	140
		4034	170	4054	110	4076	60	4117	100	4523	90		
						4077	25	4118	120	★ 4528	75		

## TTL

7400	11	7413	24	7442	40	7480	45	74107	30	74155	60	74177	75
7401	11	7414	35	7444	85	7482	70	74109	32	74156	60	74179	65
7402	12	7415	25	7446	60	7483	50	74121	28	74157	43	74180	65
7403	14	7416	25	7447	48	7485	75	74122	45	74160	60	74181	135
7404	14	7417	15	7448	50	7486	25	74123	48	74161	60	74182	75
7405	17	7418	20	7450	16	7489	180	74124	40	74162	60	74190	70
7406	26	7419	20	7451	16	7490	28	74125	40	74163	60	74191	70
7407	26	7420	28	7453	16	7492	45	74126	40	74164	60	74192	70
7408	15	7421	25	7454	16	7493	30	74127	40	74165	60	74193	65
7409	16	7422	25	7456	16	7494	30	74128	40	74166	180	74194	70
7410	14	7423	25	7457	25	7495	35	74129	100	74167	165	74195	63
7411	20	7424	27	7458	25	7496	50	74130	75	74168	60	74196	63
7412	20	7425	27	7459	38	7497	120	74131	45	74169	70	74197	63
		7426	17	7460	30	74100	80	74132	45	74170	55	74198	95

## LS TTL

LS00	13	LS21	15	LS76	20	LS125	30	LS161	42	LS221	60	LS365	38
LS01	14	LS22	16	LS77	24	LS126	30	LS162	42	LS220	90	LS366	38
LS02	14	LS23	18	LS78	50	LS132	45	LS163	42	LS241	80	LS367	38
LS03	14	LS24	15	LS79	70	LS136	30	LS164	50	LS242	80	LS368	50
LS04	15	LS25	16	LS80	25	LS138	35	LS165	120	LS243	85	LS373	80
LS05	15	LS26	16	LS81	35	LS139	35	LS166	85	LS244	80	LS374	80
LS06	16	LS27	16	LS82	38	LS145	75	LS170	170	LS245	120	LS375	50
LS07	16	LS28	16	LS83	35	LS147	160	LS171	70	LS246	75	LS377	90
LS08	16	LS29	16	LS84	35	LS148	95	LS172	60	LS251	40	LS378	70
LS09	16	LS30	16	LS85	110	LS151	40	LS173	60	LS252	48	LS390	75
LS10	16	LS31	16	LS86	110	LS152	40	LS174	60	LS253	45	LS393	75
LS11	16	LS32	16	LS87	110	LS153	40	LS175	60	LS254	95	LS399	220
LS12	15	LS33	16	LS88	110	LS154	120	LS176	60	LS255	25	LS541	135
LS13	25	LS34	16	LS89	110	LS155	45	LS177	60	LS256	25	LS542	135
LS14	25	LS35	16	LS90	110	LS156	45	LS178	60	LS257	90	LS670	175
LS15	15	LS36	16	LS91	110	LS157	35	LS179	60	LS258	50		
LS20	15	LS37	16	LS92	110	LS158	36	LS180	68	LS259	100		

## TRANSISTORS

AC125	35	BC157	10	BC558	10	BCX84	25	TIP30	45	★ ZTX107	8	2N3054	55
AC126	25	★ BC159	8	BCY70	18	BCX85	25	TIP30A	40	★ ZTX108	8	2N3055	50
AC127	25	BC160	45	BCY72	18	BCX86	28	TIP30B	50	ZTX109	12	2N3442	120
★ AC128	20	BC168C	10	BD115	80	BCX87	25	TIP30C	60	ZTX100	14	★ 2N3702	6
AC176	25	★ BC169C	10	BD131	35	BCX88	25	TIP31A	45	ZTX101	16	2N3703	9
AC187	22	BC170	8	BD132	35	BCX89	25	TIP31B	45	ZTX102	15	★ 2N3704	6
AC188	22	BC171	10	BD133	35	BCY51	23	TIP31C	55	ZTX103	17	2N3705	9
AD142	120	BC172	8	BD135	50	BCY52	23	TIP32A	45	ZTX104	30	2N3706	9
AD149	80	BC177	18	BD136	30	BCY53	32	TIP32B	55	ZTX105	15	2N3707	10
AD161	40	BC178	18	BD137	30	BCY54	32	TIP32C	50	ZTX106	15	2N3709	10
AD162	40	BC179	18	BD138	30	BCY55	32	TIP33A	50	ZTX107	15	2N3710	10
AF124	60	★ BC182L	8	BD139	35	BCY56	32	TIP33B	75	ZTX108	18	2N3712	190
AF126	50	BC183	10	BD140	35	BCY57	32	TIP33C	60	ZTX109	25	2N3713	210
AF139	40	BC184	10	BD204	110	BCY58	32	TIP34A	85	2N697	20	★ 2N3819	15
AF186	70	BC185	10	BD206	110	BCY59	25	TIP34B	160	2N698	40	2N3820	40
AF239	75	★ BC184L	7	BD222	85	BU205	160	TIP34C	180	2N706A	20	2N3823	65
BC107	10	BC212	10	BD222	85	BU206	200	TIP34D	170	2N708	20	2N3866	90
BC107B	10	BC212L	10	BD222	85	BU207	170	TIP34E	195	2N718	35	2N3903	10
★ BC108	8	BC213	10	BD222	85	BU208	170	TIP34F	60	2N719	35	★ 2N3905	6
BC108B	12	BC213L	10	BD222	85	BU209	170	TIP34G	60	2N720	35	2N3906	10
BC108C	12	BC214	10	BD222	85	BU210	170	TIP34H	60	2N721	35	2N3907	10
★ BC109	8	★ BC214L	8	BD222	85	BU211	170	TIP34I	60	2N722	35	2N4037	45
BC109C	12	BC217	8	BD222	85	BU212	170	TIP34J	60	2N723	35	2N4058	10
BC114	22	BC238	14	BD222	85	BU213	170	TIP34K	60	2N724	35	2N4060	10
BC115	22	BC238	14	BD222	85	BU214	170	TIP34L	60	2N725	35	2N4061	10
BC117	22	BC237	14	BD222	85	BU215	170	TIP34M	60	2N726	35	2N4062	10
BC119	35	BC238	14	BD222	85	BU216	170	TIP34N	60	2N727	35	2N4063	10
BC137	40	BC337	14	BD222	85	BU217	170	TIP34O	60	2N728	35	2N4064	10
BC139	40	BC338	14	BD222	85	BU218	170	TIP34P	60	2N729	35	2N4065	10
BC140	30	BC477	30	BD222	85	BU219	170	TIP34Q	60	2N730	35	2N4066	10
BC141	30	BC478	30	BD222	85	BU220	170	TIP34R	60	2N731	35	2N4067	10
BC142	25	BC479	30	BD222	85	BU221	170	TIP34S	60	2N732	35	2N4068	10
BC143	25	BC517	40	BD222	85	BU222	170	TIP34T	60	2N733	35	2N4069	10
BC147	8	★ BC547	7	BD222	85	BU223	170	TIP34U	60	2N734	35	2N4070	10
BC148	8	BC548	10	BD222	85	BU224	170	TIP34V	60	2N735	35	2N4071	10
BC149	9	BC549	10	BD222	85	BU225	170	TIP34W	60	2N736	35	2N4072	10

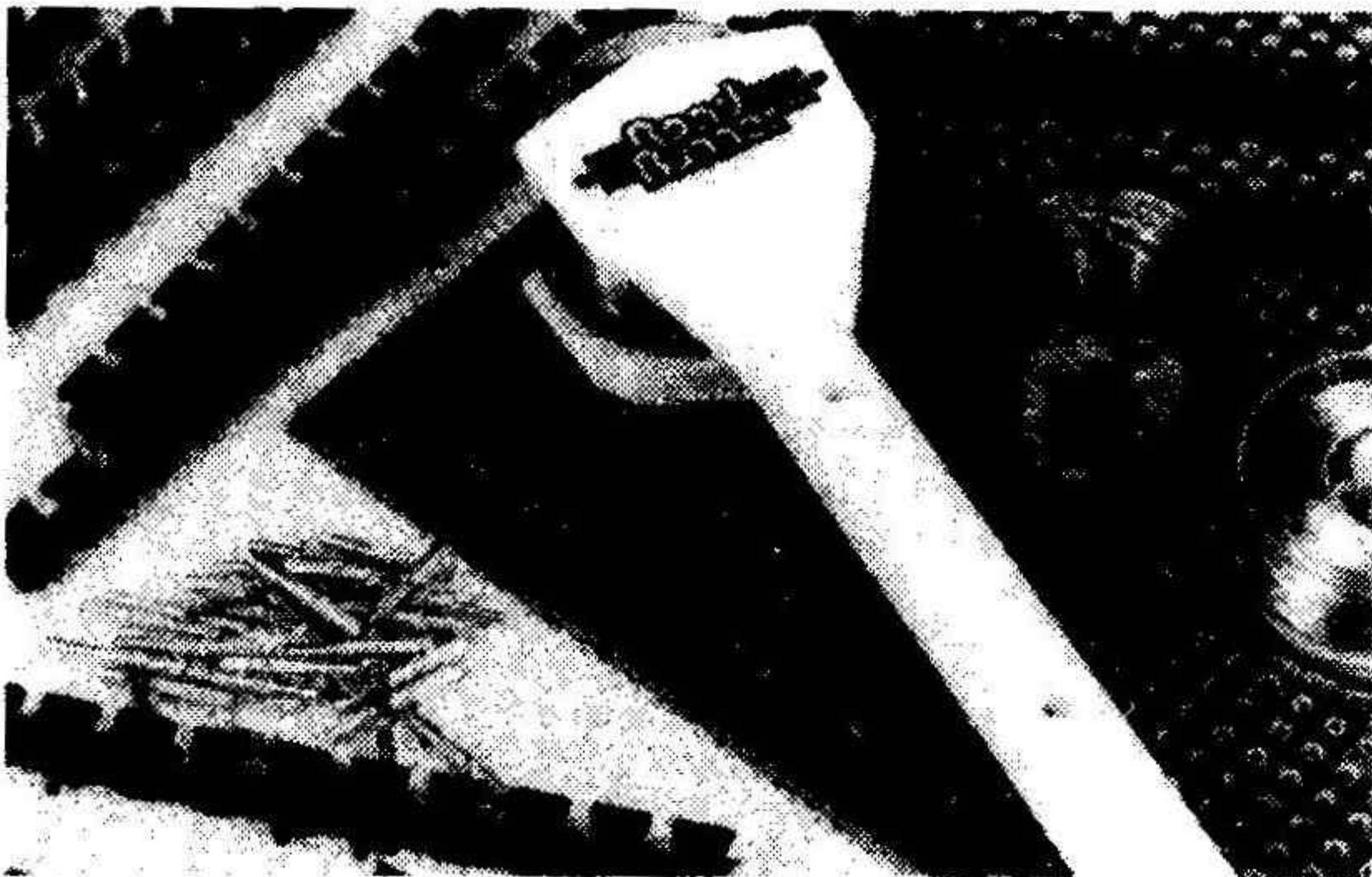
## DIODES

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# GUITAR PRACTICE AMPLIFIER

Simple construction, low cost, good performance and super neighbour relations are the features of this project! Design and development by David Tilbrook.



This project has been designed to enable guitarists to put in long hours of practice and still keep that high power amp in the cupboard, where it belongs! It is a compact amp capable of about 7 W into a 4 ohm load. This is enough power for practice purposes and just think of the greatly improved relations you will have with your neighbours.

We were in a considerable quandary as to how to present the project, whether it should be done as a complete practice unit with inbuilt speaker or simply as an amplifier to be connected to an external speaker. Finally we chose a compromise. The PCB has been designed in such a way that it can be used as a totally self-contained unit. The heatsinks for the output stage have been mounted on the PCB so that the only components separate to the board are the power transformer, 240 volt power switch controls, input and output jacks. We have shown the project mounted in its own box with power transformer but it should be a simple matter to construct the whole unit inside a small loudspeaker cabinet.

The unit has two inputs so that two guitars can be mixed together using the relative settings of the two input level controls. A preamp output enables your main high power amp to be driven from the guitar practice amp using the practice amp as foldback.

We provided the PCB with the necessary circuitry for a battery input but you might elect not to use this feature. If so diode D8 and the battery switch can be omitted with points 'A' and 'C' connected together by a wire link.

## Construction

Construction of the project is reasonably simple since it is almost entirely devoted to construction of the PCB. Start as always by mounting the resistors and non-polarised capacitors. Mount the tantalum and electrolytic capacitors next, being careful to orient them correctly. These components could be irreparably damaged if inserted the wrong way around. Mount the LM301 IC, transistors and diodes, again being careful to insert these the correct way round.

Finally the output devices can be mounted. Although the transistors are in TO220 packages, our PCB is laid out to accept heatsinks drilled for TO3 transistors. The overlay and photograph should make the construction method clear. Cut the centre (collector) lead off. This lead is connected to the case of the transistor internally, so in this case, electrical connection is made through the mounting screw that also serves to hold the heatsink in place. Place the heatsinks on the PCB and secure with the lower nut and bolt (not used to mount the transistors). There is only one right way round. Bend the leads of the output transistors and, using a small amount of thermal compound, mount the transistors with the leads protruding through the PCB.

Secure each transistor with a nut and bolt through both the transistor 'flag' and heatsink. Use a star washer between the head of the bolt and the copper pad on the PCB to ensure good electrical contact. Now the base and emitter leads can be soldered to their pads.

The prototype unit was constructed in a steel box measuring



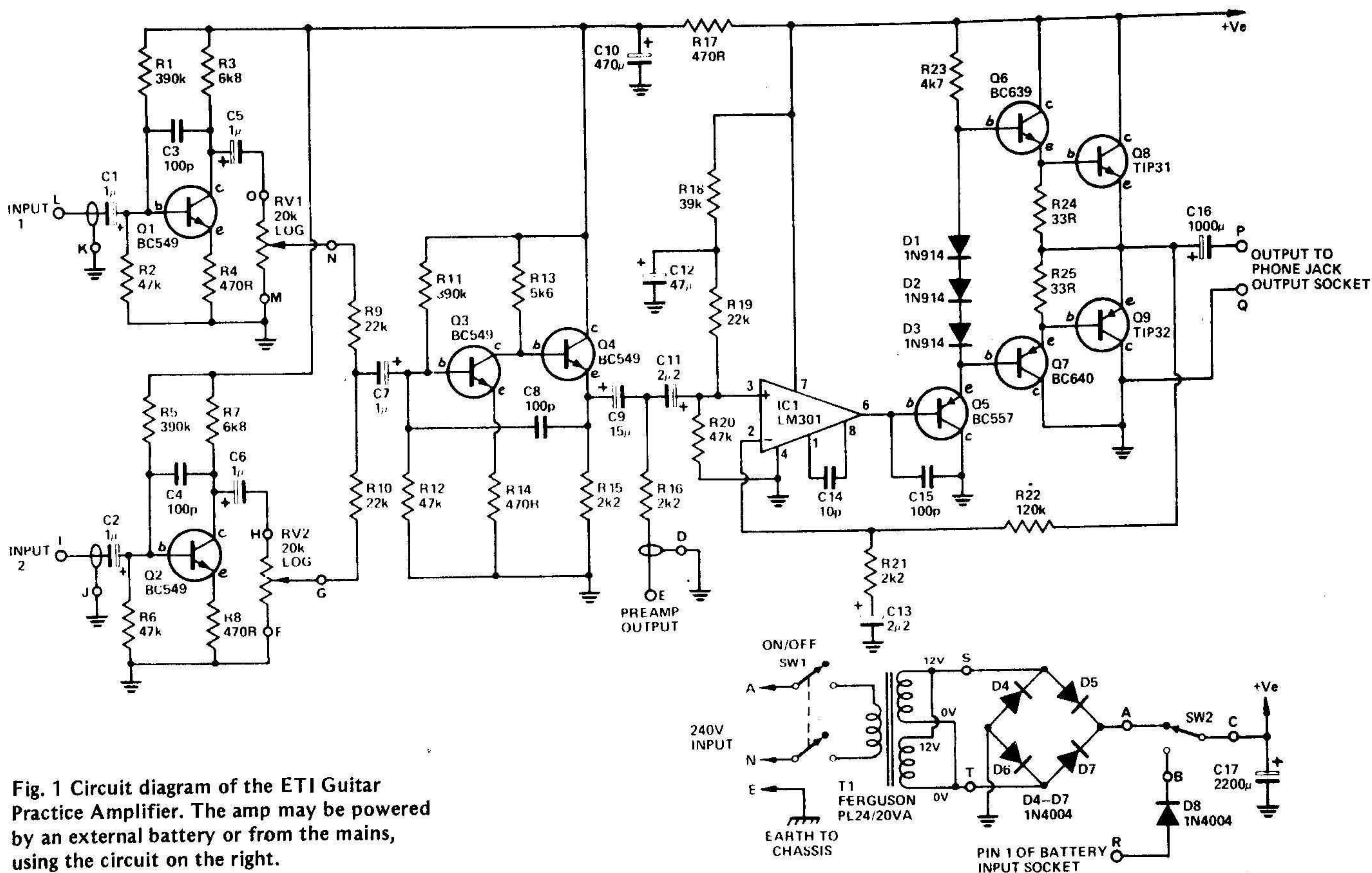


Fig. 1 Circuit diagram of the ETI Guitar Practice Amplifier. The amp may be powered by an external battery or from the mains, using the circuit on the right.

## HOW IT WORKS

The two input stages formed around Q1 and Q2 are identical. Resistors R1, R2 and R4 form a very stable biasing configuration around Q1. The gain of this type of circuit is determined by the values of R3 and R4 (specifically, the gain is  $R3/R4$ ). The load impedance on the output of the input stages is in parallel with R3, effectively decreasing the total value of impedance from collector to ground. Remember that, as far as signal is concerned, the positive supply rail is a short circuit to ground, since it is connected to ground through C17, a 2200uF capacitor. When all these factors are taken into account the gain of the first stage is about 10 since the impedance from collector to ground is about 4k7.

The signal, which should now be around 200 mV, is then applied to the input of the second stage through potentiometers RV1 and RV2. The 22k resistors R9 and R10 prevent the output of one of the stages being shorted to ground when the other is turned right down.

The second stage works in exactly the same manner as the input stages, resistors R11, R12 and R14 forming the bias network for Q3. The voltage present on the collector of Q3 is around 9 V which is approximately half the supply voltage. This is used to bias Q4 which is an emitter follower. This type of amplifier has no voltage gain but provides a low output impedance to drive the preamp output socket. Q3 has a gain of approximately 10. If the volume controls RV1 and RV2 are used in their middle positions, the voltage out will be around one tenth of the voltage at their inputs since these are logarithmic pots. So, the signal voltages into Q3 should be in the order of 20 mV. This will be amplified to a level of 200 mV and applied to the input of the power amp. The power amp has been designed to deliver full power with an input voltage of 300 mV, so the amp should be easily driven to

full output with usable settings.

Since this is a guitar amplifier, it will spend most of its life hard into clipping. The output stage had to be robust! The basis of the output stage is the LM301 op-amp. This device gives all of the voltage gain in the power amp. The output IC1 is fed through a voltage follower Q5. This has no voltage gain and, like Q4, serves to decrease the impedance feeding the output stage. The three diodes, D1, D2 and D3, maintain 1V8 between the bases of Q6 and Q7. Each of these transistors will drop approximately 0V6 across their base-emitter junctions. This leaves a total of 0V6 to be dropped by the two 33R resistors, R24 and R25. Since these are of equal value they will each drop 0V3 and hold this voltage across the base-emitter junctions of the two output transistors Q8 and Q9. As these transistors require 0V6 to turn on they will remain off until the applied signal voltage causes the voltages on their bases to rise above 0V6. The extra 0V3 needed to turn on the output devices will be supplied by a mere 10 mA of current through the 33R resistors. Resistor R22 forms a feedback loop around the entire output stage to decrease distortion, stabilise the DC output voltage and set the overall gain of the power stage (a process too difficult to go into here).

The op-amp will at all times attempt to make the DC voltage at the output equal to that voltage set up on its positive input. This voltage is determined by the potential divider formed by R18, R19 and R20. Since this is also the main input to the power amp any noise which might be on the positive supply rail (and supplies can get very noisy sometimes!) will be communicated directly to the input of the power amp, only to be amplified and applied to the loudspeaker. Capacitor C12 prevents this from happening by bypassing to ground any noise above a frequency of around 0.1 Hz.

approximately 250 x 210 x 80 mm.

Mount the pots and switches on the front panel, using the pot and switch nuts to secure the front escutcheon if you have one. Mount the output and battery input sockets on the rear panel. If you are using a battery input socket use something different to the output socket (which is usually a two-pin DIN socket or a 6.5 mm jack socket) to avoid confusion.

Mount the power transformer and make the 240 V connections. The mains lead should be terminated immediately inside the case into a terminal block and the earth lead secured firmly to the chassis by a solder lug bolted to the case using a star washer. This lead must be the longest. A length of 240 V cable should be used between the terminal block and the power switch. Wire the transformer to the power switch as shown in the circuit diagram, then wrap the whole switch with insulation tape or enclose in large diameter heat-shrink tubing so that no 240 V connection is exposed.

Finally, the fully-loaded PCB can be secured into the case using short metal spacers. If Veropins are used, all the connections to the board can be made after the board has been mounted. Connect the front panel controls, rear panel sockets and input sockets, using short lengths of shielded cable to make the connections to the two inputs and preamp output.



# PROJECT : Guitar Practice Amp

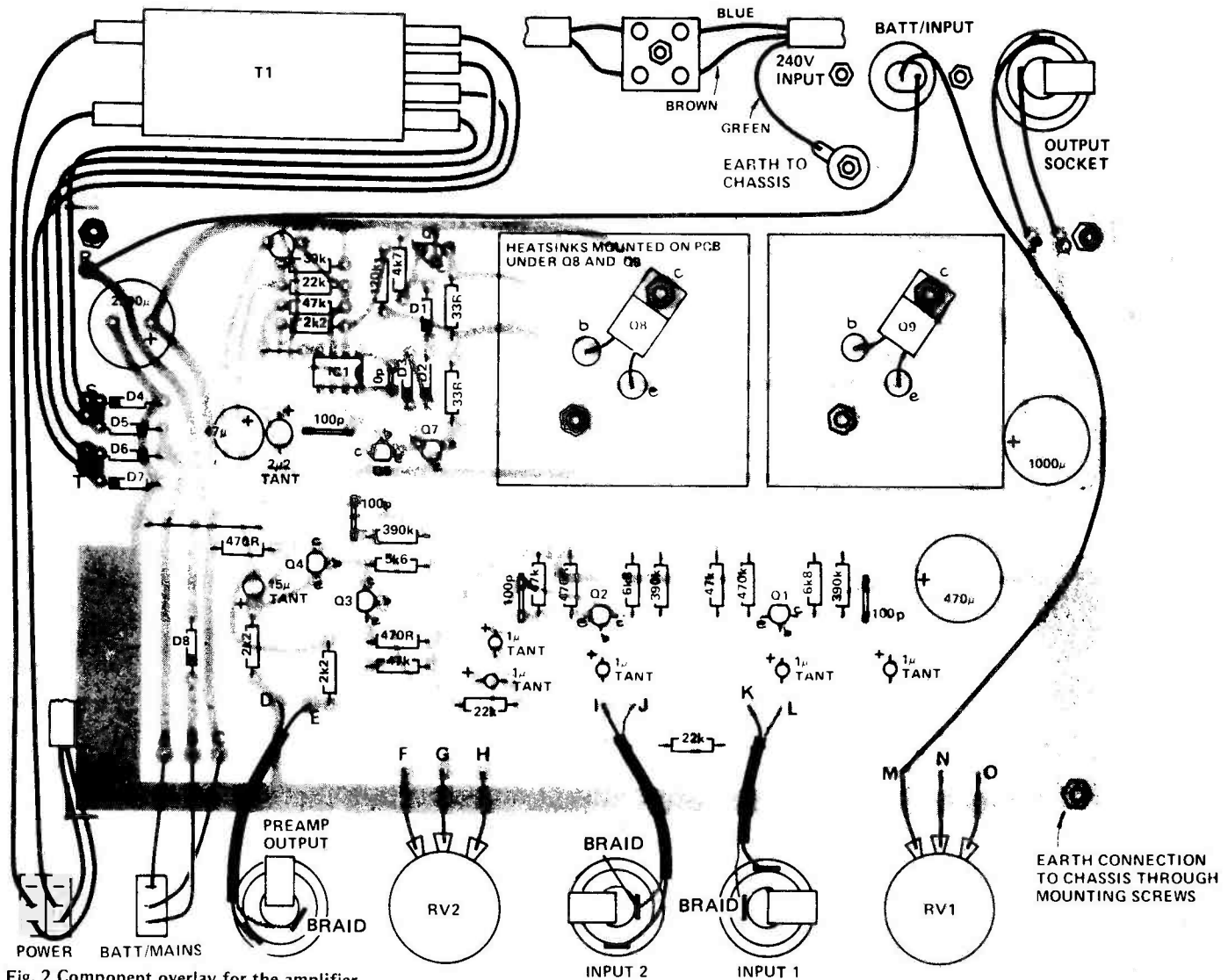


Fig. 2 Component overlay for the amplifier. The original design used a BC639/BC640 complementary pair for Q6 and Q7, and these are shown on the overlay, but they may prove hard to obtain. Consequently the PCB we will be supplying is laid out for a BC140/BC160 pair, which have different pad layouts — the b,c and e pads are etched onto the board for your guidance.

## Powering Up

Make a final check of the wiring and PCB. If all is well, apply power. A slight turn-on thump should be heard at the moment of turn-on. If the 'Input 1' volume control is now wound up, some hiss should be heard from the loudspeaker. Do the same check on the other input. There is no set-up procedure since the power amp stage is operating in class B and requires no bias adjustment.

## BUYLINES

Lots of nice, standard, easy-to-obtain components in this project, so you shouldn't encounter any problems with supply. The PCB will be available from our PCB Service at the price listed on page 44.

## PARTS LIST

### Resistors (all $\frac{1}{2}$ W, 5%)

R1,5,11	390k
R2,6,12,20	47k
R3,7	6k8
R4,8,14,17	470R
R9,10,19	22k
R13	5k6
R15,16,21	2k2
R18	39k
R22	120k
R23	4k7
R24,25	33R

### Potentiometers

RV1,2	22k logarithmic
-------	-----------------

### Capacitors

C1,2,5,6,7	1u0 35 V tantalum
C3,4,8,15	100p disc ceramic
C9	15u 16 V tantalum
C10	470u 25 V PCB electrolytic
C11,13	2u2 35 V tantalum
C12	47u 25 V PCB electrolytic
C14	10p disc ceramic

C16	1000u 25 V PCB electrolytic
C17	2200u 25 V PCB electrolytic

### Semiconductors

IC1	LM301
Q1-4	BC549 or BC109
Q5	BC557 or BC179
Q6	BC140
Q7	BC160
Q8	TIP31
Q9	TIP32
D1-3	1N914
D4-8	1N4004

### Miscellaneous

SK1-4	mono jack sockets
SK5	DIN socket (or other type — see text)
SW1	DPDT toggle switch (mains rated)
SW2	DPST toggle switch
Transformer (120-12-0, 20 VA); TO3 type PCB-mounting heatsinks; PCB (see Buylines); case to suit; mounting hardware.	



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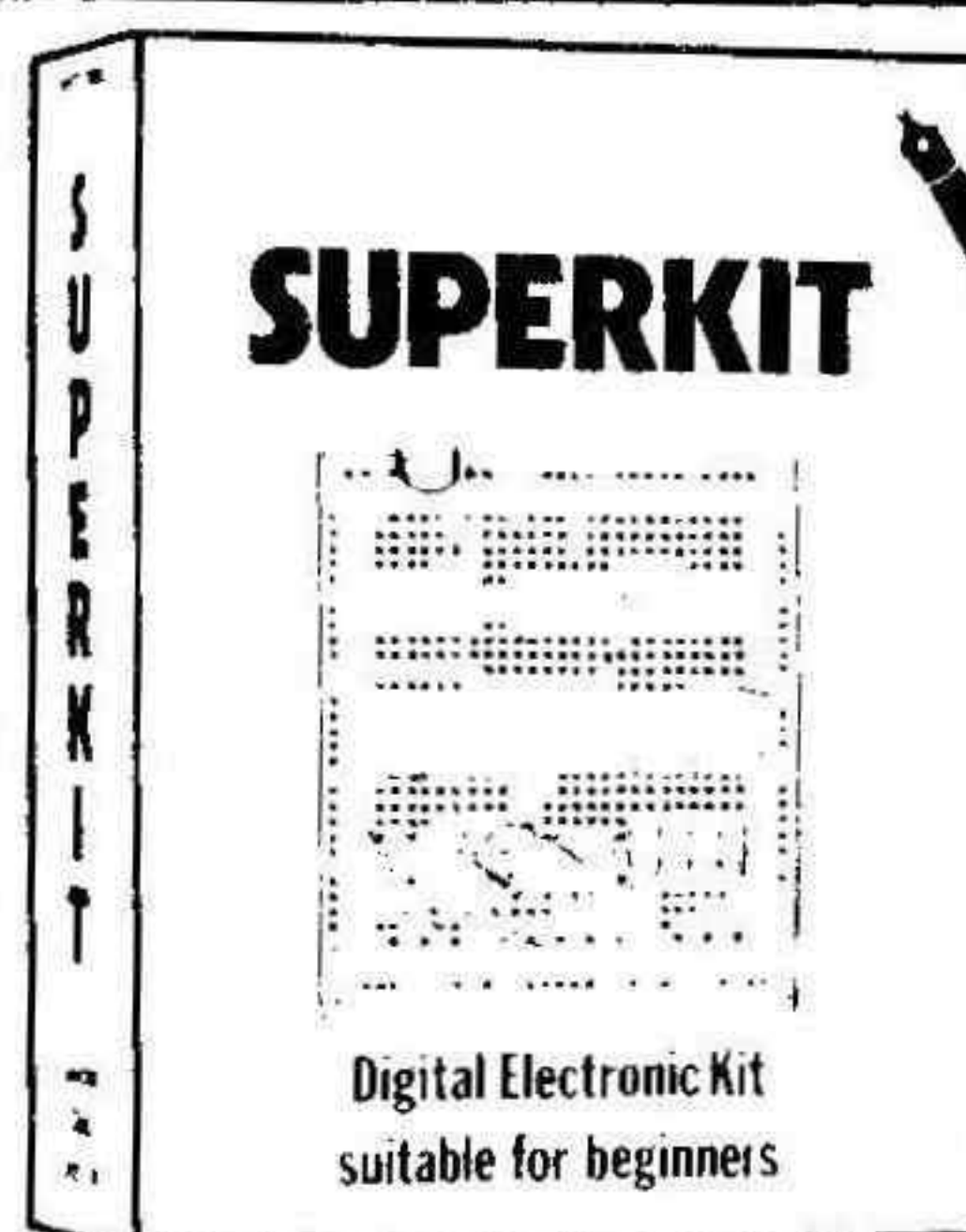
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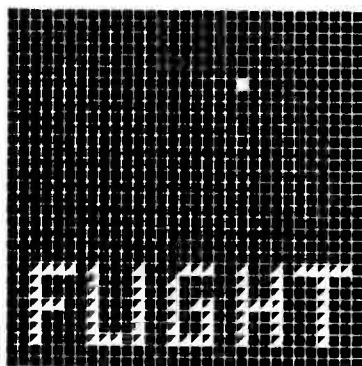


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<b>SOFTWARE COMPATIBILITY</b>	Capable of executing Z80/8080/8085 machine language program.
<b>RAM</b>	2K bytes expandable to 4K bytes.
<b>ROM</b>	2K bytes of sophisticated monitor expandable to 8K bytes.
<b>INPUT/OUTPUT</b>	24 system I/O lines.
<b>MONITOR</b>	2K bytes of sophisticated monitor. It scans the keyboard and executes the command entered immediately after the power is turned on. The monitor includes: system initialization, keyboard scan, display scan tape write and tape read.
<b>DISPLAY</b>	6 digit 0.5" red LED display.
<b>AUDIO CASSETTE INTERFACE</b>	165 bit per second average rate for data transfer between memory and cassette tape.
<b>EXTENSION CONNECTORS</b>	Provides all buses of CPU, channel signals of CTC and I/O port bus of PIO for user's expansion.
<b>COUNTER TIMER CIRCUITS</b>	Socket is provided. Z80-CTC IC extra.
<b>PARALLEL I/O CIRCUITS</b>	Socket is provided. Z80-PIO IC extra.
<b>SPEAKER AND SPEAKER DRIVER CIRCUITS</b>	A 2.25" - diameter speaker is provided for user's applications.
<b>USER AREA</b>	Provides a 3.5" x 1.36" wire wrapping area for user's expansion.
<b>POWER REQUIREMENT</b>	Single +5V DC.
<b>USER'S AND EXPERIMENT MANUAL</b>	Complete self-learning text with experiments and applications.
<b>OPTIONS (Prices on application)</b>	Z80 - CTC EPROM programmer board Prototyping board Z80 - PIO Speech synthesiser board Audio Cassette 2K Ram
<b>KEYBOARD</b>	36 keys including 19 function keys, 16 hex-digit keys and 1 user defined key.

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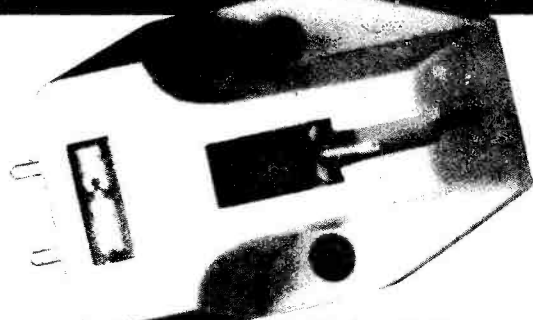
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3mm clip	3p	CMOS		LS32	17p
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GREEN LED	11p	4006B	45p	LS73	20p
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	11p	4008	56p	LS75	25p
RECT GREEN	13p	4009	28p	LS76	26p
		4010B	33p	LS78	22p
		4011B	14p	LS86	21p
VOLTAGE		4012	17p	LS90	40p
REGULATORS		4013B	28p	LS93	28p
500mA		4014	58p	LS95	50p
78M12 + 20p		4015B	60p	LS109	30p
79M05 - 20p		4016	20p	LS122	35p
79M12 - 20p		4017	35p	LS123	40p
78M2 - 20p		4019	33p	LS154	40p
1 A amp.		4020B	65p	LS157	35p
7805	55p	4021	56p	LS163	42p
7805/12	55p	4022	37p	LS221	52p
7815	58p	4023	15p	LS251	50p
7818	52p	4025	14p	LS253	50p
7905	58p	4027	30p	LS279	30p
7912	60p	4028	45p		
7915	62p	4029	65p	TTL "N"	
7915/24	50p	4030	18p	7400/1	11p
1.5 A amp		4032	92p	7402	11p
7805	70p	4041	75p	7403	10p
		4042	55p	7404	9p
BRIDGE		4043	70p	7405	11p
RECTIFIERS		4044	40p	7406	15p
W02M	16p	4047	90p	7407	24p
W06M	17p	4048	95p	7408	16p
1A/50V	18p	4049	28p	7409	13p
1A/200V	18p	4050B	32p	7410	11p
1A/400V	20p	4051	30p	7411	11p
1A/600V	20p	4056	20p	7412	17p
2A/50V	20p	4058	14p	7413	11p
2A/100V	20p	4059	14p	7414	18p
3A/600V	33p	4060	20p	7415	18p
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DIL SOCKETS		4071	20p	7417	16p
8 pin	6p	4072/3	23p	7420	9p
14 pin	10p	4081	22p	7421/3	23p
16 pin	11p	4082	24p	7425/6	21p
18 pin	16p	4086	68p	7427	16p
22 pin	16p	4087	68p	7428	35p
24 pin	18p	4088	68p	7429	13p
28 pin	24p	4089	68p	7430	13p
40 pin	24p	4090	68p	7431	13p
		4520/B	82p	7432	13p
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## the new MC88E from CORAL

The new MC88E represents a breakthrough in high output moving coil cartridges. No step-up device or amp is required and it is available at a sensational price of only £29.95.

The high output voltage of 2.5mV does away with the need for a head amplifier or step-up transformer, which add to the expense of using most previous moving coil cartridges.

We can't emphasise enough, just how advanced the technology that has produced this breakthrough is — a miniaturised and specially shaped armature; unique coil winding technique; a magnet that is so compact,

yet generating high magnetic flux density; compliance of 17 cu's. The result is a cartridge with flat frequency response over the super wide range of 20Hz - 40KHz, removing the distortion caused by certain frequencies, which can be found in many conventional cartridges. Coral's considerable experience in moving coil cartridges has enabled them to offer the ultimate in quality and performance at this incredibly low price.

- We welcome callers to our South London Showroom for demonstrations.
- Enquiries and information phone: 01-690 8511, Ex. 32.
- All products are only available direct or from selected authorised dealers throughout the U.K.

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<b>BATTERIES</b> NICAD unvented rechargeable, GE Hitachi, state: buttons or tabs. 'AA' HP7.5AH 1.2V 87p 'C' U111.8AH 1.2V £2.00 'D' U2.4AH 1.2V £2.52 PP3 .075AH 1.2V £3.13 CHARGER for all types £5.22		<b>BRIDGES</b> W005 25p MDA100 32p W02/4 26p PM7A2 64p 55B40 48p																																																																																																																																																																																										
<b>ZENERS</b> BZY88 3v to 18v 5p BZX61/85 1W 3v3 to 33v 7p 5W 10W on request		<b>OTHER GOODIES</b> CAPACITORS 1000pF 150V 100MFD 50V ELAP 22p ICs 0272222 MONSANTO 23p CD4001/10/11/12/20 52p 74H01/110/H30/H40 35p SN74100N MCSTK 35p 74S02/S04/S08/S10 19p 280 CPU MCSTK 22p METER 500mV Signal level -20 to +30 Rect Face 1 1/2" dia hule £2.75 POTS SAK Dual LOC 100K Dual LOC 10K Dual LOC 10K 1W 1/2" FME 49p 50K LOG or 100K LIN 3W 11/16" FME 49p RELAY T2 CAS70/8800 65p VALVE HOLDERS Signal 7 way B7 or 9 way BWS 15p SPEAKERS 8 Ohm Mid Range Type 914.4" dia Goodman's £3.75 SWITCH 1/8 LSS28 Bulgin 11p Rotary 4 Pole 2POS AB 67p TERMINAL POST Spring Loadable plugable B&L 23/10 Red or Black 25p THERMISTORS 232TB200J 235A 200V ETT 241TB200J 410A 200V ETT																																																																																																																																																																																										
<b>ELECTROLYTIC TOL +10%-50% IN MFDS</b> TUBULAR 63v PLUG IN LEADS 7x.5mm BUZZER 12V AXIAL PCM 5mm PVC 60p 8p mm 2.2/63v 11x5 3p 1 13x6 4.7/63v 11x6 5p 2 13x6 10/63v 12x8 7p 3.3 13x6 22/35v 13x8 5p 4.7 13x6 47/35v 12x10 5p 6.8 13x7 100/25v 13x10 5p 10p 220/35v 17x10 9p 10 19x7 470/63v 20x10 11p 22 19x9 1000/100 TAGS 39p 47 19x10 1500/63v 25x15 17p 100 31x13 220 31x13		<b>CERAMIC 5mm 10% ONLY</b> 10PF - 3K3PF, E6 ONLY. 5p																																																																																																																																																																																										
<b>POLYESTER PLUG IN BOX STYLE TOL 10% BY EXOV. MULL. PLES ETC.</b> All at 4p PCM All at 6p PCM .001/400v 10 .22/250v 15 .0022/400v 10 .33/100v 15 .0033/400v 10 .47/250v 22 .0047/400v 10 .68/100v 15 .01/630v 10 All at 12p .033/250v 10 1.0/100v 15 .033/250v 10 1.5/100 22 .047/100v 10 2.2/100 22 .088/100v 10 All at 18p 1/250v 10 3.3/100v 22 In MFDS sizes in mm 4.7/100v 27		<b>LEDS</b> .125" TIL209 Green 12p Red 7p Yellow 13p 2" TIL220 Green 12p Red 10p Yellow 13p BIG DISCOUNTS FOR BULK .2 CLIPS 5p TIL111 57p																																																																																																																																																																																										
<b>POLYESTER AXL 10%</b> 6p 9p .01400v 33 100v .1 35 7p 4.7 25 12p .022 250v .47 250v .22 35 8p 10 25 24p .047 250v .68 400v .47 35 9p 22 35 30p 1 150v 1.0 250v 1.0 35 12p 100 10 34p 22 400v 1.5 100v 2.2 20 12p 150 16 40p		<b>TANT BEAD 5mm 20%</b> Val V Val V .1 35 7p 4.7 25 12p .22 35 8p 10 25 24p .47 35 9p 22 35 30p 1.0 35 12p 100 10 34p 2.2 20 12p 150 16 40p																																																																																																																																																																																										
<b>DIOIDES by ITT, MULL, SESCOSEM, TEXAS (CODED)</b> AAZ15 9p OA47 5p IN916 3p BAX13/16 3p OA90/91 6p IN4001/2 2 1/2p BAY71 9p OA200/2 11p IN4004 3 1/2p BY127 7p RPIG108 3p IN4007 6p BY206 19p S2BN71 90p IN4148 2p BY255 9p IAV30 9p IN5397 7p BYX10 30p IN270 6p IN5401/2 11p CV8790 5p IN914 2p IN5408 13p																																																																																																																																																																																												
<b>ICs DIL PINNING (-) LM AND CA</b> 301 (8) 22p 565 (8) 19p 747 (14) 37p 308 (8) 42p 566 (14) 42p 1458 (8) 27p 311 (8) 41p 568 (14) 95p 3046 (14) 58p 324 (14) 35p 567 (8) 95p 3080 (8) 83p 338 (14) 44p 709 (14) 21p 3140 (8) 92p 348 (14) 56p 710 (14) 32p 3900 (14) 43p 380 (14) 65p 725 (8) £1.35 3914 (8) £2.35 381 (14) 84p 741 (8) 15p 13600 (16) 99p																																																																																																																																																																																												
<b>ICs DIL PINNING (-) MISC.</b> TLO81P (8) 50p 2102AN 450 80p 6821P (40) £1.68 TLO82P (8) 50p 2114N 200 £1.20 6850P (24) £1.68 LF351 (8) 64p 4116 200 90p 6852 (24) £2.45 LF353 (8) 89p 8116 450 £1.20 ICM7555 (8) 92p ZN414 (3) £2.34 6800P (40) £2.87 8035 (40) £2.75 ZN425 (16) £3.40 6802P (40) £5.81 8085A (40) £5.75																																																																																																																																																																																												
<table><tr><th>ICs LPS 74LS -- N</th><th>CMOS BUFF 40 -- N</th><th>TTL 74 -- N</th></tr><tr><td>00 10p 74 16p</td><td>01 12p 16 34p 29 48p</td><td>00 to 40</td></tr><tr><td>02 12p 90 30p</td><td>02 12p 17 48p 40 48p</td><td>42 24p</td></tr><tr><td>04 12p 109 24p</td><td>06 48p 18 48p 41 52p</td><td>44 38p</td></tr><tr><td>05 12p 132 44p</td><td>07 16p 20 54p 42 52p</td><td>47 38p</td></tr><tr><td>08 14p 138 36p</td><td>08 52p 21 54p 46 80p</td><td>51 19p</td></tr><tr><td>10 12p 240 76p</td><td>11 16p 22 54p 49 28p</td><td>70 17p</td></tr><tr><td>14 36p 244 76p</td><td>12 20p 23 16p 60 52p</td><td>85 17p</td></tr><tr><td>27 14p 367 38p</td><td>13 34p 24 42p 66 34p</td><td>132 69p</td></tr><tr><td>30 12p 374 72p</td><td>14 48p 25 12p 69 16p</td><td>193 96p</td></tr><tr><td>33 16p</td><td>15 48p 27 38p 81 20p</td><td>194 38p</td></tr><tr><td>51 14p</td><td>28 48p 93 38p</td><td>197 42p</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>393 38p</td></tr></table>				ICs LPS 74LS -- N	CMOS BUFF 40 -- N	TTL 74 -- N	00 10p 74 16p	01 12p 16 34p 29 48p	00 to 40	02 12p 90 30p	02 12p 17 48p 40 48p	42 24p	04 12p 109 24p	06 48p 18 48p 41 52p	44 38p	05 12p 132 44p	07 16p 20 54p 42 52p	47 38p	08 14p 138 36p	08 52p 21 54p 46 80p	51 19p	10 12p 240 76p	11 16p 22 54p 49 28p	70 17p	14 36p 244 76p	12 20p 23 16p 60 52p	85 17p	27 14p 367 38p	13 34p 24 42p 66 34p	132 69p	30 12p 374 72p	14 48p 25 12p 69 16p	193 96p	33 16p	15 48p 27 38p 81 20p	194 38p	51 14p	28 48p 93 38p	197 42p			393 38p																																																																																																																																																		
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<b>SOCKETS GOLD T.I. 8 PIN 7p. 14 PIN 8p. 16 PIN 9p</b> <b>LOW PROF. SILV. STANFORD 24 PIN 19p. 40 PIN 27p</b>																																																																																																																																																																																												
<b>POTS CERMET HORIZ round plug in 50R, 100R, 10K, 100K 19p</b> <b>POTS CERMET 1/2" RECT 20 turn in 100R, 1K, 200K 48p</b> <b>RESISTORS E12 1/2" W C FILM 5% 1p M FILM 2% 3p</b> <b>SCRS BT106 77p BT151 85p C106D 35p</b> <b>2N4437 7p 2N5061 9p</b> <b>SWITCH PUSHBUTTON PCB MTG 6 PIN MAKE BREAK</b> <b>250v 17p ROCKER FOR 1/16" x 1/8" HOLE SPST 15A 250v 19p</b>																																																																																																																																																																																												
<table><tr><th>TRANSISTORS</th><th>BD232/6/8</th><th>29p</th><th>TIP3055</th><th>43p</th></tr><tr><td>AC127/8</td><td>25p</td><td>BD537/8</td><td>33p</td><td>TIS43</td><td>27p</td></tr><tr><td>AC176</td><td>29p</td><td>BD575A</td><td>49p</td><td>TIS90/91</td><td>9p</td></tr><tr><td>AD149</td><td>69p</td><td>BF244B</td><td>25p</td><td>ZT212A</td><td>6p</td></tr><tr><td>AD161/2</td><td>28p</td><td>BF258/9</td><td>24p</td><td>2N696/8</td><td>19p</td></tr><tr><td>AU113</td><td>£1.69</td><td>BF337/8</td><td>21p</td><td>2N918/30</td><td>15p</td></tr><tr><td>BC107/8</td><td>10p</td><td>BFX29/88</td><td>17p</td><td>2N1613</td><td>28p</td></tr><tr><td>BC108/8</td><td>12p</td><td>BFY50/51</td><td>19p</td><td>2N1711</td><td>19p</td></tr><tr><td>BC109</td><td>10p</td><td>BRV39</td><td>24p</td><td>2N2218/19</td><td>15p</td></tr><tr><td>BC109C</td><td>12p</td><td>BSV67/68</td><td>29p</td><td>2N2222A</td><td>12p</td></tr><tr><td>BC141/2/3</td><td>19p</td><td>BSX29</td><td>19p</td><td>2N2369A</td><td>16p</td></tr><tr><td>BC177/8/9</td><td>12p</td><td>BU126</td><td>£1.02</td><td>2N2646</td><td>49p</td></tr><tr><td>BC182/8/L</td><td>6p</td><td>BU205/6</td><td>95p</td><td>2N2905/7</td><td>19p</td></tr><tr><td>BC183/8/L</td><td>6p</td><td>BU208</td><td>69p</td><td>2N3053</td><td>22p</td></tr><tr><td>BC184/8/LB</td><td>9p</td><td>BU326A</td><td>£1.02</td><td>2N3054</td><td>29p</td></tr><tr><td>BC212/8</td><td>9p</td><td>BUY87</td><td>69p</td><td>2N3055</td><td>29p</td></tr><tr><td>BC213/8</td><td>9p</td><td>MJ2501</td><td>£1.00</td><td>2N3442</td><td>69p</td></tr><tr><td>BC214/8/LB</td><td>9p</td><td>MJ3001</td><td>£1.09</td><td>2N3702/4</td><td>7p</td></tr><tr><td>BC237/8</td><td>9p</td><td>MJE340</td><td>30p</td><td>2N3706/10</td><td>9p</td></tr><tr><td>BC238B/98</td><td>9p</td><td>MJE520</td><td>42p</td><td>2N3771/2</td><td>89p</td></tr><tr><td>BC327/8</td><td>9p</td><td>MPSA06/14</td><td>14p</td><td>2N3773</td><td>£1.39</td></tr><tr><td>BC337/8</td><td>9p</td><td>MPSA42/3</td><td>12p</td><td>2N3904/6</td><td>9p</td></tr><tr><td>BC477/8</td><td>19p</td><td>MPSA66/92</td><td>21p</td><td>2N4358</td><td>38p</td></tr><tr><td>BC547/8</td><td>9p</td><td>OC28/71</td><td>89p</td><td>2N5320/2</td><td>29p</td></tr><tr><td>BC548B</td><td>9p</td><td>TIP29/30</td><td>17p</td><td>2N5447/9</td><td>9p</td></tr><tr><td>BC549B</td><td>9p</td><td>TIP31A/32A</td><td>25p</td><td>2N5457/9</td><td>30p</td></tr><tr><td>BC567/8/9</td><td>9p</td><td>TIP41A/42A</td><td>37p</td><td>2N5550</td><td>12p</td></tr><tr><td>BCV70/71</td><td>14p</td><td>TIP47</td><td>29p</td><td>2N6028</td><td>12p</td></tr><tr><td>BD112/116</td><td>69p</td><td>TIP110/115</td><td>37p</td><td>2N6107/9</td><td>37p</td></tr><tr><td>BD131/2</td><td>29p</td><td>TIP121/126</td><td>38p</td><td>2N6395</td><td>69p</td></tr><tr><td>BD135/6</td><td>22p</td><td>TIP2955</td><td>43p</td><td>TBA120</td><td>47p</td></tr></table>				TRANSISTORS	BD232/6/8	29p	TIP3055	43p	AC127/8	25p	BD537/8	33p	TIS43	27p	AC176	29p	BD575A	49p	TIS90/91	9p	AD149	69p	BF244B	25p	ZT212A	6p	AD161/2	28p	BF258/9	24p	2N696/8	19p	AU113	£1.69	BF337/8	21p	2N918/30	15p	BC107/8	10p	BFX29/88	17p	2N1613	28p	BC108/8	12p	BFY50/51	19p	2N1711	19p	BC109	10p	BRV39	24p	2N2218/19	15p	BC109C	12p	BSV67/68	29p	2N2222A	12p	BC141/2/3	19p	BSX29	19p	2N2369A	16p	BC177/8/9	12p	BU126	£1.02	2N2646	49p	BC182/8/L	6p	BU205/6	95p	2N2905/7	19p	BC183/8/L	6p	BU208	69p	2N3053	22p	BC184/8/LB	9p	BU326A	£1.02	2N3054	29p	BC212/8	9p	BUY87	69p	2N3055	29p	BC213/8	9p	MJ2501	£1.00	2N3442	69p	BC214/8/LB	9p	MJ3001	£1.09	2N3702/4	7p	BC237/8	9p	MJE340	30p	2N3706/10	9p	BC238B/98	9p	MJE520	42p	2N3771/2	89p	BC327/8	9p	MPSA06/14	14p	2N3773	£1.39	BC337/8	9p	MPSA42/3	12p	2N3904/6	9p	BC477/8	19p	MPSA66/92	21p	2N4358	38p	BC547/8	9p	OC28/71	89p	2N5320/2	29p	BC548B	9p	TIP29/30	17p	2N5447/9	9p	BC549B	9p	TIP31A/32A	25p	2N5457/9	30p	BC567/8/9	9p	TIP41A/42A	37p	2N5550	12p	BCV70/71	14p	TIP47	29p	2N6028	12p	BD112/116	69p	TIP110/115	37p	2N6107/9	37p	BD131/2	29p	TIP121/126	38p	2N6395	69p	BD135/6	22p	TIP2955	43p	TBA120	47p
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<b>V REGS</b> LM 309K £1.12 LM 723N 23p LM7812 33p LM 317K £2.35 LM7805/15 42p LM7905/15 53p																																																																																																																																																																																												

STOCK OF ALL ITEMS  
ENQUIRIES WELCOME FOR OTHER ITEMS  
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WASHINGTON,  
NE38 7AJ  
TEL: 0632 467814

DESCRIPTION

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ORDER FORM CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE

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add P&P  
TOTAL £.....  
add VAT at 15% £.....

20p



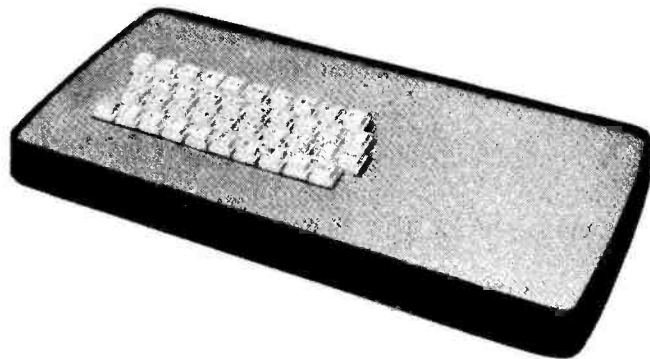
## Grabbed By The Dooleys

Those tireless chappies down at Casio have taken time off from disguising BASIC computers and arcade games as pocket calculators and watches, and have turned their attention to the music scene. Although there is undoubtedly a market for top-flight organs and synthesisers amongst home musicians, many people will prefer something more modest — for financial reasons, because the living room is too small or because they can't figure out what all the knobs do. At the other end of the scale (sorry), the type of hand-held organ made notorious by Rolf Harris is a little too limiting. With the Casiotone 701, Casio have not just produced a solution to this problem but a radically new type of instrument.

The CT-701 is not just a 61-key polyphonic (eight voice) mini-synthesiser, but also contains an on-board computer that acts as a built-in sequencer; among other things. You can play along with the built-in rhythm unit, store your own music in memory and play it back automatically, or just load the machine with a Casio music score and let it get on with things by itself. The latter function is

quite extraordinary — Casio supply the music scores as bar codes and you read them into the machine using a light pen (like those at supermarket check-out desks). In melody guide mode you can even teach yourself to play the instrument, as LEDs above each key light up to tell you which note to play next.

Twenty preset sounds are available, such as pipe organ, flute, piano, oboe, bassoon etc, plus the synthesised drum sounds of the rhythm unit and the 'pneoom' sound so beloved by producers of disco records. Opinions of the preset sound quality vary from "beautiful" (Casio) through "very good" (an independent reviewer) to "too sharply filtered" (another independent reviewer). Since they can't agree and we haven't heard it (though, we're trying hard to get our mucky paws on one), you'll have to listen to one yourself before parting with any cash, but professional musicians seem to like it — the Dooleys use Casiotone mini-keyboards in their stage shows (fellow head-bangers may not see this as a compliment). With so much packed into such a compact case (only slightly larger than the actual keyboard) and such a low price (about £500), Casio would certainly seem to have done it again.



## ZX Revamp

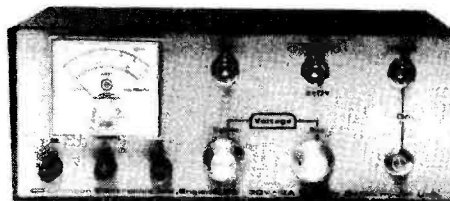
For those of you who are serious ZX-81 owners (is there such an animal?) or would simply like to disguise the machine, there is a professional standard keyboard and enclosure now available from Protos Computer Systems. The keyboard is the first of a range of peripherals to make the computer suitable for more heavy-duty use. The 40-key Sinclair coded board uses top quality mechanical contact type key switches with relegendable tops. A steel mounting board holds the keys firmly in position and a high quality printed circuit board completes the board's electrical circuit. Connection to the Sinclair board is made by a flexible connector which is a

push fit to the sockets provided on the ZX81. Access to the edge board connector is via a side port on the Protos enclosure and tape in/out, power and UHF connections are made through the rear. To fit the Protos entails removing the Sinclair board from the black ABS case it comes in and fixing it inside the Protos enclosure with four Phillips type screws. No soldering is required and all electrical connections are plug/socket connections provided either on the Sinclair or the Protos. Further details on this and other forthcoming peripherals can be obtained from Protos Computer Systems, Frome Computing, 20 Ashtree Road, Frome, Somerset BA11 2AS. Please enclose a large SAE with any enquiries.

## Power For Peanuts

Grenson Electronics, designers and manufacturers of power supplies for the Nuclear Research Industry have come up with a series of bench power units. The first unit in the series is priced at

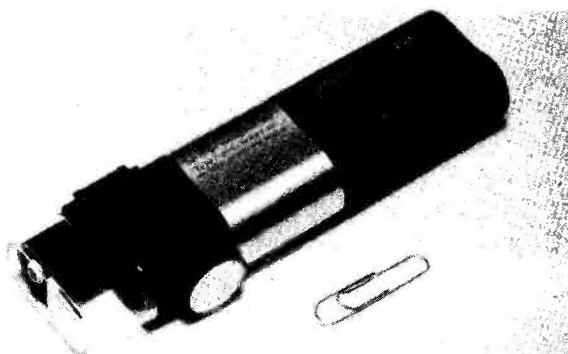
£59 and gives a variable stabilised output up to 30 V at 2 A in two ranges, has foldback re-entrant short circuit protection and current and voltage metering. This unit is also available in kit form at only £35 and further details are from Grenson Electronics Ltd, High March Road, Long March, Industrial Estate, Daventry, Northants NN11 4HQ.



## Miniature Magnification

New from Stottron Ltd is the N Scope Mark III pocket microscope with stand. Priced at under £20 it is a useful tool for laboratories, schools, workshops, service engineers and the electronics, electrical, automotive, print and graphic trades. Uncle Tom Cobbley and all! It is 125 mm

long, with 20x magnification and a graticule showing linear and angular measurements. Illumination is powered by standard 1V5 'pen-light' batteries and a micro-stand (with spring clips for sample slides) is available as an option so that the device can be used like a conventional microscope. Further details on this device are available from Stottron Ltd, Unit 1, Haywood Way, Ivy House Lane, Hastings, East Sussex.



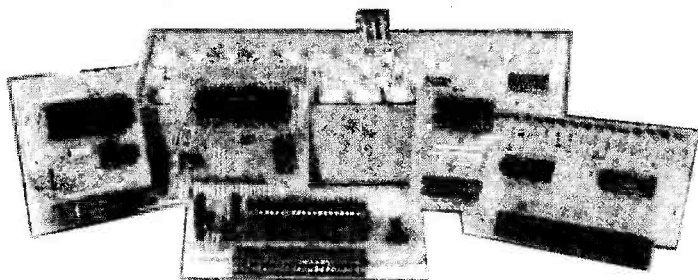
## Thin Meters

Sifam Ltd of Torquay in Devon are to market a range of very thin edgewise meters manufactured by General Electric of the USA. There are three sizes in the range with case widths of 38 mm, 63 mm and 89 mm and the units are scaled for vertical or horizontal presentation. The special feature of this design is the extreme thinness; the smallest has an overall depth of face of only 13 mm and the two larger sizes of about 17 mm. The smallest model has a rear-access zero set and a

simple spring-clip method of mounting. The two larger models have front access zero set at end of scale and a slide bracket form of mounting. They incorporate jewelled pivot movements with special high-torque magnets for reliable and accurate operation. The standard meters are available ex-stock from Sifam and have a maximum sensitivity of 50 microamperes. Scale markings can be produced to suit individual requirements. Further details of these and Sifam's own range of meters are available from: Sifam Limited, Woodland Road, Torquay, Devon TQ2 7AY.



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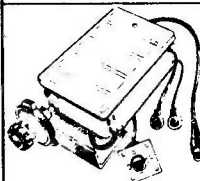
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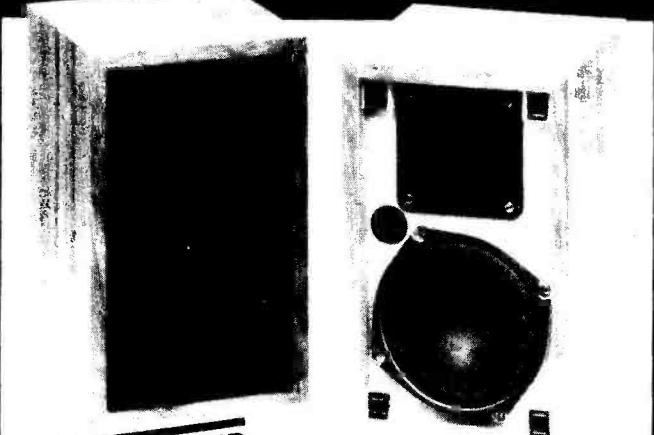
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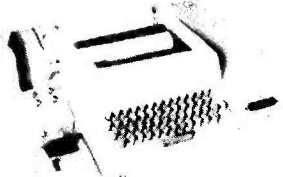
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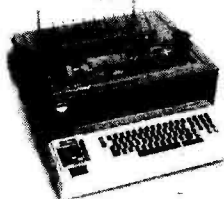
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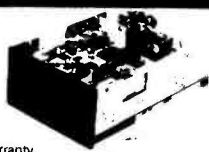
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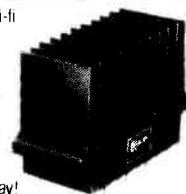
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HY 400	240w/4Ω	0.01%	<0.006%	+45+50	120 x 78 x 100	1025	£36.60	£31.83

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HY 120P	60w/4-8Ω	0.01%	<0.006%	+35+40	120 x 26 x 40	215	£17.83	£15.50
HY 200P	120w/4-8Ω	0.01%	<0.006%	+45+50	120 x 26 x 40	215	£21.73	£18.46
HY 400P	240w/4Ω	0.01%	<0.006%	+45+50	120 x 26 x 70	375	£32.58	£28.33

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HD 120	60w/4-8Ω	0.01%	<0.006%	+35+40	120 x 78 x 50	515	£25.85	£22.48
HD 200	120w/4-8Ω	0.01%	<0.006%	+45+50	120 x 78 x 60	620	£31.49	£27.38
HD 400	240w/4Ω	0.01%	<0.006%	+45+50	120 x 78 x 100	1025	£44.42	£38.63

**HEAVY DUTY without heatsinks**

Model No	Output power Watts rms	DISTORTION T.H.D. Typ at 1kHz	I.M.D. 50Hz/7kHz 4:1	Supply voltage Typ/Max	Size mm	Wt gms	Price inc VAT	Price ex VAT
HD 120P	60w/4-8Ω	0.01%	<0.006%	+35+40	120 x 26 x 50	265	£22.82	£19.84
HD 200P	120w/4-8Ω	0.01%	<0.006%	+45+50	120 x 26 x 50	265	£27.17	£23.63
HD 400P	240w/4Ω	0.01%	<0.006%	+45+50	120 x 26 x 70	375	£39.42	£34.28



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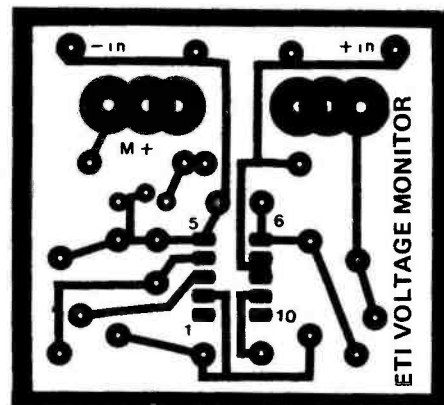
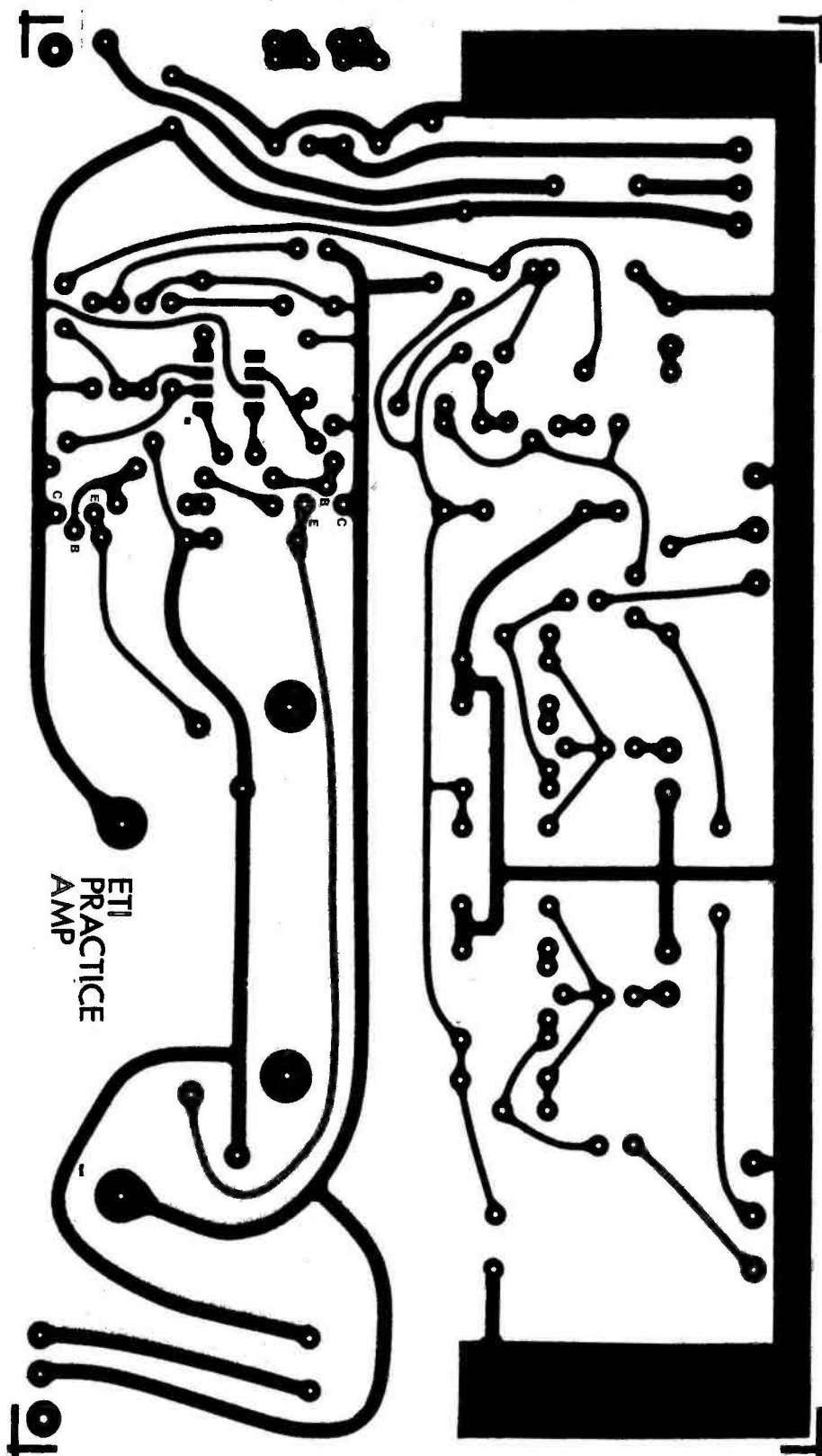
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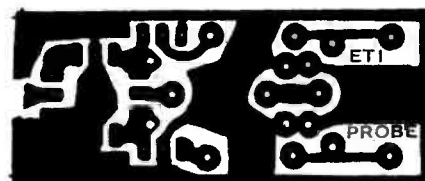
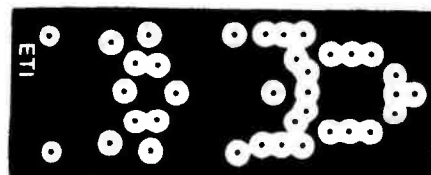
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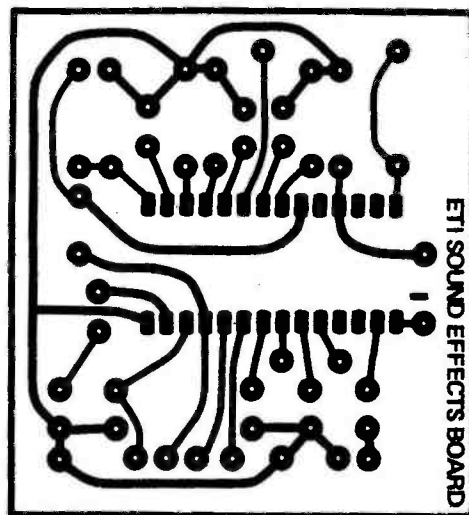
# PCB FOIL PATTERNS



Above: the PCB for the Voltage Monitor.



Above: the two foils for the double-sided 100 MHz High Impedance Probe PCB.



Above: the board for the two sound effects projects.

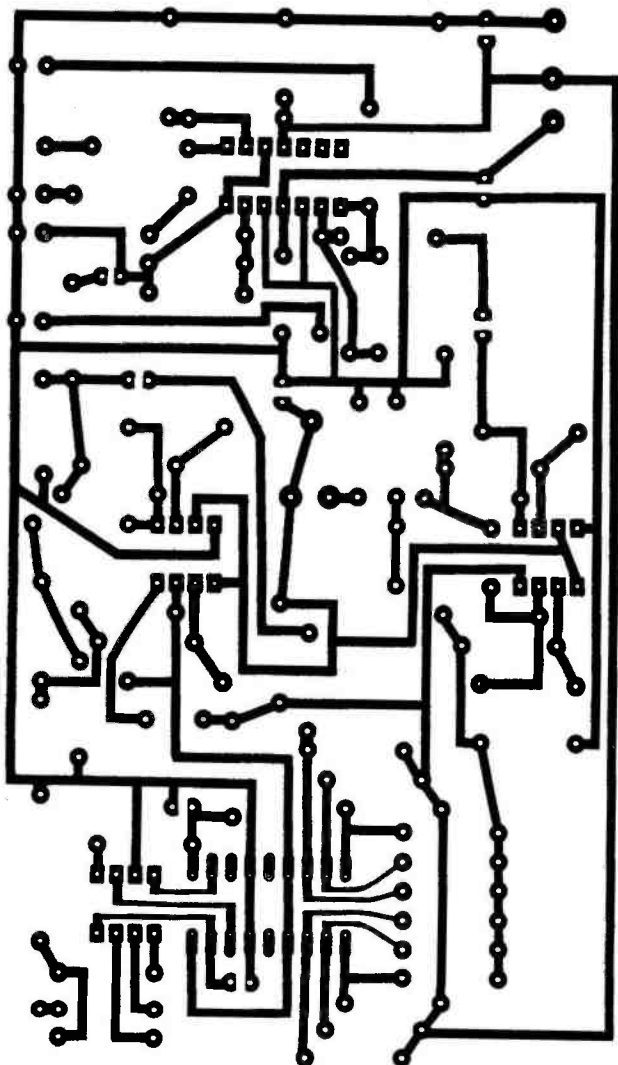
Left: the board for the Guitar Practice Amplifier. Please note the alteration to the pad layout for Q6 and Q7.

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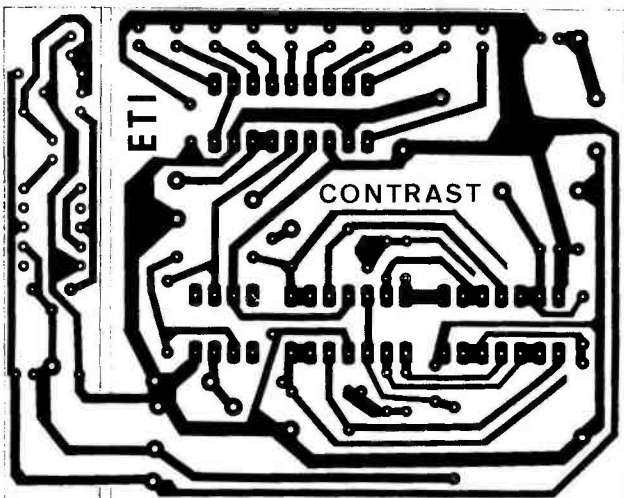


# PCB Foil Patterns

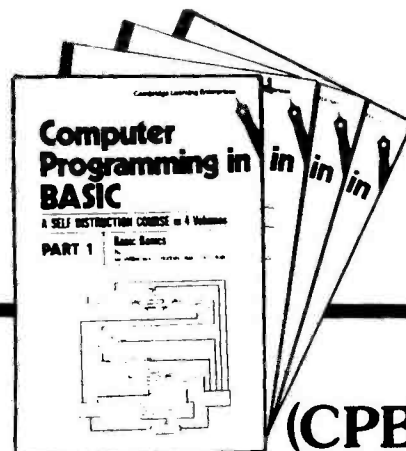
ETI REVERB.



Above: the foil pattern for the ETI Solid State Reverb unit. Commercial firms should note that this board is the copyright of Digisound, and may not be reproduced for sale.



Above: the board for the ETI Contrast Meter. You may use the board as it is or cut it in two where marked, as we did.



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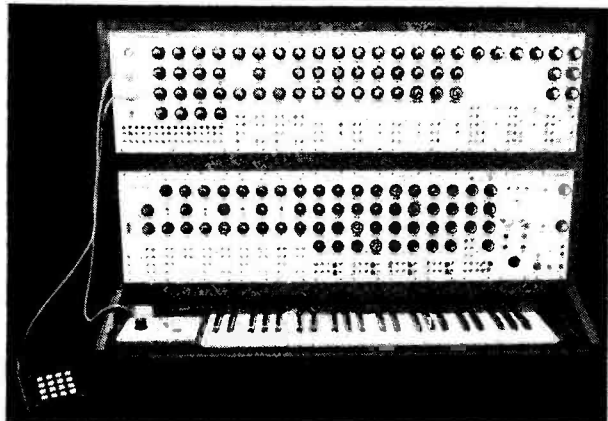
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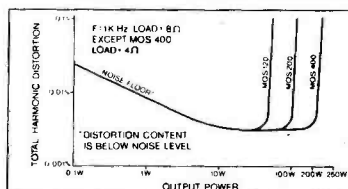
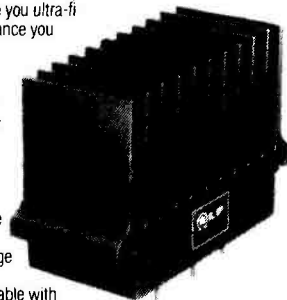
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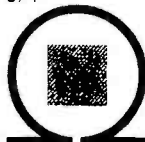
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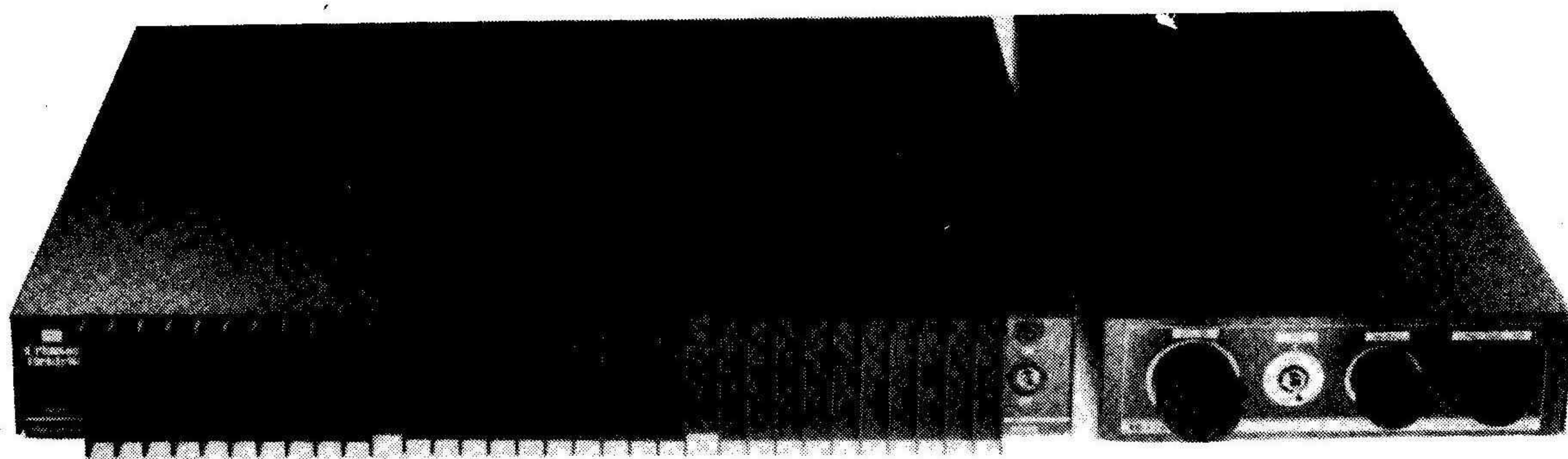
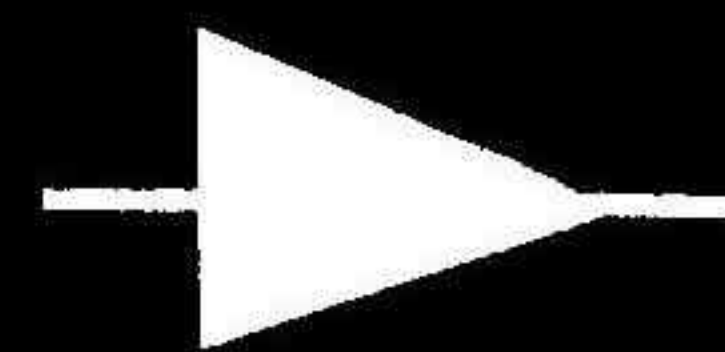


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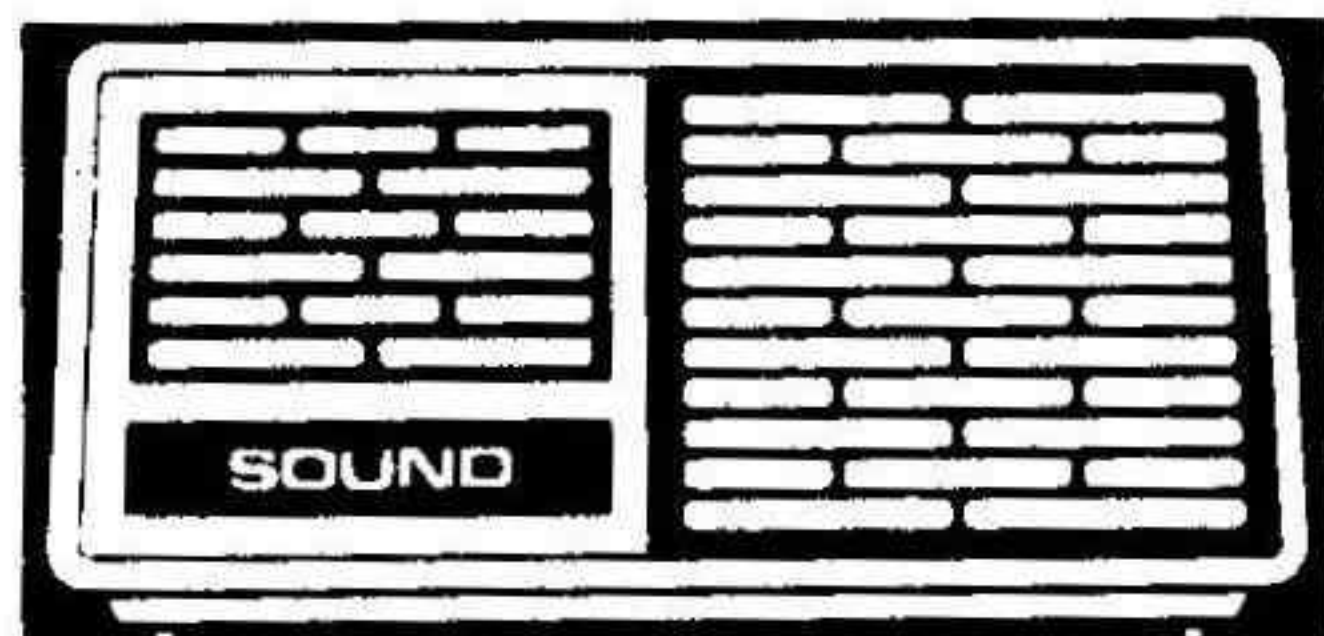
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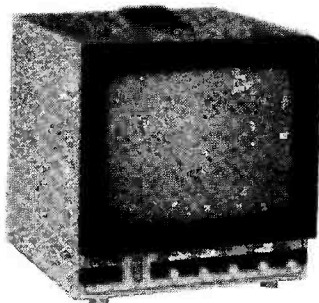
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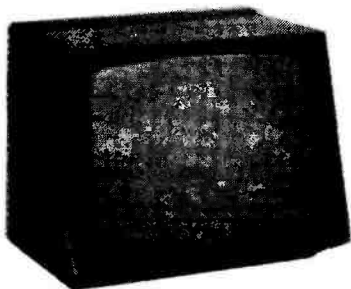
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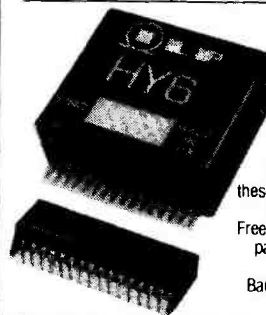
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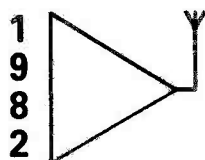
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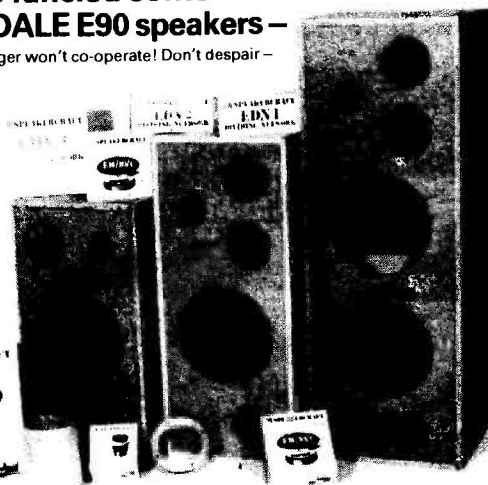
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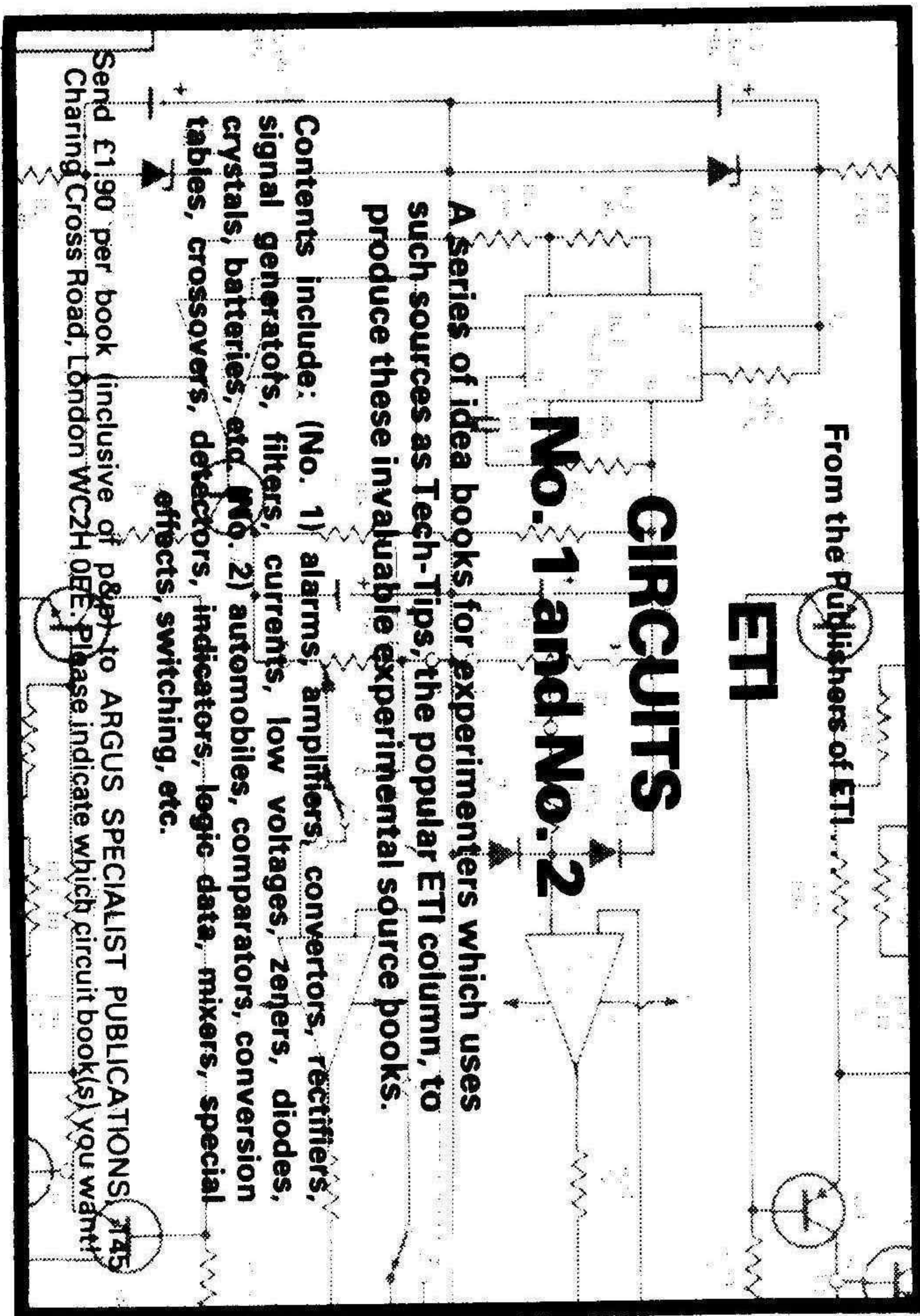
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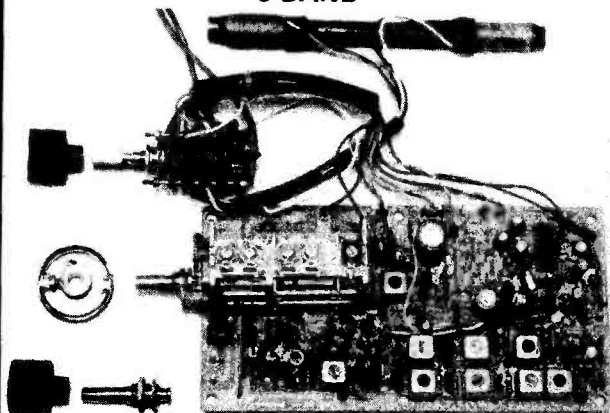


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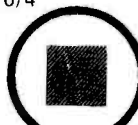
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# Make the most of your Sinclair ZX Computer...

# Sinclair ZX software on cassette.

## £3.<sup>95</sup> per cassette.

The unprecedented popularity of the ZX Series of Sinclair Personal Computers has generated a large volume of programs written by users.

Sinclair has undertaken to publish the most elegant of these on pre-recorded cassettes. Each program is carefully vetted for interest and quality, and then grouped with other programs to form a single-subject cassette.

Each cassette costs £3.95 (including VAT and p&p) and comes complete with full instructions.

Although primarily designed for the Sinclair ZX81, many of the cassettes are suitable for running on a Sinclair ZX80—if fitted with a replacement 8K BASIC ROM.

Some of the more elaborate programs can be run only on a Sinclair ZX Personal Computer augmented by a 16K-byte add-on RAM pack.

This RAM pack and the replacement ROM are described below. And the description of each cassette makes it clear what hardware is required.

### 8K BASIC ROM

The 8K BASIC ROM used in the ZX81 is available to ZX80 owners as a drop-in replacement chip. With the exception of animated graphics, all the advanced features of the ZX81 are now available on a ZX80—including the ability to run much of the Sinclair ZX Software.

The ROM chip comes with a new keyboard template, which can be overlaid on the existing keyboard in minutes, and a new operating manual.

### 16K-BYTE RAM pack

The 16K-byte RAM pack provides 16-times more memory in one complete module. Compatible with the ZX81 and the ZX80, it can be used for program storage or as a database.

The RAM pack simply plugs into the existing expansion port on the rear of a Sinclair ZX Personal Computer.



### Cassette 1—Games

*For ZX81 (and ZX80 with 8K BASIC ROM)*

**ORBIT**—your space craft's mission is to pick up a very valuable cargo that's in orbit around a star.

**SNIPER**—you're surrounded by 40 of the enemy. How quickly can you spot and shoot them when they appear?

**METEORS**—your starship is cruising through space when you meet a meteor storm. How long can you dodge the deadly danger?

**LIFE**—J.H. Conway's 'Game of Life' has achieved tremendous popularity in the computing world. Study the life, death and evolution patterns of cells.

**WOLFPACK**—your naval destroyer is on a submarine hunt. The depth charges are armed, but must be fired with precision.

**GOLF**—what's your handicap? It's a tricky course but you control the strength of your shots.

### Cassette 2—Junior Education: 7-11-year-olds

*For ZX81 with 16K RAM pack*

**CRASH**—simple addition—with the added attraction of a car crash if you get it wrong.

**MULTIPLY**—long multiplication with five levels of difficulty. If the answer's wrong—the solution is explained.

**TRAIN**—multiplication tests against the computer. The winner's train reaches the station first.

**FRACTIONS**—fractions explained at three levels of difficulty. A ten-question test completes the program.

**ADDSUB**—addition and subtraction with three levels of difficulty. Again, wrong answers are followed by an explanation.

**DIVISION**—with five levels of difficulty. Mistakes are explained graphically, and a running score is displayed.

**SPELLING**—up to 500 words over five levels of difficulty. You can even change the words yourself.

### Cassette 3—Business and Household

*For ZX81 (and ZX80 with 8K BASIC ROM) with 16K RAM pack*

**TELEPHONE**—set up your own computerised telephone directory and address book. Changes, additions and deletions of up to 50 entries are easy.

**NOTE PAD**—a powerful, easy-to-run system for storing and

retrieving everyday information. Use it as a diary, a catalogue, a reminder system, or a directory.

**BANK ACCOUNT**—a sophisticated financial recording system with comprehensive documentation. Use it at home to keep track of 'where the money goes,' and at work for expenses, departmental budgets, etc.

### Cassette 4—Games

*For ZX81 (and ZX80 with 8K BASIC ROM) and 16K RAM pack*

**LUNAR LANDING**—bring the lunar module down from orbit to a soft landing. You control attitude and orbital direction—but watch the fuel gauge! The screen displays your flight status—digitally and graphically.

**TWENTYONE**—a dice version of Blackjack.

**COMBAT**—you're on a suicide space mission. You have only 12 missiles but the aliens have unlimited strength. Can you take 12 of them with you?

**SUBSTRIKE**—on patrol, your frigate detects a pack of 10 enemy subs. Can you depth-charge them before they torpedo you?

**CODEBREAKER**—the computer thinks of a 4-digit number which you have to guess in up to 10 tries. The logical approach is best!

**MAYDAY**—in answer to a distress call, you've narrowed down the search area to 343 cubic kilometers of deep space. Can you find the astronaut before his life-support system fails in 10 hours time?

### Cassette 5—Junior Education: 9-11-year-olds

*For ZX81 (and ZX80 with 8K BASIC ROM)*

**MATHS**—tests arithmetic with three levels of difficulty, and gives your score out of 10.

**BALANCE**—tests understanding of levers/fulcrum theory with a series of graphic examples.

**VOLUMES**—'yes' or 'no' answers from the computer to a series of cube volume calculations.

**AVERAGES**—what's the average height of your class? The average shoe size of your family? The average pocket money of your friends? The computer plots a bar chart, and distinguishes MEAN from MEDIAN.

**BASES**—convert from decimal (base 10) to other bases of your choice in the range 2 to 9.

**TEMP**—Volumes, temperatures—and their combinations.

### How to order

Simply use the order form below, and either enclose a cheque or give us the number of your Access, Barclaycard or Trustcard account. Please allow 28 days for delivery. 14-day money-back option.

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	23	Cassette 3—Business and Household	£3.95	
	24	Cassette 4—Games	£3.95	
	25	Cassette 5—Junior Education	£3.95	
	17	*8K BASIC ROM for ZX80	£19.95	
	18	*16K RAM pack for ZX81 and ZX80	£49.95	
		*Post and packing (if applicable)	£2.95	
			Total £	

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Our philosophy is always the same — we offer ingenuity and originality in the construction phase by using only top class designers. We offer machines with power, versatility and performance — capability fully equal to their factory built rivals. We offer only the highest quality materials and components throughout to ensure years of useful and reliable service, we offer clear comprehensive and easy to follow construction manuals to place our kits within the scope of the careful first time builder as well as the dedicated enthusiast.

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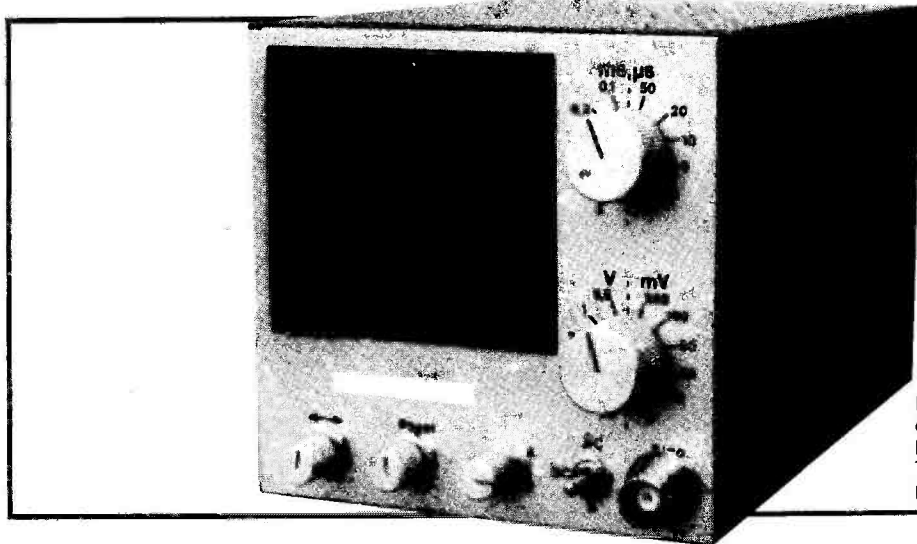
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How would you like a 10 MHz oscilloscope about the size of a large lunchbox? Can't afford one? Then build this one — it's the main project in ETI next month.

## SLOT CAR CONTROLLER

Let's not beat about the bush. Slot cars are fun. If you're as keen on slot cars and electronics as we are, you'll be equally appalled at the crude control systems provided in the basic sets. Naturally we decided something should be done about the situation and came up with this project. You can have controlled acceleration with overshoot, dynamic braking, 'electronic' fuel tanks — and all from quite a simple circuit. There'll also be some advice on how to tune your cars to get the ultimate in performance from them. A must to read for kids of all ages.

## COLUMN LOUDSPEAKER DESIGN

Now this is good stuff. One of the bugbears of public address systems is acoustic feedback, which can be largely overcome by the use of a highly directional sound source. This directs the sound into the audience, where it's needed, and away from the microphone, where it isn't. This article describes the design of a novel column loudspeaker design that is cheap and highly effective.

## ROBOT CONTROLLER PART 3

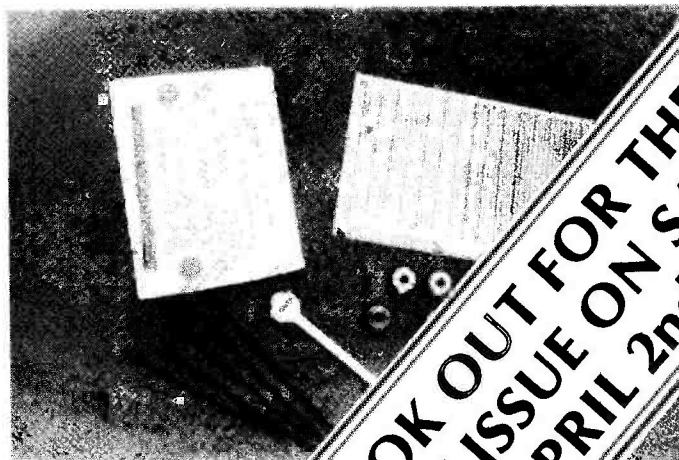
In next month's ETI we continue this series with the construction information for this month's analogue pulse width modulation controller, plus full details and a PCB for a dual digital PWM controller. This will not only be of interest to roboticists but to anyone who needs to control the speed of DC motors.

## DVMEG

Any scholars out there will know that D is Roman for 500. Since V stands for volts, it will come as no surprise that this project generates 500 V to enable the leakage current through insulation to be tested using the built-in meter. In effect it is a high-voltage resistance meter for measuring values above about 1M $\Omega$  — hence the last part of the name. We don't just throw these things together, you know!

## BREADBOARDING SYSTEMS

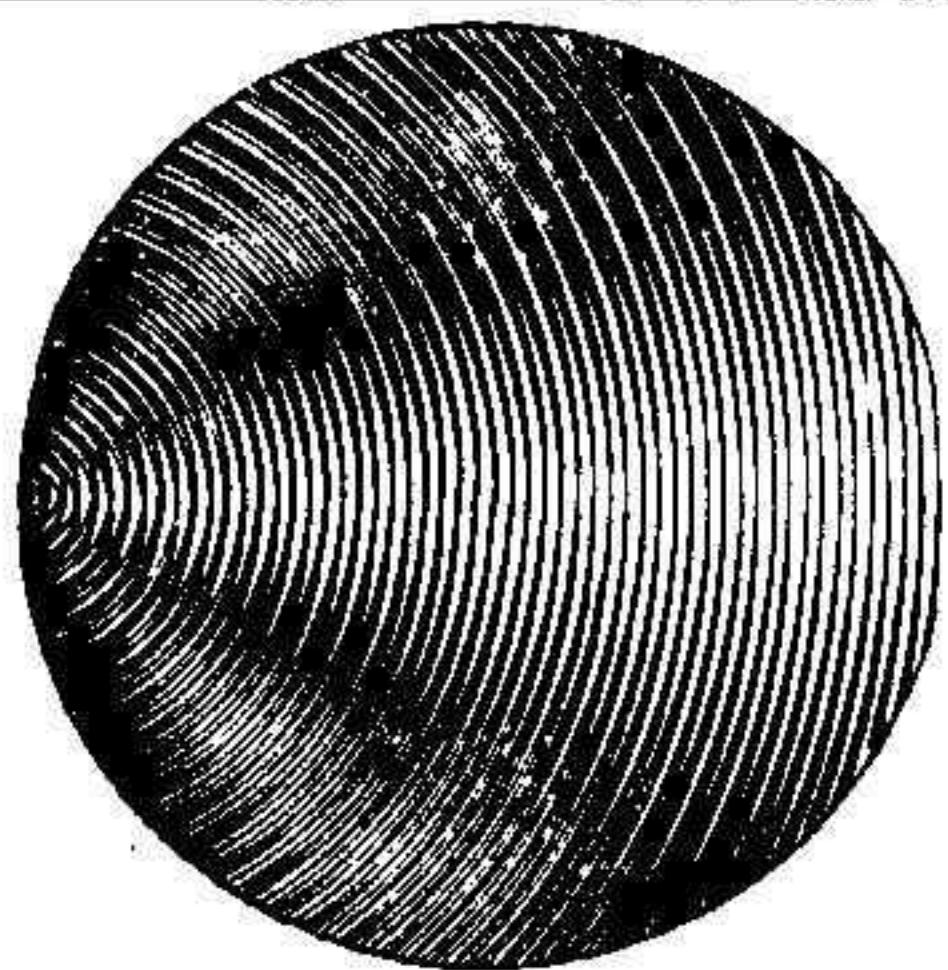
There appears to have been a veritable explosion in the number of breadboarding and prototyping systems available to industry and the hobbyist; next month we'll be taking a look at some of them. Both solderwrap and insulation displacement techniques will be examined and we'll have an exclusive first review of a major new development from a leading manufacturer. Not to be missed!



LOOK OUT FOR THE  
MAY ISSUE ON SALE  
APRIL 2nd

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





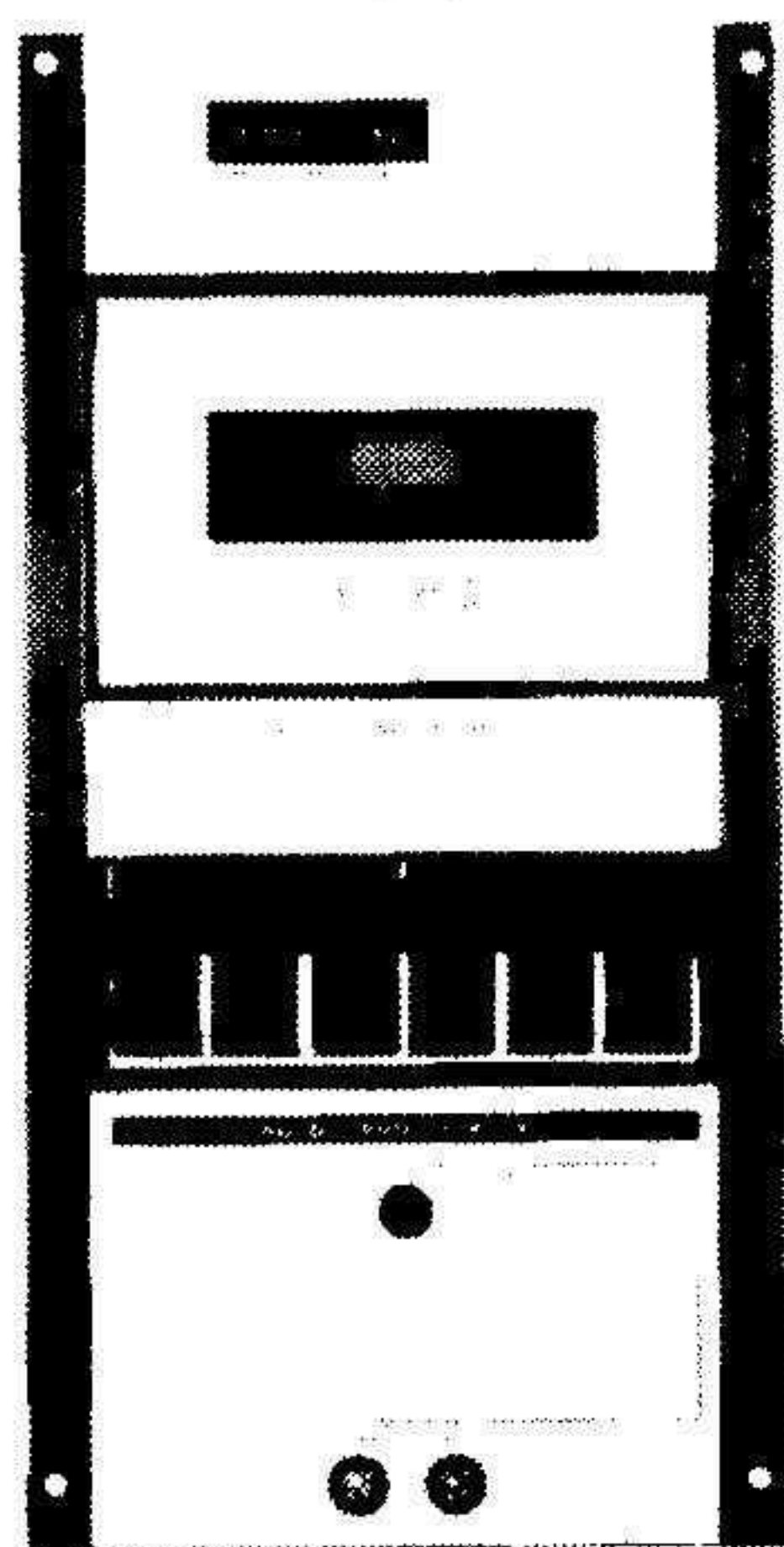
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**Features:** Three digit tape counter. Auto-stop. Six piano type keys, record, rewind, fast forward, play, stop and eject. Automatic record level control. Main inputs plus secondary inputs for stereo microphones. **Input Sensitivity:** 100mV to 2V **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 1/2in x 11 1/4in. Clearance required under top panel 2 1/4in. Supplied complete with circuit diagram and connecting diagram. Attractive black and silver finish.

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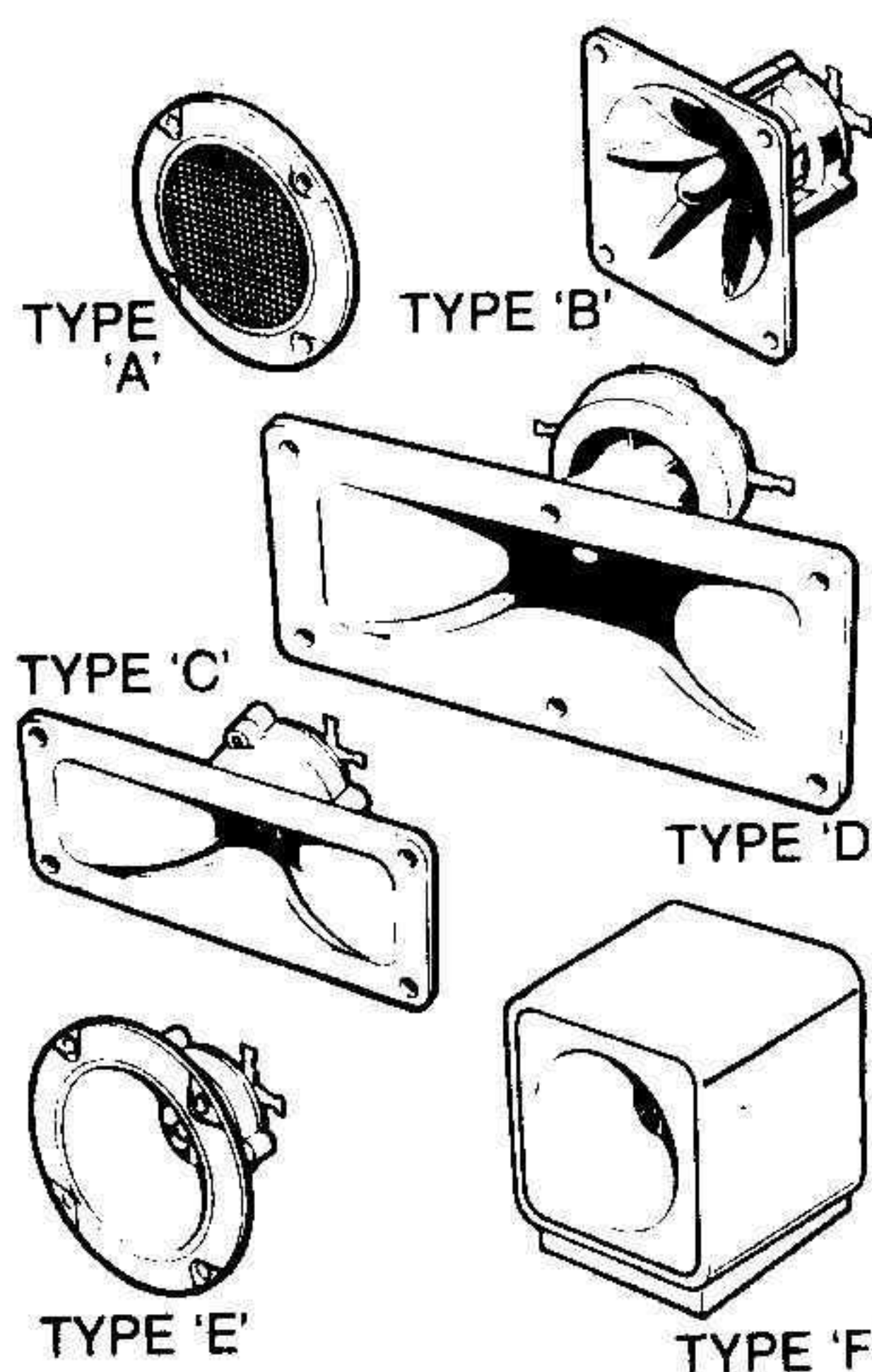
**15" 100 watt R.M.S.** Impedance 8ohm 59 oz. magnet, 2" aluminium voice coil. Resonant Frequency 20Hz. Frequency Response to 2.5KHz. Sensitivity 97dB. **Price £32 each.** £2.50 Packing and Carriage each.

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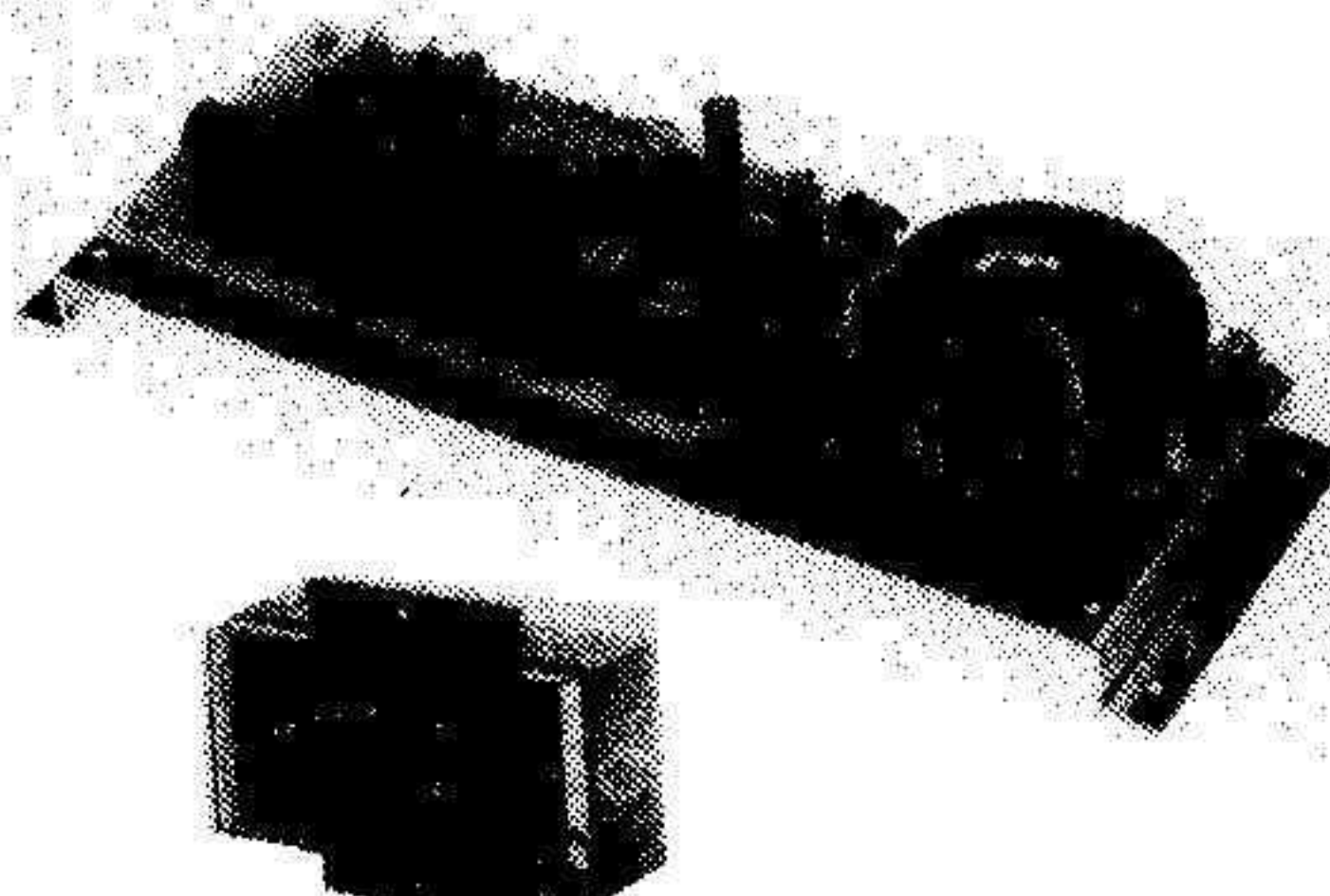
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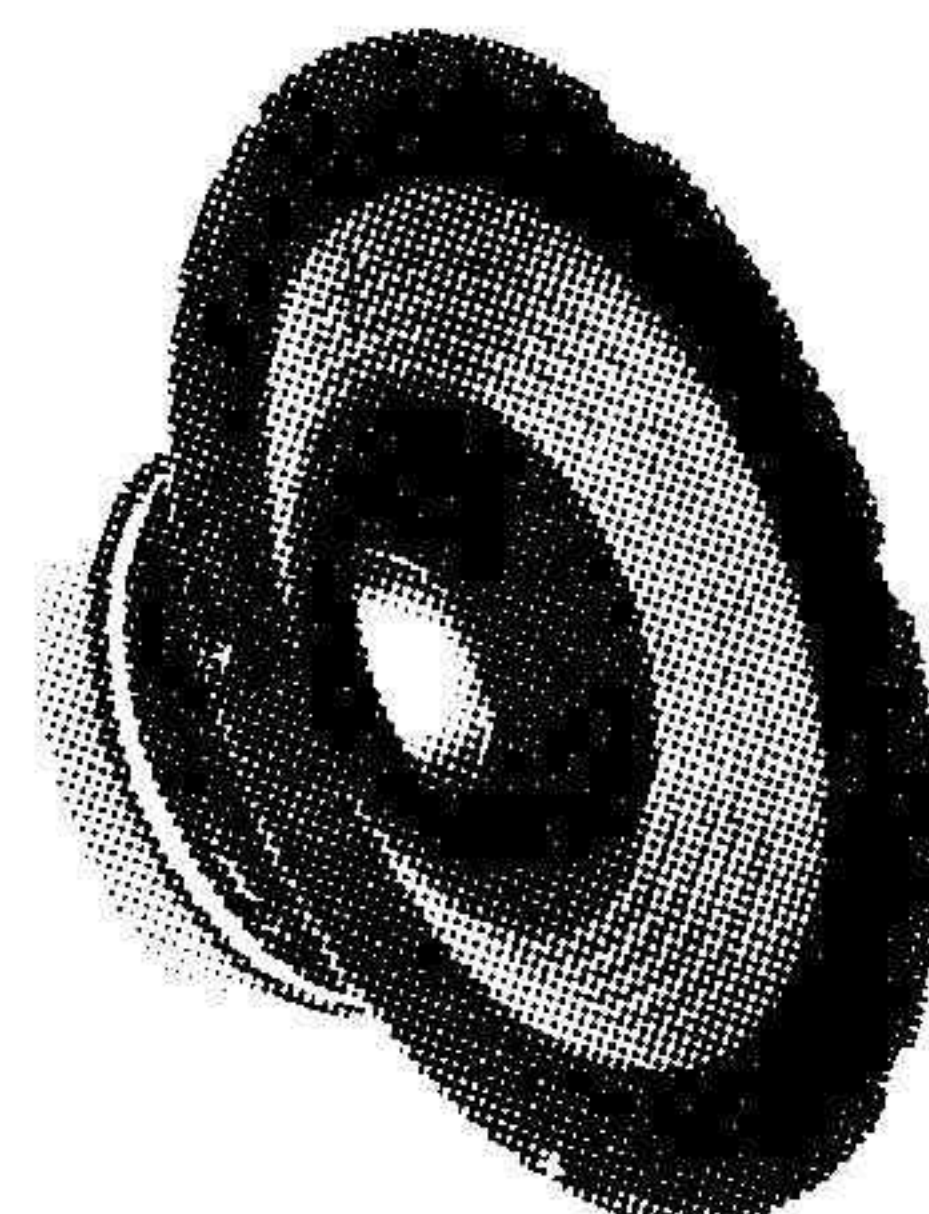
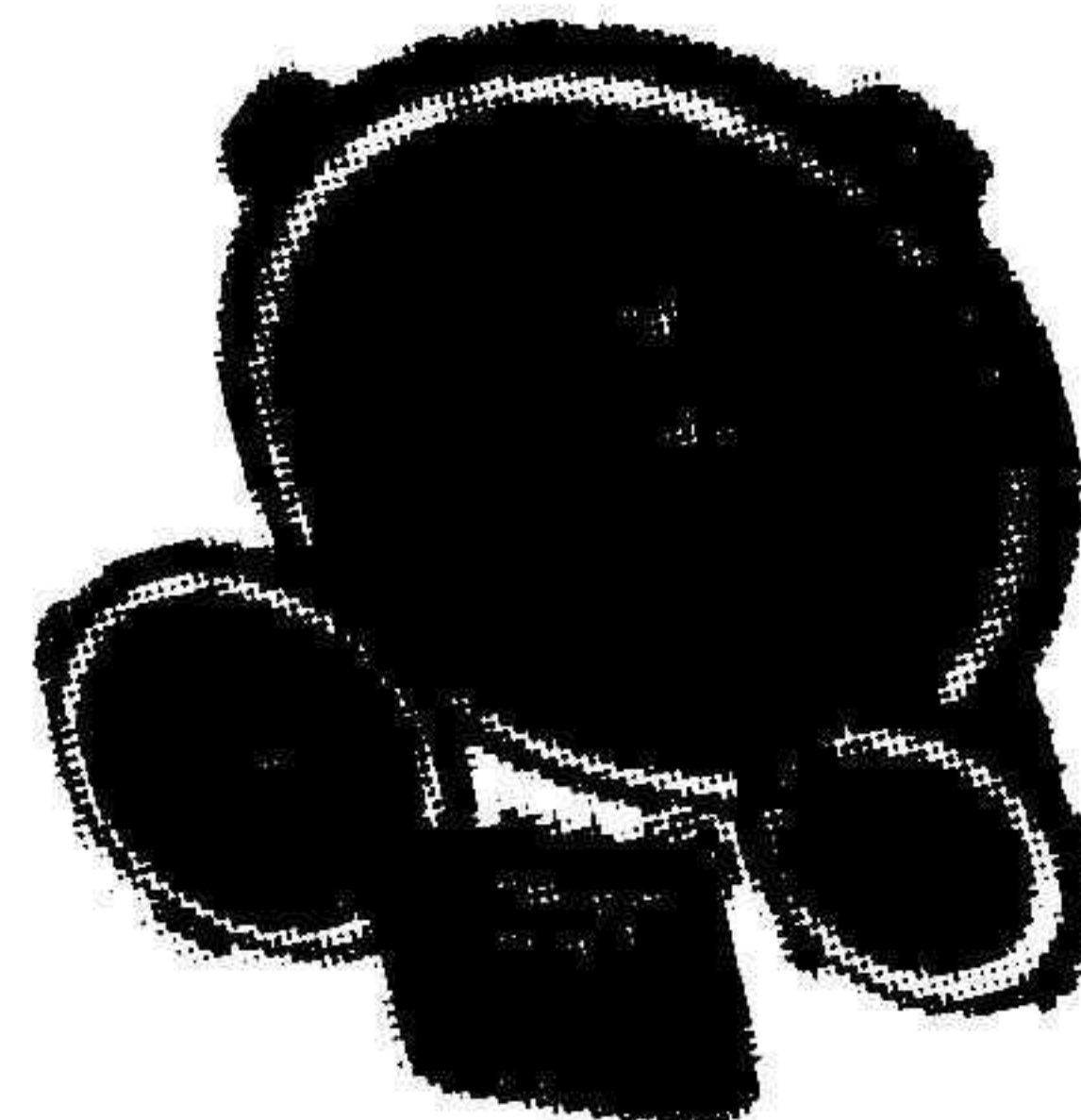
Fitted with attractive cast aluminium fixing escutcheons and mesh protective grills which are removable enabling a unique choice of cabinet styling. Can be mounted directly on to baffle with or without conventional speaker fabrics. All three units have aluminium centre domes and rolled foam surround.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

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# ELECTROMUSIC TECHNIQUES

**Tim Orr, our tame electronic designer, emerged from his workshop this month just long enough to hand over this bundle of circuits for the ardent build-it-yourself musician.**

Virtually all of the electronic music synthesisers that have been produced to date employ analogue circuits to generate the synthesised sounds. The process is known as subtractive synthesis, and operates by dynamically filtering out parts of the spectrum of a signal that is often rich in harmonics. The results are instant, easy to modify and relatively inexpensive to implement. It is not possible to produce an arbitrary output spectrum, and so it is very difficult to synthesise realistic copies of naturally generated sounds. This can be done using a digital technique known as harmonic synthesis, whereby the sound is constructed by precisely defining the amplitude and phase of each of the harmonics. These are then added together to produce the output. However, natural sounds are constantly varying and so the data defining all the harmonics must also vary. Harmonic synthesis can produce very realistic sounds and is in itself a powerful technique for generating completely new sounds, but the hardware is a combination of sophisticated microprocessor and digital technology and so is outside the scope of this article.

When we hear a sound we unconsciously analyse it for useful information; "Who wants another drink?" for example. Nobody knows how the human brain analyses incoming sounds, but it does it with incredible speed and sophistication. It can extract precise information from sounds (speech perception), it can experience pleasure from a rich harmony, or it can even learn to ignore certain sounds, such as a ticking clock. The brain is very good at perceiving pitch (or at least it thinks it is; it is also a fairly good liar); see Fig. 1. When you hear a pure tone you

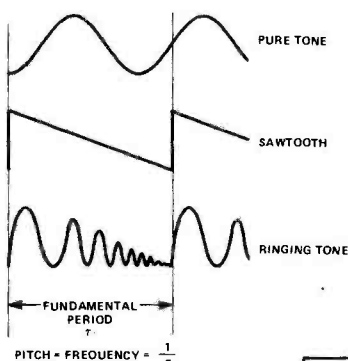
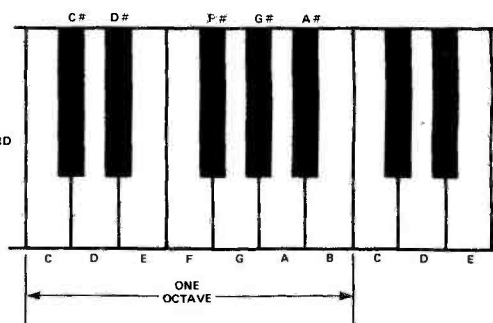


Fig. 1 Pitch perception.

NOTE	FREQUENCY (Hz)
A0	27.5
A1	55.0
A2	110.0
A3	220.0
A4	440.0
A5	880.0
A6	1760.0
A7	3520.0

NOTE	FREQUENCY (Hz)	RATIO
C4	261.6	1.0000
C#4	277.2	1.0595
D4	293.7	1.1225
D#4	311.1	1.1892
E4	329.7	1.2599
F4	349.2	1.3348
F#4	370.0	1.4142
G4	392.0	1.4983
G#4	415.3	1.5874
A4	440.0	1.6818
A#4	466.1	1.7818
B4	493.9	1.8877
C5	523.2	2.0000

KEYBOARD



will get a strong impression of its pitch. You will not be able to define its frequency in Hertz, but you will be able to remember its pitch. A sawtooth has a strong harmonic structure but even so you will get the same pitch perception. The ringing tone has virtually no energy at the fundamental frequency and yet it is still possible to correctly perceive the pitch of the signal, although it is more difficult than for the pure tone.

Most musical instruments produce a range of notes. Some instruments, like violins, can produce a continuous range of frequencies; because, unlike the guitar, there are no frets along the neck of the instrument. Keyboard instruments have fixed tuning; the piano, for example. The keyboard is an excellent choice for controlling a synthesiser, as it is easily converted so that it generates suitable electrical signals and it is widely accepted by musicians. Equal temperament tuning is used, that is there are twelve notes per octave and they are spaced at intervals of the twelfth root of two (that is 1.0594631) along an exponential curve, as in Fig. 2.

## When You Hear The Tone...

The keyboard is used to define the fundamental pitch of a sound, but the actual shape of the waveform will determine its harmonic structure (Fig. 3). A sinewave is a pure tone and has no harmonics. A halfwave-rectified sine wave contains a fundamental plus a series of even harmonics. A fullwave-rectified sine wave is composed entirely of even harmonics. The squarewave and the triangle are both composed of a series of odd harmonics; in fact if you lowpass filter a square wave you can produce a triangle. The triangle is a fairly pure tone, with little of the energy in the waveform contained in its harmonics. The sawtooth is a rich waveform, having both odd and even harmonics.

The harmonic structure of all these waveforms extends to infinity, but the drawings only show the first 15 harmonics. If we call the harmonic number  $n$ , then the harmonic amplitude is easy to define. The rate at which the harmonic amplitude



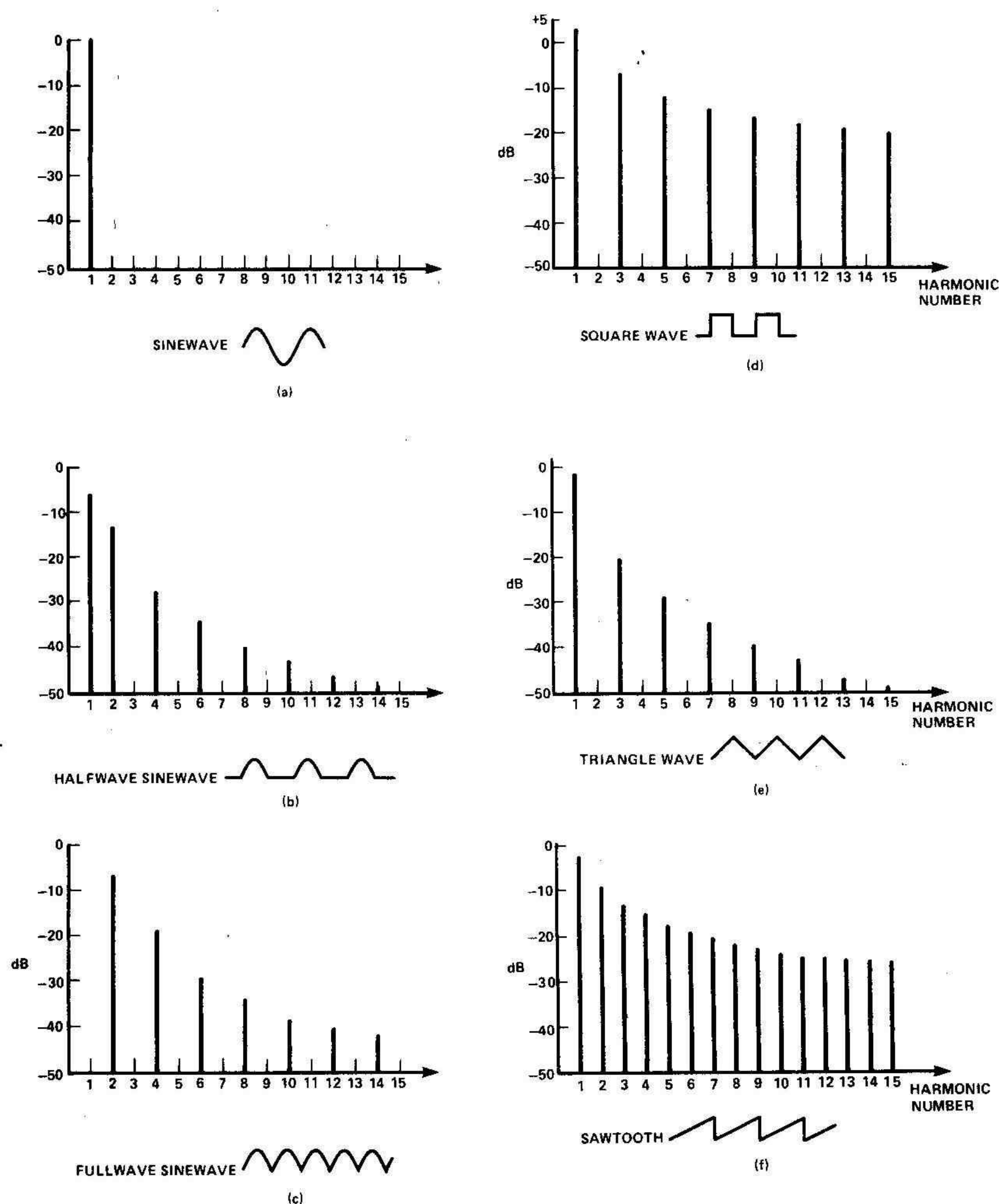


Fig. 3 Harmonic structure of various standard musical waveforms.

decreases is  $1/n$  for the sawtooth and square wave and  $1/n^2$  for the half and fullwave rectified sine wave and the triangle. Figure 4 shows a sawtooth being constructed from harmonics. The sum of the harmonics is beginning to look like a sawtooth. As more harmonics are added (with the correct phase and amplitude) the sum will converge upon the correct sawtooth shape. An interesting effect can be produced by changing the mark/space ratio of the square wave. This modifies the odd harmonic spectrum and introduces even harmonics. The mark/space ratio is often dynamically modified as a synthesis process.

Frequency modulation is often employed in synthesisers to produce vibrato and other dramatic pitch change effects. Figure 5 shows some of the effects of frequency modulation. As the modulation depth is increased, frequency sidebands are generated. Their spacing and amplitude are determined by the modulation depth and the modulation and carrier frequencies. To precisely calculate them involves some complex maths and Bessel functions (which I have forgotten all about). To make matters worse, synthesisers usually use voltage controlled oscillators with an exponential transfer function, which tends to exponentially distort the sideband positions. But so what! Music synthesisers are all about making music and not the calculation of sidebands. If a particular electronic device produces a useful musical effect, then use it, don't analyse it.

The output from an oscillator is known as an excitation signal. This defines the pitch of the signal, and to a certain extent the harmonic content of the final signal. It is common practice to filter the excitation signal (Fig. 6). The frequency response of the filter is referred to as a formant. The formant modifies the harmonic spectrum of the excitation, producing a colouration

of the sound. The format is usually a mobile filter and this makes it possible to dynamically alter the sound colour. If the formant has a sharp resonant peak, then the output signal will ring as it passes the harmonics of the excitation.

Another parameter that characterises a sound is its

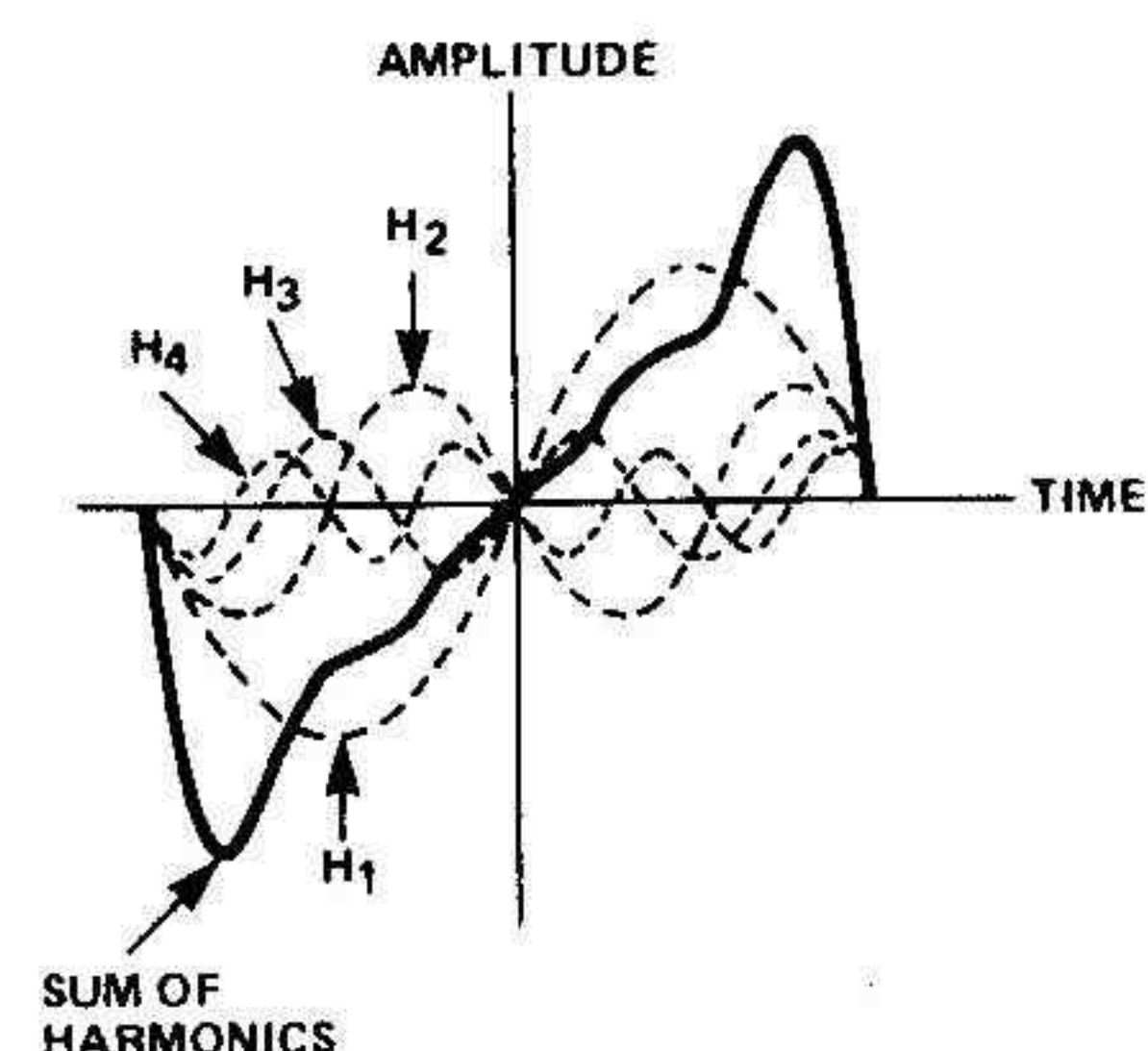


Fig. 4 Adding the first four harmonics to construct a sawtooth waveform.

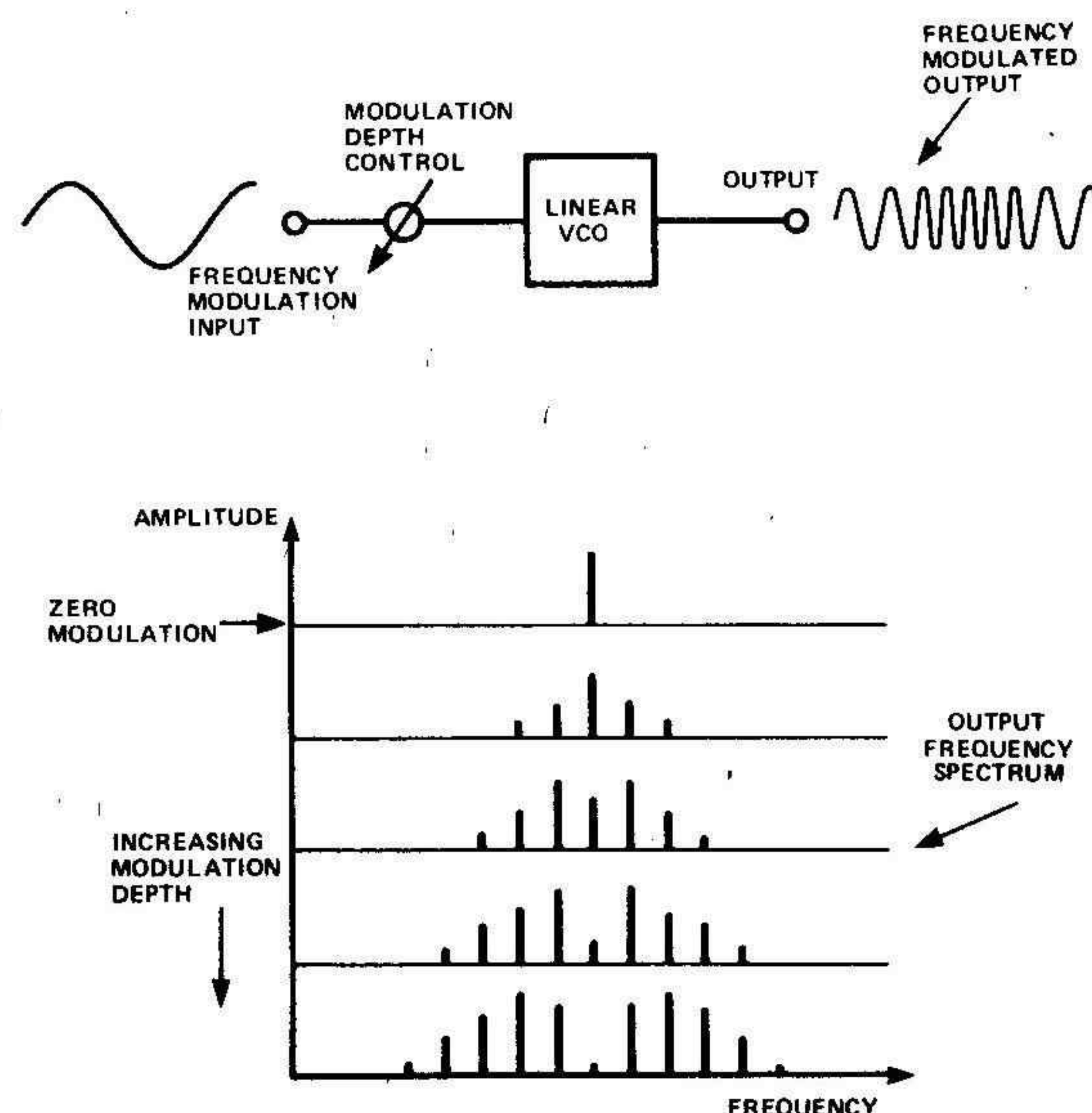


Fig. 5 The effects of frequency modulation.

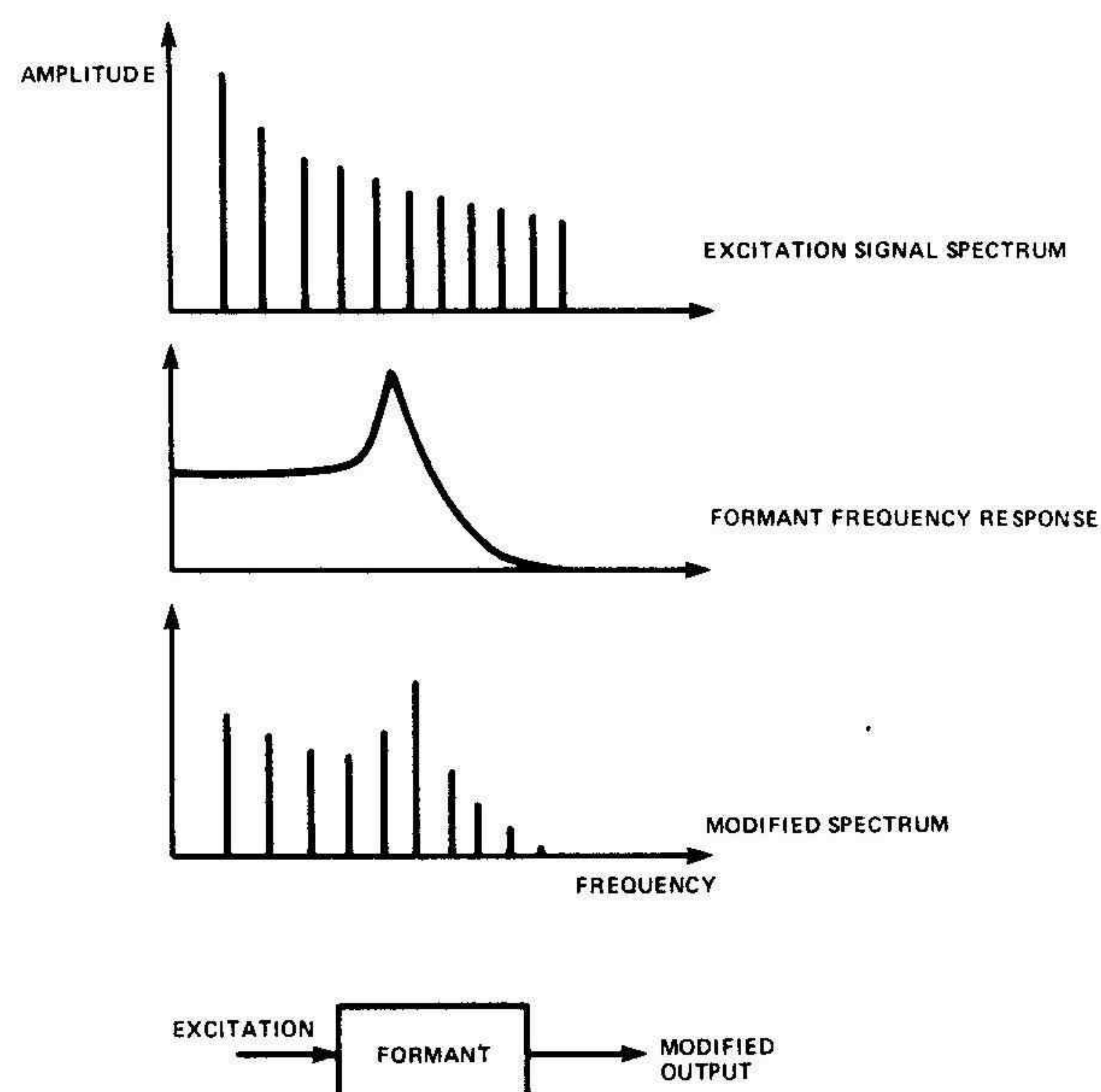


Fig. 6 The effect of filtering an excitation signal.



amplitude contour or envelope (Fig. 7). A sound that has a sharp attack and a slow release is similar to a plucked instrument. Other envelopes will make the sound seem like something else.

## Building Blocks

Most synthesisers are constructed from standard building blocks, and most of these blocks are voltage controlled. This is a very powerful concept, because it enables you to control a unit with a combination of control voltages and/or audio signals. Building blocks can be patched together in any arbitrary order to produce any system that is wanted. Some standard building blocks are detailed below.

**Voltage Controlled Oscillator** Used to generate the pitched excitation signals. Often a VCO will generate a wide range of waveforms. The control sensitivity is usually +1 V/octave. Therefore a one twelfth of a volt change will alter the oscillator pitch by one semitone. The exponential control law is a very powerful concept. If a VCO is being driven so that it produces a melody, then adding +1 V to the control input will transpose the melody up by one octave. Thus musical transpositions are very simple to produce. Often more than one VCO will be used, so that a rich chord is obtained.

**Voltage Controlled Filter** This is used as a formant for the excitation signal. The VCF is generally a lowpass filter, but it can often be a multi-mode device with lowpass, highpass, bandpass and notch responses. The VCF also has a Q (resonance) control. The control sensitivity is +1 V/octave for the frequency parameter, and undefined for the Q.

**Voltage Controlled Amplifier** The VCA controls the level of audio signals. The control law can be linear or logarithmic. The VCA is usually controlled by an ADSR unit and is employed to generate signal envelope contours. The device is a two quadrant multiplier.

**Attack, Decay, Sustain, Release unit** The ADSR is used to generate the signal envelope contour and also the VCF sweep waveform.

**Ring Modulator** This is a four quadrant multiplier or balanced multiplier. The output voltage is the product of the two input signals. It is often used to generate discordant or clangerous sounds.

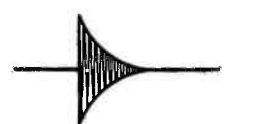
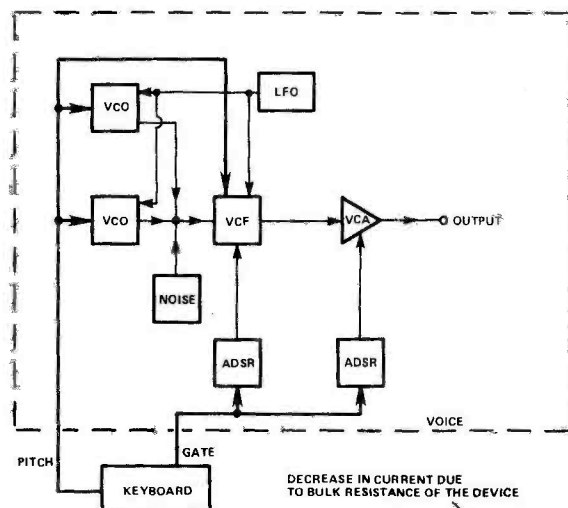
**Noise source** Generates random noise, which can be used in the synthesis of non-pitched sounds such as explosions. Filtered or sampled noise can be used as a random control voltage.

**Low Frequency Oscillator** These oscillators are used to generate vibrato in the VCO or a filter sweep in the VCF.

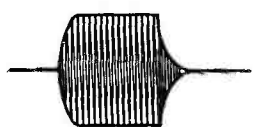
**Keyboard** Musical control interface, generating pitch voltages of +1 V/octave and also a gate signal to indicate that a note is pressed. A monophonic keyboard only allows one note at a time to be pressed, but if more than one can be pressed simultaneously then the system is polyphonic.

There are several other building blocks such as flangers, sequencers, frequency shifters, and pitch detectors, but there isn't enough space to deal with them.

Polyphonic synthesisers tend to be voice-based; ie all the building blocks are pre-routed to form a voice (Fig. 8). Modular systems are not pre-routed and have to be patched, either with lots of jack-to-jack patch leads or via a matrix patch board using patch pins. Patch leads are relatively inexpensive, but the leads get in the way and it is often difficult to see just what you have patched. Matrix patch boards are easy to understand, but they suffer from crosstalk and a large board (60 by 60) might cost £500!



SHARP ATTACK, SLOW DECAY - PLUCKED

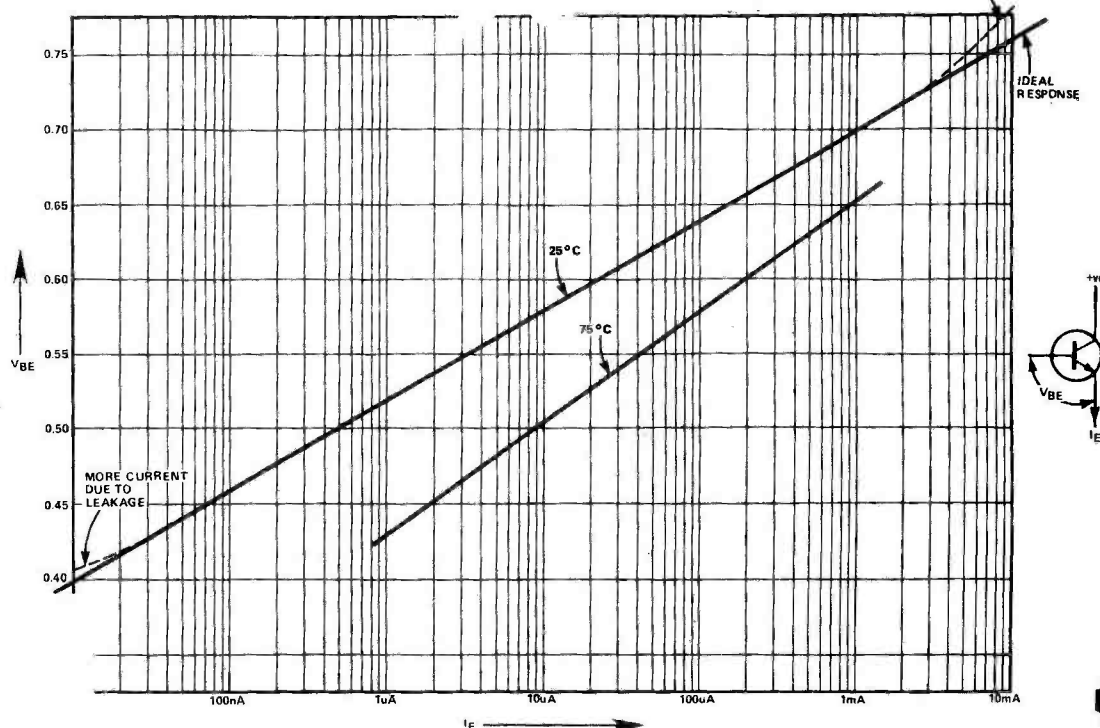


SLOW ATTACK, SLOW DECAY - "PIPE ORGAN"

Fig. 7 (Above) Two typical amplitude contours, or envelopes.

Fig. 8 (Top right) The standard synthesiser voice.

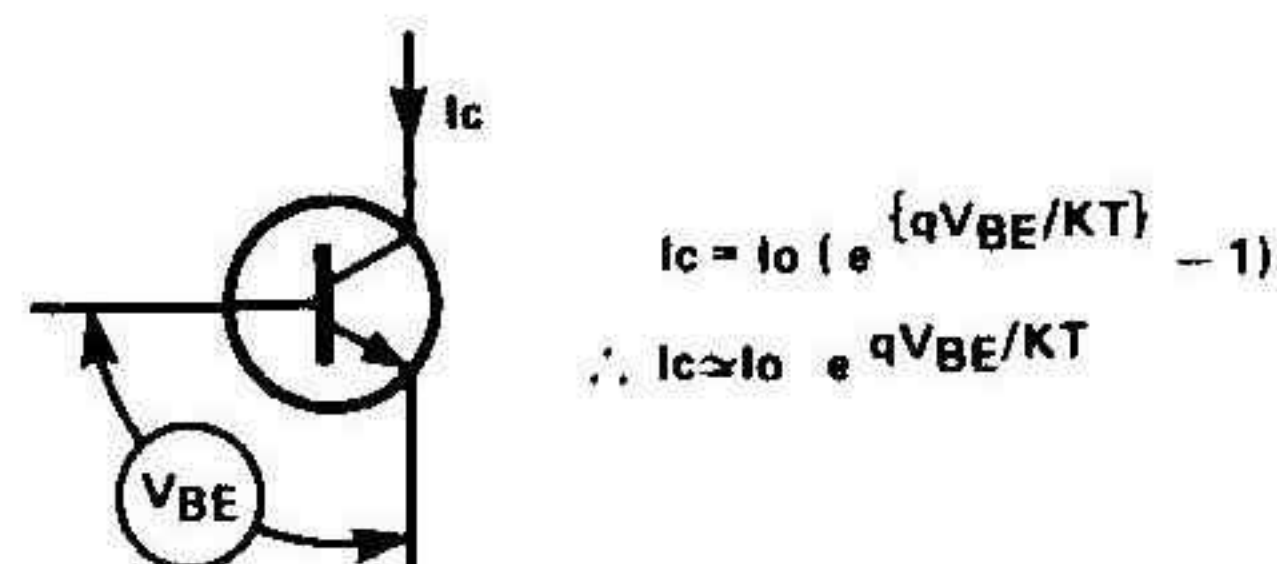
Fig. 9 (Right) Silicon diode transfer characteristics.





## Diode Data

The silicon diode has an exponential transfer function, that is the diode current increases exponentially for linear increments in the diode voltage (Fig. 9). This can be used to turn linear changes from, say, a keyboard into exponential or musical intervals in a VCO. The required musical range is probably no more than 200 to 1 and so a suitable operating current would be 0.5  $\mu$ A to 100  $\mu$ A, thus avoiding the non-exponential parts of the curve. The silicon diode is temperature dependent (it is often used as a thermometer) and so great care must be used to avoid thermal problems. The junction voltage changes by  $-1.9$  mV/ $^{\circ}$ C, but a semitone change is equivalent to 1.5 mV,



WHERE  
 $I_o$  IS THE EMITTER SATURATION CURRENT  
 $K$  IS BOLTZMANN'S CONSTANT  
 $q$  IS THE CHARGE ON AN ELECTRON  
 $T$  IS THE TEMPERATURE IN  $^{\circ}$ K

HOWEVER,  $\frac{KT}{q}$  IS 26mV AT 28.58  $^{\circ}$ C (301.73  $^{\circ}$ K IS ROOM TEMPERATURE).  
 THEREFORE,  $I_c \approx I_o e^{V_{BE}/26}$

WHERE  $V_{BE}$  IS MEASURED IN mV  
 REARRANGING THE EQUATION,

$$26 \ln \left( \frac{I_c}{I_o} \right) = V_{BE}$$

THEREFORE, AN OCTAVE CHANGE IN  $I_c$  IS CAUSED BY A 18.021827mV CHANGE IN  $V_{BE}$  (AT 28.58  $^{\circ}$ C). HOWEVER, IF THE TEMPERATURE WERE  $+1^{\circ}$ C HIGHER, THEN  $V_{BE}$  WOULD HAVE TO BE INCREASED IN SIZE TO A NEW VALUE OF

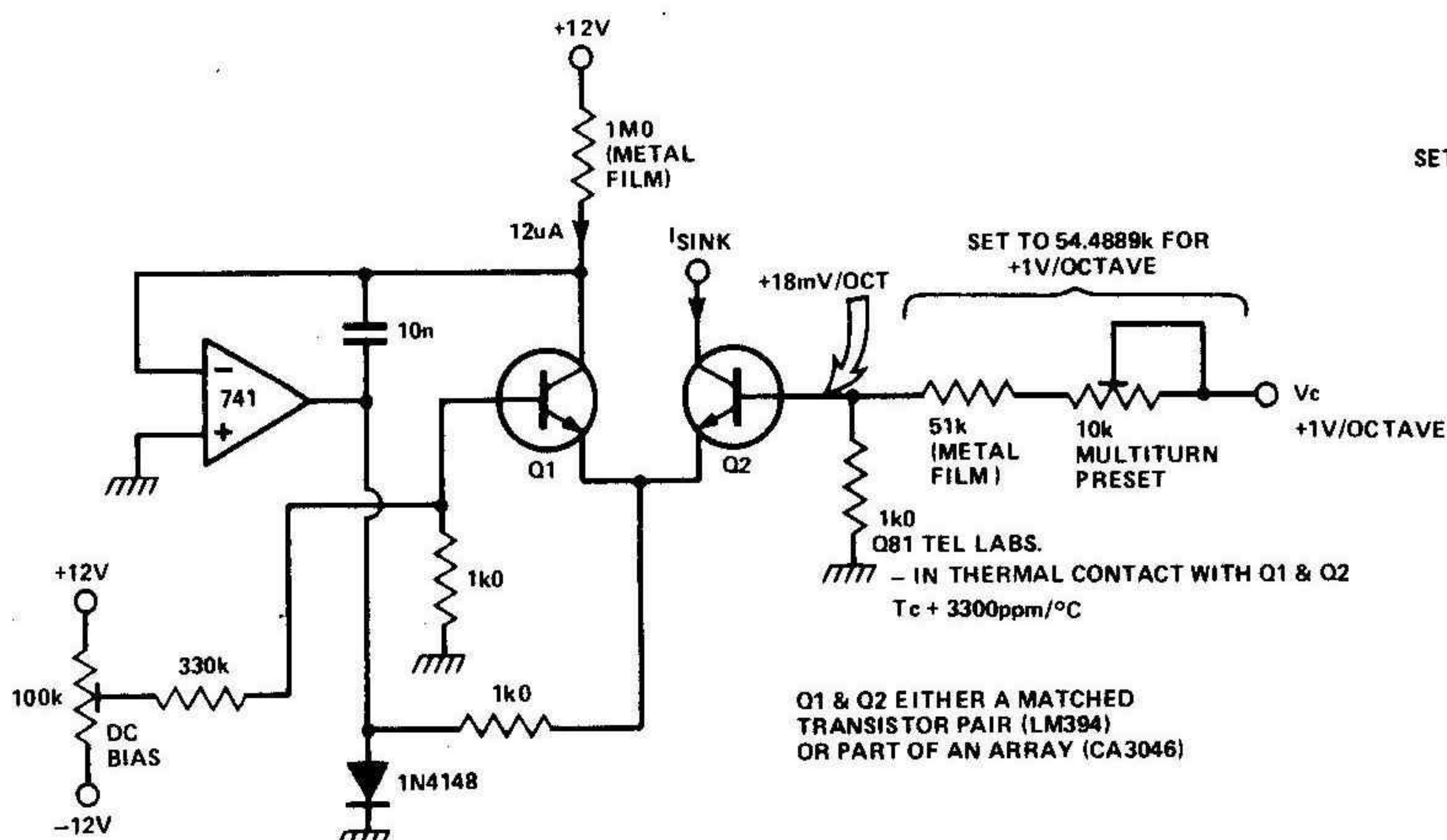
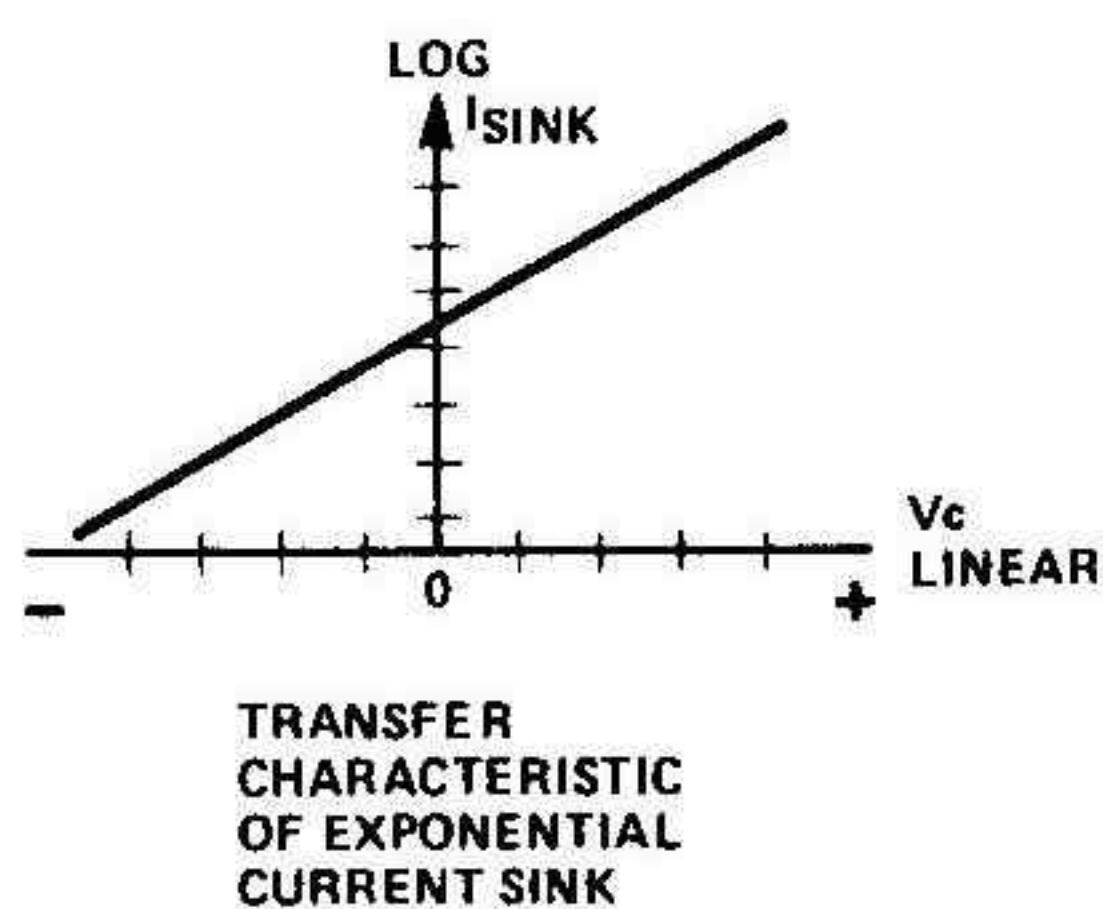
$$26 \times \left( \frac{302.73}{301.73} \right)$$

SO, FOR AN OCTAVE CHANGE IN  $I_c$  AT THE NEW TEMPERATURE,  $V_{BE}$  MUST CHANGE BY 18.08155mV, AN INCREASE OF 0.059723mV. THIS CAN BE EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE CHANGE PER  $^{\circ}$ C :-

$$\text{TEMPERATURE SENSITIVITY} = \frac{0.059723 \times 100}{18.021827} = 0.33139\% / ^{\circ}\text{C}$$

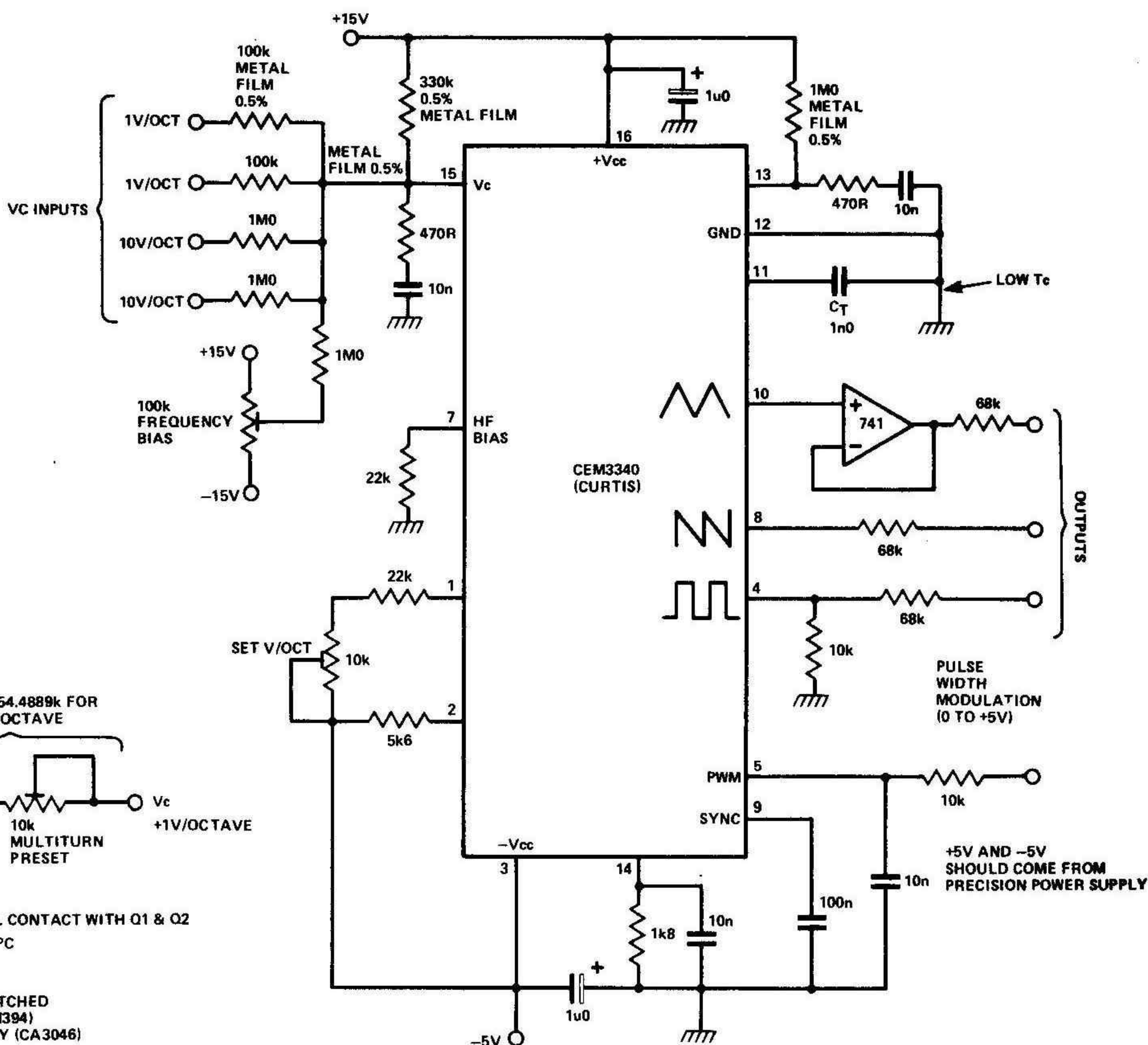
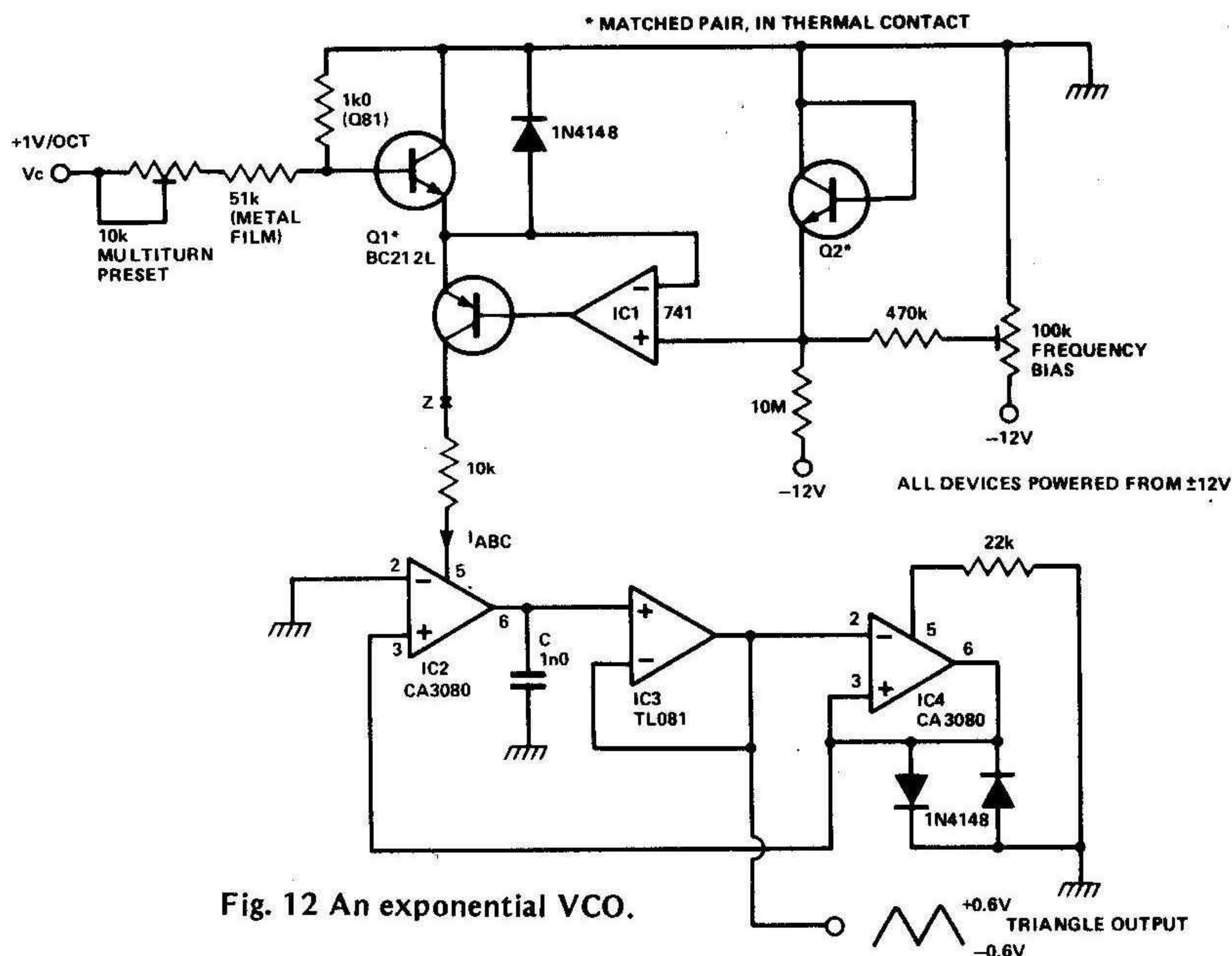
Fig. 10 Exponential transistor characteristics.

Fig. 11 (Below) An exponential current sink.



therefore a  $1^{\circ}$ C change could result in a 1.27 semitone change in pitch! Figure 9 shows two temperature effects in operation; there is a large shift and the slope of the line changes.

Figure 10 illustrates the equations that determine the diode operation. Two facts emerge from these equations. First, an 18 mV change in  $V_{BE}$  will double the current  $I_c$ , and second, this parameter has a temperature coefficient of  $-0.33\%/^{\circ}$ C. Both the temperature problems can be resolved by using a circuit similar to that shown in Fig. 11. Transistor Q1 is run at constant current (12  $\mu$ A) by the op-amp. Q2 is used as the exponentiator transistor. The emitter of Q2 is held at a voltage of about  $-0V_6$ . Any voltage change at the base of Q2 will result in an exponen-





tial change in the collector current of Q2. Q1 and Q2 are in thermal contact and so any temperature change will effect both equally. Thus the  $-1.9 \text{ mV}/^\circ\text{C}$  factor is cancelled out by Q1 acting as a compensating thermometer for Q2. The slope change is removed by using a temperature sensitive resistance (Q81 — Tel Labs) which has an equal but opposite temperature coefficient to the diode junction. This resistor is often in thermal contact with the matched transistors. If this circuit is connected to a linear current controlled oscillator, a musical VCO is produced.

## VCO Circuits

Figure 12 is the circuit for an exponential VCO using an exponential current source. The oscillator is a standard triangle-square wave device. IC2 is a current-controlled integrator; the slow rate at its output is equal to  $I_{ABC}/C$ . This voltage is buffered by IC3 which drives a Schmitt trigger IC4. The output of IC2 ramps up and down between the two hysteresis levels which are determined by the two clamping diodes connected to the output of IC4. Any stray capacitance on the output of IC4 will slow down the Schmitt trigger and this will make the VCO go flat at high frequencies. Also the propagation time delay around the oscillator will cause a flattening out of the response at high frequencies. These effects can be nulled out but they may not even affect things if the VCO frequency is kept relatively low.

A very good VCO is shown in Fig. 13. It is a monolithic device, the CEM3340 from Curtis Electromusic Specialties Inc who make a range of electronic music devices. As can be seen, very few external parts are needed to implement the VCO. All the temperature compensation is performed inside the chip. Triangle, sawtooth and variable mark/space square wave outputs are simultaneously available. The mark/space ratio is a voltage controlled parameter. A sync input is also provided so that the VCO can be slaved to another oscillator.

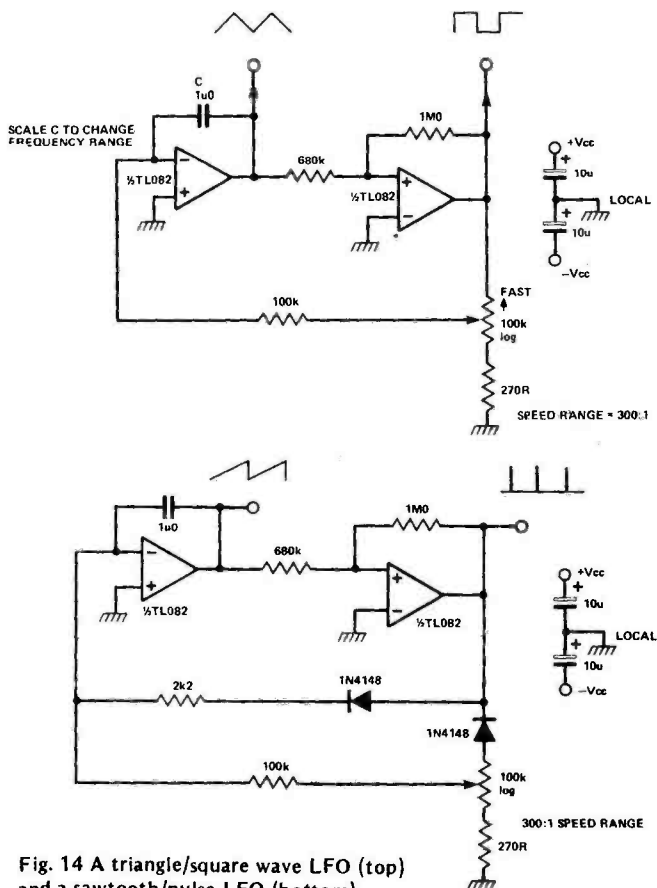


Fig. 14 A triangle/square wave LFO (top) and a sawtooth/pulse LFO (bottom).

## LFO Circuits

A couple of LFO units are shown in Fig. 14. All four output waveforms can be usefully employed to sweep VCOs and VCFs. Often the waveforms are mixed together to produce strange frequency modulations. When the sawtooth is fed into one side of a ring modulator and noise into the other, a beat track can be generated; it sounds a bit like a cymbal being hit.

## Noise Generators

In 'the old days' noise sources were made by amplifying the noise current of a diode junction that was zenering. These were a bit unreliable, and always involved selecting the device. However, noise can be generated digitally with a maximum length pseudorandom sequence generator (Fig. 15). The noise spectrum is relatively flat and always the same. If you slow down the clock rate you can get some interesting sounds; I think that this is used on some TV games. If a longer shift register is used, say 30 or 40 stages (the 4006 is 18 stages long), and the noise source is turned on, a tone is initially heard which gradually changes into noise as the sequence becomes more scrambled up. You can purchase a monolithic noise generator (pseudorandom); it is the MM5837 made by National Semiconductor, also sold by AMI with the part number S2688.

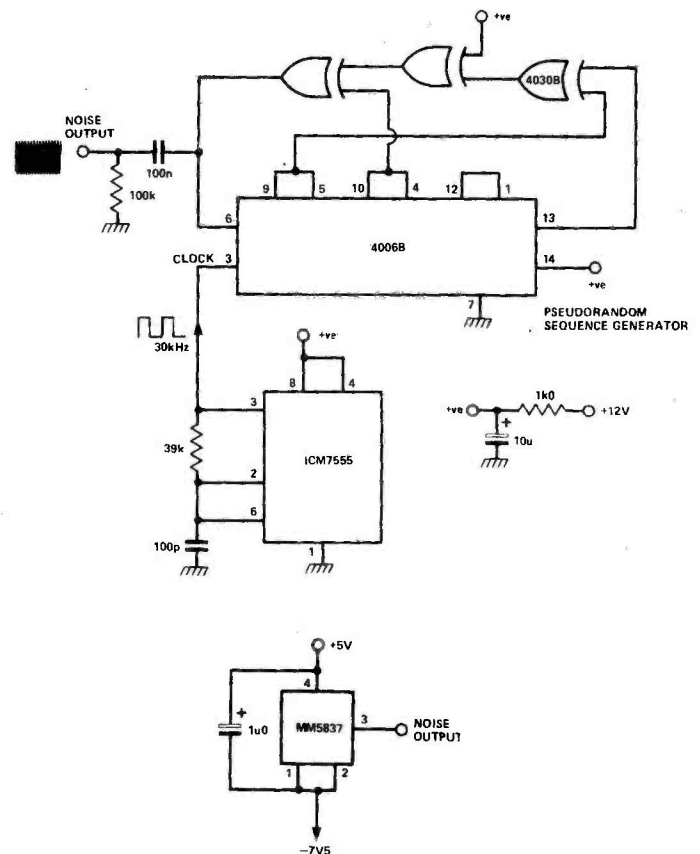


Fig. 15 A digital noise source (top) and a noise generator chip (bottom).

Five pages gone already, and we've still only scratched the surface of this fascinating subject. In part two next month, Tim Orr will continue his discussion of electro-music techniques with yet more circuit building blocks.



introducing

# The WERSI Comet

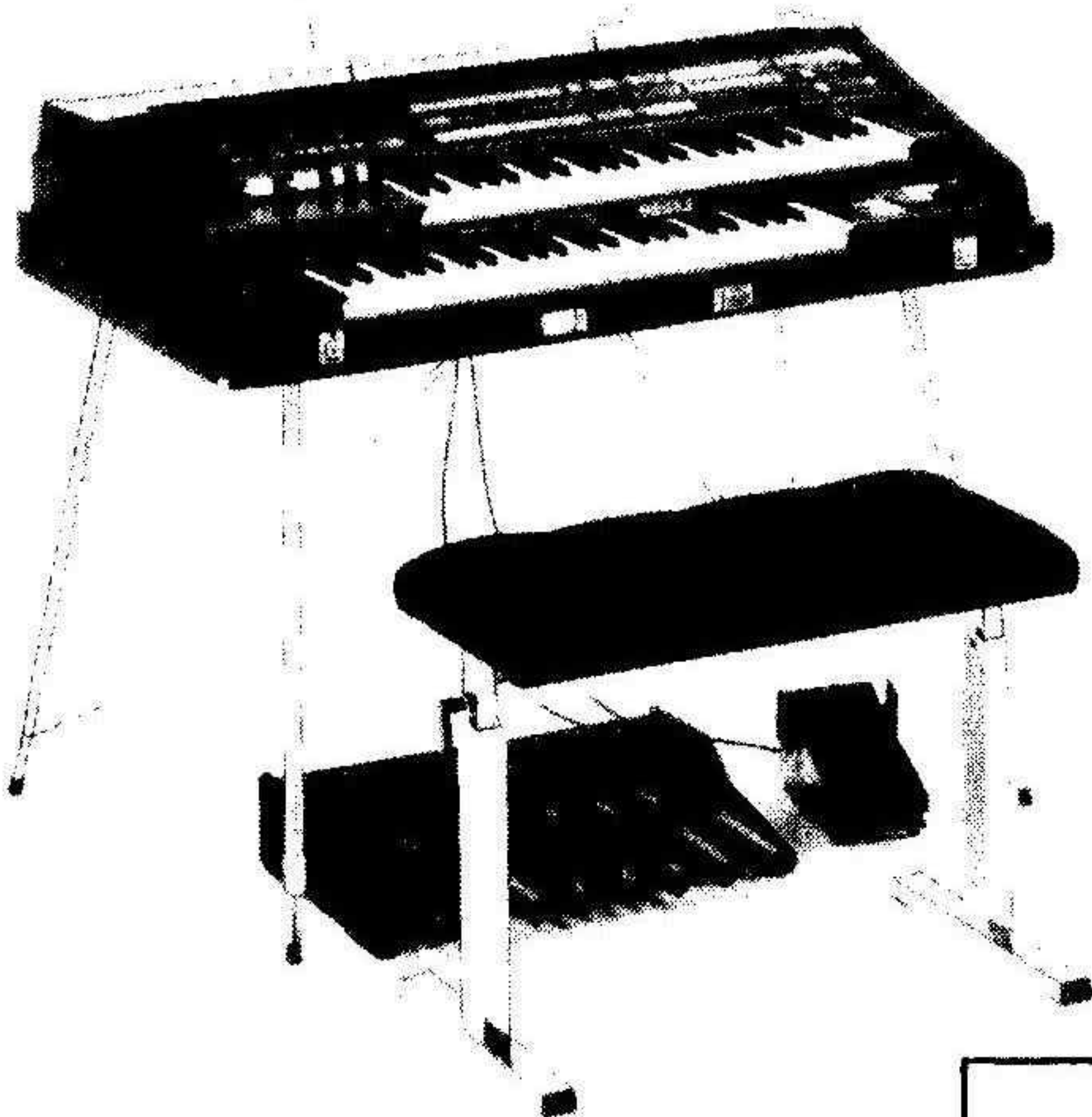


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THE COMET TRANSPORTABLE W10 T

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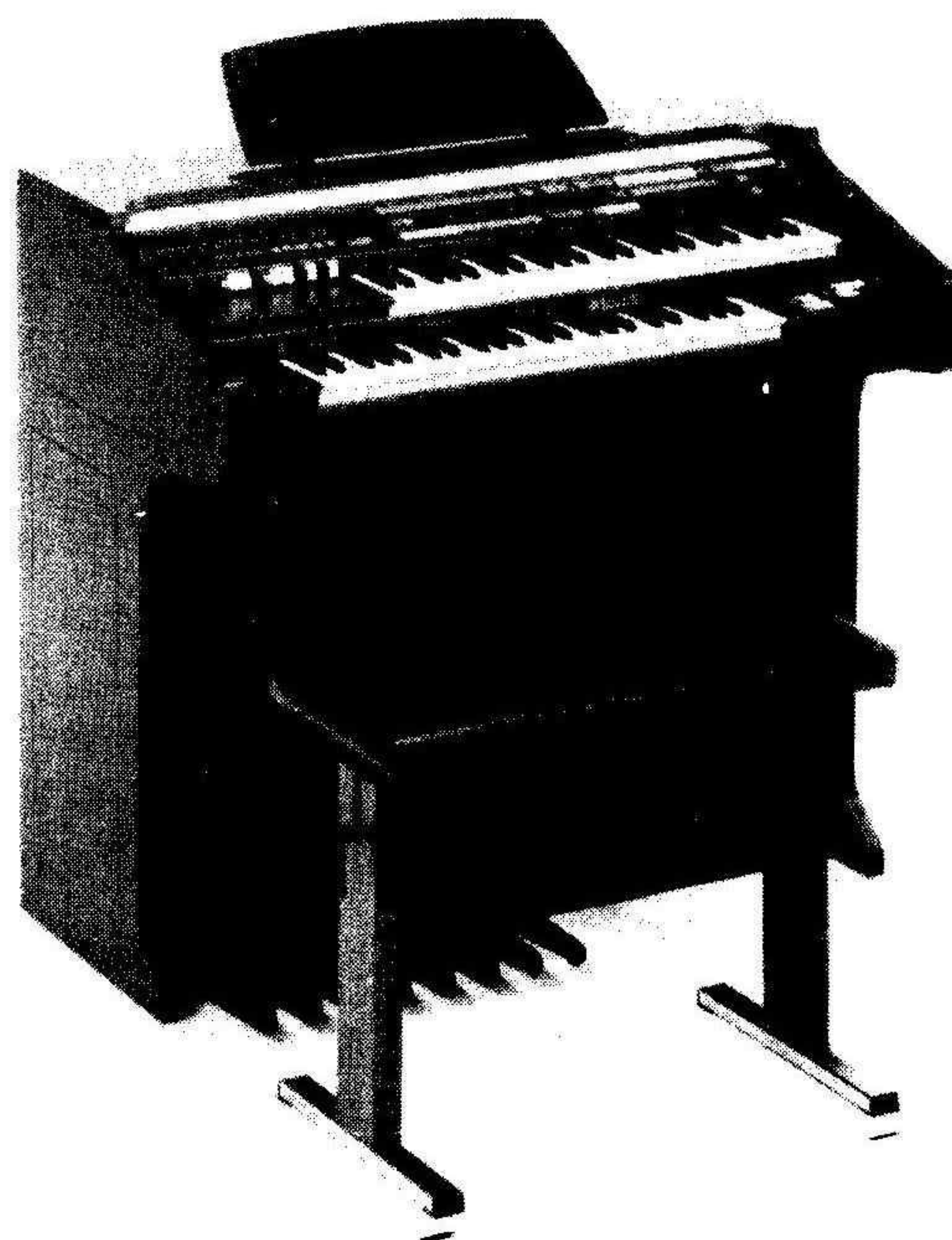
- Ergonomic playing table eases operation.
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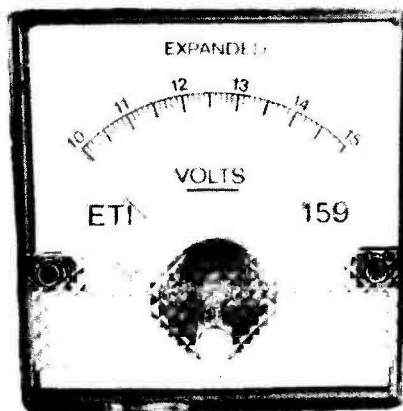
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Aura Sounds Ltd., 14/15 Royal Oak Centre, Brighton Road, Purley, Surrey.



# ACCURATE VOLTAGE MONITOR



This simple, low-cost instrument can be built into power supplies or used as a portable or fixed 'battery condition' monitoring meter. Design by Simon Campbell and Roger Harrison.

Common storage batteries to power nominal 12 V DC electrical systems have a terminal voltage that ranges from a little over 10 V when discharged to around 15 V when fully charged, the operating voltage being somewhere in the range 11V5 to 13V8. Lead-acid batteries, for example, may have a terminal voltage under rated discharge that commences at around 14V2 and drops to about 11V8. A 12 V (nominal) nickel-cadmium battery may typically have a terminal voltage under rated discharge that starts at 13 V, dropping to 11 V when discharged.

Equipment designed to operate from a nominal 12 V DC supply may only deliver its specified performance at a supply voltage of 13V8 — mobile CB and amateur transceivers being a case in point. Other DC operated equipment may perform properly at 12V5 but 'complain' when the supply reaches 14V5.

To monitor the state of charge/discharge of a battery, a battery-operated system or the output of power supplies, chargers, etc, a voltmeter which can be easily read to 100 mV over the range of interest (10 to 15 V) is an invaluable asset. This project does just that.

## The Circuit

An LM723 variable voltage regulator is employed to set an accurate 'offset' voltage of 5 V, and the meter (M1) plus the trimpot RV2 and R3 make up a 5 V meter, with the trimpot allowing calibration. The negative terminal of the meter is connected to the output of the 723 so that it is always held at 5 V 'above' the circuit negative line. The positive end

of the meter goes to a zener which will not conduct until more than 5 V appears between the circuit +ve and -ve lines. Thus the meter will not have forward current flowing through it until the voltage between the +ve and -ve rails is greater than 10 V, and will read full scale when it reaches 15 V (after RV2 is set correctly).

The meter scale limits may be adjusted by setting the output of the 723 higher or lower (adjusted by RV1) and setting RV2 so that the meter has an increased or decreased full-scale deflection range.

A variety of meter makes and sizes may be used.

## Construction

Mechanical construction of this project has been arranged so that the PCB can be accommodated on the rear of any of the commonly available moving coil meter movements. We chose a meter with a 55 mm wide scale (overall panel width, 82 mm). A meter movement with a large scale is an advantage as it is considerably easier (and more accurate) to read than

## HOW IT WORKS

The meter, M1, is a 1 mA meter with series resistance — made up of R3 and RV2 — so that it becomes a 0.5V voltmeter. The negative end of the meter is maintained at 5 V above the circuit negative line by the output of IC1, a 723 adjustable regulator. The positive end of the meter is connected to the circuit positive line via ZD1, a 4V7 zener diode. Thus, no 'forward' current will flow in the meter until the voltage between the circuit negative line and the circuit positive line is greater than  $5 + 4.7 = 9V7$ .

Bias current for the zener is provided by a FET, Q1, connected as a constant current source so that the zener current is accurately maintained over the range of circuit input voltage. This ensures the zener voltage remains essentially constant so that meter reading accuracy is maintained.

The trimpot RV1 sets the output voltage of the 723. This determines the lower scale voltage. Trimpot RV2 sets the meter scale range, less resistance decreases it.

Diode D1 protects the circuit against damage from reverse connection.

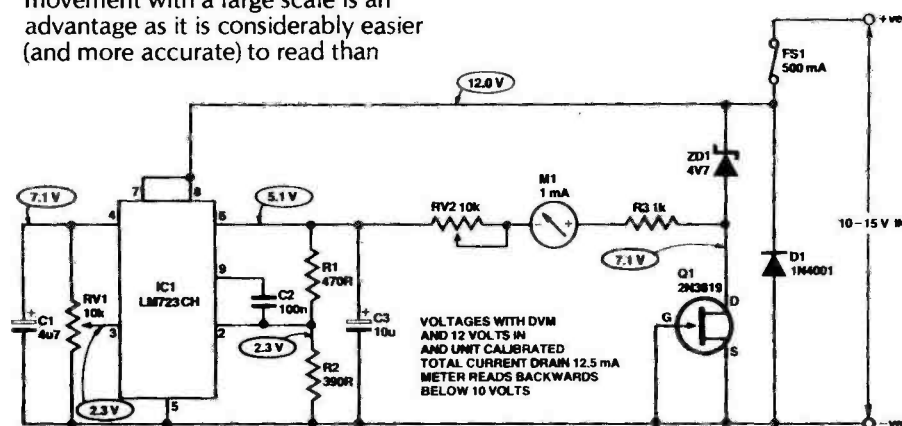


Fig. 1 Circuit diagram for the Voltage Monitor.



# PROJECT : Voltage Meter

Having chosen your meter, drill out the PCB to suit the meter terminal spacing first. The components may then be assembled to the board in any particular order that suits you. Watch the orientation of the 723, ZD1, the FET and particularly D1. The latter is an 'idiot diode'. That is, if you have a lapse of concentration or forethought and connect your project backwards across a battery, the fuse will blow and not the project. Fuses are generally found to be cheaper than this project!

Seat all the components right down on the PCB as the board may be positioned on the rear of the meter with the components facing the meter. The size of C2 may give you a little trouble. Polyesters are generally too large and therefore unsuitable. We used a ceramic type capacitor — as commonly used on computer PCBs as bypasses. Alternatively, a 100n tantalum capacitor (+ve to pin 2 of IC1) may be used. The actual value or type of capacitor is not all that critical.

We have used multiturn trimpots for RV1 and RV2 as they make the setting up a whole lot easier

## Calibration

For this you will need a variable power supply covering 10 to 15 V and a digital multimeter (borrow one for the occasion).

First set the 10 V point. Connect the digital multimeter across the power supply output and adjust the power supply to obtain 10.00 V. Set the mechanical zero on the meter movement to zero the meter's pointer. Connect the unit to the power supply output and adjust RV1 to zero the meter needle.

Next, set the power supply to obtain 15.00 V. Now adjust RV2 so that the meter needle sits on 15 V (full scale). Check the meter reading with the power supply output set at various voltages across the range. We were able to obtain readings across the full scale within  $\pm$  half a scale reading ( $\pm 50$  mV). With a 2% FSD accuracy meter the worst error may be about  $\pm$  one scale division.

## BUYLINES

Only one thing to comment on here; when you purchase your LM723 (or uA723 — same thing) make sure you get the version that comes in a T099 case, not the DIL version. The PCB is designed for the 10 pin version as shown in the overlay and the DIL type won't fit. Speaking of PCBs, as usual you can get it from us using the order form on page 44.

## PARTS LIST

Resistors (all  $\frac{1}{4}$  W, 5% metal film)  
R1 470R  
R2 390R  
R3 1k0

Potentiometers  
RV1,2 10k cermet multiturn horizontal trimpot

Capacitors  
C1 4u7 10 V tantalum  
C2 100n ceramic  
C3 10u 10 V tantalum

### Semiconductors

IC1 LM723 (see Buylines)  
Q1 2N3819  
D1 1N4002 or similar  
ZD1 4V7 400 mW or 1 W zener

### Miscellaneous

M1 1 mA meter (see text)  
FS1 500 mA fuse and in-line fuse holder  
PCB (see Buylines); meter scale to suit meter; red and black cable, etc.

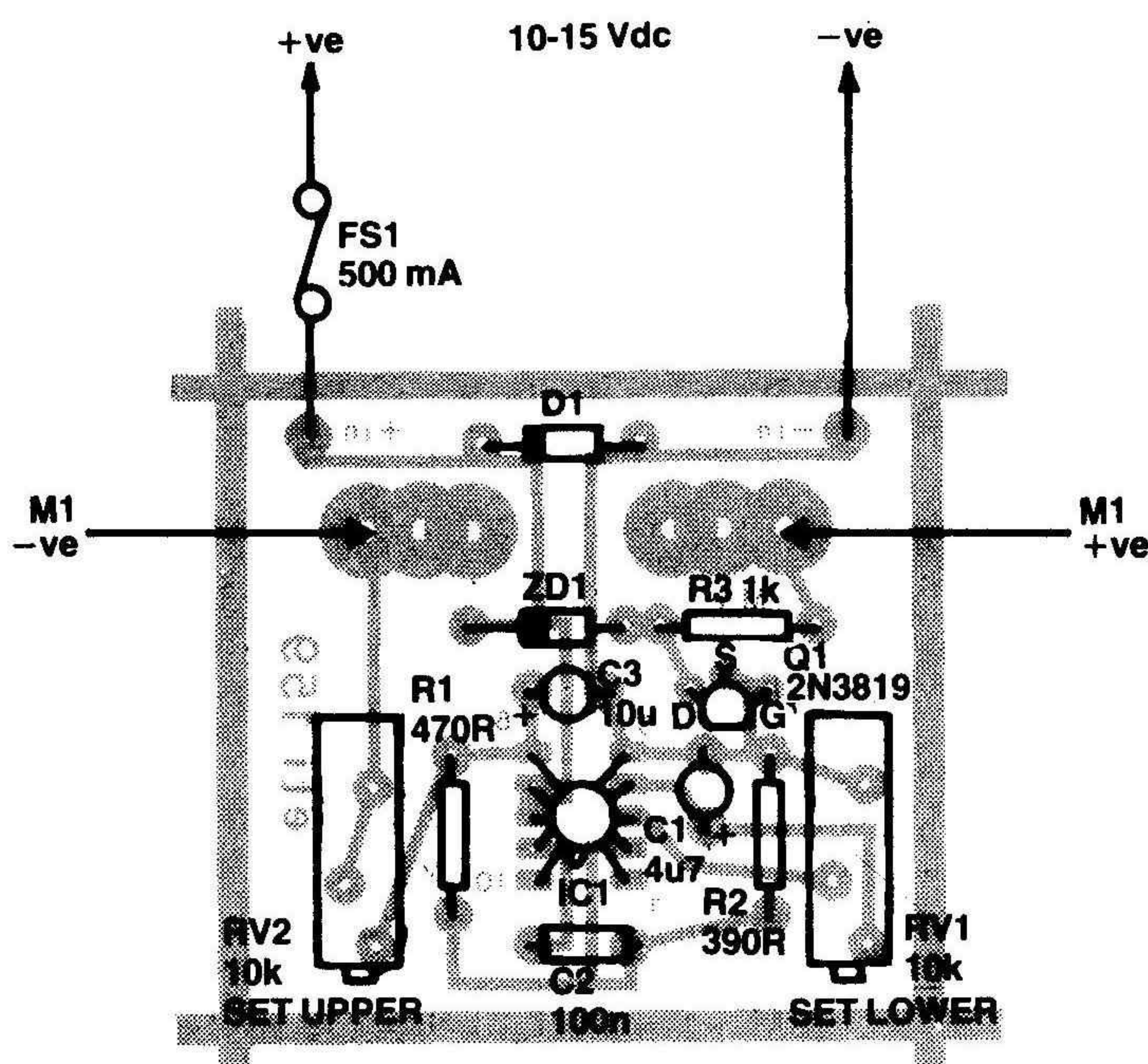


Fig. 2 Component overlay for the Voltage monitor.  
Note that IC1 is in a 10-pin T099 case.

## BATTERY CONDITION AND TERMINAL VOLTAGE

The 12 V battery, in its many forms, is a pretty well universal source of mobile or portable electric power. There are lead-acid wet cell types, lead-acid gel electrolyte (sealed) types, sealed and vented nickel cadmium types, and so on. They are to be found in cars, trucks, tractors, portable lighting plants, receivers, transceivers, aircraft, electric fences and microwave relay stations — to name but a few areas.

No matter what the application, the occasion arises when you need to reliably determine the battery's condition — its state of charge, or discharge. With wet cell lead-acid types, the specific gravity of the electrolyte is one reliable indicator. However, it gets a bit confusing as the recommended electrolyte can have a different S.G. depending on the intended use. For example, a low duty lead-acid battery intended for lighting applications may have a recommended electrolyte S.G. of 1.210, while a heavy-duty truck or tractor battery may have a recommended electrolyte S.G. of 1.275. Car batteries generally have a recommended S.G. of 1.260. That's all very well for common wet cell batteries, but

measuring the electrolyte S.G. of sealed lead-acid or nickel-cadmium batteries is out of the question.

With NiCads, the electrolyte doesn't change during charge or discharge.

Fortunately, the terminal voltage is a good indicator of the state of charge or discharge. In general, the terminal voltage of a battery will be at a defined minimum when discharged (generally between 10 and 11 V), and rise to a defined maximum when fully charged (generally around 15 V). Under load, the terminal voltage will vary between these limits, depending on the battery's condition.

Hence a voltmeter having a scale 'spread' to read between these two extremes is a very good and useful indicator of battery condition. It's a lot less messy and more convenient than wielding a hydrometer to measure specific gravity of the electrolyte!

The charge and discharge characteristics of typical lead-acid and sealed NiCad batteries are given in the accompanying figures.



# ELECTRONIC KITS

## Micro-processor universal Timer

This incredibly versatile programmable timer can control up to 20 functions at accurately timed intervals over a period of a week. Originally developed for industrial and laboratory use it offers many interesting and exciting possibilities for the amateur constructor.

Based on a pre-programmed TMS 1000 Microprocessor, the unit provides a 24 hour clock with four independent relay controlled outputs with a programmable period of one week. Up to 20 daily or weekly programmable functions can be set via a keyboard. Any of the timer functions can be assigned to control any one of the four relay outputs thus providing almost unlimited programming possibilities.

No previous experience of microprocessor programming is necessary since the manual explains all the possible operations, clearly and simply, enabling the inexperienced user to be fully conversant within one hour. Completed programme steps are indicated by LED's

The kit comes complete with printed panel and may be installed either as a 'built-in' or a 'free-standing' unit. A stabilised power supply mounted on a separate printed circuit board is supplied with the unit. It requires the addition of a 12V, 1A transformer. There is space on the board for up to four output control relays. One is supplied with the kit. Further relays may be ordered separately as required. Price: (excluding wooden housing as illustrated) **£48.37** inclusive of VAT and **DELIVERED FREE** on U.K. mainland.

### APPLICATIONS

The programmable timer can provide central control of domestic electrical cooking, heating and entertainment equipment. The possibilities are limited only by the imagination of the user. Control of house lighting to discourage intruders; control of TV or audio equipment; sound or video recording control; automatic plant watering; automatic pet doors or feeding — are a few simple examples. For the professional or industrial user many uses in this area of process control will be found.

### TECHNICAL DATA:

**Power supply:**  
Mounted on separate pcb with space for up to four output control relays. Requires 12V/1A transformer.

### CONTROL SWITCHING:

Standard relays (one supplied with kit) will switch 2A. Additional relays may be ordered separately.

National relay, order no. HT 12V.  
Siemens relay, order no. R1 INV12.

### MICROPROCESSOR:

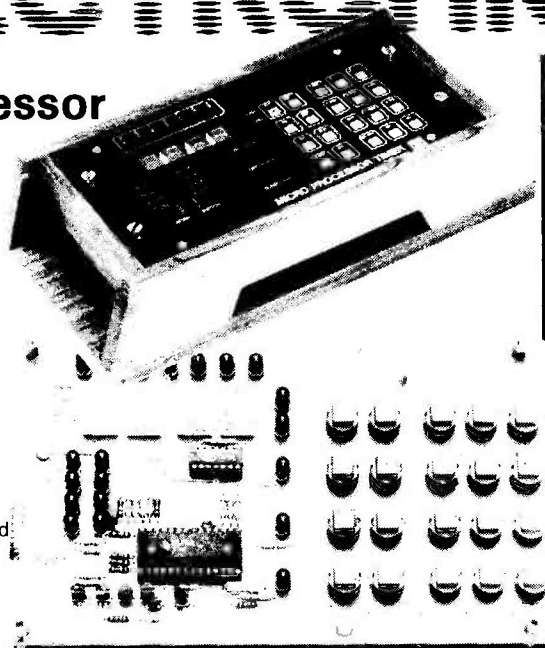
TMS 1000

### DISPLAYS:

12mm 7 segment LED numerical display, LED programme function indicators.

### DIFFICULTY GRADE: 3

KIT NUMBER: K1682



### THE VELLEMAN KIT RANGE

2.2 Watt mini amplifier  
Mono VU using LED's  
7 Watt amplifier  
Dimmer 1000 Watt  
Dimmer 1000 Watt (deparasite)  
High precision stopwatch  
Microprocessor Universal timer  
20 Watt monolithic amplifier  
FM oscillator  
Stereo VU using LED's  
Universal mono pre-amplifier  
60 Watt power amplifier  
Power supply 1 Amp  
Power supply for stereo 60 Watt amplifier  
Running light  
Digital panel meter  
Single digit counter  
Transistor ignition  
Complex sound generator  
50 Hz crystal base  
4 channel infra-red remote control (transmitter or receiver)  
Infra-red detection system (transmitter or receiver)  
Central alarm unit  
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# COMPUTER EXPANSION SYSTEM

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**T**his month we present an EPROM programmer and associated EPROM cards suitable for the machine code freak to store away those beloved extra routines or the space invaders freak to capture his aliens in 0's and 1's for life.

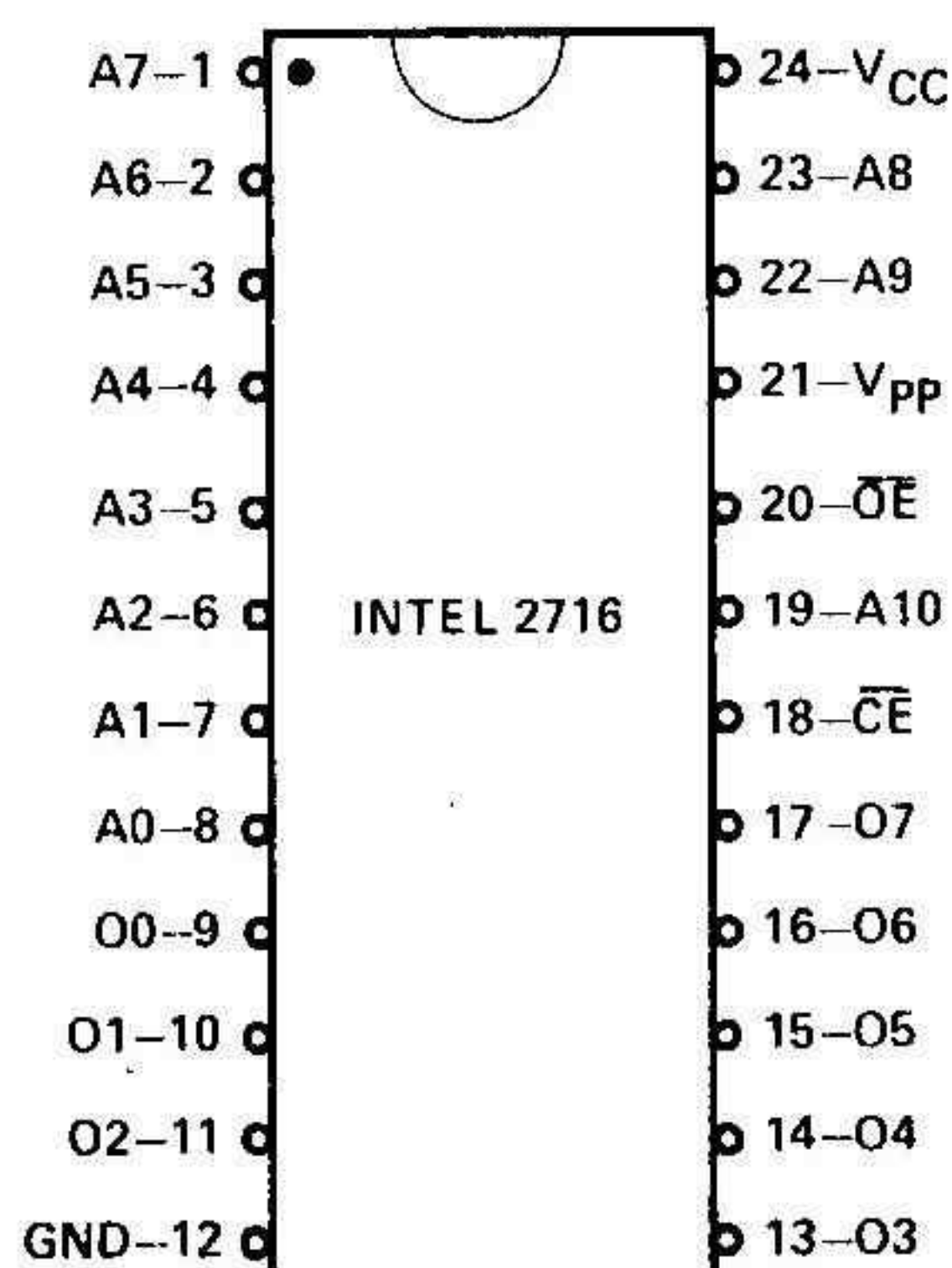
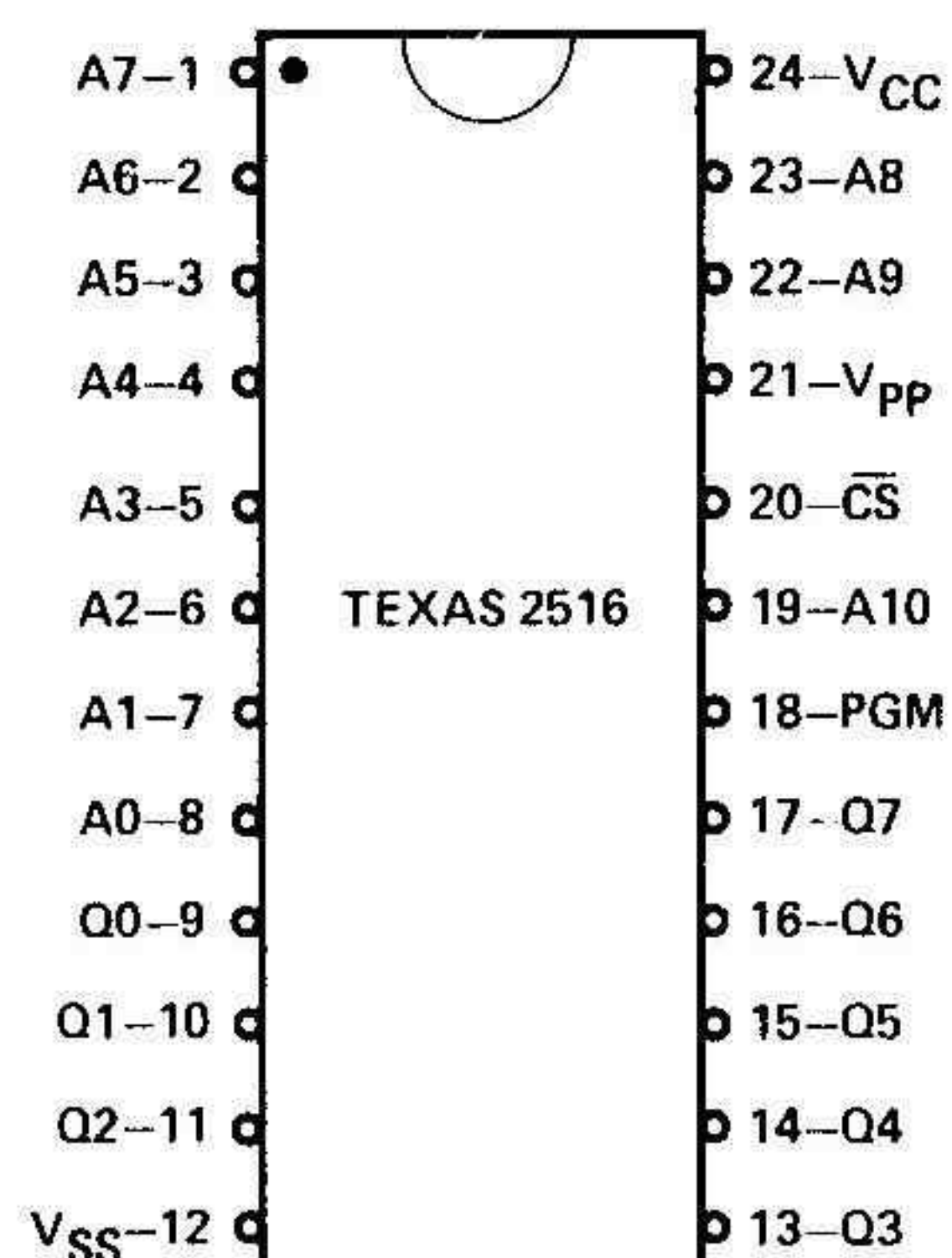
The first major consideration when designing an EPROM programmer is just what EPROMs should it be capable of blowing. There is more than just a little confusion here. There are two basic types of EPROM currently available — those that run off a three rail supply and those that run from a

single +5 V rail. The two sizes of PROM most popular at the moment are 2K x 8 and 4K x 8. Aha! here manufacturers have had some fun. Intersil and others like calling their triple rail PROMs 2716 and 2732 whereas Intel make their 2716 and 2732 single rail; not to be missed out Texas try to settle the balance by nominating their EPROMs 2516 and 2532; both are single rail!

To clear up the matter our programmer will program single rail EPROMs only, these being the most popular. It will program the Texas 2516 2K x 8 EPROM and Intel 2716 2K x 8 EPROM as these are pin-for-pin compatible (see Fig. 1). However, 2532

and 2732 4K x 8 EPROMs are not compatible and we have stuck to the 2532, as this then allows for use of the new 2764 8K x 8 EPROMs with the minimum alteration (see Fig. 2). If you wish to program 2764's then you must make the alterations to correct the  $\overline{OE}$ / $V_{pp}$  and  $\overline{CS}$  lines. A12 has been brought to pin 1 and power ( $V_{cc}$ ) to pin 28.

Selection of the type of EPROM you want to program is made by means of a quad DIL switch. This switch is unusual in that each section operates two oppositely biased single pole switches — this means it can be



## HOW IT WORKS

### PROM PROGRAMMER

The heart of this board is two 6520 peripheral input-output chips — they serve to generate the address bus, the data and control signals for the chip being programmed.

R1 and C1 generate the power up reset; C4, 5 and 6 are included in for decoupling. The rather peculiar need of the  $V_{pp}$  pin for 0, +5 V and +25 V is met by the PSU and switching circuit. Transformer T1 supplies 30 V AC to the bridge which rectifies it and feeds it to smoothing capacitor C3. IC3 and ZD1 regulate this to +25 V DC. C2 is included in the interests of stability. Transistors Q1 and Q2 handle the switching of  $V_{pp}$  between 0, 5 and 25 V. This output is then fed to the DIL switch and then to the  $V_{pp}$  pin of the EPROM to be programmed. Ports A and B of IC2 are used to generate the address bus — note A12 is connected to pin 1 of the EPROM (on a 28 pin basis) for use later with 2764 EPROMs. The data bus is generated by port A of IC1, while port B of IC1 generates the control for  $V_{pp}$  and the  $\overline{CS}$  and PGM lines which are switched with A11 to the correct pins of the EPROM by the DIL switch.

Inputs to the 6520s are straight from the expansion sockets —  $\phi 2$  being used to enable the chips to reduce power consumption.

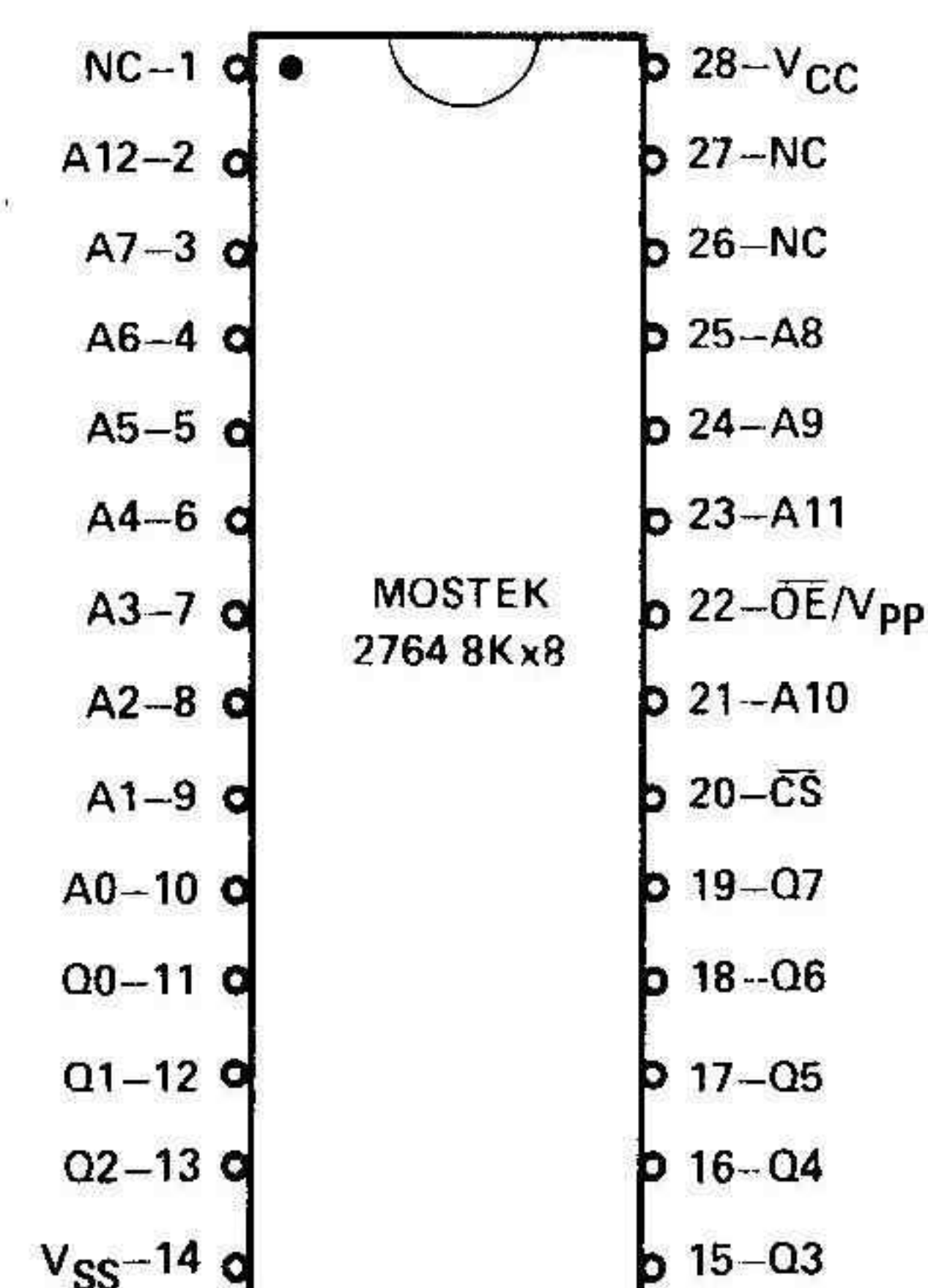
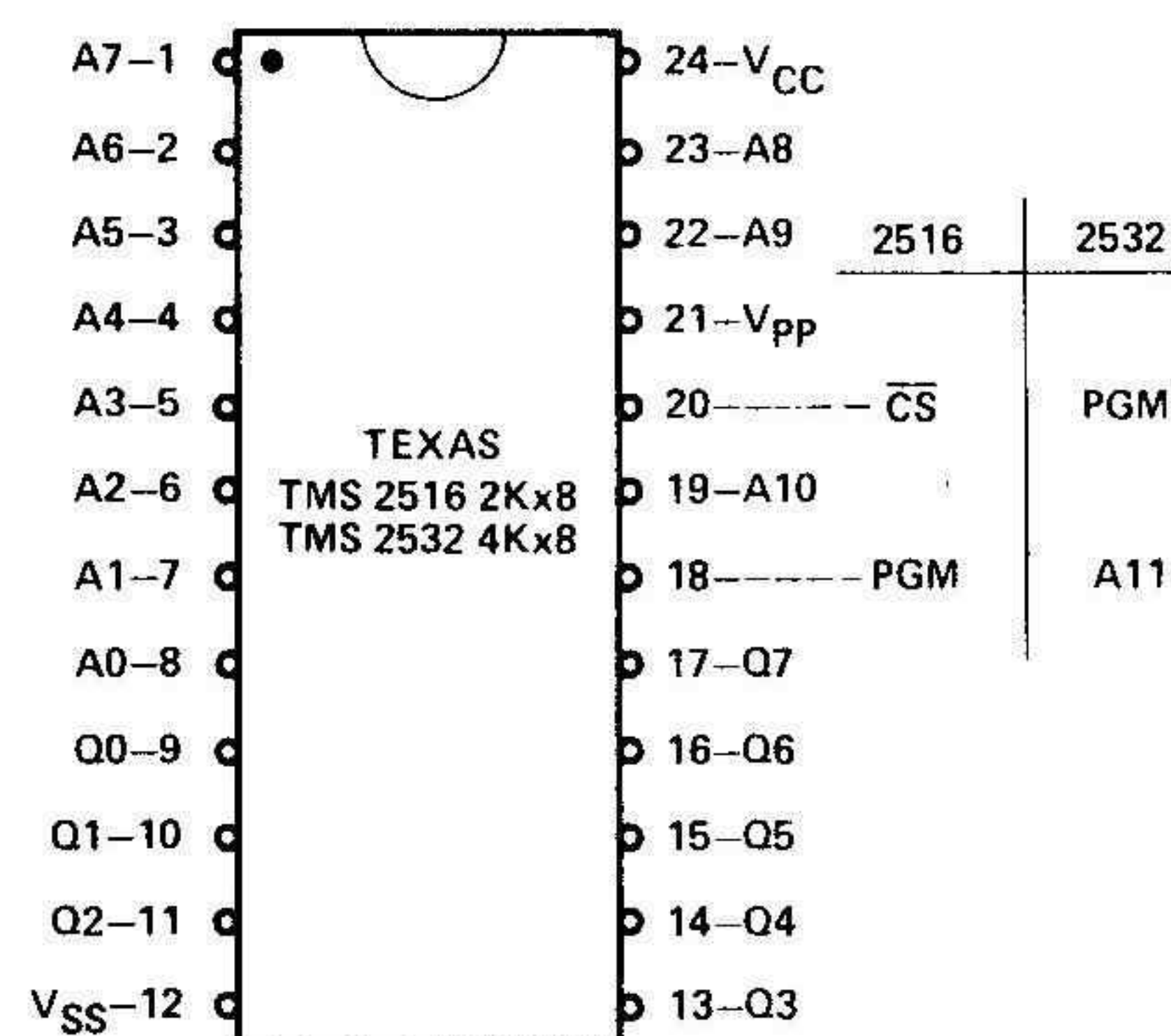
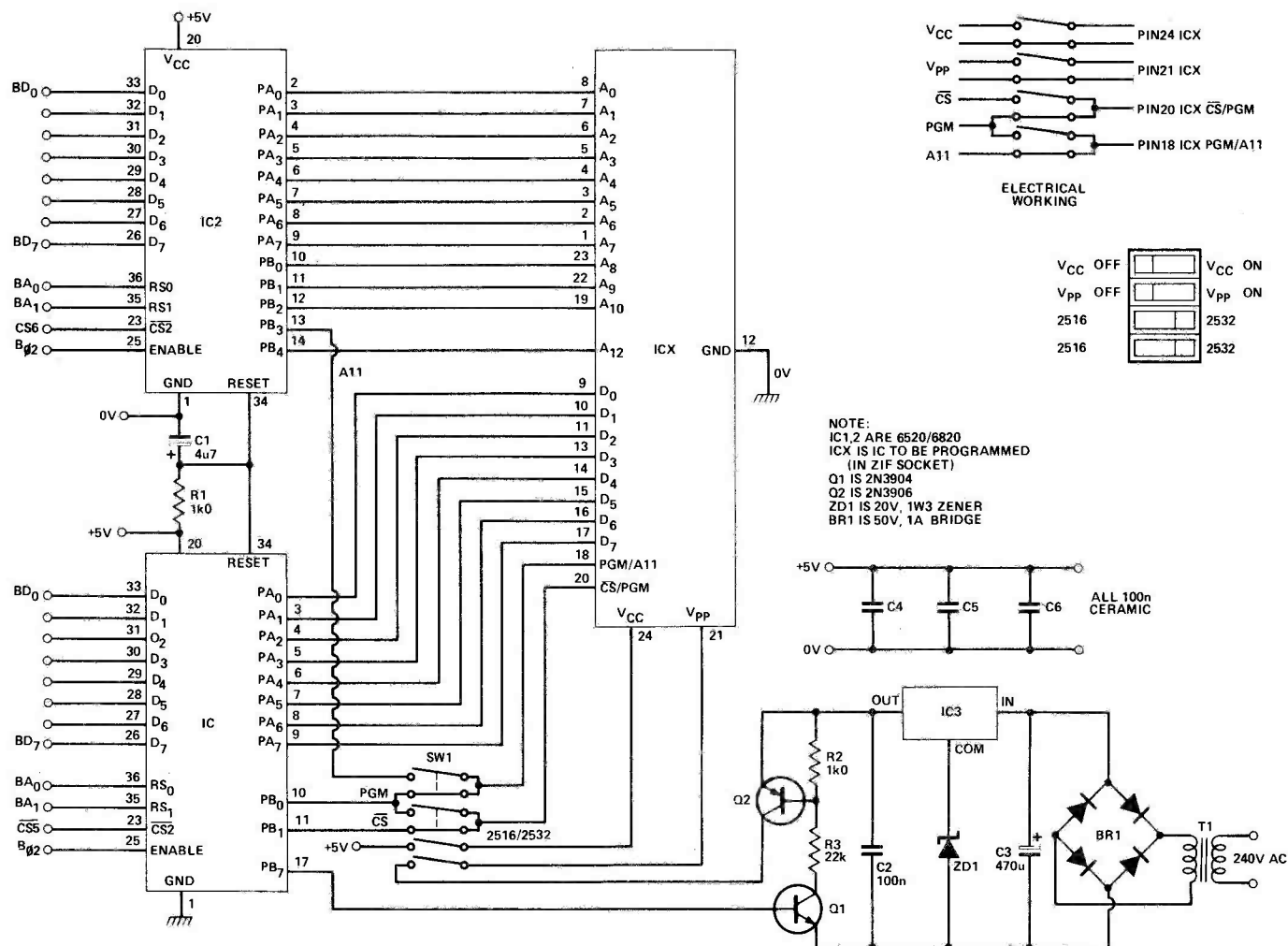


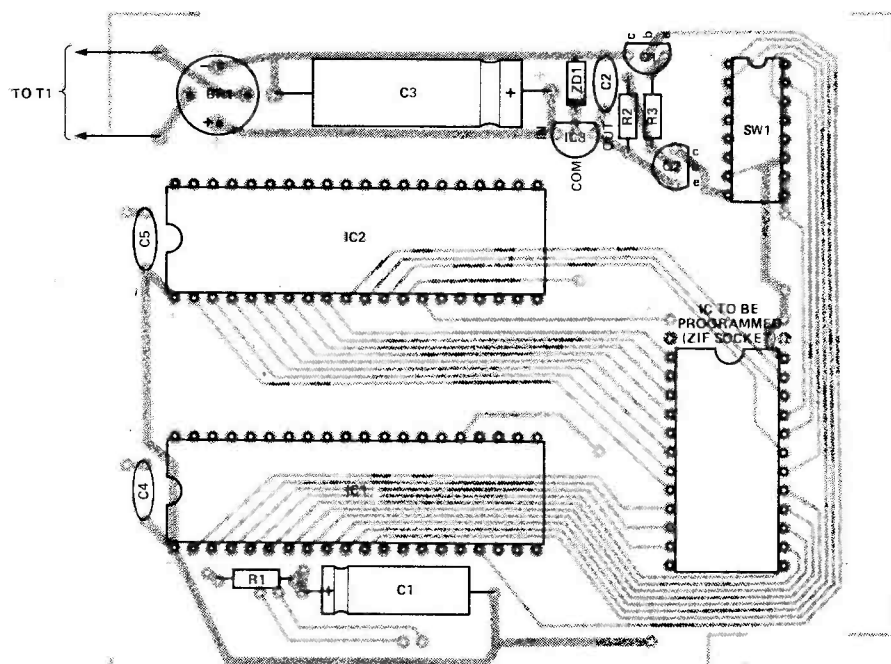
Fig. 1 You can program these EPROMs...

Fig. 2 ...or these ones.





**Fig. 3 Circuit diagram of the EPROM programmer, with details of SW1. ICX is the EPROM to be programmed.**



**Fig. 4** Overlay for the EPROM programmer. The zero insertion force socket position has extra holes to allow for 2764s.

## PARTS LIST

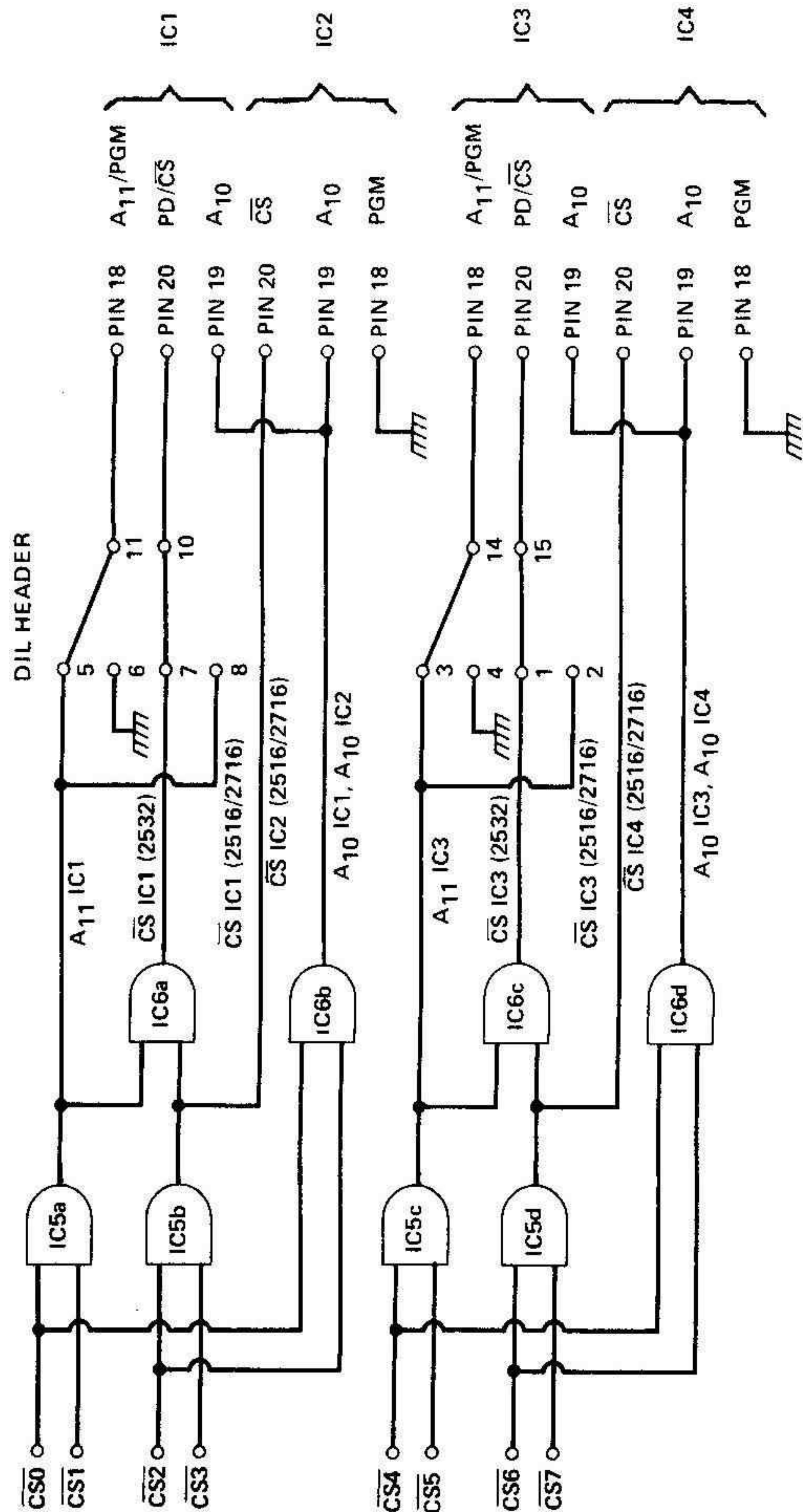
# **PROM PROGRAMMER**

<b>Resistors (all ¼ W, 5%)</b>	
<b>R1,2</b>	<b>1k0</b>
<b>R3</b>	<b>22k</b>
<b>Capacitors</b>	
<b>C1</b>	<b>4u7 25 V axial electrolytic</b>
<b>C2,4,5,6</b>	<b>100n ceramic</b>
<b>C3</b>	<b>470u axial electrolytic</b>
<b>Semiconductors</b>	
<b>IC1,2</b>	<b>6520/6820</b>
<b>IC3</b>	<b>78L05</b>
<b>Q1</b>	<b>2N3904</b>
<b>Q2</b>	<b>2N3906</b>
<b>ZD1</b>	<b>20 V, 1W3 zener diode</b>
<b>BR1</b>	<b>1 A, 50 V bridge rectifier</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
<b>SW1</b>	<b>Quad DPST DIL switch</b>
<b>PCB (see Buylines); DIL sockets;</b>	
<b>transformer (6 VA, 0-15-0-15)</b>	

used as a 4 pole changeover switch and makes it ideal for the job. Two of the four sections are used for chip power (+5 V) and the programming can be destroyed if  $V_{pp}$  is applied with  $V_{CC}$  disconnected. The other two sections are used to switch  $\overline{CS}$ , PGM and A11 to the correct pins of the ZIF socket according to whether a 2516 or 2532 is to be used.



# PROJECT : Computer Expansion



## HOW IT WORKS

**PROM CARD**  
The PROM card is very straightforward as all the hard work is done by the motherboard. ICs 5 and 6 are used to generate A10 and A11 and the  $\overline{CS}$  lines. The DIL header plug is used to set jumpers J1-J6 according to requirements (see text).

NOTE:  
IC1 IS 2516/2532/2764  
IC2 IS 2516  
IC3 IS 2516/2532  
IC4 IS 2516  
IC5,6 ARE 7408

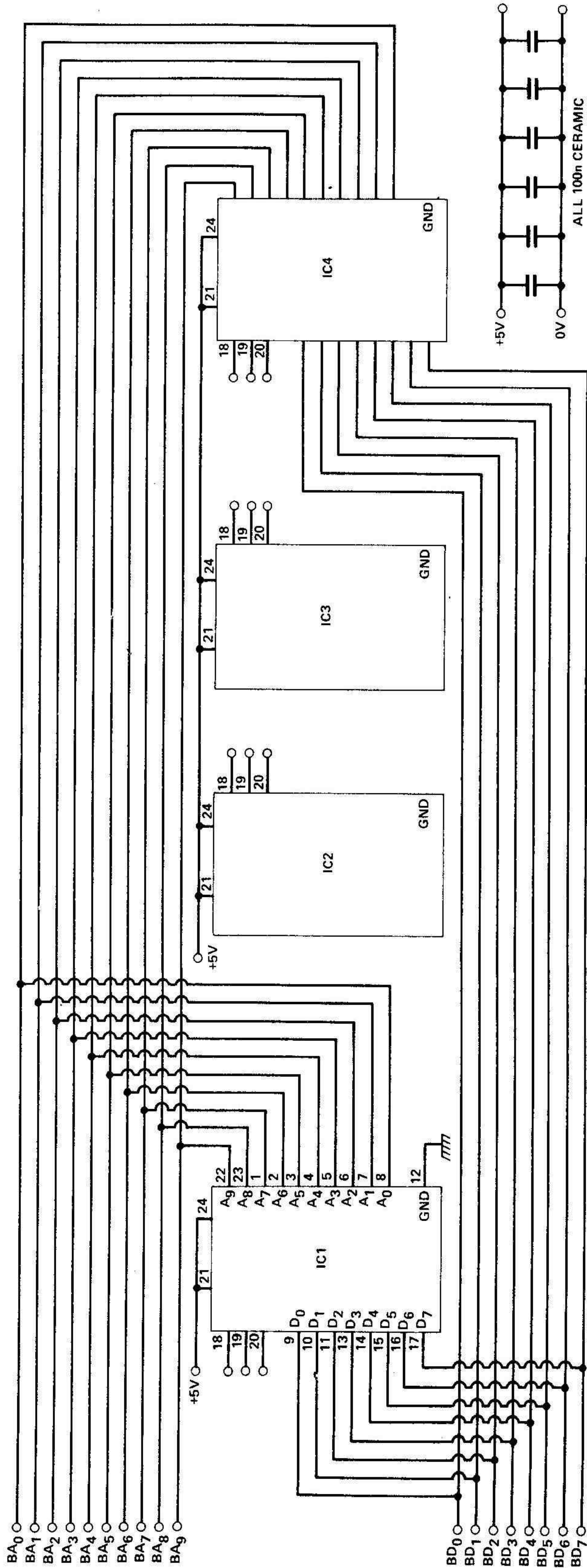


Fig. 5 Circuit diagram for the EPROM card. Links soldered to a DIL header select the correct signals for the various combinations of EPROMs — see Fig. 7 for details.



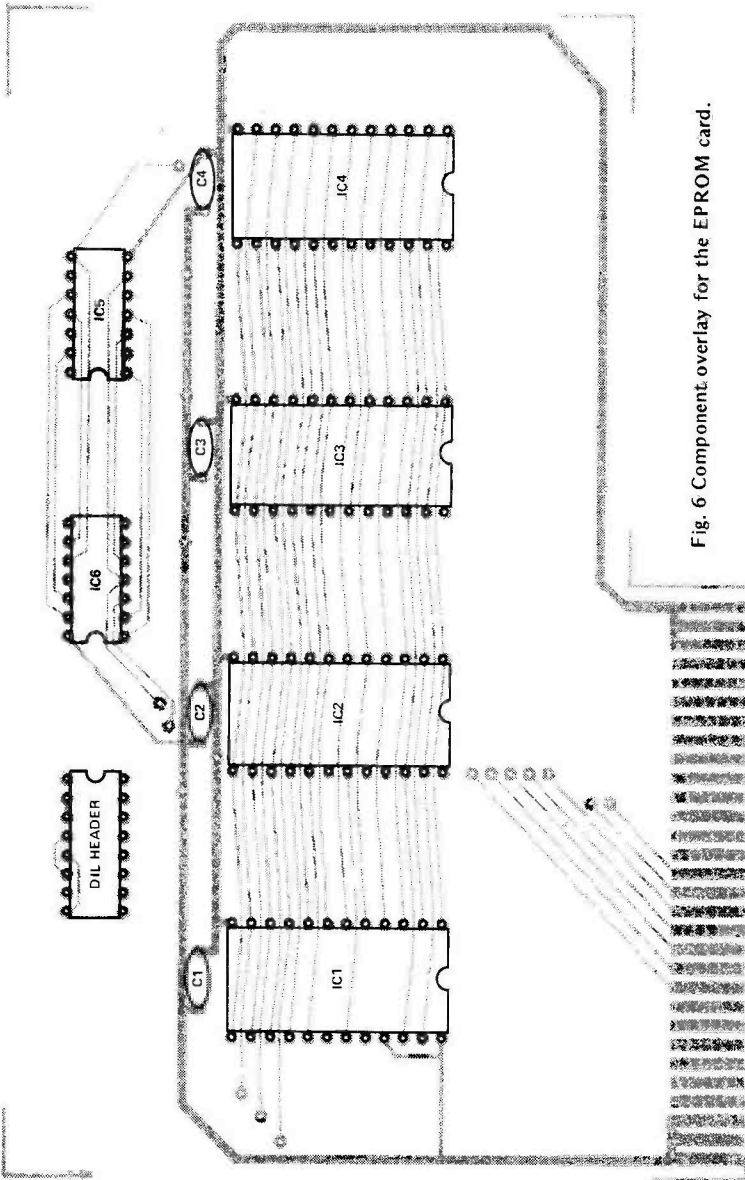


Fig. 6 Component overlay for the EPROM card.

## PARTS LIST

PROM CARD	
Capacitors	
C1-6	100n ceramic
Semiconductors	
IC1-4	2716, 2516, 2532 — PROMs as desired
IC5,6	7408
Miscellaneous	
PCB (see Buylines); DIL sockets as required; header plug (see text).	

## BUYLINES

A complete kit of parts for these expansion cards are available from Watford Electronics. The PROM programmer kit costs £26.95 (PCB only £9.75); the PROM card kit costs £11.95 (PCB only £9.75). All prices are subject to VAT at 15%.

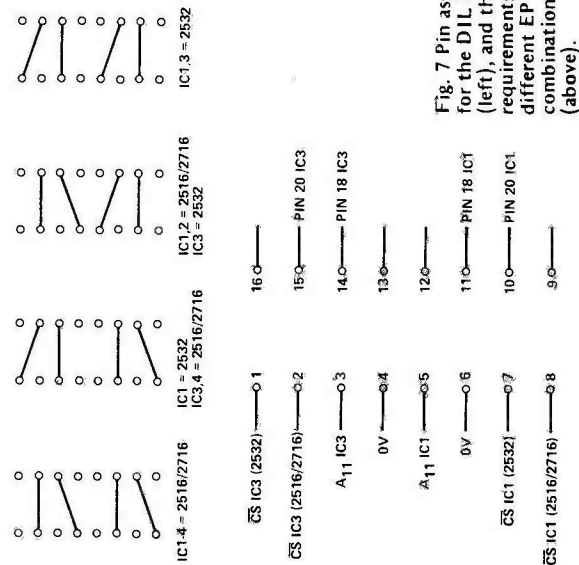


Fig. 7 Pin assignments for the DIL header (left), and the link requirements for the different EPROM combinations (above).

A similar method has been used on the EPROM card. As there are four sets of switches needed for four EPROMs a 16 pin header plug and socket have been used. You can make up a header for four 2516s and two 2532s and easily change the role of the board by simply exchanging header plugs. This retains better flexibility than jumper links and is cheaper than the method previously considered. The DIL header plug can be wired as in Fig. 3. Refer to Fig. 7 for an explanation of how the header plug is wired.

## Construction

Construction of the two boards is very straightforward — follow the overlays given here. Note that if you want to move the card around in memory then simply break the connections CS5, CS6 to CS2 of the 6520 and re-make to the CS line you desire.

Use two Veropins or similar to bring the 30 V AC from the transformer to the board — unfortunate as it is using a transformer mounted off the PCB to generate the  $V_{DD}$  voltage, it is about the only practical way from a computer that has supply rails of 0 and 5 V.

Fit the 28 pin DIL socket at the IC1 position on the EPROM board. This is to allow experimenters to fit a 2764 8K chip at a later date.

When you have finished you will have a very powerful means of customising your system to your own specifications. To mention one use: you could burn a renumber routine into ROM and then while writing a BASIC program simply renumber by calling the routine through the USRX) function.







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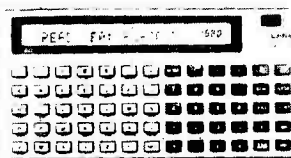
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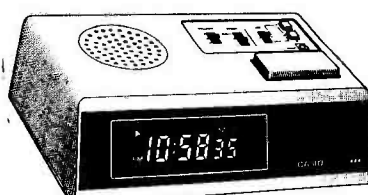


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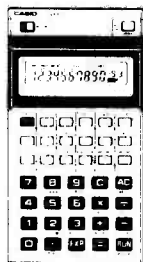
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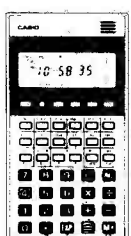


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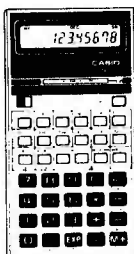
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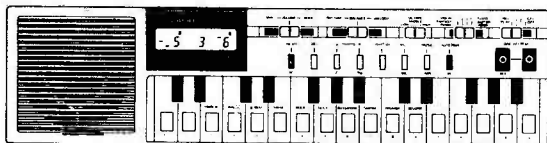
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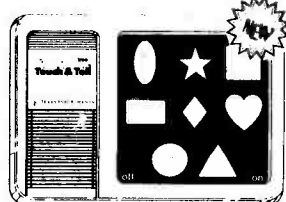
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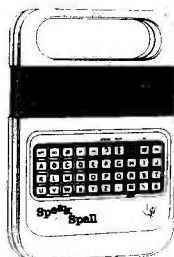
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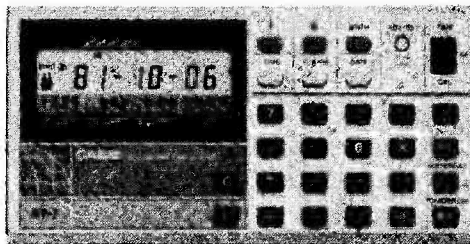
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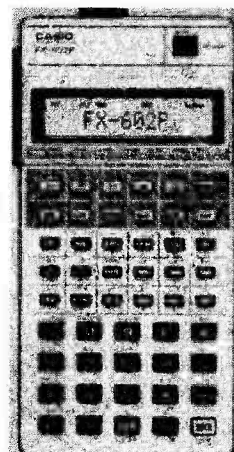


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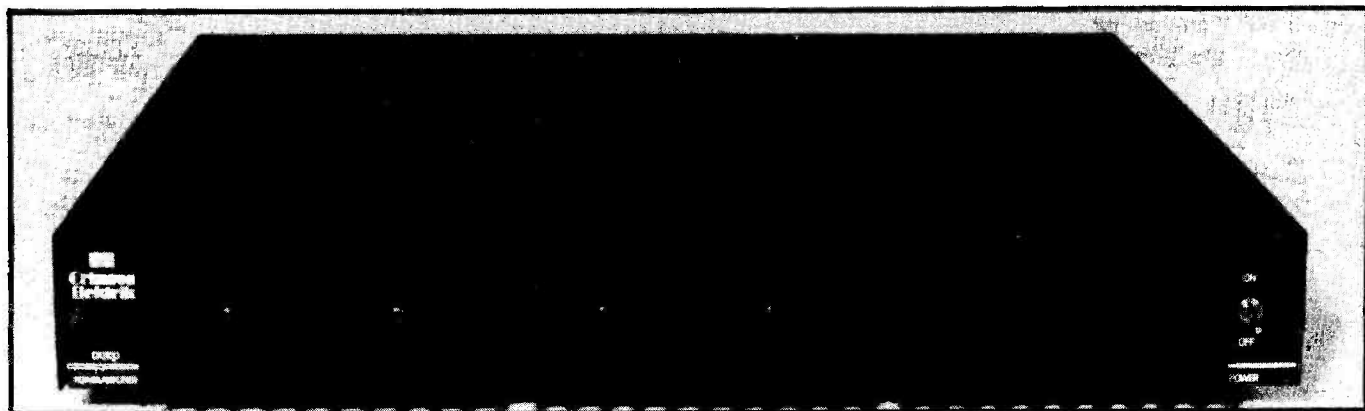
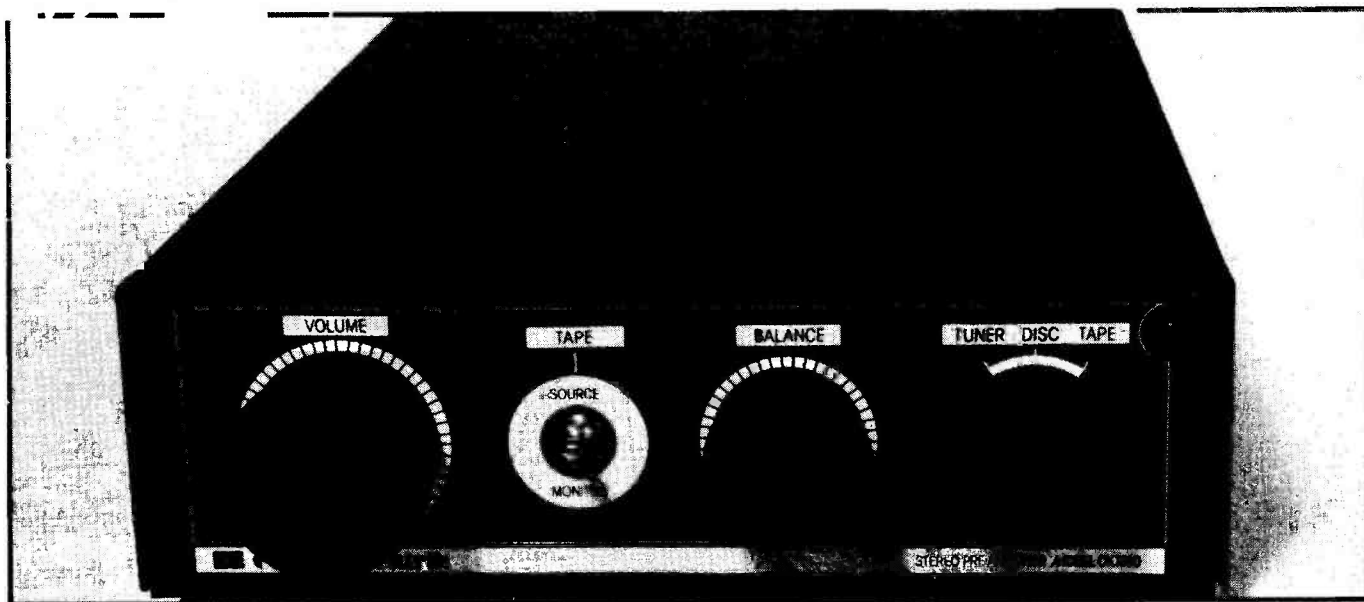
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Fill in your name and address on the coupon and *list your ten letters (in order) on the outside back of the envelope*. Closing date is April 30th 1982, and you *must* use the coupon provided on page 133. Multiple entries are acceptable, but each must be on a separate coupon.

## RULES

1. Closing date is April 30th 1982, and all entries post-marked later than this date will be discounted.
2. The coupon provided in the magazine must be used. Photocopies are NOT acceptable.
3. Employees of ASP and their relatives are not eligible for entry.
4. The judges' decision is to be considered final and no correspondence will be entered into concerning the competition.

- A. Wide Bandwidth
- B. Precise RIAA Equalisation
- C. Separate PSU for Each Channel
- D. High Power Output
- E. Flat Frequency Response
- F. Low Harmonic Distortion
- G. Low Crosstalk
- H. Stability of output under any loading
- J. Ability to drive low impedance
- K. Adequate heatsinking
- L. Conservatively-rated output stage
- M. Provision of tone controls
- N. DC Coupling
- P. Short Circuit Protection
- R. Low Feedback
- S. Flat open-loop response.





## OEM USERS

New amplifier boards to meet new needs

### New Signals

With digital audio now a reality and third generation noise reduction techniques with us already, the dynamic range of programme material is about to shoot up by a phenomenal 30dB. If the amp you work with at the moment can just cope, it's going to be in serious trouble when faced with the new signals. The clipping that will result will sound nasty and probably kill tweeters with its high frequency energy content.

J.W.R. have already solved the problem for you with their new high power PFAs. Designed to meet the exacting requirements of heavy duty P.A. and the even more exacting requirements of audiophile use, the ultra wide dynamic range modules can handle the most demanding of source signals.

### The PFA/HV

This four powerfet module is designed to run from supply rails up to  $\pm 100V$ . Rated at **300W continuous RMS** into 4 and 8 ohms and **250W** into 16 ohms, the module can sustain, for musically significant periods of time, RMS powers of **500W** into 8 ohms and **900W** into 4 ohms. It also has the ability to drive 70V line distribution systems directly, obviating the need for expensive and quality compromising transformers.

This amp is designed particularly with music in mind. We anticipate usage often at only 50W to 100W average levels leaving 10dB of headroom.

### PFA 500

This module uses 8 H-PAK powerfets and is designed to produce a continuous RMS output current of **25 amps** and will run from a supply of up to  $\pm 70$  volts. The Unit will drive **250W** continuous RMS into 8 ohms, **450W** into 4 ohms, **600W** into 2 ohms and **700W** into 1 ohm.

Numerous features are included in the board to optimise efficiency. The H-Paks (thermally more efficient than TO3) are presented at ninety degrees to the P.C.B. so they can bolt directly onto the heatsink, instead of via the usual angle bracket. The resultant chip to heatsink thermal resistance is very low keeping junction temperatures down and efficiencies up. The Powerfet supply rails are kept separate from the rest of the amp. This enables the driver stage to be run from slightly higher rails resulting in larger undistorted output swings at little extra cost.

In addition a bridge mode input pin is available on board permitting instant bridge mode between any two boards without the need for separate inverting amps. Powers comfortably in excess of **1KW** can be delivered into 4 ohms in this configuration.

**N.B.** The new boards exhibit the same exemplary noise and distortion performance of the PFA80/120.

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We are particularly sensitive to a manufacturers individual requirements, and all our boards come with many options (including higher slew rates, response tailoring etc.). The chances are we've got what you're looking for, and if not, we can probably do it for you by next week!

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# THE POWERFET AMPLIFIER



PFA 80  
(100W plus  
into 8Ω)

#### Elegant Simplicity

Advances in high technology should make life simpler. A cluttered power amplifier board may well perform superbly but its busy elaboration is an indication that its design is pushing the limit of its component technology.

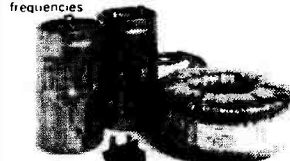
There are now many first class bipolar power amps on the market. All of them are complex and consequently expensive. Any additional improvements in the areas where they are weak (e.g. H.F. distortion) can only be obtained with yet further complexity and cost.

Only a new technology can provide the sort of "quantum jump" in component performance necessary to reduce the clutter on the board, reduce the cost and make the highest fi once more affordable.

#### Powerfets

So far 29 semiconductor manufacturers have invested in this new technology. Clearly powerfets are something special.

Their enormous power gains eliminate conventional drive circuitry in power amps, permitting delightfully simple designs. Their freedom from secondary breakdown and their tendency to shutdown when thermally overstressed, result in inherently stable and destruction proof output stages, not needing protection circuitry. And perhaps best of all, their lack of charge storage make them fast and responsive, producing amplifiers of wide bandwidth and low distortion even at high frequencies.



Power Supply  
Components available

PFA 120  
(150W plus  
into 8Ω  
300W INTO 4Ω)

The PFA is perhaps the perfect realisation of the classic powerfet amp design. The superb PCB allows the use of either one or two pairs of output devices, providing easy expandability for those starting with the smaller system. (The extra output pair of the PFA120 results in lower distortion and improved efficiency, particularly into low impedance loads).

The components used in the PFA have been chosen with extreme care. The lowest noise input devices and lowest distortion gain stage devices were selected regardless of cost. 140V powerfets were chosen against the more usual 120V to give improved safety margins.

Specification	PFA80	PFA120
Bandwidth	10Hz	100kHz 1dB
Output Power R.M.S. into 8Ω	80W (V <sub>s</sub> = $\pm 50V$ )	120W (V <sub>s</sub> = $\pm 55V$ )
THD (20Hz - 20kHz) (kHz at rated output)	$\leq 0.008\%$ 0.004% typ	$\leq 0.005\%$ 0.002% typ
SNR		120dB
Slew Rate		>20V $\mu$ S
Gain		X22
Rin		30K
V <sub>s</sub> max		$\pm 70V$
Cost (built) (kit)	£17.45 £14.95	£24.95 £21.95

P. & P. 75p

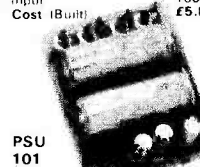
#### Power Amp PAN 1397

A high quality 20W power amp board based on the HA1397. Easily modified for bridge operation providing high powers from low supply voltages.

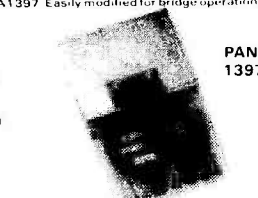
#### Specification

Output power RMS	20W into 8Ω at $\pm 22V$ 20W into 4Ω at $\pm 19V$ 0.02% at 1kHz 1W to 12W
THD	90dB
SNR	100dB
Input	100mV into 50K
Cost (Built)	£5.80

(P. & P. 40p)



PSU  
101



PAN  
1397

PSU 101 Power Supply Board for 1 or 2 PAN 1397s. Provides  $\pm 22V$  at 3A AND  $\pm 27V$  with 2 second run-up (for anti-thump circuit on PAN 1397). (Built) £3.95. P/P 75p

Mains transformer for above 17.0 17v 50VA £3.95 (P. & P. £1)

#### Pre-amp PAN 20

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#### Specification

B.W.	20Hz-30kHz $\pm 1dB$
THD	0.003% typ.
at rated o.p.	
SNR	86 dB (ref. 5mV RIAA)
	106 dB (ref. 100mV flat)
V <sub>s</sub>	$\pm 20V$
Output	1V (clips at $\pm 20dB$ )
Cost (built board, less controls)	£8.75 2 needed for stereo (P. & P. 40p)

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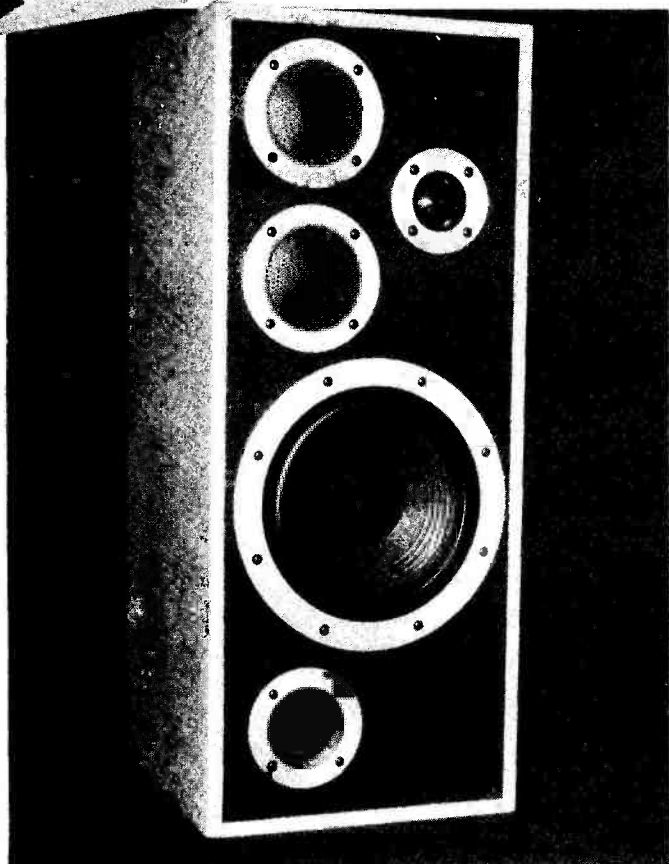
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KIT  
REVIEW

**Fancy a pair of Wharfedale E70s? Can't afford them? Then why not build 'em yourself?**  
**Peter Freebrey underwent the mystic rites of woodworking and saved himself over £100.**



**F**or many years now there have been speaker manufacturers who have marketed kits for the 'do-it-yourself' audio enthusiast. At the present time there are several well known and respected firms supplying high quality kits. One such firm is Rank Hi Fi who manufacture the Wharfedale range. Their approach to this market is the Wharfedale Speakercraft series of drive units and crossovers, together with the constructional information necessary to duplicate their ready-built units using these same components. If the demand is there someone will supply that demand... such is the case with Wilmslow Audio who sell kits of the cabinets to suit the Wharfedale units. This review follows the construction of the E70 system using the WE70 flat-pack cabinet kit.

Why build loudspeaker kits? Well, one obvious answer is to save money; often the cost of a kit is very much less than buying the completed unit. If you are reasonably competent at woodwork, it is perfectly feasible to start from scratch with just a large sheet of flooring grade  $\frac{3}{4}$ " chipboard. An electric power saw makes the job much easier and can also give a better edge to the cut. It is often the edges which concern people as they are going to be visible somewhere around the loudspeaker cabinet and it is easy to think that to get rid of the ugly sight of these will be difficult. This is not necessarily true; there are several ways in which unsightly edges may be hidden from view. The simplest answer is not only to buy a kit of speakers, crossovers, and so on, but perhaps to buy a ready-cut cabinet kit as well — this does not rid you of dealing with edges, but at least they are all cleanly cut!

I had heard that Wilmslow kits were of a very high standard — several people having commented upon the ease with which they went together. That sort of build-up sometimes takes a bit of living up to and I waited for the delivery of the WE70 kit with some uncertainty. When they arrived my initial reaction was favourable; all cuts were clean and the method of construction looked simple and sensible. The sides, top and base are rebated by about  $\frac{1}{8}$ ". This not only gives you a better mechanical joint, but also makes it almost impossible to get any voids or gaps — which is good, acoustically speaking. It also means that with the minimum of care the cabinet will slot together into its correct shape with no unsquare corners or leaning sides. Included with the kit were two cardboard transmission tubes for the mid-range units, acoustic damping material, grille material (both black plastic foam for the reflex port and cloth for the front), nylon grille plugs and sockets, 3 mm wander plugs and sockets for loudspeaker lead connections, and the screws to fix the speaker units themselves. Last but not least there are written instructions on how to assemble the kit.

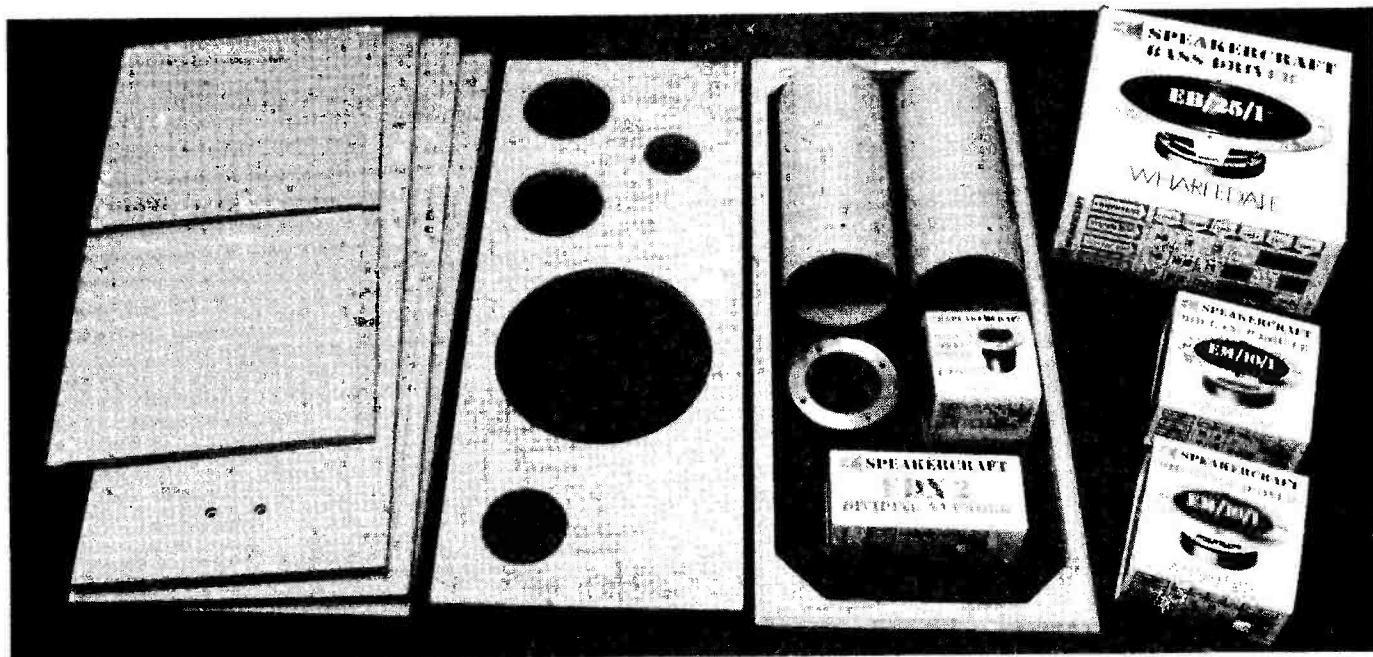
## 16 Steps To Heaven

Step one in the instructions is to examine the panels for transit damage. Presumably if any damage is noticed, Wilmslow Audio should be contacted as soon as possible. Step two is to remove all dust, etc from the panels. Any excess of wood dust from the sawing operation can only do harm so vacuum all surfaces. If there were any build-up of sawdust at the surfaces to be glued that sawdust could conceivably impair any glue joints and also cause the fit of the joints to be out of true.

Step three is to assemble the cabinet without gluing to check the fit. It is also suggested that panels be swapped around to find the optimum results. This step proved to be most encouraging... I assembled one unit (panels only) and held it together with just one turn of linen tape (no string please — it can bite into the corners of the chipboard and cause you extra work later). The cabinet felt as firm as a rock. No glue, just well-fitting joints. Thus encouraged I rapidly got on to step four, which was to paint the face of the baffle board matt black. I gave it a couple of coats of sanding sealer — not so much to get a 'de luxe' finish but to seal the wood surface. Chipboard is pretty thirsty stuff and you can use up a lot of paint if you do not seal the surface first. Just be careful not to get any of the sealer or paint on the edges, as this may affect the glue joint you have to make later.

Step five is to glue the midrange enclosures (transmission tubes) to the baffle boards, using plenty of glue to ensure an airtight seal. The baffle boards are recessed to take the cardboard tubes so it is easy to line up for position. I used Evostik Resin W, which is a PVA wood-working adhesive for all glue joints. It is easy to apply and may be cleaned off the hands/clothes as it is water soluble. Just don't put your speakers out in the rain! Light pressure to a PVA glued joint gives a better joint so I placed one of the side panels across the top of the four tubes to ensure a light even pressure. Rather than apply liberal amounts of glue in one dose I used sufficient so that a *small* bead of glue was squeezed out all around the tube. This was smoothed around with a handy finger and when dry a further fillet of glue was applied all round the tube/baffle joint. Four pieces of approximately 1" thick polyurethane foam are supplied which must be





glued to the rear (outside) end of the baffle tubes. Wharfedale recommend a hard rubber pad at this position but as this 1" foam is to be compressed to about 3/16" it probably is just as good.

Step six is probably the most critical point in the whole construction procedure, for at this point the cabinet panels are glued together. This entails gluing five of the six panels; the sixth (the side furthest from the mid-range enclosures) is placed in its position while the glue is setting but is not glued. This enables you to work inside the cabinet, fitting the crossover, acoustic wadding etc.

Wharfedale suggest that the acoustic wadding be attached to the inside of the panels before you reach this step. Wilmslow Audio suggest that the wadding be fixed *after* the panels have been glued. Although I only learnt of Wharfedale's suggestion after I had completed step six, I favour the Wilmslow approach for several reasons.

If the wadding is stuck/tacked or stapled to the panels before they are fitted together two things may happen: 1) some of the wadding may inadvertently get caught between the panels and cause either an air gap or 2) force the cabinet to go together 'out of true'. Also, with the wadding in place you cannot inspect the inside corners to check that there is a continuous fillet of glue all along the joint.

If you choose the Wilmslow way you will have to cut the wadding to fit around the mid-range enclosures but in practice this proved to be a very simple task.

## Getting A Grip

Holding the whole thing together while the glue sets is quite a teaser. I was fortunate to have a set of excellent clamps known as Jet System Clamps made by TMT Design Ltd of Leamington Spa. They cost about £10 per clamp but are worth their weight in gold for this type of job. The problem comes from the 1" thick foam stuck to the rear of the mid-range enclosures; this tends to force the back panel out of position. Wilmslow suggest either that clamps be used or that the joints be held *firmly* together with masking tape. It is possible with masking tape but only just; remember that unlike your trial fitting in step three, the foam pads are being compressed to about 3/16" and all but one panel has glue all along the edges and is quite capable of sliding all over the place! I bought a wide webbing strap from a camping shop to assist the initial stages of holding the four vertical panels approximately in place while I set up the clamps. The cost of the strap was wasted as I could not get enough tension in it to over-

come the spring in the foam... a linen tape would have done just as well! If you are going to use masking tape then get someone to help apply the pressure to hold the front and back panels in position while you apply the tape. Lastly, cut up a thin polythene bag and place four pieces inside each corner of the panel that is not to be glued; it would be a shame if this stuck firmly to the rest of the panels by accident!

It is useful to have a rubber-faced hammer at this stage as, having clamped or taped the cabinet firmly together, you may wish to tap the panels firmly but lightly into position. A hammer and a block of wood do the trick just as well, but try not to mark or dent any edges. The places to look for out of true joints are the corners... remember once the glue has set there is nothing you can do, so a few light taps now can save the day. Wipe off excess glue with a damp cloth. Wipe from the centre of each panel out towards the edge; try not to get any glue smeared over the panels.

Having completed step six the rest of the construction is plain sailing. Step seven is simply to remove the loose side when the glue has set (leave for at least 24 hours). I then put a small fillet of glue all around the inside of all joints BUT not up to the edges where the last panel is to fit... we want it to go back from whence it came!

Step eight is to place the drive units and reflex port trims in the baffle board and mark accurately where pilot holes for the fixing screws are to be drilled. Although the chipboard is high density it has a fairly soft texture so it is well worth buying a new 1/8" drill bit. This ensures the pilot holes are clean and in the right place... worn bits tend to wander! Although I'm sure it is unnecessary I drilled all my pilot holes just deep enough for the screws by slipping a small rubber sleeve over the drill bit at the right depth. No-one could accuse me of having any extra holes or air gaps here!

Step nine is to position the grille frame on the front of the cabinet with the cabinet lying on its back. Use masking tape to hold it in position and carefully drill a pilot hole through the grille and into the baffle board. I used a 1/16" drill bit and drilled four holes, one in each corner section of the grille frame. These holes can now be drilled out to the correct size to accept the nylon plugs and sockets that hold the grille in place. Wilmslow supply eight plugs/sockets for each grille but as Wharfedale suggested that four would be sufficient I chose the latter. It is far easier to line up four holes than eight! For the socket in the baffle board I used a 7/16" bit and for the grille a 7/32" bit. Don't forget to drill only from the rear of the grille and only to a depth of 1/4-5/16". The 1/16" pilot hole may be filled with wood filler



but when the grille material is fitted I doubt that these holes can be seen. If you are happy with the finish on the baffle board then glue the sockets in now; if not, then wait until you have quite finished before fixing them in position. Do not stick the plugs in the grille until you have fixed the material in place. I used a quickset epoxy glue for these fittings.

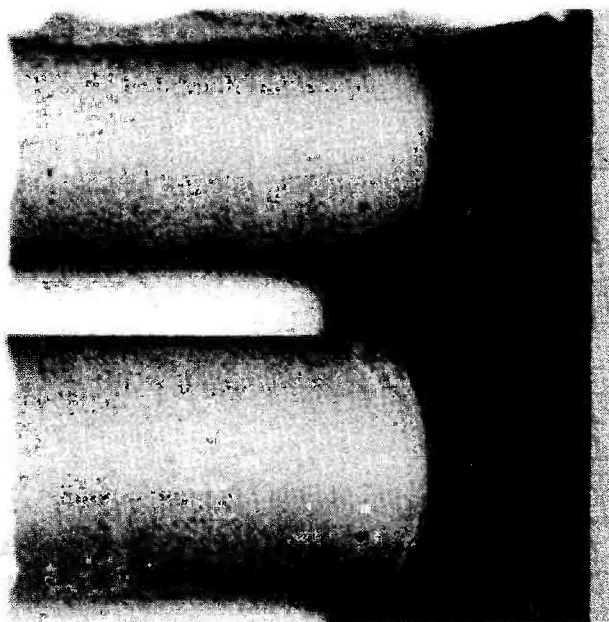
Step 10 is to glue the black, acoustically transparent foam over the inside of the reflex port aperture. You can use either PVA glue or quickset epoxy, just be careful not to get any of the adhesive on the foam where it is over the port.

Step 11 is to position the crossover network inside the cabinet on the rear panel opposite the bass unit aperture. Before you screw it into position check that the leads from the drive units can reach their appropriate tags! Wharfedale recommend that the crossover has a piece of felt or foam between it and the panel to prevent any vibration rattles. Also in step 11 is the fitting of the input terminals through the rear panel. I smeared the threads on these sockets with some latex glue, again to ensure that there would be no air gaps. Solder the leads from the crossover to these terminals. . . make sure they are connected correctly, red to red and black to black!

Step 12 is to cut three 5" discs of wadding and place these in the mid-range tubes. The Wharfedale instructions that come with every Speakercraft unit specify that the packing density of this wadding should increase towards the back of the tube and that the tube should be completely filled with wadding. In view of this I cut two extra discs and fluffed out those towards the front of the tube.

## It's In The Bag

Step 13 is to line the inside of the cabinet with the acoustic wadding and glue the remaining side into place. Now comes the tricky bit — how do you slide the wadding up behind the mid-range tubes? The wadding catches on the side panel and snags up behind the tubes! Easy — get a large polythene bag 12" or more wide and about 15" to 18" long, slide the wadding into the bag, slide the bag plus the wadding up behind the tubes and, lightly holding the wadding in place, pull out the bag. Cutting the wadding to fit round the tubes sounds fiddly but turned out to be quite easy. Cut the holes for the tubes smaller rather than larger as the wadding will easily stretch to fit comfortably in place. No wadding is required on the baffle board but don't forget to put wadding on the loose side panel before you glue it into place! The wadding may be tacked or stapled into place.



The wadding is tacked or stapled in place.

Step 14 is to attach the wires to the drive units — *observing the correct polarity* (if in doubt refer to the Speakercraft instructions and double-check every connection), and screw all units and ports to the cabinet. Wire up and fit the bass unit last as the bass aperture gives you ample room to work inside the cabinet connecting wires to the crossover. The wires from the mid-range units come through small holes in the tubes and these holes should be sealed after you have connected the wires to the crossover. The fitting of the drive units should only be started after the glue joints of the final side have thoroughly set and any glue fumes have completely cleared. The comment regarding fumes is highly pertinent if you are not using a water-based adhesive. There is a possibility that the fumes could affect certain plastics used in the construction of the drive units.

Step 15: You have two working loudspeaker systems, so connect them to your amplifier and sit back and enjoy your favourite record.

Step 16: The cabinets are now ready for their final cosmetic treatment. There are a number of options open to you: they may be:

- veneered either by you or a local cabinet-maker.
- covered in iron-on veneer or plastic laminate.
- sealed and then painted (preferably sprayed) in colour of your choice.
- Wilmslow Audio also suggest the use of a 'Contact' type covering as these can be obtained in very realistic wood-grain finishes.

Whichever method you opt for you will probably have to attend to the cabinet edges/joints before you can proceed. Due to the small but noticeable tolerances in the cutting of the panels, the amount of glue and the pressure used during the construction, there are likely to be a few panels that are slightly proud of the edges that butt up to them. There are several ways to solve these problems but the simplest is to use one of the proprietary wood fillers. Which choice depends upon your choice of finish.

If the cabinets are to be covered in plastic laminate you can afford to use one of the more easily worked fillers such as Fine Surface Polyfilla, Alabastine or Plaster of Paris. If, on the other hand, you are going to cover them with 'Contact' or simply spray-paint them then I would suggest a tougher type of filler that is less likely to crack or crumble. My choice here would be one of the car body fillers — they are easier to sand than some of the loaded general-purpose fillers from the DIY shop. So you are less likely to sand away the wood from the cabinet instead of the filler!

The grille material must be stretched over the grille frames and either tacked/stapled or glued (or both) to the inside of the frame. The material supplied by Wilmslow Audio stretched easily and evenly; I smeared PVA glue over the rear faces of the frames (having first painted them black) and stapled the material in place while the glue set. When set I trimmed off the excess material (having removed the 50-odd staples) and ran another bead of the adhesive over the edge of the material.

Looking back on the construction of this E70 loudspeaker system using the WE70 flat-packs, I can only say that I am very satisfied with the way they went together. There were one or two instructions that could have been a little clearer but they have been covered in this article. Common sense would probably have solved any uncertainties but I chose to phone Rank Hi Fi to confirm my conclusions. The people I spoke to did not know that I was writing this review and so it is a pleasure to say they could not have been more helpful. This entire project has been enjoyable from first to last.

## BUYLINES

Wilmslow Audio sell the complete WE70 package (flat pack, drivers and all components for two speakers) for £220 plus £8 carriage. Wilmslow Audio, 35/39 Church Street, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 1AS.



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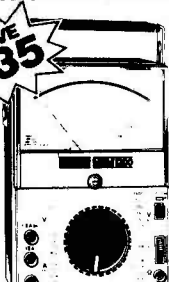
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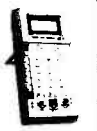
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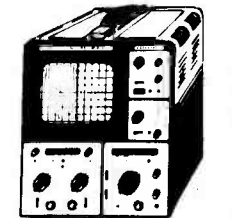
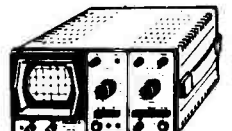
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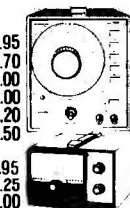
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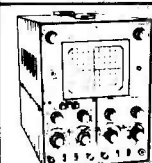
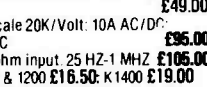
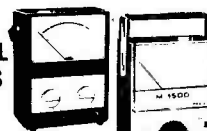
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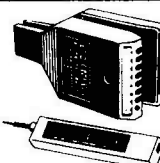
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# AUTOMATIC CONTRAST METER



What's black and white and read all over? Answer — a photographic negative, providing you've built this simple and useful device. Design and development by Rory Holmes.

Contrast ratio is a very important quality of photographic negatives that must be assessed during the printing process, in order to select the correct grade of photographic paper. The contrast of negatives depends on the type of film used, the lighting conditions and the developing process; consequently five grades of printing paper are available to enable the full range of tones from black to white to be reproduced from any negative. Grade 1 is termed the softest and it is used with the highest contrast negatives. At the other end of the scale, grade 5 is the hardest paper, which will enhance the tonal variations of poor contrast negatives.

During the design stage of this project we experimented initially with two separate photodetectors which measured the instantaneous light difference between two points. There are a number of problems with this approach, as the photodiodes and their associated amplifiers must be carefully matched in light sensitivity.

Secondly, the lightest and darkest points of the image must be known exactly, and the two photodetectors need to be simultaneously positioned on these points while the reading is taken. This is an awkward business at the best of times, but especially so in a darkroom!

We considered that a different

approach was required and developed the circuit of Fig. 1 to overcome some of these difficulties. Only one photodetector is used and the peak positive and negative voltages obtained from different light levels are followed and stored independently by sample and hold circuits.

Now, as long as the photodiode is scanned at some time through the lightest and darkest points of the image, the peak detectors will memorize the maximum and minimum voltages, and thus provide a contrast measurement.

The photodetector input stage of our meter is rather unusual in its configuration. Photodiodes are usually

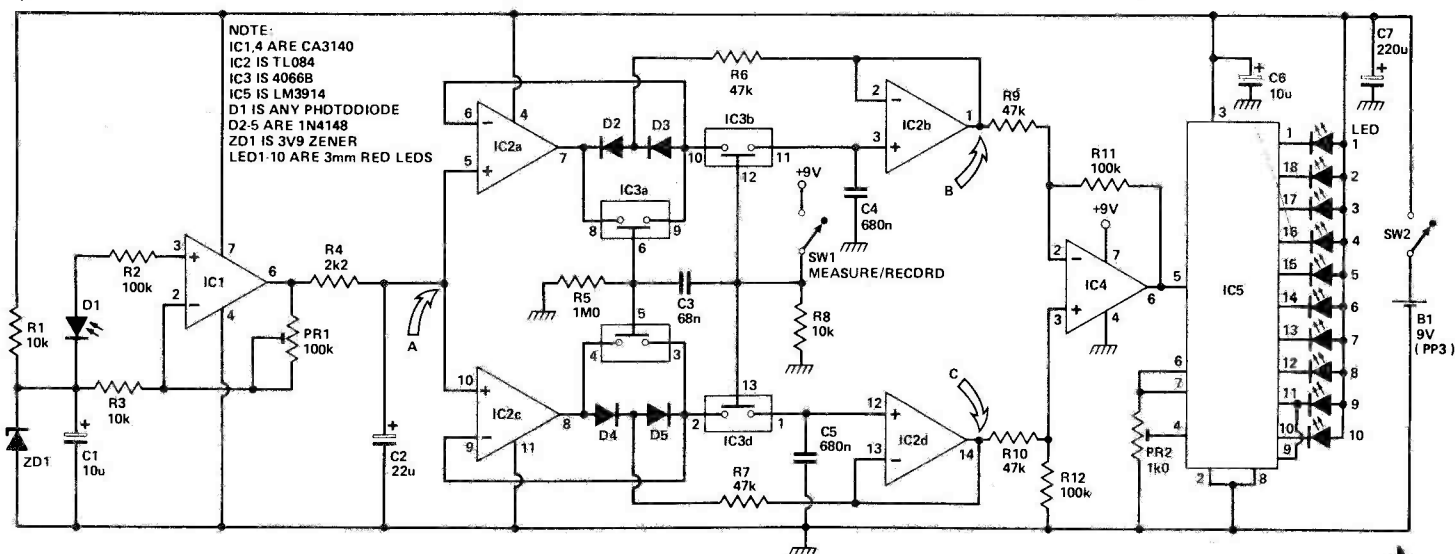


Fig. 1 Circuit diagram of the Contrast Meter.



used in the 'photovoltaic mode' where the photocurrent developed and measured is linearly proportional to the light intensity. Our input amplifier has an extremely high input impedance and thus measures the open circuit voltage generated by the photodiode. This voltage is logarithmically proportional to irradiance as the graph of Fig. 2 illustrates. This is a very convenient property since the sampling circuitry can now work on the log of the light level to provide maximum and minimum values. By simply subtracting these two values with a differential amplifier we obtain a voltage that is logarithmically proportional to the ratio of the maximum and minimum light levels, ie the contrast.

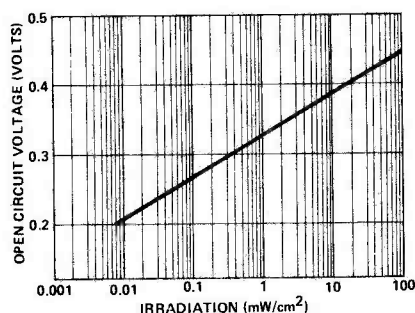


Fig. 2 Response of the photodiode used in this project.

## Meter Made

The ETI contrast meter was intended primarily to determine the paper grade for a well balanced print; consequently a 10 LED bargraph type meter is sufficiently accurate for calibrating the five grades of paper. At today's prices this also works out somewhat cheaper than a moving coil meter and is less prone to damage. After calibration, the meter will be found very easy to use. It is switched on with the 'sample/hold' switch in the 'hold' position and placed down flat on the enlarger base with the photodetector probe anywhere in the image area. (The photodiode has been mounted in a separate probe with its amplifier in order to keep it as close to the focused image plane as possible. If it were much higher than this the detecting element would pass through an unfocused image, giving a false contrast reading).

Any red safety lights should be switched off before the reading is taken to avoid error since the photodiode is responsive at this wavelength. The sample/hold switch should now be moved to the sample position; this will clear any previous reading and start measuring light variations. Now the photodiode may be moved across the image and through the areas that look the brightest and darkest. This can be

done quite slowly thanks to the peak detectors' long memory time; however, several areas should be scanned to ensure the recording of the true maximum and minimum. The eye can be deceived quite easily by those cunning optical illusions lurking among the shades of grey!

During the scanning process the reading on the LED scale will increase and finally level-off at the true contrast ratio when the black and white peaks have been covered. Before removing the meter from the image area the sample/hold switch should be set to 'hold'. The meter will now be immune to further light variations and will continue to display the contrast reading for a considerable time, thanks to the even longer memory of the sample/hold circuitry!

A true ratio is provided by the meter and thus the contrast reading for a given negative will be independent of the light source intensity and enlargement size (photographic aberrations known as "circles of confusion" may produce sources of error under certain conditions). Negatives may thus be compared or matched for contrast.

## Construction

The meter is built into a slim style plastic enclosure produced by OK Machine and Tool company. This houses the battery and main PCB on which all the parts are mounted. Since the light sensing element must be as close to the enlarger base plane as possible, we have mounted it externally on a separate small PCB with its associated amplifier. A probe to house the external sensor is made from a short length of aluminium channel extrusion. Figure 3 shows the

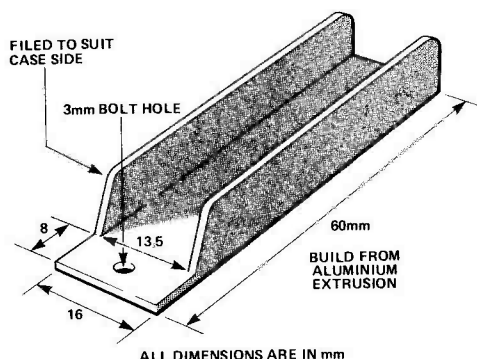


Fig. 3 Details for the aluminium extrusion that houses the photoprobe.

dimensions for the probe; if the aluminium channel proves difficult to obtain, a piece of the slotted aluminium extrusion used for commercial shelf-racking systems is ideal. This is available from most DIY

stores in short lengths with the required internal width. After filing or cutting to the right size, a piece of insulating tape should be stuck down on the inside to prevent shorting out the PCB. As shown in the diagram, a hole is drilled on the end for bolting it to the bottom of the case. This bolt should eventually be connected to circuit ground, thus providing screening for the photo-amplifier. The two PCBs for probe and main meter circuits are laid out as one board, and should be sawn apart along the lines shown on the foil patterns.

For other construction arrangements, the circuit can be left as a single board, since the interconnections are already made.

Three wires are used to connect the two boards together as indicated on the overlay; these should pass through a small hole drilled in the case side where the metal probe case is bolted on. When the probe board is mounted and stuck down in its channel, a piece of thin aluminium sheet is cut to form a lid with appropriate holes for the photodiode and preset. (The photodiode case is internally connected to the cathode, so it must not short against the lid).

## Calibration

Start with preset PR1 fully clockwise to set a gain of 1; also set PR2 fully anticlockwise, setting the voltage required to illuminate the lower end of the bargraph at zero. First, measure a high contrast negative that is known to require grade 1 paper for a good average contrast after developing. Initially a low contrast reading will be obtained, say about grade 4 or 5. Now, adjust PR1 anticlockwise to increase the gain of the photoamplifier. Take another measurement, when the contrast reading should be greater. Repeat this process until a grade 1 is consistently recorded.

Now select a negative with very poor contrast ratio, one known to require paper grade 5 for bringing out the contrast. Take measurements several times while adjusting only PR2 clockwise, until the bottom end of the scale illuminates at grade 5. The other contrast grades should now fall linearly between these points and can be checked for accuracy.

Although the bargraph display has a low resolution and accuracy, the rest of the metering circuit is obviously much better than this; consequently a moving coil meter could easily be added to measure the contrast voltage for those who may desire greater resolution.



## HOW IT WORKS

The general circuit arrangement consists of a photo-amplifier which feeds a voltage derived from varying light levels in an enlarger, to a pair of peak detectors. One follows the peak positive voltage and the other the peak negative voltage. The capacitors used for storing the voltage peaks in the followers also form part of sample and hold circuits which are then switched to 'hold' after measurement. Their outputs represent the maximum and minimum values of light intensity. A differential amplifier then computes the ratio of these values and the result is displayed on an LED bargraph meter.

IC1, a CA3140 CMOS op-amp, is used as the photodetector amplifier. It is configured as a non-inverting DC amplifier with a gain variable from unity to about 10, set by PR1. Although IC1 can have input and output voltages all the way to ground, this facility is not used owing to the driving requirement of the TL084 quad op-amp. This requires inputs at least 1 V above ground, and thus IC1's output is offset by a reference voltage of 3V9 provided by R1, ZD1 and C1. The anode of the photodiode is connected via R2 to the non-inverting terminal of IC1 which has an effectively infinite input impedance. Thus the open circuit voltage generated by the photodiode is amplified according to the gain set around IC1 and appears at the output on pin 6 added to the reference voltage.

The voltage at point A (ignoring the reference offset) will be logarithmically

proportional to the intensity of incident light, owing to the properties of the photodiode (see Fig. 2) R4 and C2 form a simple filter to remove 100 Hz ripple caused by AC mains bulbs. This voltage is fed directly to the peak detectors. These circuits are essentially the same, the difference being the polarity of the rectifier diodes. They operate in exactly the same way, and we shall deal only with the peak positive voltage follower.

Assume initially that the CMOS analogue switch IC3c is open and IC3d is closed. C5 will be connected to the output of op-amp IC2c via the rectifiers D4 and 5 (we can ignore the action of R7 for the moment). C5 will charge up via the rectifiers to the most positive voltage peak when the voltage at point A on the non-inverting terminal is greater than the capacitor voltage applied to the inverting terminal. The voltage held on C5 will droop over a period of time due to leakage current through the rectifiers D4 and 5 and the input bias current of IC2c. IC2c was chosen as a FET op-amp with a low input bias current and R7 is included to reduce the diode leakage current.

IC2d is connected to C5 as a straightforward high impedance voltage follower to buffer the stored voltage. When the input voltage to IC2c at point A drops below the peak value, IC2c's output will go negative, reverse biasing D4. However, IC2d applies the capacitor voltage via R7 to the anode of D5, effectively removing

leakage current through D5.

The peak positive value of the signal at A thus appears at point C, and likewise the peak negative value at point B. When the analogue switch IC3d is now opened, C5 is disconnected from the peak detector and acts in conjunction with IC2d as a sample and hold circuit thus isolating the measured values from further light variations.

When SW1 is open, R8 and R5 hold the control pins 13 and 5 of IC3 low, opening both analogue switches. This is the 'hold' mode. When SW1 is now closed, the control pin 13 is taken high, switching to the 'sample' mode. C3 and R5 produce a positive pulse (about 50 ms) on control pin 5 to briefly short out D4 and D5, so resetting the peak detector to the current voltage at point A. When C3 has charged the IC3c switch will open again, allowing the peak detector to function.

IC4 is wired as a differential amplifier with a gain of 2, to subtract the voltage at point C from point B. Since these voltages are the log of the light levels, the output on pin 6 will represent the contrast ratio of these light values.

IC5 is a standard LED bargraph driver, the LM3914. The input voltage on pin 5 is converted linearly to illuminate one LED on a scale of 10. Full scale deflection (LED 10) is set internally at 1V2; the zero scale deflection is set by PR2 anywhere between 0V and 1V2 during the calibration process. C6, a 10  $\mu$ F tantalum, is required for IC5 to ensure stability from oscillation.

NOTE: k = CATHODE

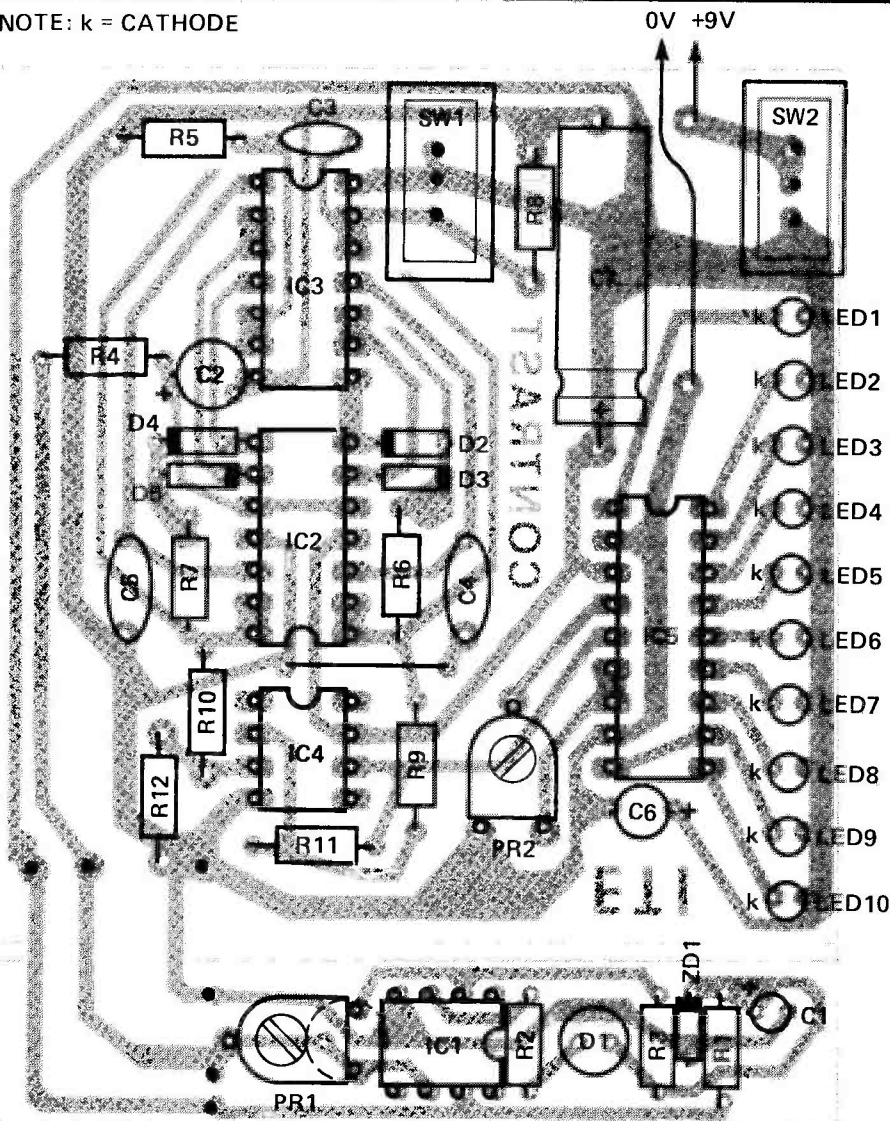


Fig. 4 (Left) Component overlay for the meter (showing the board uncut).

## PARTS LIST

### Resistors (all $\frac{1}{4}$ W, 5%)

R1, 3, 8	10k
R2, 11, 12	100k
R4	2k2
R5	1M0
R6, 7, 9, 10	47R

### Presets

PR1	100k subminiature horizontal preset
PR2	1k0 miniature horizontal preset

### Capacitors

C1	10u 35 V tantalum
C2	22u 25 V tantalum
C3	220u 16 V electrolytic
C4, 6	82n polycarbonate
C5	68 n ceramic

### Semiconductors

IC 1, 4	CA3140
IC2	TL084
IC3	4066B
IC5	LM3914
D1	BPX65
D2, 3, 4, 5	1N4148
LED1-10	3 mm red LED

### Miscellaneous

SW1, 2	miniature slide switches
Case (see Buylines); PCB (see Buylines); B1	
PP3 9 V battery (preferably alkaline type).	

## BUYLINES

The photodiode specified in the Parts List is the one used in our prototype, but any general purpose type should do. The case we used is a Pactec type HP, size 146 x 91 x 28 mm. The PCB is available from us using the order form on page 44 — price is £2.12.



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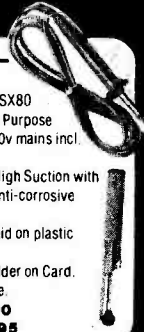
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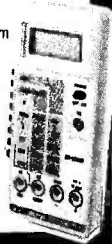
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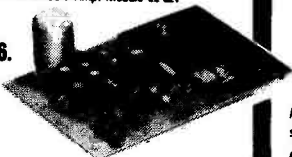
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In addition to the PCBs for this month's projects, we are making available some of the more popular designs from our recent past. See the list below for details. Please note that **NO OTHER BOARDS ARE AVAILABLE**. If it's not listed, we don't have it!

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# DESIGNER'S NOTEBOOK

**Five into one does go. This month Don Keighley explains all about sampling and time-division multiplex systems, and looks closely at the advantages of pulse-width modulated telecommunications networks.**

**S**ampling is a process we can undertake if we want to combine many different signals on to a single transmission line. The transmission line can be of any type such as wire, radio, or optical. Combining several signals into one is called 'multiplexing' and can save the expense of having many separate lines. Sampling is used in a specific type of multiplexing called time-division multiplexing (TDM) which I'll explain later. The other form of multiplexing — frequency-division multiplexing (FDM) — is the basis of all standard radio transmissions. Each signal to be transmitted is mixed with a carrier wave (or radio frequency) on to a set frequency within the radio spectrum. Thus many signals can be transmitted and received by radio link — one on each defined frequency of the radio spectrum.

Figure 1 shows an illustration of sampling. In the figure, a sinusoidal signal (known as the message signal) has a series of values taken at regular intervals. These sample values can be used to represent the message signal. For instance, we can pass the actual DC values of the samples, ie their voltages, along the line. At the other end of the line the sample values, or pulses as they are usually called, are converted back into the message signal, simply by passing them through a lowpass filter. The filter removes the high frequency pulses and thus re-creates the envelope of the original message signal — as shown by the sinewave of Fig. 2.

One of the most important questions arising is — How often do we need to sample the message signal? It is obvious that if the signal is sampled too few times we won't be able to

reconvert the pulses into the message signal at the receiving end of the transmission line.

The minimum number of samples is given by the sampling theorem, which states that a message signal of bandwidth  $B$  Hz can be represented by a set of sample values taken at a frequency of  $2B$  Hz. For example, an audio system has a frequency response of 20 Hz to 20 kHz. Its bandwidth is thus  $20,000 - 20 = 19,980$  Hz. The audio signal of the system can thus be represented if samples are taken at  $2 \times 19,980 \text{ Hz} = 39,960 \text{ Hz}$ .

But the *minimum* number of representative samples ( $2B$  Hz) isn't the *easiest* number of samples to convert back into the message signal. It's usual to take a greater number of samples because doing so makes the reconversion easier. To see why this is so we've got to take a look at the spectra of the transmitted samples and see how they differ when different sample frequencies are used. Figure 3 shows the possible spectrum of a message signal such as an audio signal. It's the sort of result you would see on the screen of a spectrum analyser. Frequency  $f_m$  is the maximum frequency contained in the signal. The lowest frequency contained is 0 Hz (the signal extends down to DC); so the bandwidth of the message signal is  $f_m - 0 = f_m$  Hz.

When the message signal is sampled at a frequency  $f_s$ , the overall spectrum looks something like that shown in Fig. 4 and consists of components at harmonics of the sampling frequency, with upper and lower sidebands around them, as well as the original spectrum of the message signal. In Fig. 4 you can see the sampling frequency,  $f_s$ , is more than twice  $f_m$  — hence there is a gap between the highest frequency of the higher sideband of a

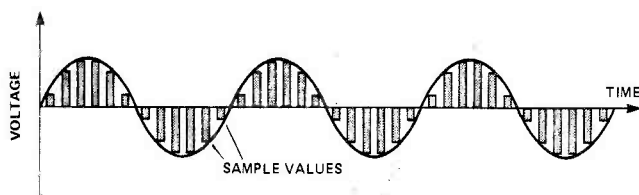


Fig. 1 A message signal can be represented by a series of sample values of the signal.

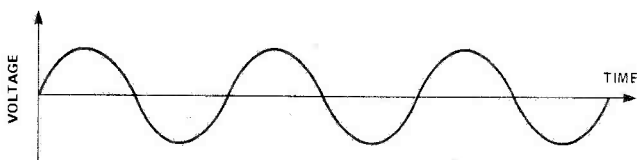


Fig. 2 If the series of sample values is passed through a lowpass filter the original message signal is recreated.

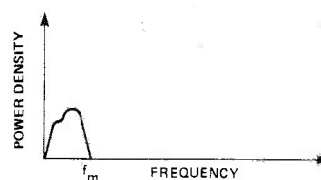


Fig. 3 Power density spectrum of typical audio signal. The higher frequency component in the signal is  $f_m$ . The signal extends down to 0 Hz, so the bandwidth of the signal is  $f_m$  Hz.

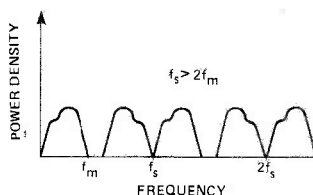


Fig. 4 Power density spectrum of an audio signal, sampled at a frequency of  $f_s$ . In this example,  $f_s$  is greater than  $2f_m$ .



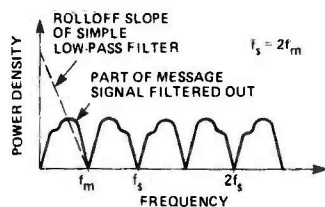


Fig. 5 Sampling frequency  $f_s$  equals  $2f_m$ . A simple lowpass filter may filter out some of the wanted message signal.

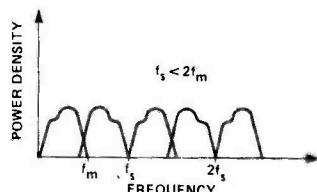


Fig. 6 Sampling frequency less than  $2f_m$ . A lowpass filter cannot be used to recreate the original message signal.

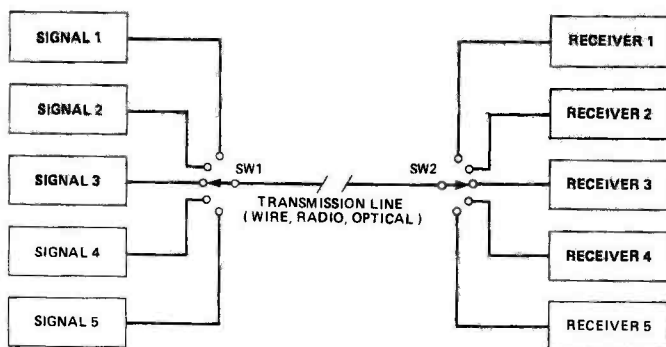


Fig. 7 A simple time-division multiplex (TDM) system.

component and the lowest frequency in the lower sideband of the next component. This gap between bands means that a simple lowpass filter can be used at the receiver to pass only the message signal and not the higher components: so the message signal is recreated.

With a sampling frequency of only  $2f_m$  (Fig. 5) the highest frequency of one band and the lowest frequency of the next occur at the same point. A simple lowpass filter would filter out some of the message signal, as shown in the figure. A more complex lowpass filter (with a steeper roll-off slope) could be used to correctly recreate the message signal.

In Fig. 6,  $f_s$  is less than  $2f_m$  and, as you would expect, the spectrum shows how message signal and sidebands overlap. A lowpass filter *cannot* be used to recover the whole of the message signal without letting through part of the next sideband.

## TDM Tricks

A simple TDM system is shown in Fig. 7, in block diagram form. Each signal to be transmitted is connected to an input of switch SW1. This switch, although shown in the diagram as a mechanical-type switch, will be of electronic construction in a real TDM system, so that a high switching speed can be obtained. The output signal from the switch is transmitted along the transmission line to switch SW2, which connects each receiver, in turn, to the line. Providing the switches are operating fast enough so that the sampling theorem is fulfilled ( $f_s \geq 2f_m$ ) for *all* the message signals, everything is fine and we have five signals passing down one line.

The whole process of sampling and TDM is a form of modulation because only a representation of the message signal is transmitted, not the actual signal. And because pulsed samples of the message signal are transmitted, we call the process pulse modulation.

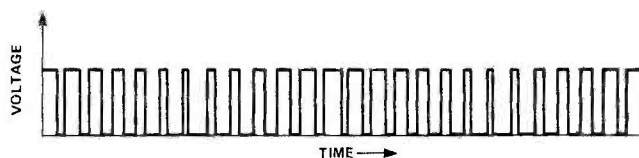


Fig. 8 Pulse-width modulation. The width of each pulse varies in accordance with the amplitude of the message signal.

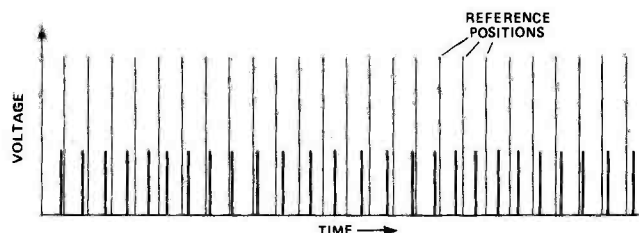


Fig. 9 Pulse-position modulation. Each pulse's position, with respect to a reference point, varies in accordance with the message signal amplitude.

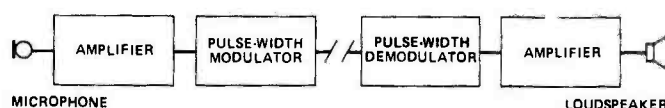


Fig. 10 A pulse-width modulation microphone/loudspeaker system.

There are various forms of pulse modulation which can be used in a TDM system, all relying on the fact that the original sample values control some property of corresponding pulses. The one just described uses the DC value (ie amplitude) of the pulses and is therefore known as pulse-amplitude modulation. Other forms of pulse modulation are: pulse-width modulation (where the width of the pulses is varied according to the sampled value) and pulse-position modulation (the position of the pulse, relative to a reference position, is proportional to the sample value). Figures 8 and 9 show examples of these pulse modulation systems and the sampling frequencies of both must follow the sampling theorem — the sampling frequency must be at least twice that of the message signal bandwidth. There is a final pulsed system, in which each sampled value is converted into a train of binary digits. This is, strictly speaking, a digital system and doesn't concern us here; however the system must still follow the sampling theorem.

## Practical Matters

With careful design all the pulse modulation systems can give good results in TDM but perhaps the best — because it's easy to use, has a high immunity to interference and yet needs a minimum of component hardware — is pulse-width modulation (PWM). Figure 10 shows a block diagram of a PWM microphone/loudspeaker set-up — such as you might have in a multi-station intercom system or similar.

We can investigate the modulation and demodulation blocks in more detail, as in Fig. 11 and 12. Figure 11 shows a simplified pulse-width modulator. It consists of an oscillator to provide sampling pulses at a rate of over  $2f_m$ , so that the sampling theorem is fulfilled. In a good quality audio modulator, the sampling rate is therefore over 40 kHz and the time between pulses must be  $1/f_s = 25 \mu s$ .

The pulse duration is less than this, say  $1 \mu s$ , and each pulse charges the capacitor C1 to full voltage. After charging, the capacitor is linearly discharged via the constant current source. The cycle repeats itself at every pulse. The capacitor's discharge rate is a product of the capacitor/constant current time constant, which should be about  $2 \mu s$ . Comparator IC1 compares the ramp discharge with the incoming audio signal — when the non-inverting input voltage is above that of the inverting input



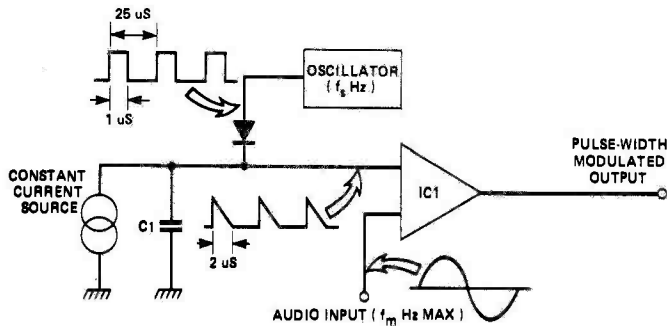


Fig. 11 A pulse-width modulator in detail.

the comparator output is high; when the non-inverting input is below the inverting input the output is low. Thus the output is high the instant of every sampling pulse, but falls low again after a time which is linearly related to the amplitude of the audio signal. In other words, the width of the pulse is modulated by the audio signal.

A pulse-width demodulator is shown in Fig. 12. A capacitor with a parallel constant current source is again used and the incoming width-modulated pulses cause a charge/discharge cycle similar to that in the modulator. The average DC level of charge across the capacitor is dependent on the width of the pulses — the wider the pulse, the higher the DC level. Buffer IC1 prevents loading of the voltage across the capacitor and the output is lowpass filtered by capacitor C2 to remove the sharp spikes of the sampling pulses, thus re-creating the original audio message signal.

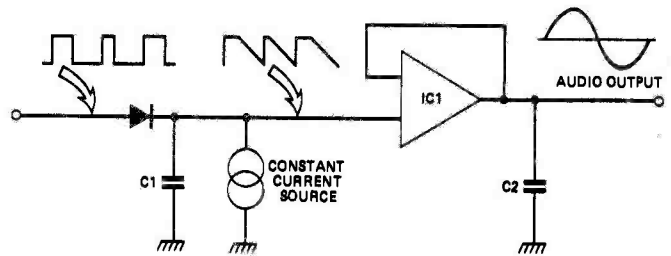


Fig. 12 A pulse-width demodulator can be built using the same basic components used in a pulse-width modulator.

The advantages of such a system aren't always immediately obvious, but you must remember that the audio signal is being represented by a pulse of nominal width 2 μs in a cycling time of 25 μs. This means that 12 different, high-quality audio signals can be time-division multiplexed down that transmission line simultaneously and without interference — and this is just a simple system. With a shorter nominal pulse width and more accurate modulators and demodulators, many more signals can be multiplexed on to a single transmission line.

It's all down to economics really. When you look at a large telecommunications system like the telephone network, there are literally thousands upon thousands of miles of expensive copper cable. By putting 100 telephone conversations down one line the overall cable cost is only 1/100th of that of a non-multiplexed system. Makes sense, doesn't it!

ETI



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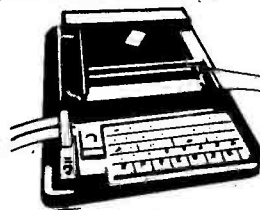
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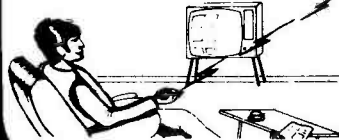


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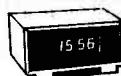
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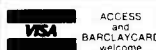


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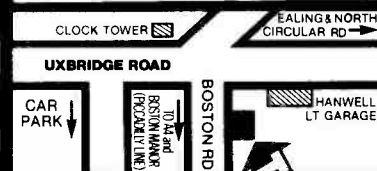
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Trigger Diac  
2N6027 PUT

## CMOS

4000	14	4026	1.05	4093	45
4001	14	4027	40	4501	24
4002	14	4028	50	4511	85
4007	14	4040	68	4514	1.80
4011	15	4049	30		
4012	17	4050	30		
4013	35	4060	90		
4015	70	4069	18		
4016	30	4070	24		
4017	65	4071	22		
4018	38	4081	24		
4023	22	4083	58		
4025	18				



## POTENTIOMETERS

100 ohm h.	08	47K h/v	08
470 ohm h.	08	100 h	08
1K ohm h.	08	470K h/v	08
4.7K ohm h.	08	1 Mohm v	08
10K ohm h/v	08		
22K ohm v	08		
Presets			
(Rotary)			
Linear - no switch			
1K, 4.7K, 10K, 22K, 47K 100K, 470K, 1M, 2.2M			30
Log No Switch - 10K			30
With DPST Switch			
Lin 2.5K, 5K, 10K, 100K, 250K			50
Log 5K, 10K, 50K, 100K, 500K			50
Dual Gang			
Lin 1K, 10K, 100K			60
Log 5K, 10K			60

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# SOUND EFFECTS 1: BOMB DROP

One of the attractions of the more sophisticated video games seen in 'fun' arcades these days is the realistic array of sound effects that go with the action — gunshots, bomb whistles and explosions, etc. Make some yourself with just one IC. Design by Phil Wait.

Those 'cannon shots' and explosions that go with the popular 'Space Invaders' video games and its variants add a measure of interest, feedback and stimulation to the action in which you participate on screen. Those sounds are electronically synthesised — that is, they consist of a complex mixture of waveforms that make up the required sound.

A 'bomb drop and explosion' is a remarkably complex sound when analysed carefully. Looking at it simply, there is a descending tone followed by a burst of noise that dies away in intensity. The descending tone starts at quite a high pitch and is not a 'pure' tone (ie a sine wave). The explosion is a burst of noise that commences suddenly and dies away slowly in a recognisable way (usually exponentially). While it is possible to electronically produce very nearly an exact replica of a bomb drop and explosion, some compromises are acceptable to reduce the complexity and cost of the task and yet produce a recognisable replica of the sound.

To produce such sound using conventional components — transistors, diodes, op-amps, resistors and capacitors — would require a whole legion of components. Fortunately, the IC manufacturers can come to our rescue here and much of the circuitry can be incorporated into a complex integrated circuit requiring the addition of a minimum of external components and the appropriate interconnections to synthesise the required sound. Generating a wide variety of sounds fortunately requires only a limited number of functional blocks, such as: a noise generator, voltage controlled oscillators, multivibrators, envelope generators (a sort of modulator), mixers and amplifiers. Tim Orr discusses such circuitry elsewhere in this issue.

Texas Instruments, the giant US-based component and equipment

manufacturer, have designed a series of complex function ICs for various applications and among them is the SN76488 Complex Sound Generator. This chip contains both linear and digital circuitry and is intended for use in applications requiring audio feedback to the user — video games, pinball, alarms, toys, etc, or industrial indicators, feedback controls and the like. Power consumption is quite low, allowing battery operation, and only a single supply rail is required.

The SN76488 is contained in a 28-pin package and can be purchased for less than £5. It is quite a versatile chip, but we have chosen to describe how to obtain only two sound effects, these being a bomb drop and explosion, and a steam train and whistle. The former is described here; the latter appears on page 118.

## Construction

Both the projects described use the one PCB design. Only the required components are assembled into the board according to each overlay diagram to obtain the required sound generator. Naturally enough, the polarity of the IC should be noted as well as the polarity of electrolytic and tantalum capacitors used. Commence construction by assembling the passive components, followed by the IC. This is not a CMOS device and no special care is required, apart from being careful not to bend any pins under the device when inserting it. If you wish, a socket may be used for the IC. This way, you can assemble both projects and purchase only one IC, swapping between the boards as you need to use them!

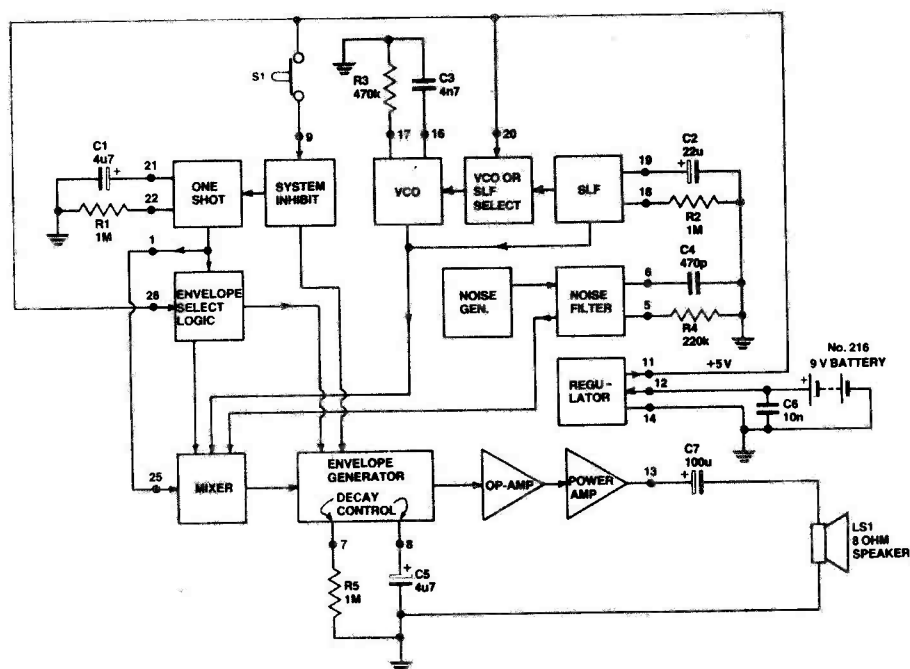


Fig. 1 Circuit diagram of the Bomb Drop and Explosion sound effects board.



Wiring to the switches, the speaker and the supply should be attached last.

The unit may be mounted in any convenient-sized box and the speaker mounted on the front. Alternatively, it may be wired into an existing piece of equipment. We'll have to leave these arrangements up to you.

## Projectile Project

This produces a 'bomb drop and explosion' sound at the press of a button. Alternatively, the push-button PB1 could be replaced by a pair of relay contacts operated by a piece of equipment or a transistor (emitter to pin 9, collector to other side of PB1) that is turned on by a logic high applied to its base via a resistor.

This project is one of the most complex, using almost every functional block within the SN76488. Varying R3 and C3 a little will vary the pitch range of the 'bomb drop' (descending whistle), while varying R4 or C4 a little will alter the characteristics of the explosion. Note that it is generally easier to 'fine tune' things by varying the resistor values. The duration of the event can be varied by changing the value of either C1 or R1 and the decay of the explosion can be changed by varying R5 (varying C5 produces quite gross changes in the decay period).

Watch that you insert the link on the PCB in this one, located at the 'notch' end of the IC.

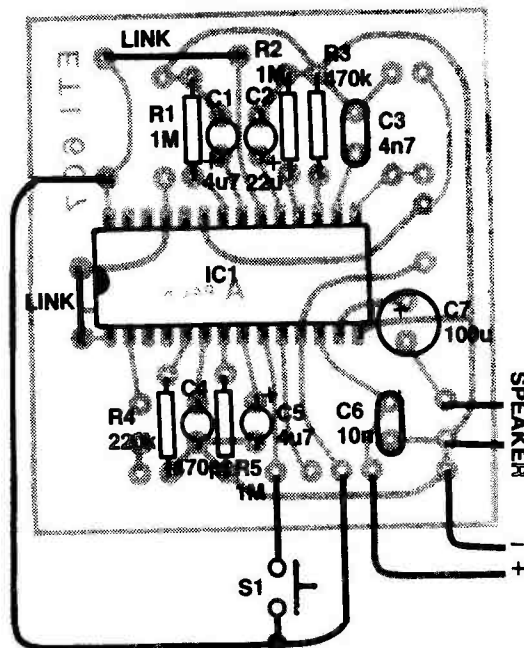


Fig. 2 Component overlay for the Bomb Drop board.



## PARTS LIST

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

R1,2,5	1M
R3	470k
R4	20k

### Capacitors

C1,5	4u7 16 V PCB electrolytic
C2	22u 16 V tantalum
C3	4n7 ceramic
C4	470p ceramic
C6	10n ceramic
C7	100u 16 V PCB electrolytic

### Semiconductors

IC1	SN76488 (see Buylines)
-----	------------------------

### Miscellaneous

PB1	SPST push-button switch
PCB (see Buylines);	50 mm diameter 8 ohm speaker; PP3 battery and clip.

## BUYLINES

Very few components and very few supply problems with this one. The SN76488 is an improved version of the Texas SN76477 and can be obtained from Technomatic. The PCB will cost you £1.80 from our PCB Service; see page 44 for details.

## HOW IT WORKS

This unit employs most of the function blocks in the SN76488. The SLF provides a linearly increasing voltage waveform, or ramp, to the VCO, taking several seconds for the ramp voltage to rise from zero to maximum value. The causes the VCO to produce a tone which 'glides' down in pitch, making the 'bomb drop' effect. The explosion is generated by the Noise Generator/Filter and the Envelope Generator. It starts with a burst of noise, which dies away in intensity exponentially in a few seconds.

The whole sequence is triggered by operating the pushbutton, PB1. This applies a high (+5 V) to the input of the System Inhibit block, pin 9. This in turn triggers the One Shot and the Envelope Generator. At the commencement of the One Shot timing period, the One Shot triggers the SLF HI/LO Sync, starting the SLF, and the VCO does its things. At the end of the One Shot timing period the Envelope Select Logic becomes operative, the SLF is disabled and the

Envelope Generator commences to do its thing. The Mixer selects the VCO output at the start of the One Shot timing period and the Noise Generator/Filter output at the end of the One Shot timing period. Thus the two sounds are switched through to the audio output stage in sequence, the Envelope Generator modifying the noise so that it dies away, the time it takes to do so being controlled by the time constant of R5, C5.

The starting pitch of the VCO is determined by R3 and C3, the rate of rise of the voltage ramp produced by the SLF is determined by C2 and R2, while the One Shot timing period is determined by the time constant of C1 and R1. The frequency characteristics of the broad-band noise produced by the Noise Generator are modified by R4 and C4 connected to the noise filter control pins (5 and 6).

Audio output is coupled to the loudspeaker via C7, a 100uF electrolytic capacitor.



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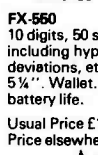
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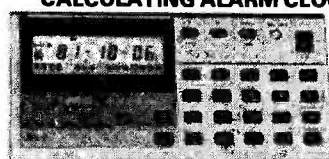
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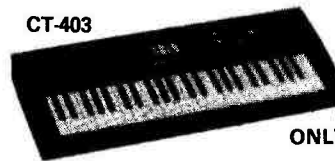
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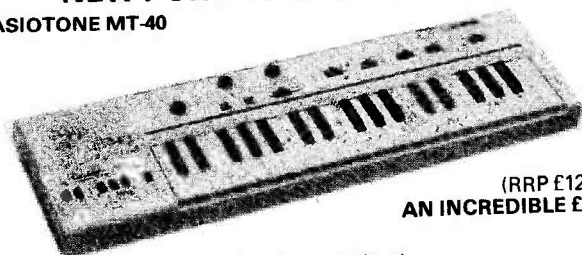
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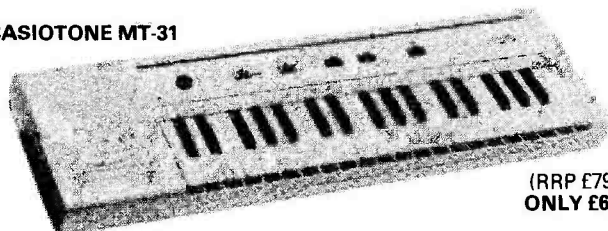
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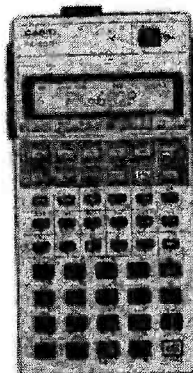
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# READ/WRITE

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Yours grovellingly,  
M.R. Barrett,  
Hove.

**Certainly not. Someone might chop it off!**

System A has a comparable sound to any of the more highly regarded

commercial units. Listening tests we have conducted over the months since the creature's completion, have shown it (the power amps) to have a more detailed and open midrange/top than ANY we have compared it to. The top commercial boxes — Threshold, Monogram, Carver, etc can exhibit a better bass control than the System A however, but as to whether or not that is important for your particular application (ie loudspeaker), I could not say (because you haven't told me what speakers you've got, have you?).

Anyone contemplating building a System A is welcome to write to us for advice on speaker matching.

Dear Sir,

I read with interest the articles in the July and August editions of ETI describing the construction of the System A Audio Amplifier, as I have been on the lookout for a high-quality

class A amplifier design for some time. My particular interest in class A stems from the fact that I own a pair of Lowther loudspeakers — these units are almost ridiculously sensitive, requiring only some 10 W or so of input to produce the equivalent sound output of a conventional 100 W system. Given this sensitivity, most high quality class AB amps are only ticking over when driving a pair of Lowthers, and hence are working at the highest distortion end of their operating range. Hence the interest in class A, where no penalty is paid for operating the amplifier at low levels of power output. However, before going ahead and building the System A, I would like the answers to a couple of questions. Firstly, the July article heralds System A as "quite simply the best, designed to out-perform even commercial equipment." There is, however, no objective assessment or comparison to back up this claim, and before laying out the not insignificant construction cost, I would like to see the amplifier reviewed, preferably alongside its "competition" in the commercial amplifier field. Is this a possibility?

Secondly, the high power output of the System A seems more than a slight degree of overkill in the context of my



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Lowthers. Is it reasonable, therefore, to construct a lower power version of the power amp section? If so, what modifications should be made to the present design?

Yours sincerely,  
T. Jeffree,  
Milton Keynes

Taking the two points you raise, in order; first we feel it is inappropriate for us to review our own product against anyone else's. (Would you believe us anyway?) 'Objective' would not be an appropriate word to apply to such a test.

System A has aroused a great deal of interest and we know that a large number of sets have been completed. There is probably, however, a larger number of people still who would tackle the project, if only they could get to hear one first! Accordingly any owners of a System A who would be prepared to let a fellow ETI reader have a listen, can write to us and we'll run the letters herein. Secondly the high power output of the amp will not be wasted, even on your Lowthers, it will simply provide you with more headroom — and hence a cleaner sound with better bass output on transients.

Dear Mr Harris,

I am writing for advice on the purchase of an amplifier and speakers combination. I list my present system below:

Home-brew 10 W amp  
Ferguson (?) 3-way speakers  
(actually 2-way, 3-cone)  
Realistic 31-987 Graphic Equaliser  
Hitachi D-225 Cassette Deck  
Pioneer PL-300 turntable (the latest addition!)

The amplifier now ceases to be of any great use in terms of power, although quality is more than adequate (based on Bi-Pak AL30A). I have considered NAD3020, Pioneer SA410, and also the "Audiophile" amp, the MOSFET amps from JW Rimmer, and the Linsley-Hood kit from Powertran. The last three give me extra headroom, and I would like to feed them into AR18 speakers from Acoustic Research.

Basically, I would like your opinion on the Linsley Hood 75 De Luxe/AR18 combination, plus any comments on the other "possibles".

Also, the Pioneer PL300 I have just bought is certainly the best turntable I

have heard at the price (£79.95), and I can't help wondering why it gets so little attention. Perhaps you can fill me in?

Thank you for your valuable time,  
D. Crary,  
Ilford, Essex

PS When is Felicity Kendall to return to our screens?

The AR18 is a fine unit and if you like the sound of them, go ahead and buy yourself a pair. You haven't named your cartridge so I've no idea if it matches.

Ditch the equaliser, with decent speakers and amp, you won't need it!

As to amplifiers, from the units you mention the Linsley Hood power amps are the best bet, but the preamp of that unit is getting a bit long in the tooth now, although the sound quality is still very good by any standards. Have a listen to the Crimson CK1010/1100 set-up before you decide, however, as it is in your price range and offers a high-quality alternative.

The Pioneer PL300 I have not been able to listen to at any length and must thus refrain from commenting upon!

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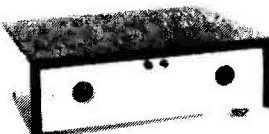
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# INSTRUMENT PROBE

This probe will allow you to make CRO or frequency meter/timer measurements on high impedance circuits with waveforms having rise times as fast as three or four nanoseconds. Cost is well below commercial equivalents. Design by Jonathan Scott.

Most readers would be aware that, when taking a measurement on electronic circuitry, the input impedance of the measuring instrument must be much greater than the impedance of the circuit to which it is attached, otherwise the accuracy of the measurement suffers. The input impedance of the majority of oscilloscopes is generally 1M $\Omega$  with a parallel capacitance of between 20pF and 40pF. For a wide variety of applications this is perfectly adequate and will suffice for measurements of frequencies up to 5 MHz or so. The input impedance of the CRO falls with increasing frequency owing to the falling reactance of the input capacitance. For example, a capacitance of 30pF — which may be made up of direct input capacitance plus cable capacitance — has a reactance of only 500 ohms at 10 MHz. The input capacitance also affects the rise time of the input — that is, the speed at which a 'step' input will rise from the 10% amplitude value to the 90% amplitude value.

The input impedance of an oscilloscope can be effectively raised, and the capacitance decreased, by using a 'stepdown' probe. For example, a 'x10' probe will generally have an input impedance of 10M $\Omega$  and a parallel capacitance of between 5pF and 15pF. While this improves the input impedance there are two trade-offs. Firstly, unless elaborate (and expensive) compensation is employed, the rise time is degraded, and secondly, maximum sensitivity is decreased by a factor of 10. As Murphy's law would have it, your CRO will run out of grunt just when you need it most.

Taking the situation with digital counter/timers, we find similar problems. Those that operate beyond 30 MHz or 50 MHz generally employ a prescaler with an input impedance of 50 ohms — which is perfectly all right if you're working on low impedance circuits and/or with high signal levels. But there are those occasions when you need a high impedance input and a fast (high frequency) rise time. As with the CRO, this is where your

counter/timer runs out of grunt.

It's times like these you need this project; a x1 active instrument probe using a special buffer IC with an input impedance of typically 100,000 megohms! — that's 10<sup>11</sup> ohms — a very low input capacitance of around four to five picofarads, a fast rise time (around three nanoseconds) and a bandwidth of 100 MHz. Output impedance is around 50 ohms and the device is capable of driving capacitive loads up to several thousand picofarads. Thus it is eminently suited for use with high speed, wide bandwidth oscilloscopes and digital frequency meter/timers at frequencies up to 100 MHz. Output impedance is close to 50 ohms and it is thus suited to drive both high impedance instrument inputs and low impedance inputs (which are generally 50 ohms).

## Design

It's all done inside a special IC — an LH0033CG from National Semiconductors. This is described as a 'fast buffer amplifier'. (It has a companion designated LH0063, described as a 'damn fast buffer amplifier'). The LH0033 is a direct-coupled FET-input voltage follower/buffer (gain  $\approx 1$ ) designed to provide high current drive at frequencies from DC to over 100 MHz. It will provide  $\pm 10$  mA into 1k $\Omega$  loads ( $\pm 100$  mA peak) at slew rates up to 1500 V/ $\mu$ s, and the chip exhibits excellent phase linearity up to 20 MHz. No offset voltage adjustment is required as the unit is constructed using specially selected FETs and is laser-trimmed during construction. Input is directly to the gate of a

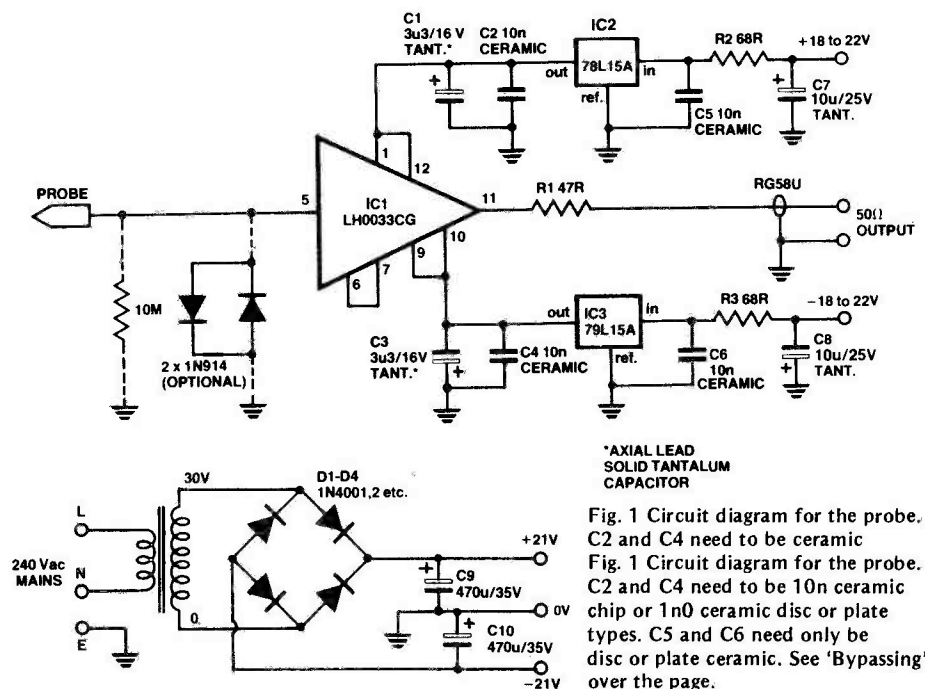


Fig. 1 Circuit diagram for the probe. C2 and C4 need to be ceramic. Fig. 1 Circuit diagram for the probe. C2 and C4 need to be 10n ceramic chip or 1n0 ceramic disc or plate types. C5 and C6 need only be disc or plate ceramic. See 'Bypassing' over the page.



junction FET, operated as a source follower, driving a complementary output pair of bipolar transistors.

Regulated plus and minus supplies of 15 V each provide power to the IC. Low-power three-terminal regulators are used to keep the unit compact. An external unregulated supply of between 18 and 22 V at around 50 mA is required to power the probe.

The supply pins on the IC need to be well bypassed over a wide frequency range so that the IC can maintain its characteristics, and the construction has been specially arranged to achieve this. Axial lead solid tantalum capacitors are used to bypass the IC's supply pins at the lower frequencies, while low inductance ceramic capacitors are employed as bypasses for the higher frequencies. A double-sided fibreglass PCB is used to preserve the high frequency response and the high input impedance, and the layout is arranged to permit direct connection to the probe tip and provide low input capacitance.

However, the presence of the PCB substrate will degrade the input impedance, surprisingly enough, and you can drill out the area of board immediately beneath pin 5 of the IC and solder the pin directly to the probe tip. For those who wish to go 'all the way' (as Frank Sinatra sings), the plastic insulation of the probe tip can be replaced with a similar piece of Teflon — if you can afford it and have access to a lathe.

The maximum input voltage permissible, when driving a high impedance load, is plus or minus 15 V. When driving a 50 ohm load, maximum input voltage permissible is only plus or minus 10 V (limited by maximum output current). No input protection has been included. However, if you are only working with circuits where voltages are no greater than about 1 V peak-to-peak, protection can be added by putting two diodes back-to-back in parallel with the input, along with a 10M resistor. The maximum input voltage figures include any DC voltages present, *plus* the superimposed signal voltage.

At this stage it is only fair to tell you that the LH0033CG is an expensive device (by comparison). But — compare the total cost of this probe to a similar commercially-made type and you won't catch your breath a second time!

## Construction

The project is constructed on a small double-sided fibreglass PCB with

Supply lead bypassing is important in order that the LH0033 can operate correctly over the full bandwidth from DC to 100 MHz. To ensure this, the bypassing has been specially arranged and the techniques employed are probably unfamiliar to many readers.

The output circuit signal return path for the IC is via the ground and the two supply rails. Any significant impedance in series with this path (or paths) will subtract signal from the output load. Thus, the supply rail bypassing has to present an impedance which is a *fraction* (like one-tenth or better) that of the minimum output load impedance. Here, the minimum output load is about 100 ohms ( $R1 + 50$  ohms instrument input impedance) and the supply bypassing impedance should ideally be less than 10 ohms across the frequency range.

The bypassing on each supply rail to the IC leads here takes advantage of the characteristics of three separate components to cover three sections of the frequency range.

From DC to around 100 kHz, each three-terminal regulator (IC2, IC3) has an output impedance well below one ohm, rising to four or five ohms at 1 MHz, as shown in Fig. 1. The two tantalum capacitors, C1 and C3, then take over.

Solid tantalum capacitors have a characteristic impedance that falls with frequency according to its value, which then 'flattens out' in the region around 500 kHz — 1 MHz, rising to a few ohms around 10 MHz, as can be seen in Fig. 2. Thus, C1 and C3 serve as effective bypasses across the range from around 100 kHz to around 10 MHz. Axial lead tantalum capacitors were chosen as their construction exhibits the slowest impedance rise following the minimum impedance value.

To provide bypassing over the decade from 10 MHz to 100 MHz, capacitors C2 and C4 have been specially chosen and positioned on the PCB. For the prototype, 'chip' ceramic capacitors were used. These tiny, 'naked' chips of ceramic with a capacitor embedded in them are probably the most effective bypass capacitors made. The leads and physical construction of all capacitors form an inductance which is

effectively in series with the capacitance of the component. The combined effect forms a series resonant circuit, the frequency of which (that is, the self-resonant frequency of the component) is mainly dependent on the length of the connecting leads, the particular construction of the capacitor and the way in which it is mounted. Ceramic chip capacitors, being a tiny block with connecting pads or surfaces on each end, have extremely low values of series inductance and thus very high self-resonant frequencies — see Fig. 4. Now, any value of chip capacitor between 1n0 and 10n can be used for C2 and C4. The self-resonant frequency of a 1n0 chip capacitor is somewhat above 100 MHz (as per Fig. 4), but that of a 10n chip is between 40 MHz and 50 MHz. Now, this isn't a problem, for the chip's impedance falls with frequency as usual until near the self-resonant frequency where it falls rapidly, reaching a minimum at the self-resonant frequency. Above that frequency its impedance rises again, but is still low enough for effective bypassing.

Ordinary ceramic disc and plate capacitors behave in much the same way. The self-resonant frequency of a typical 5 mm diameter disc or 5 mm square plate capacitor depends on the lead length, as shown in Fig. 5. Thus, you could use 470pF or 1000pF (1n0) capacitors of this type for C2 and C4, provided you installed them on the underside of the board with *absolute* minimum lead length.



Fig. 3 Ceramic chip capacitors shown about actual size.

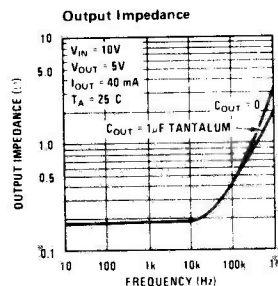


Fig. 1.

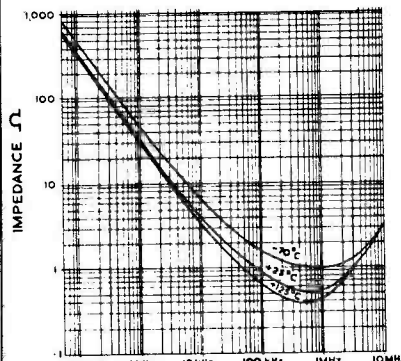


Fig. 2.

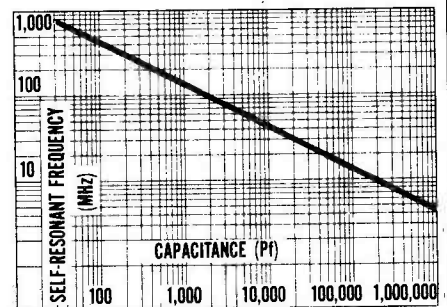


Fig. 4.

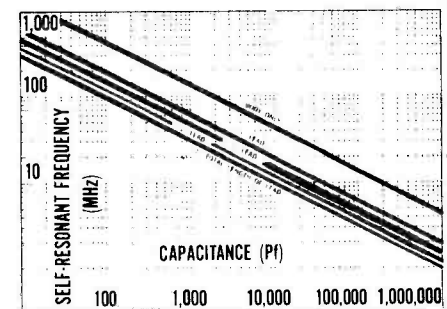


Fig. 5.



components mounted on both sides of the board. Commence by soldering in place the components that go on the top side of the board, leaving IC1 until last. Note that the positive leads of both C3 and C8 are soldered to the groundplane areas on both the top and the bottom sides of the board. Take care with the orientation of the tantalum capacitor, as well as IC2 and IC3. Having done that, solder C2, C4, C5 and C6 to the bottom side of the board. Now you can install IC1. You will have to juggle the legs a little. Push the can as far down on the board as you're able; its base should sit no more than 3 mm from the board.

Now that you have everything in place, *check it all*. It seems pretty simple, but Murphy's law will ensure that the simplest things have the highest stuff-up rates!

All's well? — now you attach the output coax cable to the underside of the board, plus the DC input and ground (0 V) wires. *But* — before you do, slip the output end piece of the probe case over the cable and supply wires, push it down about 150 mm or so and then slip the case of the probe case down the wires. This saves slipping them over the other end of the whole business and sliding them all the way to the probe.

The probe tip can be attached and soldered in place last of all. Now you can screw it all together and attach the appropriate plugs to the other end of the cable and supply wires.

With the construction completed, you can power up and try it out. Note that the transformer suggested in our power supply is but one of many suitable types. Any transformer that will deliver at least 26 V AC at a load of about 50 mA will suffice. Alternatively, any dual polarity DC supply having an output between 18 and 22 V at 250 mA will power the probe.

## Note

Always take care that you don't exceed the input voltage limitation; LH0033s are expensive.

## BUYLINES

Ceramic chip capacitors and solid tantalum axial capacitors are a trifle unusual; however, they are stocked by C.T. Electronics (Action) Ltd, 267 & 270 Acton Lane, London W4 5DG. (They also stock the BNC plug should you have any problems there). We will be selling the double-sided board through out PCB Service — the order form is on page 44.

## PARTS LIST

**Resistors (all ¼ W, 5%)**  
R1 47R  
R2, R3 68R

**Capacitors**  
C1, C3 3u3 16 V solid tantalum axial leads  
C2, 4, 5, 6 10n ceramic block  
C7, C8 10u 25 V tantalum  
C9, C10 470u 35 V electrolytic (if required)

**Semiconductors**  
IC1 LH0033CG  
IC2 78L15A  
IC3 79L15A  
D1-D4 1N4001,2,etc. (if required)

**Miscellaneous**  
PCB (double-sided fibreglass); RG58U coax cable and BNC plug; T1 — (if required) 240 V to 30 V transformer or similar; optional 10M/¼ W 5% resistor and 2 x 1N914 diodes; wire; probe housing.

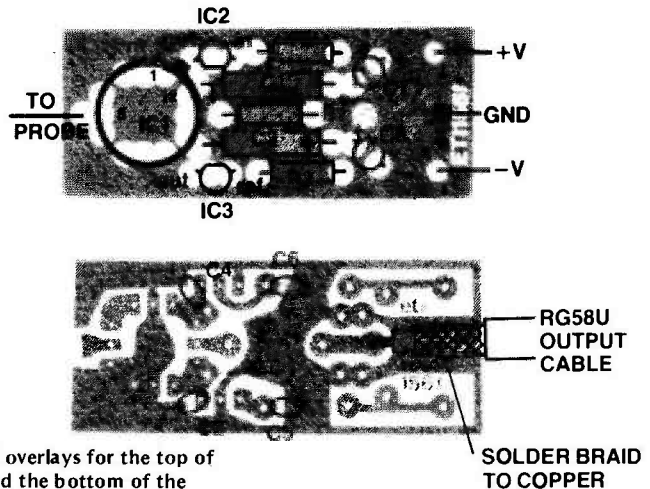


Fig. 2 Component overlays for the top of the board (top) and the bottom of the board (bottom!).

## HOW IT WORKS

This instrument probe employs a wideband hybrid voltage follower/buffer IC, the LH0033, with very close to unity gain, that features a very high input impedance and a low output impedance. It requires regulated, well-bypassed supply rails. Two three-terminal low power regulators provide plus-and-minus 15 V supplies from an unregulated input.

The internal circuit of the LH0033 is shown below. Basically, it consists of a FET input stage (Q1), operated as a source follower. The other FET, Q4, provides a constant current source for the source bias of Q1, while Q2 and Q3 are connected as diodes and provide bias for the bases of Q5 and Q6. Resistors R1 and R2 are laser trimmed in manufacture so that the IC meets the offset voltage specification. As Q1 has a constant current source load, the input impedance at the gate of Q1 is very low. The output of the source follower drives a complementary pair output stage, Q5-Q6. Thus the IC will have a very high input impedance, a very low output impedance and a gain very close to unity. With appropriate construction employed for the internal devices, the bandwidth over which the device will operate can be made very wide indeed. The -3dB point for the LH0033 is 100 MHz.

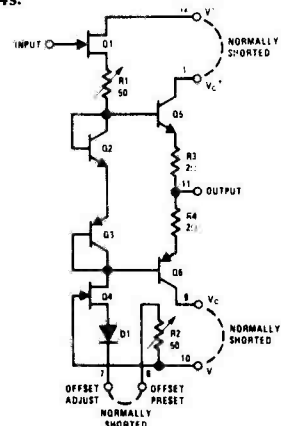
As the device is direct-coupled, DC levels will be maintained between input and output.

Bypassing requirements for the IC's supply leads are explained elsewhere in the article.

To provide regulated plus-and-minus 15 V rails for the IC, two three-terminal regulators are employed, a 78L15A for the positive rail and a 79L15A for the negative rail. These can supply up to 100 mA and have a very low output impedance up to

several hundred kilohertz, which is exploited for low frequency bypassing. Each supply rail requires an unregulated input of between 18 V and 22 V. Decoupling of the supply leads provided by R2/C7 on the positive rail and R3/C8 on the negative rail. The input terminal of each regulator is bypassed to prevent instability.

As the input voltage is limited to a maximum equal to the supply rails (high impedance load), input protection may be added in applications where only low level signals are being examined. As shown in the main circuit, this protection consists of two 1N914 diodes connected back-to-back in parallel with a 10 M resistor across the input. Signals above 1 V peak-to-peak will be clipped, preventing any damage to the IC. If very fast rise time signals are to be examined then better protection for the IC can be obtained by using hot-carrier diodes such as the HP 5082-2800 instead of the 1N914s.





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- WOW & FLUTTER 0.1%
- RECORD PLAYBACK I.C. WITH ELECTRONIC SWITCHING
- FULLY VARIABLE RECORDING BIAS FOR ACCURATE MATCHING OF ALL TAPES

## STEREO AMPLIFIER KIT



- Featuring latest SGS/ATES TDA 2006 10 watt output IC's with in-built thermal and short circuit protection.
- Mullard Stereo Pre-amplifier Module.
- Attractive black vinyl finish cabinet, 9"x 8 1/2"x 3 3/4" (approx).
- 10+10 Stereo converts to a 20 watt Disco amplifier.

To complete you just supply connecting wire and solder. Features include din input sockets for ceramic cartridge, microphone, tape or tuner. Outputs - tape, speakers and headphones. By the press of a button it transforms into a 20 watt mono disco amplifier with twin deck mixing. The kit incorporates a Mullard LP1183 pre-amp module, plus power amp assembly kit and mains power supply. Also features 4 slider level controls, rotary bass and treble controls and 6 push button switches. Silver finish fascia with matching knobs and contrasting cabinet. Instructions available, price 50p. Supplied FREE with kit.

**£16-50**

+ £2.90 p&p.

**SPECIFICATIONS:**  
Frequency response  
Input sensitivity

Tone controls

Distortion  
Mains supply

**8" SPEAKER KIT** Two 8" twin cone domestic speakers. £4.75 per stereo pair plus £1.70 p&p. when purchased with amplifier. Available separately £6.75 & £1.70 p&p.

Suitable for 4 to 8 ohm speakers  
40Hz - 20KHz  
P.U. 150mV. Aux. 200mV.  
Mic. 1.5mV.  
Bass  $\pm 12$ db @ 60Hz  
Treble  $\pm 12$ db @ 10KHz  
0.1% typically @ 8 watts  
220 - 250 volts 50Hz.

## 125W HIGH POWER AMP MODULE

**KIT: £10-50** **BUILT: £14-25**

+ £1.15 p&p

+ £1.15 p&p.

The power amp kit is a module for high power applications - disco units, guitar amplifiers, public address systems and even high power domestic systems. The unit is protected against short circuiting of the load and is safe in an open circuit condition. A large safety margin exists by use of generously rated components, result, a high powered rugged unit. The PC board is back printed, etched and ready to drill for ease of construction and the aluminium chassis is preformed and ready to use. Supplied with all parts, circuit diagrams and instructions.

**ACCESSORIES:** Suitable mains power supply kit with transformer: £7.50 plus £3.15 p&p.  
Suitable LS coupling electrolytic: £1.00 plus 25p p&p.



### SPECIFICATIONS:

Max. output power (RMS): 125W.  
Operating voltage (DC): 50 - 80 max.  
Loads: 4 - 16 ohms.  
Frequency response measured @ 100 watts: 25Hz - 20KHz.  
Sensitivity for 100 watts: 400mV @ 47K.  
Typical T.H.D. @ 50 watts, 4 ohms: 0.1%.  
Dimensions: 205 x 90 and 190 x 36 mm.

## HI-FI SPEAKERS AT BARGAIN PRICES

### GOODMANS TWEETERS

8 ohm soft dome radiator tweeter (3 1/2" sq.) for use in up to 40W systems; with 2 element crossover.

**£3.50 each** (p&p £1) or **£5.95 pair** (p&p £2).



### 35 WATT MICRO 2-WAY SPEAKER SYSTEM

Unit comprises one 50w (4" app.) Audax soft dome tweeter HD100. And one 5" Audax bass/midrange 35w driver HIFIJSM. Complete with 2 element crossover. Total impedance of system 4 ohms.

**£7.95**

PER SET + £2.70 p&p.



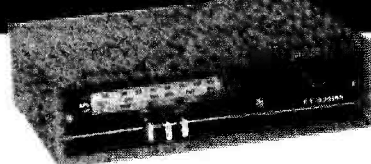
## P.E. STEREO TUNER KIT

This easy to build 3 band stereo AM/FM tuner kit is designed in conjunction with Practical Electronics (July 81 issue). For ease of construction and alignment it incorporates three Mullard modules and an I.C. IF. System. **FEATURES:** VHF, MW, LW Bands, interstation muting and AFC on VHF. Tuning meter. Two back printed PCB's. Ready made chassis and scale. Aerial: AM - ferrite rod, FM - 75 or 300 ohms. Stabilised power supply with 'C' core mains transformer. All components supplied are to P.E. strict specification. Front scale size: 10 1/2" x 2 1/2" approx. Complete with diagram and instructions.

**£17-95**

Plus £2.50 p&p.

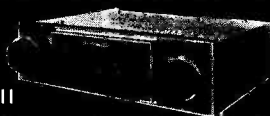
Self assembly simulated wood cabinet sleeve to suit tuner only. Finish size: 11 1/4" x 8 1/2" x 3 3/4". **£3.50** Plus £1.50 p&p.



### SPECIAL OFFER! TUNER KIT PLUS:

• Matching I.C. 10 watt per channel Power amp kit. • Mullard LP1183 built pre-amp, suitable for ceramic pick-up and aux. inputs. • Matching power supply kit with transformer. • Matching set of 4 slider **£21.95** controls for bass, treble and volumes. + £3.80 P&P.

## PRACTICAL ELECTRONICS CAR RADIO KIT SERIES II



### 2 WAVE BAND, MW - LW

• Easy to build. • 5 push button tuning. • Modern design. • 6 watt output. • Ready etched and punched PCB. • Incorporates suppression circuits. All the electronic components to build the radio, you supply only the wire and the solder, featured in Practical Electronics. Features: pre-set tuning with 5 push button options, black illuminated tuning scale. The P.E. Traveller has a 6 watt output neg. ground and incorporates an integrated circuit output stage, a Mullard IF Module LP1181 ceramic filter type pre-aligned and assembled, and a Bird pre-aligned push button tuning unit. Suitable stainless steel fully retractable aerial (locking) and speaker (6" x 4" app.) available as a complete kit. £2.50/pack + £1.50 p&p.

**£12-95**

+ £2.00 p&p.

## BIRD AUDIO STEREO CAR RADIO BOOSTER

To boost your car radio or radio cassette to 15W r.m.s. per channel.

**£9-95**

+ £1.50 p&p.



## TV SOUND TUNER KIT

**£11-45**

+ £1.50 p&p.

As featured in E.T.I. December '81 issue. Kit of parts including PCB, UHF tuner and selector switch with all components excluding case.

• Transformer **£1.50** + **£1.50 p&p** (p&p free on transformer if ordered with kit). • Ready built LP1183 Module for simulated stereo operation. **£1.95** + **75p p&p**.



## MONO MIXER AMP

**£39-95**

+ £3.70 p&p.

**50 WATT** Six individually mixed inputs for two pick ups (Cer. or mag.), two moving coil microphones and two auxiliary for tape, tuner, organs, etc. Eight slider controls - six for level and two for master bass and treble, four extra treble controls for mic. and aux inputs. Size: 13 1/2" x 6 1/2" x 3 1/2" app. Power output 50 watts R.M.S. (continuous) for use with 4 to 8 ohm speakers. Attractive black vinyl case with matching fascia and knobs. Ready to use.



### ALL MAIL TO:

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Note: Goods despatched to UK postal addresses only. For further information send for instructions 20p plus stamped addressed envelope. All items subject to availability. Prices correct at 31/1/82 and subject to change without notice. Please allow 7 working days from receipt of order for despatch.

ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT AT 15%.

ALL CALLERS TO: 323 Edgware Rd, London W2. Telephone: 01-723 8432. Open 9.30 - 5.30pm. Closed all day Thursday. RTVC Limited reserve the right to update their products without notice.







# WIN AN ELECTRONIC IGNITION!

Hands up all those who had trouble starting their cars during the recent appalling weather. Don't you wish your car was fitted with an electronic ignition to make the most of your battery, as well as increasing the life of your contact breaker and giving you more miles to the gallon into the bargain?

The prize in this competition is a Total Energy Discharge ignition unit designed by Electronize Design, a company with a great deal of experience in

the field. The unit is supplied as a kit of parts and is easy to assemble.

To win this kit you have to answer these two questions:—

- (1) The standard ignition circuit, using a coil and contact breaker, has been fitted to virtually all mass produced cars for 60 years. Who designed it? (We'll accept surname only).
- (2) In a four-cylinder engine, firing the cylinders in the order 1-2-3-4 would lead to excessive engine vibration. Give one

firing sequence commonly used to overcome this problem.

Write your name, address and answers on the form on page 133 (there's no need to cut up this page) and send it to us by April 30th, 1982. (All right, you can put your hands down now!)

## RULES

1. Closing date is April 30th 1982, and all entries post-marked later than this date will be discounted.
2. The coupon provided in the magazine must be used. Photocopies are NOT acceptable.
3. Employees of ASP and their relatives are not eligible for entry.
4. The judges' decision is to be considered final and no correspondence will be entered into concerning the competition.

## ACORN ATOM

8K rom + 2K ram kit £120, built £150, 12K rom + 12K ram kit £168, built £198, 4K expansion rom £25. Power supply £10.20.

## UK101 AND SUPERBOARD

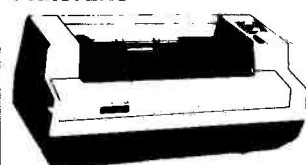
UK101 with 1K and free power supply and modulator kit £120, built £149. The below accessories suit both the UK101 and superboard: Extra ram £2.10 per K, 16K memory expansion kit £50, built £58, 32K memory expansion kit £74, built £82. Cassette recorder £19. Cegmon £22.50. Wemon £19.95. Word processor program £10. Centronics interface kit £10. £10 expansion board £179. Cased minitoppy disc drive with DOS £275. The below suit only superboard: Colour adaptor board built £45. Assembler/Editor tape £25. Guard band kit £10. Series 1 only 30 lines x 50 characters display expansion kit £14. UK101 display expansion kit £14.

## NEW GENIE 1 £299

EG3014 expansion box with 16K/32K ram £199/£213. Disk drive £220. Ldos £88. Newdos + £49. Ajeedit disk word processor £44. Colourload £36. Parallel printer interface £36. Monitors: EG100 white £69, OVM9PGR green £99. Colour Genie poa. Genie 3 poa.



## PRINTERS



Buy any of the below and get a free interface kit and word processor program for UK101 or Superboard: Epson MX70 £259, Epson MX80T £359, Epson MX80F/T1 £395, Epson MX80F/T2 £449, OKI Microline 80 £295, OKI Microline 32A £399, Centronics 737 £339, Seikosha GP80A £199.

## SWANLEY ELECTRONICS

Dept ET1, 32 Goldsel Rd., Swanley  
Kent BR8 8EZ  
Tel Swanley (0322) 64851

## SINCLAIR PRODUCTS\*

ZX81 built + mains adaptor £89.95 (Post £2.95 extra). SC110 Oscilloscope £139. POM35 £32.95. DM450 £116.

## BATTERY ELIMINATORS\*

3-way type 6/7.5/8V 300ma £3.50, 100ma radio types with press studs 9V £4.95, 9 + 9V £6.25. Car converter 12V input, output 3/4.5/6/7.5/9V 800ma £3.04.

## BATTERY ELIMINATOR KITS\*

100ma radio types with press studs 9V £1.79, 9 + 9V £2.50. Stabilized 8-way types 3/4.5/6/7.5/9/12/15/18V 100ma £3.12, 1 Amp £8.50. Stabilized power kits 2-18V 100ma £3.12, 1-30V 1A £8.50, 1-30V 2A £15.30. TTL and computer supplies 5V stabilized 1.5A £9, 3A £14, 6A £23. 12V car converters 6/7.5/9V 1A £1.62.

## TV GAMES\*

AY-3-8600 + kit £12.98, AY-3-8550 + kit £9.26.

## BI-PAK AUDIO MODULES\*

AL30A £4.35, PA12 £9.31, PS12 £1.75, TS38 £2.80, S450 £27.90, AL60 £5.62, PA100 £19.24, SPM60 £5.26, BMT80 £6.36, Stereo 30 £21.00, AL80 £8.56.

## VIC 20 COMPUTER

VIC 20 with free kit to allow use of a normal cassette recorder £165. Kit by itself £6. New low cost memory board. No need for a mother-board. Comes with 3K high resolution area + socket for a rom + sockets for 24K of ultra low current Nmos ram (Just plug in chips to expand memory) £49. Extra memory chips £39 per 8K. Vic printer £199. Joystick £6.52.



## COMPONENTS\*

1N4148 1.5p, 1N4002 3.7p, NE555 8 di 22p, 741 8 di 22p, 741 8 di 16p, 2114 low current 300ns £1.35, BC182, BC184, BC212, BC214, BC547, BC549 6p. Resistors 5% 1/4 watt E12 10R to 10M 1p, 0.8p for 50 + of one value. Polystyrene capacitors E12 63V 10 to 1000pF 4p; 1n2 to 10n 5p. Ceramic capacitors 50V, E6 22pF to 47n 2.5p. Electrolytic capacitors 50V, 5, 1, 2mF 6p; 25V 5, 10mF 6p; 16V 22, 33mF 6p; 47mF 4p; 100mF 7p; 330, Zeners 400mw E24 2v7 to 33v 7p. Preset pots subminiature 0.1W horiz or vert 100 to 2m2 8p. IC sockets 8 di 8.7p, 14 di 10.1p, 16 di 12p.

Postage £3.50 computers, £4.50 on Printers and 45p on other orders. Lists 27p Post free. Please add VAT to all Prices except those sections marked with a \* which already include it. Overseas and official credit orders welcome.

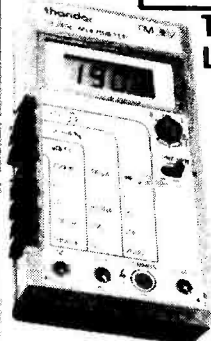
# B.K. ELECTRONICS

The quality THANDAR range of equipment includes:

- Function and pulse generators
- Digital frequency meters
- Digital thermometer
- Logic analyser

Send LARGE SAE for complete lists.

## The very latest TM352 HAND LCD DIGITAL MULTIMETER



- ★ 3 1/2 digit display
- ★ DC and AC volts
- ★ DC current
- ★ Resistance and diode check
- ★ Audible continuity check
- ★ hFE measurements
- ★ Latest push-button controls for ease of operation

DC voltage 200mV 2V 20V 200V 1000V

AC voltage 200V and 1000V

DC current 200µA 2mA 20mA 200mA 10A

Resistance, diode check and continuity test 20KΩ 200KΩ 2000KΩ

hFE measurement 0 1000

Power requirement 9V (PP3) battery

Price £49.95 (including test leads and battery)

Carry case £3.45.

## SC110 FULLY PORTABLE OSCILLOSCOPE

The new Thandar SC110 represents a breakthrough in oscilloscope development. The Full-sized performance

- ★ 10MHz bandwidth
- ★ 10mV per div sensitivity
- ★ Full trigger facilities are provided including brightness and auto with TV line and frame filtering

★ Runs on ordinary HP11 (four) batteries. Basic Price £139.00

Optional Extras: AC Adapter £5.69,

Rechargeable Batteries £8.63, X1

probe £8.05, X10 probe £9.20, X1/X10

switched probe £10.90, Carry case

£8.86.

SC110 is less than 2" thick and weighs under 2lb - yet it retains the standard features of a bench oscilloscope.



\* All genuine Thandar accessories.

All prices include V.A.T. Official orders welcome. Mail order only, or callers by prior appointment. Barclaycard/Access welcome. Cash/cheque, etc., with order. Large s.a.e. for complete Thandar list. Government and Educational Establishments official orders welcome.

## B.K. ELECTRONICS

37 Whitehouse Meadows, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 5TY  
Tel. Southend 527572

VISA



# MASTER ELECTRONICS NOW!

## The PRACTICAL way!

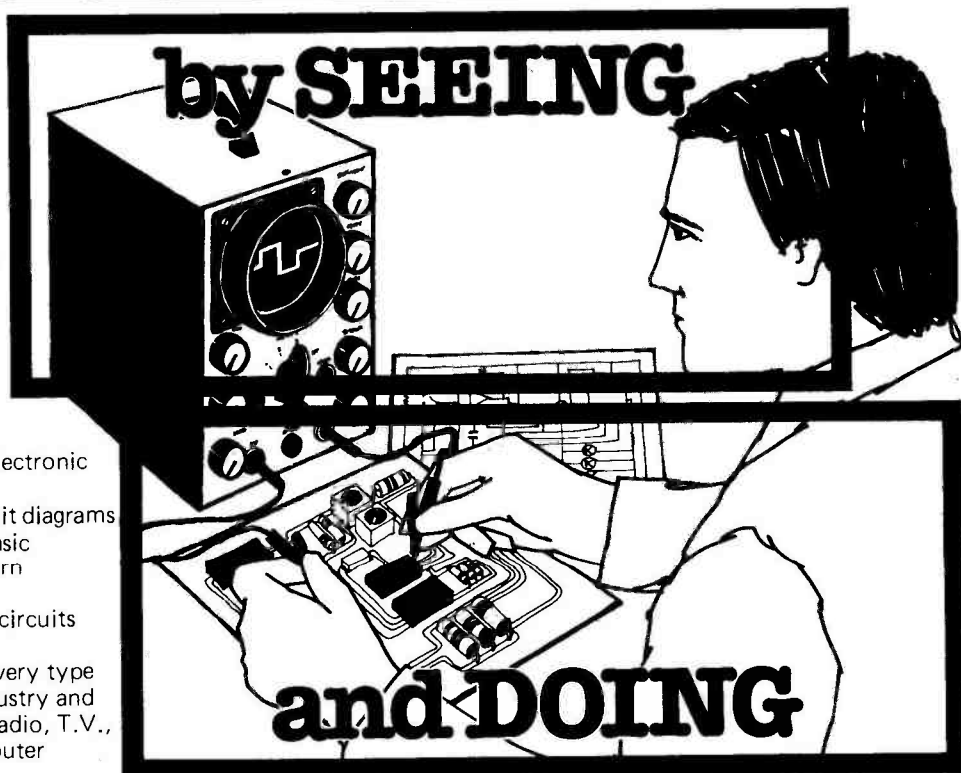
This new style course will enable anyone to have a real understanding of electronics by a modern, practical and visual method. No previous knowledge is required, no maths, and an absolute minimum of theory.

You learn the practical way in easy steps mastering all the essentials of your hobby or to start or further a career in electronics or as a self-employed servicing engineer.

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# electronics today

INTERNATIONAL



## A Decade of Electronics

..AUDIO....COMPUTING....MUSIC....RADIO....ROBOTICS..



# IF YOU'VE READ THE LAST TEN YEARS OF ETI WIN THE NEXT 10 FREE!



This is a special competition for our regular readers. We're offering a ten year subscription to ETI as a 'thank you' prize for supporting us this far. All the questions refer to back copies of our magazine and will be easy if you've kept the issues! (Surveys tell us that over 90% of readers keep ETI for longer than a year!) Index issues will be particularly useful, but will not give you *all* the answers. Fill in the coupon on page 133 — you don't need to ruin this issue — and don't forget your *name and address*! In the event that no one gets *all* the answers correct, the highest number of right answers will win. In the event of a tie, it will be the earliest postmark that takes the ten year subscription.

Read the questions carefully before answering.

1. Which issue was designated a "4 Channel Sound Special Issue"? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who edited the May 1973 issue of ETI? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What month did the first issue of ETI appear in Britain? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What makes March 1979 good theatre? \_\_\_\_\_
5. ETI published the first-ever TV games project. In which issue? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Which IC is featured in the July 1976 "Data Sheet"? \_\_\_\_\_
7. The amplifier on the cover of the February 1982 issue has also appeared on a previous cover of ETI. Which one? \_\_\_\_\_
8. In 1979 who reviewed Star Chess for ETI? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Who first wrote the series "Electronics Tomorrow"? \_\_\_\_\_
10. The 100 W Guitar Amplifier (the first one!) appeared when? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Microfile is the title of ETI's regular computing hardware section. In which issue did it first appear? \_\_\_\_\_
12. In what year did we publish a synthesiser, an LED multimeter and an FM tuner in successive months? \_\_\_\_\_
13. What was "The Beast"? \_\_\_\_\_
14. How many parts of the popular "Electronics — It's Easy" series were published in ETI? \_\_\_\_\_
15. How many editors has ETI had in the past years? \_\_\_\_\_
16. In October 1976, who was ETI's Assistant Editor? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Who designed the Transcendent DPX? \_\_\_\_\_
18. Which issue began "Project 80"? \_\_\_\_\_
19. The 4600 synthesiser is one of our all-time most popular projects. In which issue did the series begin? \_\_\_\_\_
20. DIY Polyphonic keyboards came to ETI when? \_\_\_\_\_

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LKRAM

+5V

R8

1k0

+5V

R9

1k0

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8

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IC19a

18

19 22 23 1 2  
A10 A9 A8 A7 A

# electronics today

INTERNATIONAL

1972 - 1982

ISSN. 0142-7229

D7 D6 D5  
17 16 15

## 10 YEARS ON

The last ten years have been the most dramatic in the history of electronics. Tracing back, you can chart the explosive growth of the "consumer electronics product" from the first — highly expensive — calculators, through digital watches and the like — to the fully-equipped home computer.

When compiling this issue — ETI's 10th Birthday, as I'm sure you've noticed by now — it occurred to us that we had the entire course of electronics charted out for us — within the news pages of ETI! News Digest has always figured very highly in our readers surveys and companies mentioned therein have often commented upon the interest the feature generates.

Accordingly we went back and read every single news page from April 1972 through to April 1982. (Yes, it did take a long time). Lo and behold! History unfolded!

It was all there — the first calculators, the first watches, the beginnings of LCD, the first MPU chips, cheap memory, the Space Shuttle tests, bubble storage announced — and failed, CB radio underway, FETs on the hobbyist market, CMOS finally becoming cheaper than TTL — and the lunacies! We found quite a few of those, in fact. Witness the Queen's speech that wasn't and the TV game with ball-bearing scoreboard.

You will find them all in the following pages, the successes, the failures, the achievements...and the gaffs. We have gone through the mountain of material available and put together what we think is a truly historic collection. (Sounds good that doesn't it — should be in the British Museum.)

Reading through you will be presented with the fascinating and surprising history of electronics, 1972–1982. Check the dates each item appeared. Some of them will astound you. When was the first TV game on sale? The first LED watch? When could you buy a home computer in the UK? As to the ladies who crop up all the way through, we've no idea how they got there — they've nothing to do with us and they are most certainly not included just because we thought you would enjoy seeing them again. Enjoyment has got nothing to do with it.

It is an interesting conjecture as to what we will be able to include in our 21st Birthday Issue. Any guesses?

5

A9

3

13



# AUDIO ELECTRONICS

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## CROTECH 3035 10 MHz Scope Plus Component Tester

5" - 130mm Flat Face  
Tube DC - 10 MHz  
5mV/DIV 220/240V AC Trig. to 20 MHz

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30 ranges 15A AC/DC  
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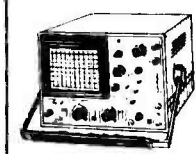
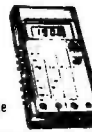
## LCD LOW COST MULTIMETERS

00001 3 1/2 digit LCD 26 range push button 2A £36.50  
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0000011A/100m 3 1/2 digit LCD 15 range push  
button plus Hfe Tester 10A DC (No AC A) £43.50  
100m 3 1/2 digit LCD 30 range Rotary switch plus  
Hfe Tester 10A AC/DC £69.95

Callers will always find a range of low cost test  
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boards in stock, also special offers for certain  
equipment which will vary from time to time  
Price correct at time of preparation E&OE  
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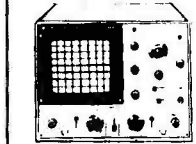


## TRIO OSCILLOSCOPES

Range of mains operated Scopes with 5" displays, triggered  
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**DUAL TRACE**  
CS1582A 10 MHz, 10 mV, 1 micro sec. £267.95  
CS1580A 11 15 MHz, 10 mV, 0.5 micro sec. £341.55  
CS1586A 20 MHz, 5 mV, 0.5 micro sec. £363.40  
CS1577A 35 MHz, 2 mV, 0.1 micro sec. £523.25  
CS1820 20 MHz, 2-5mV 1 micro delay sweep £483.00  
CS1830 Mk II 300 MHz, 2 mV, 0.2 micro sec  
(fitted delay line) £626.75  
CS1575 5 MHz, 1 mV, 0.5 micro sec. Multi display Audio scope.  
£312.80

**SINGLE TRACE**  
C01303D 5 MHz, 10 mV, low sweep for observation below 1 Hz  
and up to 450 MHz, 75mm display (UK c/p £2.00) £124.20

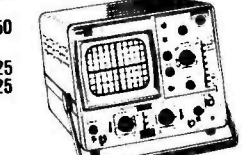
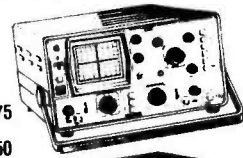


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Plus special features (UK c/p £3.00)

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130mm tube, plus component tester. £264.50  
3034 Battery-mains dual trace 15 MHz, trig to 20 MHz  
built in Nicads, 5mV, 0.5 micro secs.  
(Eliminator charger optional £28.75) £356.50  
Also Available 3033, single trace 3034  
3337, dual MHz, 130mm £293.25  
£408.25

**STOP PRESS**  
Model 3035 was £189.75 - Special Offer **£168.50**



## DIRECT READ HV PROBE (UK c/p 65p)

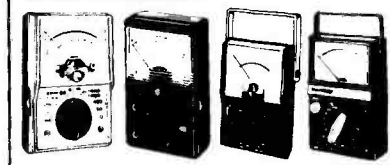
0/40KV, 20K Volt £18.40



## OSCILLOSCOPE PROBE KITS

(UK c/p 50p per 1 to 3) Available BNC plug  
or Banana X1 £7.95 - X10 £9.45 - X1-X10  
£10.50 Also X100 (BNC only) £16.95

## MULTIMETERS



(UK c/p 65p or £1.00 for two)  
CHOOSE FROM UK'S LARGEST RANGE  
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7081 18 range double 10A DC 50K/Volt £23.75  
TMK500 23 range plus 12A DC plus cont. buzzer  
30K/Volt £24.50  
160m 36 range large scale 10A AC/DC 50 K/Volt £28.50  
AT2050 17 range Deluxe plus Hfe tester 50 K/Volt £29.95  
AT210 23 range Deluxe 12A AC/DC 100K/Volt £32.50  
300TR 23 range large scale 10A AC/DC Hfe test  
50 meg ohm, 1KV AC/DC 100 K/Volt £39.95

## CLAMP-ON-METERS INSULATION TESTERS



Multi-range clamps all with resistance  
range, carry case & leads. Also digital  
and DC clamp in stock (UK c/p 75p)  
ST300 300A 600V 9 ranges £25.95  
ST310 300A 600V 9 ranges £28.95  
K2602 150A, 600V, AC 7 ranges £35.95  
K2606 300A, 600V, AC 8 ranges £49.50  
K2803 300A, 600V, AC 9 ranges £59.95  
K2903 900A, 750V, AC 9 ranges £77.50  
K2103 1000A, 750V, AC 9 ranges £95.00  
\*Optional temperature probe £13.80

## ELECTRONIC INSULATION TESTERS

Battery operated complete with carry  
case (UK c/p £1.00)  
YF500L 500V/100Meg. Plus 0-100 ohm. £65.00  
K3103 600V/100Meg Plus 0-2 6K ohm £109.00  
K3106 500V & 1000V, 1000 & 2000Meg £119.00  
K4101 Earth resistance tester £149.00  
M500 Hand cranked insulation tester  
500V/100Meg £79.50

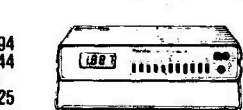
## LOGIC PROBE (UK c/p 45p)

Leader LDP076 50 MHz,  
10MEG ohm, 10n Sec.  
with carry case £56.90

## THANDAR - SINCLAIR

Reliable low cost portable instruments, bench models all  
25.5 x 15 x 15cm. Generators mains operated rest battery  
(supplied). UK c/p Hand models 65p, bench £1.15

**DIGITAL MULTIMETERS** (3 1/2 digit LCD)  
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£45.94  
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TM353 Bench 2A AC/DC 1000V AC/DC 20M ohm, Typical 0.25%  
NEW LOW PRICE £86.25  
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**FREQUENCY COUNTERS** (8 Digit)  
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New Model fitted BNC sockets. £67.50  
TF600 Bench LCD 40 MHz, 40mV (400 MHz with TP600) £126.50  
TF200 Bench LCD, 200 MHz, 10-30mV (600 MHz with (TP600)) £166.75  
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TG102 Function 0.2 Hz-2 MHz Sine/SQ/Triangle/TTL £166.75  
TG105 Pulse, 5 MHz-5Hz (200ns-200ms) various outputs £97.75  
**OSCILLOSCOPE** (Bench model low power portable)  
10MHz 2" trace, 10mV, 0.1 micro sec. All facilities.  
Model SC 110 £159.85  
Rechargeable battery pack £8.63, AC adaptor/charger £5.69  
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Carry case (bench only) £6.84 AC Adaptors (state model) £5.69



## KEITHLEY PROFESSIONAL DIGITAL MULTIMETER

Model 130, 25 range. Easy to hold and use  
LCD DMM Size 7 x 3 x 1.5  
Ranges  
DC Volts 200mV-1000V 0.5% 100 micro volt  
AC Volts 200mV-750V 1% 100 micro volt  
DC current 2mA-10AMP 1-2% 1 micro amp  
AC current 2mA-10AMP 2% 1 micro amp  
Resistance 200 ohm-20 Meg 0.5% 0.1 ohm  
£102.35



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LC6399 VHF/UHF 13 pattern £572.70  
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## TV GAMES COME OF AGE

It is just over two years since the first TV games started to appear in pubs - since then a lot has happened in this field with a large number of small companies marketing various units by a variety of methods. Although the TV games have received a considerable

amount of publicity they have not yet caught on in a big way.

"No one who has ever played TV games has ever said anything derogatory about the concept", Richard Fairhurst of Videomaster Ltd., told ETI, "they may not like the price or the packaging but they always like the idea".

ETI NEWS NOV 1975



## Doctor Who

One of our readers, Mr. S. Knowles of Hampshire, sent us a scope picture he took whilst

designing with a Textronix 7403 on 500 nS/div with x10 expand. It seems he was looking for a pulse, but he may well have discovered the secret of time travel!

ETI NEWS JUNE 1980



## Pet Chip

This should appeal to those of you who spent your hard-earned pennies on a 'pet rock,'

We recently received a letter from an anonymous dad who made an apparently trivial Christmas present for his daughter. However, since then he has been inundated with orders.

Mr A. Nonymous painted a face on one end of an IC (pet IC, you see) and made a matchstick cage for it complete with watch battery feeding bowl.

The chip should quickly LATCH on to its new OHM. As for feeding, a few BITS of CURRENTS a day should be AMPle. Just let it NOR away to its heart's content. You can teach it tricks.

Ta, Mr Nonymous. We haven't had a good groan in ages.

ETI NEWS MARCH 1980

## bbc get it taped

The BBC and 3M have collaborated to develop a new tape recording system claimed to provide 90 dB noise figure. The system will accommodate 32 tracks on one-inch tape at an undisclosed tape speed.

ETI NEWS JULY 1973

## PIEZOELECTRIC HEADPHONES

The Pioneer SE-700 are the first high fidelity headphones to use the piezo-electric effect. As the audio signals reach the headphones, the driver elements of ultra-thin aluminium-coated high-polymer film expand and contract accordingly, creating "breathing" motion. Tonal characteristics are comparable to those of the electrostatic type headphones, but the SE-700 require no matching transformer.

ETI NEWS MAY 1975

## its a wide word

Intel, Zilog and Motorola are taking their places in the front rank on the grid for this years expected race to 16 bit MPU sales. All three have completed development, and will probably show the nature of

their teeth at next months US Solid State Circuits Conference. The pause between this and letting loose of the hounds as it were will almost certainly mean late autumn production.

On yer marks .....

ETI NEWS MARCH 1978

## SHORTS

● Every Ready — now called Berec — have released four rechargable consumer batteries, in the HP2, HP11, HP7 and PP3 varieties. Chargers are also available. An undoubted reaction to the phenomenal loss of dry cell power these days.

● Direct drive turntables yes. But direct drive MPUs? Also yes — now. The S2000 is a new release from AMI which can drive fluorescent displays directly, with HT drive and 7-segment decoding on chip. Also on board 64 x 4 RAM and 1K ROM. Intended for low cost applications.

● Ingersoll — the tick tock people — are into electronics. They have released three TV games, three clock radios, two Door Chimes, and a portable micro cassette player. Photo shows one of their new TV games. It must be Christmas.

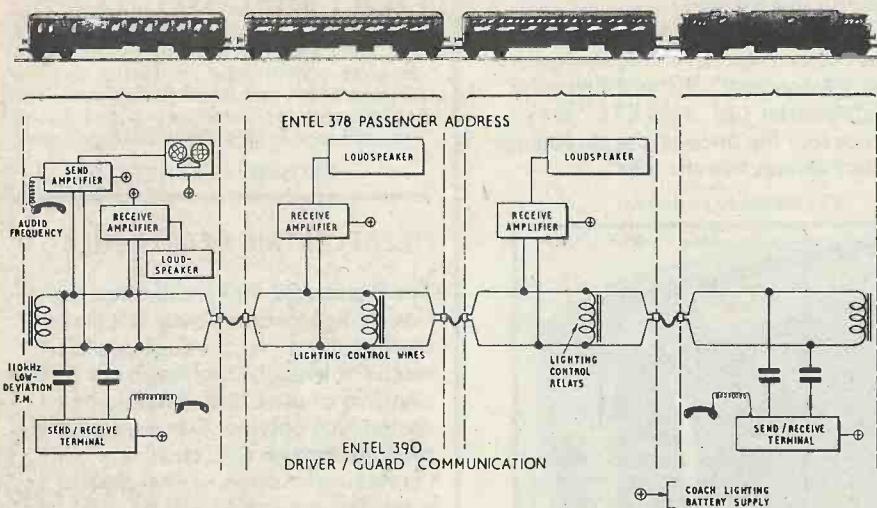
● Fairchild are making a big fuss about having their F16K Dynamic 16K RAMs available at last. Access times vary from 150 ns to 300 ns.



ETI NEWS JAN 1979



## TALKING IN TRAINS



British Rail's plans for 150 mph trains include improved communication systems between drivers and guards. Also planned are passenger address systems.

A range of equipment — known as EMTel — has been designed specifically for this task by Britain's Nelson Tansley Ltd.

The main problem to be overcome was the impossibility of providing a special cable, running the length of the train, on which to carry the signals.

The equipment was therefore designed to accommodate any continuous circuit, for example, the control wires for the lighting relays which (in British Rail), are the only conductors always connected throughout any passenger train. In this case, departure from the ideal of a 600 ohm noise-free line is caused by the connexion across the wires of many relay solenoids, the impedance of which is not only complex, but variable.

ETI NEWS JULY 1972

## LASER MISSILE INTERCEPTOR

The US armed forces may soon have a laser missile interceptor. Air Force reports state that prototype deuterium fluoride lasers have been successfully tested at 'very very high' power outputs.

Power output is apparently so high that the laser beam burns straight through heavy gauge stainless nickel steel plate.

ETI NEWS JULY 1975

## BIAS — AUTOSELECTION

Cassette tape recorders that have been designed specifically for use with chromium dioxide tapes require special bias switching facilities.

At present this is done manually. However the latest BASF 'SM' chromium dioxide cassettes have a notch on the rear of the cassette (in addition to the tab now used to prevent erasure of recorded material) and, hope BASF — and Philips who are backing the system — future cassette players will have a switch mechanism actuated by this tab to bring in the necessary bias circuitry.

ETI NEWS APRIL 1972

ETI NEWS APRIL 1974

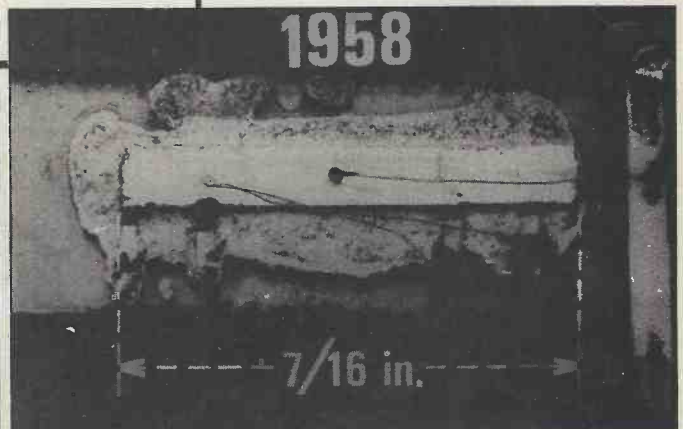


## LIGHTING THE WAY

Many local authorities are now using a street lighting control system in which a photoelectric cell measures the light level and varies the input to

a thick film heating element controlling a temperature sensitive switch. The street lights are therefore automatically switched on at dusk and off at dawn, which means that light is provided only when it is needed and ensures that electricity is not wasted.

1958



It had to happen. The integrated circuit is so old that it has earned its place in a museum. Doesn't it make you feel old? The world's first IC, invented by Jack Kilby of Texas Instruments in 1958, is one of three exhibits on loan from TI in Dallas for the 'Challenge of the Chip' exhibition at the Science Museum. The other two are the first silicon transistor and the first single chip microcomputer.

ETI NEWS MAY 1980

## GETTING READY FOR COMMERCIAL RADIO

Commercial radio is on its way; anyone doubting this should tune around the medium wave band where tests transmissions are already being conducted. Contracts for the supply of the transmitters and the aerials have been placed with EMI, the value of the order is put at £160,000.

ETI NEWS MAY 1973



## shorts

● Tandy is doing well with its home computer in the USA, and is expanding, both physically and financially, that side of the business.

● New from GI — the Cricket chip. The AY-3-8910 is a programmable sound generator and is software controlled, needing only a power supply and clock to begin chirping or hooting or ...

## Hong Kong King

Some numbers to tick off on your fingers. In the first six months of the year Hong Kong exported 16 million watches (worth £77m). These break down as 61% mechanical, 29% LCD and only 10% LED and quartz analogue com-

bined. Surprising LED figures eh?

Germany developed a sudden lust for these non-tockers and their imports leapt up by 287%, putting them as the second largest consumers — behind the US and ahead of us!

ETI NEWS NOV 1978

ETI NEWS OCT 1978

## BE WARNED (IN A SMALL WAY!)

The Mini-Bleptone 525 is a unit which provides a choice of two continuous signals of up to 80dBa with current consumption ranging from 3–15mA.

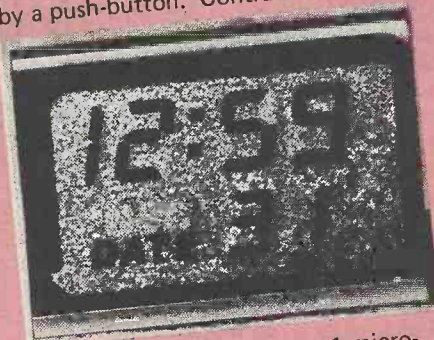


ETI NEWS JULY 1976

Its applications are wide, being ideally suited as a fault indicator mounted onto portable equipment and instrument panels, or for localised warning of such things as intruders and/or fire.

## NEW LC DISPLAYS FOR WATCHES

A new series of Liquid Crystal displays have been announced by Beckman for digital watches. These display hours and minutes continually with either date or seconds, selected by a push-button. Contrast ratio is



20:1. power requirement is 1 micro-watt so that even with constant read-out battery life is over a year. LC modules are available for both 3V and 6V models and a CMOS compatible.

Beckman Instruments Ltd.,  
Queensway, Glenrothes, Fife, Scotland.

ETI NEWS OCT 1978

## forget who not?

You know we've quite forgotten why we used this photo at all. Now let's see something to do with TV games? Anyway the editorial desks have been bereft of nice lady photos lately — so this one appeared as an oasis amid the dusty filing trays.

P.S. Binatone the people who make the box in front — don't ask what box or in front of what or we won't



speak to you again — claim to now taken over half the TV game market — the magic 51% in fact.

ETI NEWS NOV 1978

## Pocket Companion

Not just an electronic dictionary or a translator or an appointments diary or an encyclopedia, but something of all these rolled into one, the 'Brainbank' is hailed as the world's first pocket information centre and language laboratory.

Brainbank is programmed via a series of interchangeable, plug-in memory cells, so you have virtually unlimited information storage possibilities (armed with a bucket full of memory cells).

Each language cell, which contains 32K of ROM holds about 1200 of the most common

words, stored individually and in groups of up to fifty in categories such as travelling and food. The program also includes short phrases, automatically corrects spelling errors and explains words with double meanings (with its double entendre chip?).

The information centre's heart is a Mostek 3870 micro-processor. Memory cells are currently available on diet and nutrition, first aid, taxation and a thesaurus. New cells will become available every month. A custom cell service is also available.

Brainbank will cost around £150 plus £20 or less for each additional cell. We will tell you more about this little marvel, when we can get hold of one to play with.



ETI NEWS JAN 1980



## 300 MPH HOVERTRAIN - PUBLIC SHOWING

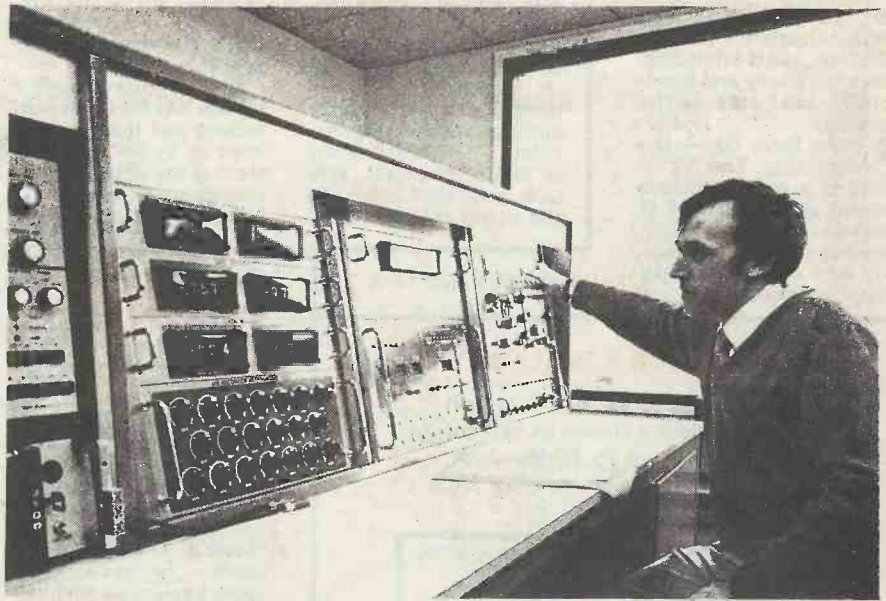
Computerised control and data recording equipment that can handle information from up to 413 different sources will be used in the development of Britain's tracked hovertrain — during its period of full-scale development.

From this console, commands will be transmitted by radio to the hovertrain and radioed signals from the measuring instruments inside the vehicle will be received, recorded and analysed.

The 25-ton vehicle straddles the track and is supported approximately an inch above it by a system of fans employing the hovercraft principle. The linear motor consists of an aluminium strip set into the top of the track as the motor's "stator", and a complex set of electrical windings mounted inside the body shell. Power is picked up from a trackside rail.

The train made its first run over a mile of the track recently, watched by visiting experts and the press from several countries. It performed perfectly during the slow-speed run and is now expected to reach speeds of up to 90 mph during the next two months.

The hovertrain has been designed and constructed by Tracked Hovercraft



ETI NEWS APRIL 1972 (OUR FIRST EVER NEWS ITEM!)

Ltd., a company set up by Britain's National Research Development Council, and would be capable of providing a link between central

London and the airport planned for Foulness, its passengers completing the journey in quiet pollution-free comfort in about 20 minutes.

## RED TAPE GAGS THE QUEEN!

In the wee small hours of January 19th 1903, Marconi established the first two-way communication across the Atlantic. Messages were exchanged between the American president Theodore Roosevelt and the British King Edward VII. To mark the 75th anniversary of this event, the Cornish Radio Amateur Club have organised a team of sixty local amateurs to run GB3 MSA (Marconi's Seventy-fifth Anniversary). The station was run 24 hours a day, from the

14th to the 22nd January, from the lounge of the Poldhu Hotel in sunny Cornwall — only metres away from the spot Marconi used.

Transmitting on 80m, 20m and 2m the team had already made 1 100 contacts in 51 countries when ETI contacted them on the 16th! All the equipment was owned by the club and its members and set up for the week specially. On the American side was another station, KM1 CC, based in Cape Cod. KM1 CC was run by

the local Barnstable, Mass. radio club with the help of the Radio Club of America.

Now for the red tape... President Carter sent a message via KM1 CC and the Queen wanted to send a reply via GB3 MSA, just like Edward VII did back in 1903. The Home Office said that if she did, it would break a condition in all British amateurs licences — namely the one about not passing on messages from 3rd parties! So after 2 years preparation the Cornish Amateurs and the Queen were denied permission to reply to President Carter.

ETI NEWS MARCH 1978

## Something Bugging You?



With the increase in telephone tapping and boardroom bugging, Audiotel International have developed a simple to use, yet sophisticated successor to their Scanlock radio surveillance receiver. It is called the Scanlock Mark V8 and is a fast, easy means of detecting and locating an eavesdropping transmitter as well as being capable of routine 'sweep' searches of high level meetings rooms. Carried in a vehicle it can also locate any bleeper bug used for 'trailing'.

The Scanlock is not limited to the conventional radio receiver's range of 88-108 MHz. It covers the wider frequency spectrum of 10-1800 MHz and its automatic 'sweep' mode scans this range four times a minute. Finally all that is necessary is to press the 'Locate' button and use the hand-held wand to guide you to where the bug is located. The kit is the size of a small briefcase, weighing 6.3 Kg, complete with spare battery pack. There is also provision for mains usage. For further information contact Audiotel International Ltd at Saddlers Court, Yately, Surrey, GU177RX.

## CONCORDE BAN?

Whilst we are currently bombarded with PR material extolling the 'virtues' of the Concorde supersonic airliner it is interesting to note that in the USA Senator Alan Cranston has introduced a bill, co-sponsored by Senators Edward Muskie and Caliborne Pell, to prohibit overseas supersonic transports from landing at any US airports or flying over US territory at supersonic speeds.

The SSTs which carry less than half the passenger load of a 747 make ten times as much noise on take-off and landing. ETI NEWS JULY 1972

## RICE LOGIC?

Later this summer — about June — National Semiconductor and Kellogg's are to hook-up on a promotional deal. All Kellogg cereal packets will carry coupons for reductions on National calculators. Barley credible is it not? ETI NEWS JULY 1976

## breadboard '78

At long last a show for the electronics enthusiast — Breadboard '78 will be held at Seymour Hall in London from the 21st to 25th of November — mark it in your diary now 'cos ETI will be exhibiting! If you are a firm and would like more details contact: Breadboard '78, Plymouth Road, House, 23a Devon PL19 8AU. ETI NEWS JUNE 1978



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

# Sparkrite

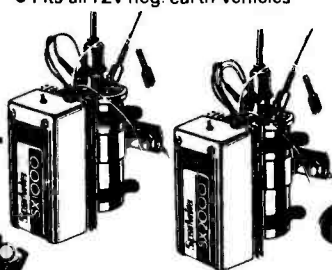
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## SX1000 Electronic Ignition

- 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

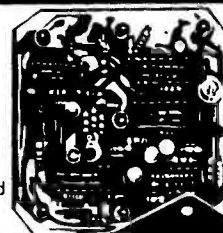


## SX2000 Electronic Ignition

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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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- Not an auto item but great fun for the family
- Total random selection
- Triggered by waving of hand over dice
- Bleeps and flashes during a 4 second tumble sequence
- Throw displayed for 10 seconds
- Auto display of last throw 1 second in 5
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- Hours of continuous use from PP7 battery
- Over 100 components to assemble
- Supplied in superb presentation gift box

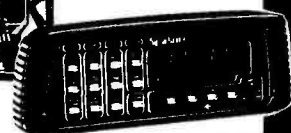
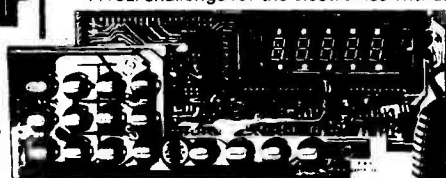


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- Can also be triggered by existing contact breakers.
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- Over 150 components to assemble

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- A real challenge for the electronics enthusiast!



## AT-80

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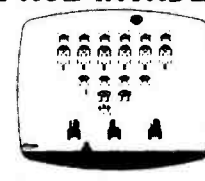
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## ADD-ON ADAPTOR £199

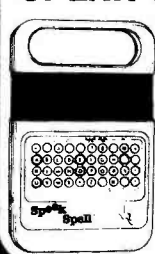
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**THIS NEW MODEL INCORPORATES:**

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- Unnecessary to remove the unit to watch normal TV programmes
- Gold plated circuit board for reliability
- New SUPERIMPOSE News Flash facility

## SPEAK & SPELL

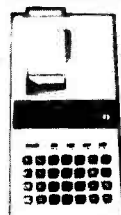


Normal Price £49.95  
**NOW REDUCED TO:**

**£39.50** inc VAT

Teach your child to  
spell properly with  
this unique learning  
aid. Fully automatic  
features and scoring.  
Additional word  
modules available to  
extend the range of  
words

## ADDING MACHINE OLYMPIA HHP 1010



Normal Price £57.21  
**NOW REDUCED TO:**

**£34** inc VAT

Uses ordinary paper!  
No need to buy expensive  
thermal paper!  
Fast adding using PRINTER  
CALCULATOR 2 lines per  
second, 10 digit capacity  
Uses normal adding  
machine rolls. Battery or  
mains operated.  
Size 9 1/2" x 4 1/2" x 2 1/2"  
(Mains adaptor extra)

## 24 TUNE ELECTRONIC DOOR BELL

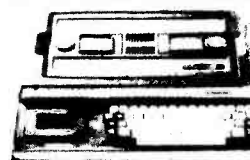


Normal Price £19.70  
**NOW REDUCED TO:**

**£12.70** inc VAT

Plays 24 different tunes  
with separate speed  
control and volume  
control. Select the most  
appropriate tune for your  
visitor, with appropriate  
tunes for different times  
of the year!

## MATTEL T.V. GAME



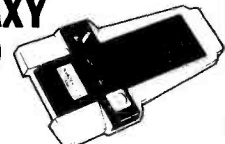
The most advanced T.V. game in the world 20  
cartridges available. Add  
on KEYBOARD coming **£199.95** inc VAT  
soon to convert the  
MATTEL to a home computer with 16K RAM fully  
expandable and programmable in Microsoft Basic.  
Other accessories will be available later in the year.

## HAND HELD GAMES EARTH INVADERS



These invaders are a breed of creature hitherto  
unknown to man. They cannot be killed by  
traditional methods - they must be buried. The  
battle is conducted in a maze where squads of  
aliens chase home troops. The only way of  
eliminating them is by  
digging holes and  
burying them. **£23.95** inc VAT

## HAND HELD GAMES GALAXY 1000



The 2nd generation Galaxy Invader. The invaders  
have re-grouped and have a seemingly endless  
supply of spacecraft whilst the player's arsenal is  
limited to just 250 missiles to be launched from 3  
missile stations. You have to prevent the invaders  
landing or from  
destroying your home  
defences. **£19.95** inc VAT

## THE OLYMPIA — POST OFFICE APPROVED TELEPHONE ANSWERING MACHINE WITH REMOTE CALL-IN BLEEPER

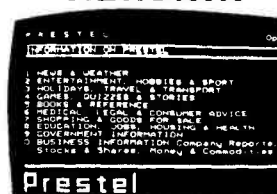
This telephone answering machine is manufactured by Olympia Business Machines, one of the  
largest Office Equipment manufacturers in the U.K. It is fully POST OFFICE APPROVED and will  
answer and record messages for 24 hours a day. With your remote call-in bleeper you can receive  
these messages by telephone wherever you are in the world. The remote call-in bleeper activates the  
Answer/Record Unit, which will at your command repeat messages, keep or erase them, and is  
activated from anywhere in the world, or on your return to your home or office. The machine can also  
be used for message referral, if you have an urgent appointment, but are expecting an important call,  
simply record the 'phone number' and location where you can be reached. With optional extra  
bleepers (£13 each) this facility can be  
extended to colleagues and members of  
the family. Using a C90 standard cassette  
you can record as many as 45 messages.  
The announcement can be up to 16  
seconds long and the incoming message  
up to 30 seconds long.  
The machine is easy to install and comes  
with full instructions. It is easily wired to  
your junction box with the spade connec-  
tors provided or alternatively a jack plug  
can be provided to plug into a jack socket.  
Most important, of course, is the fact that  
it is fully POST OFFICE APPROVED.



The price of £135 (inc. VAT) includes the  
machine, an extra light remote call-in  
bleeper, the microphone message tape,  
A.C. mains adaptor. The unit is  
9 1/2" x 6 1/2" x 2 1/2" and is fully guaranteed for  
12 months. The telephone can be placed  
directly on the unit - no additional desk  
space is required.

**£135** inc VAT

## PRESTEL VIEWDATA



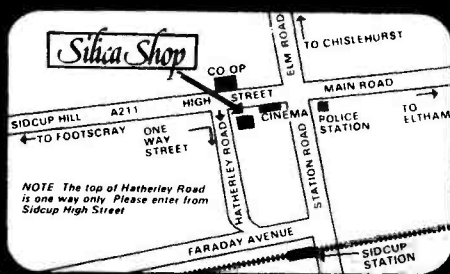
The ACE TELCOM VDX1000 Prestel View-  
data adaptor simply plugs into the aerial  
socket of your television and enables you to  
receive the Prestel Viewdata service in  
colour or black & white.

### Features

- Simplified controls for quick, easy operation
- Special graphics feature for high resolution
- State of the art microprocessor controller
- Standard remote telephone keypad with Prestel  
keys
- Auto dialler incorporated for easy Prestel  
acquisition
- True PAL colour encoder using reliable IC  
chroma filter and delay line incorporated for  
minimum picture interference maximum  
fidelity
- Includes convenient TV Prestel switchbox
- Easily connected to standard home or office  
telephone lines
- Fully Post Office approved

**SPECIAL PRICE £228.85** inc VAT

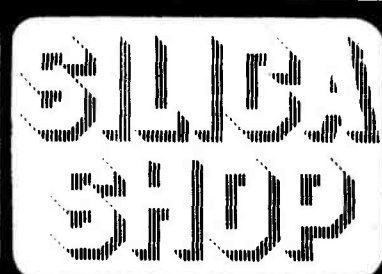
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- Monday Saturday (Early Closing Thursday 1pm) - Late Opening Friday 8pm
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- MONEY BACK UNDER TAKING - If you are unsatisfied with your purchase and return it within 7 days we will give you a full refund
- AFTER SALES SERVICE - Available on all machines and of guarantee
- COMPETITIVE PRICES - We are never knowingly undercut
- HELPFUL ADVICE - Available on the suitability of your machine
- CREDIT FACILITIES - Full credit facilities available over 12, 24 or 36 months at competitive rates of interest
- PART EXCHANGE SCHEME - available on second hand machines
- CREDIT CARDS WELCOME - Access, Barclaycard, Diners Club, American Express

**SILICA SHOP LIMITED** ET10482  
1-4 The Mews, Hatherley Road, Sidcup, Kent DA14 4DX  
Telephone: 01-301 1111 or 01-309 1111

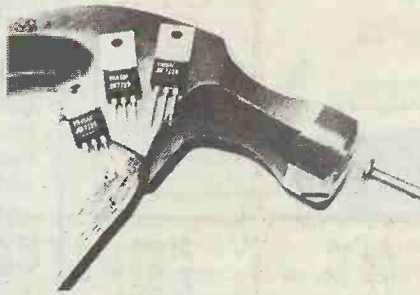




## hammer fet-ish

A new range of low cost VMOS power FETs in plastic have been introduced by Siliconix. These devices are aimed at replacing conventional bipolar transistors in a great many applications. This development in VMOS technology has cut the price of such devices by a third enabling them to compete directly with bipolar devices.

ETI NEWS APRIL 1978



## CALCULATOR CHIPS NOW LESS THAN £1

Calculator chips prices continue their inexorable fall in price. Latest prices in the USA for four function eight digit MOS chips are now as low as 40p

to 80p. Even the complex scientific calculator chips are down to £6 or less compared to £20 this time last year.

MOS Technology Corporation for instance are selling a single chip scientific unit for £7.

ETI NEWS JULY 1975

ETI NEWS DEC 1977

## sailing into space.....

A 12 bladed solar sail spacecraft is a new candidate for mankind's first interplanetary shuttle. Designed to be employed in the 1980s its first use might well be a rendezvous with Halley's Comet in 1986.

The 'heliogyro' sail uses a helicopter type design with 12 'blades' composed of reflective aluminium plastic film, and deployed in two tiers of six each. After launch from the space shuttle, centrifugal force

would open the blades to their 4½ MILE length. (They're 28ft. wide). The craft sits in the centre of the array.

The craft would be slowly spun by the sun's photon radiation, and complete a rotation every three minutes. A square sail, and hence windjamming to the stars, was rejected in favour of the blades, which now fight it out with an ion stream propulsion system for NASA consideration.

## ACC AFTER ONE YEAR

Now moving into its second year of existence the Amateur Computer Club has now formulated its activities into a constitution and has a membership of over 200.

ETI NEWS AUG 1974

## Power Cuts On The Way

In 1968 your 20 inch colour telly using 90° deflection would have consumed over 200 W. Now, the figure is around 65 W. A new development from Finland will further reduce that to about 40 W.

The system, which results in a reduction of about 40% in power consumption, has been incorporated in the Salora G Series of portable colour sets. The design is basically a 90% efficient couple between the power supply and picture tube using an induction transfer system. The resultant cool running improves reliability and extends operational life.



The G Series, with its 16, 20 and 22 inch models, will operate from a standard 60A/hour 12 V battery for 15 hours, or from mains for as long as you pay your bills.

All the models feature automatic electronic tuning, fine

tuning and memory plus add-on options for remote control, 12 V battery and video frequency interface unit.

Salora products are available in the UK from Salora (UK) Ltd, 25A Techno Trading Estate, Swindon SN2 6EZ.

● Bowmar has Texas's range and is homing in. Texas are being sued for \$3 million by Bowmar who allege the supply of a large number of defective calculator keyboards.

● XR4741 to you. Nothing to do with sci-fi but a new quad op-amp. Very low noise and better than a 741 in all respects. Available from RASTRA at 275 King St, Hammersmith, London W6. Ideal for audio projects where the hissing of summer circuits is not required.

● The Government's hi-fi firm, Strathern are to launch their new SM2000 turntable in the autumn, which will replace the SMA2 model. Once again the unit looks technically sound — maybe success at last for nationalised-fi?

ETI NEWS OCT 1978

## ANTI-SKID CONTROL

The first standard i.c.'s designed specifically for the automotive market have been announced by Fairchild. Both are complex linear circuits developed over the past two years as 'custom' circuits before being added to the standard product line.

ETI NEWS OCT 1973

## ELECTRONIC CHEQUEBOOK CALCULATOR

A pocket calculator that will hold and display bank cheque account balances for a year or more is shortly to be announced by the US Mostek Corporation.

During the times that the calculator is 'off' data is stored in a static shift register (drawing a mere 100 microamps). This data is then clocked solely when access is required.

The unit is expected to retail for less than £16 and will be built into a plastic chequebook holder.

ETI NEWS JULY 1975

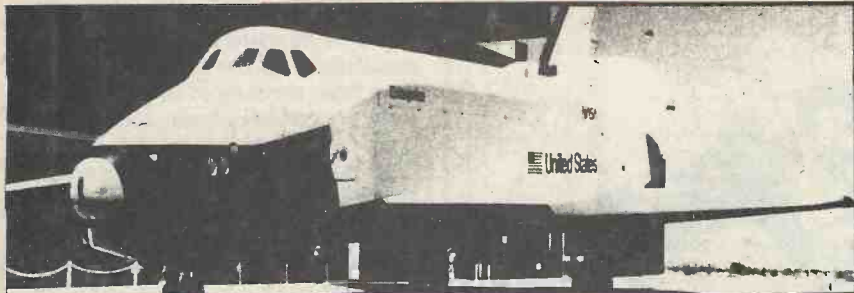
## BUBBLING OVER

Next year Rockwell are hoping to launch their now developed one-megabit bubble memory price? One millicent per bit!

Their device can operate up to 300kHz and measures 10 x 9.5mm and is designed for a 1.8 micron bubble diameter. ETI NEWS SEPT 1977



## SPACE SHUTTLE ON THE TILES



Extremely pure silica glass has been manufactured for at least 40 years - longer than jet aircraft have been around. Now it is to aid and abet the

ultimate aircraft - the U.S. Space Shuttle. Made into tiles (composed of 96% silica glass) of which 34,000 are used, the material covers well over 70% of the surface of the Shuttle.

These tiles are incredible heat 'shedding' devices (see photo) and will be expected to withstand temperatures of up to 1260°C for 100 re-entries into the atmosphere. Previous heat shields were destroyed on re-entry.

Each tile is precisely milled to fit exactly against the curvature of the Shuttle body, thus making the composite craft as light as possible, and as aerodynamic as is feasible. This does however mean that no two of those 34,000 tiles are alike! Imagine the little man in a white coat with the job of fitting them to the aircraft - a huge 3-D jigsaw puzzle with only one solution out of 34,000 (i.e. 34,000 x 33,999 x 33,998...x 1) possibilities! Rather him than me.



ETI NEWS MARCH 1977

## solid state speech



If the latest goodie from Texas Instruments is as successful as we think it will be, the next generation will speak with an American accent! Called 'Speak & Spell' it is a box that talks to the kids (with a 'standard' American accent),

and theoretically helps them pronounce new words correctly - it also compares how the kids spell the word with the correct (American) spelling, and indicates whether they gave the right answer.

ETI NEWS AUG 1978

## ORACLE ON AIR

ORACLE, ITV's Teletext system (see ETI, July 1975) began an on-air experiment on the ITV network on 30th June. Operating the experiment are two editorial teams and three computer systems. At ITN there is an editorial team (plus computer) for news and associated information. At London Weekend Television there will be an editorial team preparing public service and similar information pages, and the second computer. At Thames Television the third computer will be used to insert data into the network during the Monday to Friday broadcasting period with LWT taking over for the weekend transmissions. It is hoped that there will soon be sets with decoders in the main entrance lobbies of ITN House, London Weekend Television's South Bank Studios and Thames Television's Euston Studios, so that visitors can interrogate the system and see how ORACLE works.

ETI NEWS SEPT 1975

## WATCHES FACE COLLAPSE!

Five companies have dropped production of digital watches, due entirely to the price war raging around the product. Gruen, Benrus, Armin Litronix and Gillette have decided the wrist borne digit is not for them. Those still there are sufferin too. Bulova are expected to make a loss this year. Gillette in fact pulled out before they pulled in, scraping well laid plans to burst into the 'marketplace' at the eleventh hour.

ETI NEWS SEPT 1977

## £15 DOLBY RADIOS SOON?

Even the cheapest of domestic radio receivers may soon have Dolby circuitry inbuilt according to Alan Gregory of the Signetics Corporation, manufacturers of the NE545 Dolby IC chip.

Gregory believes that the inclusion of the chip (which will be sold to manufacturers for less than a dollar) will increase the price of domestic receivers by a pound at the most.

ETI NEWS APRIL 1975

## SCREEN TEST

The UK is now Hong Kong's largest market for TV games. We absorbed 26% of their export in the field, some 523,506 items if you please, in the first eight months of this year. Germany finished second

on 22% and the USA came third with 13%.

Somewhat of a surprise, and a shame, that we take more than the States of these items. I always thought we had more taste.

ETI NEWS JAN 1979



## A POCKET CALCULATOR IN EVERY HOUSEHOLD

"By the mid-70's the pocket electronic calculator will be as much an essential part of the household as the transistor radio is now". This is the prediction made by Sinclair Radionics.

Recent market research confirms that increasing numbers of the population are becoming aware of the possible applications of pocket electronic calculators. This is most marked in the educational field, at school and college levels although considerable interest is also being shown on the domestic front by husbands and wives who are able to use a calculator to help control the family budget.

ETI NEWS DEC 1973

## THE END OF THE AMP?

A British invention (three cheers!) could well mark the end of the amplifier as a circuit block. A new device called a 'voltage-to-current transactor' can do everything an op-amp can — but better. Invented by Professor Gosling and Carl Brinker, the device contains no passive components at all, and consists of a network of transistors.

The advantages are that it integrates smoothly rather than as a series of steps, follows an input quicker and with a wider dynamic range, is smaller in chip form and uses less external components. A VCT can also double as a transformer!

ETI NEWS OCT 1976

## Blonde Bombshell

Now be honest with yourself — aren't there times during those long cold winter days when you could do with one of these in your office. No, unfortunately I don't mean Blondie in the white pants. The blonde bombshells here are the brushed aluminium boxes of ITT Terryphone's new solid state intercom units.

The intercom, which doubles as a security and alarm system, consists of a master unit and from one to nine sub-units. The system is easily installed in many configurations.

Simple press-button-to-talk operation is featured on the master and sub-units. Each sub-unit can be called independently from the master unit, or all sub-units can be called simultaneously. Pressing the self-latching security button allows noises from children, equipment, burglars, etc to be picked up and transmitted to other parts of the premises. So, the intercom can be used as a security system in small businesses of a baby alarm at home.

Each sub-unit comes complete with cable and cable fixing pads for £20 each. The master unit costs £85 and comes with a mains plug and a screwdriver. Talking of Blondie — she can install an intercom in my office any time.

Further details of this system is available from ITT Terryphone, Station Approach, London Road, Bicester, Oxon OX6 7BZ.

ETI NEWS JAN 1980



## FIELD EFFECT LC DISPLAYS

Siemens incorporate the field effect principle in their new liquid crystal displays with low operating voltages.

10:28

All the liquid crystal displays in field effect technology have dark symbols on a light background and are suitable for reflection operation, all with high contrast ratios, low operating voltage and low power draw. Such features allow the displays to be driven by CMOS and other ICs.

ETI NEWS MARCH 1975

## BANDING TOGETHER

The Editor,  
Electronics Today International,  
36 Ebury Street,  
London SW1 W 0 LW.

Dear Sir,

We were most pleased to read the article "C.B. for Britain" in your July issue. The Citizens' Band Association is campaigning for the establishment of a VHF Citizens' Band in the UK and agrees with nearly all the points you make.

We have prepared a technical proposal for a VHF FM Citizens' Band which is being sent to the Home Office for discussion and contains a number of proposals to ensure that a British Citizens' Band suffers from few of the disadvantages of the American one. These proposals include:

1. Modulation shall be FM which avoids many problems of TVI, BCI and audio equipment break-in.
2. Each transceiver should contain an automatic identifying signal which is transmitted every time the transmit key is depressed. This means that anyone misusing Citizens' Band can easily be identified.
3. Transmission time should be limited to 75 seconds to prevent channels being monopolised.

Apart from the above, and a few purely technical proposals concerning standards which should be high enough to prevent interference to other services but not so unnecessarily high as to price Citizens' Band equipment out of the market, we believe that a British Citizens' Band should have a minimum of regulations.

Membership of the CBA is £1.50 p.a. for individuals and £5 for clubs.

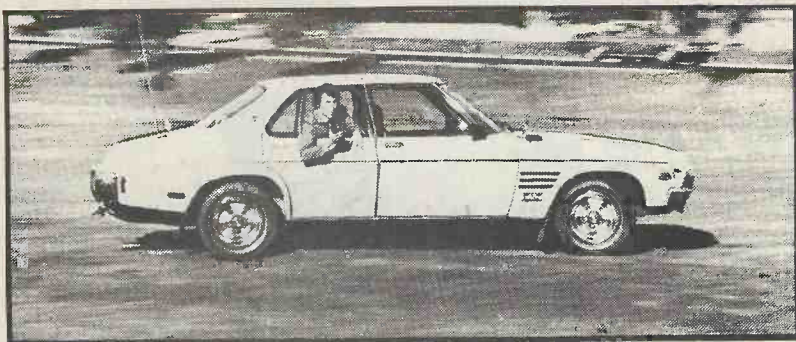
Yours faithfully,

James M. Bryant,  
President, Citizens Band Association.

ETI NEWS OCT 1976



## STEERING WHEEL? WOT STEERING WHEEL?



We had a very careful second look at this photograph, vowed to give up wine, women, and especially song, (for at least five minutes) then decided yes he was in the back seat, and yes the car was moving. Visions of a huge hoax flashed to the editorial mind — frenzied navvies rushing about with the backdrop to simulate movement — tiny men crammed into the wing mirrors steering via cunning Chinese arrangements of levers and gears. The mind boggled.

Alas the answer is nought so scandalous. Quite simply an Australian electronics enthusiast has packed his car full of voice recognition and MPU circuitry to the end that it will now

obey verbal commands — even by walkie-talkie up to a range of 12 miles (Naturally it obeys only its owners voice).

The car has a CCTV system installed which enables the driver to see behind him — very useful in injon country. Infra red sensors pick up red traffic lights and brake the car automatically — no we're not joking. Radar ranging maintains a constant distance with respect to the car in front, and sensors apply the brakes should the car come too close to any object — even people.

All this makes it a better driver than most of us.

ETI NEWS NOV 1976

## right hook

In a historic ruling, the US Supreme Court has confirmed that private individuals have the right to buy or make their own telephone equipment and connect it to the US telephone network.

Under the ruling it will be legal to hook

up as many devices as the user wishes — computer controlled systems, 'phone diverters, memory diallers, picturephones etc, etc. The only restriction is that the various bits must meet the relevant FCC requirements.

ETI NEWS APRIL 1978

## DIGITAL RECORDING

Japan's Nippon Columbia company have developed a digital recording technique. The new equipment, said to cost over £125,000 uses pulse code modulation.

Advantage of this technique is its virtual imperviousness to noise and distortion. Further details will be published as they come to hand.

ETI NEWS JAN 1973

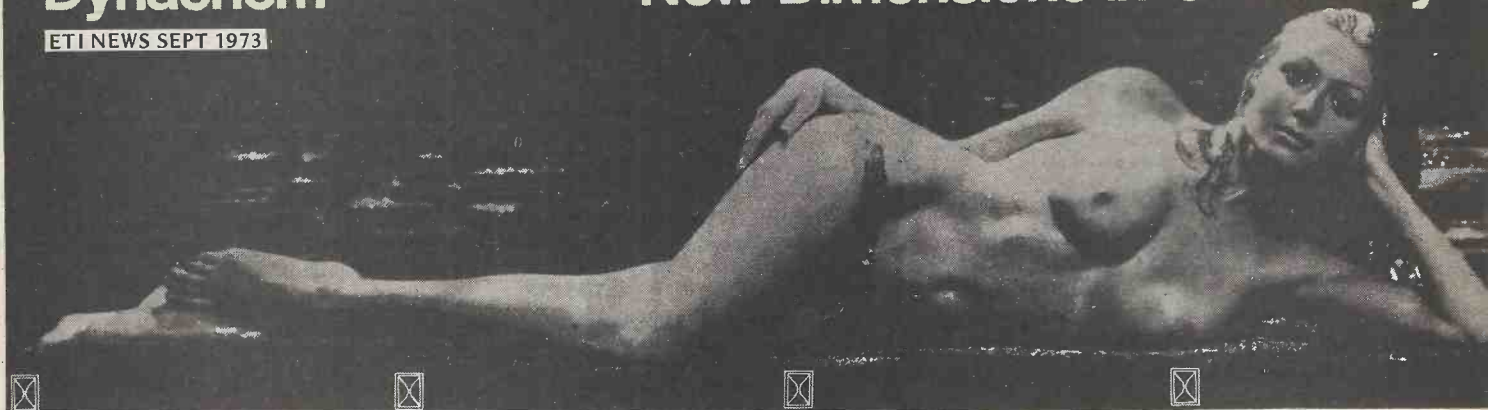
## LASER STICK FOR THE BLIND

A stick specially designed for blind persons gives the bearer a loud sonic signal in the event of impediment in his path at wrist height or above. The new device was commissioned by the Swedish Institute for the Handicapped and work on the project was initially financed by the Swedish Board for Technical Development (STU). The prototype stick comprises a 1.3-metre-long tube made of glassfibre-reinforced plastic. To it is attached a gallium-arsenide laser, a midget transmitter and receiver, and an amplifier. The power source is a tiny nickel-cadmium accumulator. The laser beam's trajectory is almost at right-angles to the stick's length, and as such sticks are normally held forward at an angle of about 45 degrees to the ground, the beam is directed both upward and forward. The laser sends about 1000 pulses per second and when one of these meets an object — such as a lorry, car or a road sign — it is reflected back to the stick, where it is electronically transformed into a sonic warning signal to alert the bearer. ETI NEWS NOV 1972

## Dynachem

ETI NEWS SEPT 1973

## New Dimensions in Chemistry



## GIRL BY INSTALMENTS!

Electronics manufacturers throughout Europe are receiving a series of unusual sales leaflets from a manufacturer of specialist chemicals used in the making of

printed circuit boards.

Dynachem are sending out four leaflets spaced at regular intervals. On the front of each will be printed a tantalising part of the company's DYNAGIRL, an exquisite young lady well worth a second look. By keeping

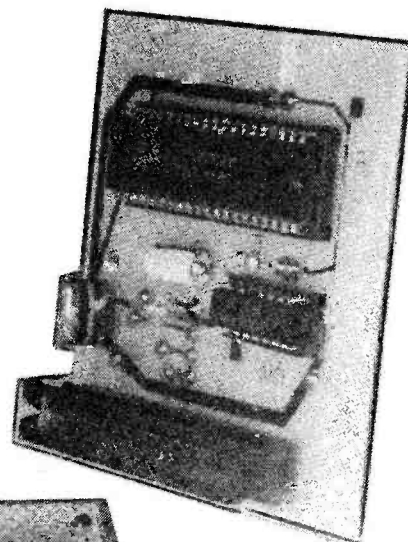
the leaflets, the recipient will be able to build up a complete picture.

On the reverse sides will be information about the company's range of photo-resists, plating solutions, brighteners, cleaners and ancillary chemicals.



# ZX81 HARDWARE

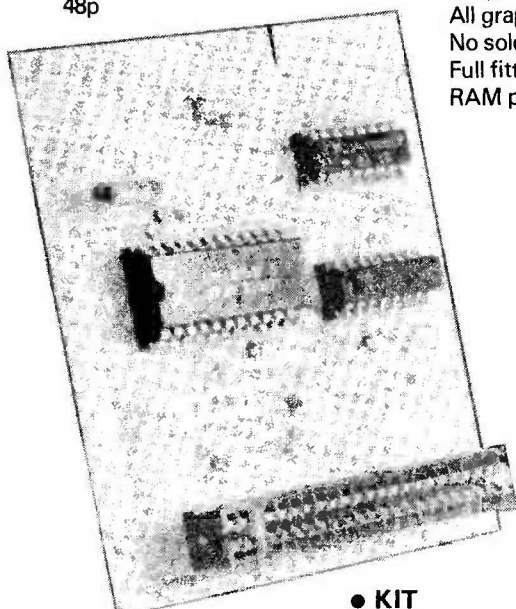
• KEYBOARD KIT	20.75
• BUILT	25.50
• CASE	10.30
• BUILT & FITTED IN CASE	36.15



**EX STOCK!**



Spare switch  
48p



## MUSIC BOARD

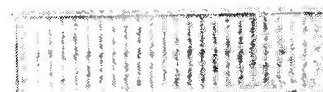
3 outputs.  
.01Hz to 2Mhz.  
Programme by BASIC.

• KIT	16.95
• BUILT	18.95

40 typewriter keys.  
All graphics etc shown.  
No soldering (built version) just plug in.  
Full fitting and assembly instructions supplied.  
RAM pack operation not effected.

## CASE

Ready punched top.  
All screws supplied.  
Feet supplied.  
(For keyboard only, ZX81 does not fit inside).



## CONNECTORS

• ZX81 23 WAY	2.95
• MALE CONN	1.30
• IN-OUT/MUSIC BD	3.00
• 24 WAY RIBBON CABLE	1.40
• RAM PACK CONN	6.95

(Allows RAM pack to be mounted away from ZX81).

# REDDITCH ELECTRONICS

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21 FERNEY HILL AVE  
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SELECTION

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ALUMINIUM  
BIMBOX

DESCRIPTION	L	W	D	PRICE
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21034	205	140	40	426p
21035	205	140	75	474p
21036	205	140	110	617p
21037	180	120	38	385p
21038	180	120	65	418p
21039	180	120	90	443p
21040	155	85	38	312p
21041	155	85	60	341p
21042	155	85	80	407p
21047	125	65	30	222p
21048	125	65	38	252p
21049	125	65	50	318p

VEROPLASTIC				
General purpose				
(black) 21024	72	47	25	50p
(white) 21025	72	47	25	50p
21390	120	80	35	78p
21391	180	110	55	145p

ALUMINIUM				
Pressed, with two IPK screws				
47	70	133	38	85p
A88	101	101	38	85p
A89	101	70	38	85p
Ab10	101	133	38	85p
AB11	101	64	51	85p
AB12	76	51	25	85p
AB13	152	101	51	67p
AB14/2	127	89	64	99p

BIMBOXES				
Plastic ABS				
20002	100	50	25	87p
2004	121	66	40	106p
2005	152	82	50	123p
2006	192	113	61	216p
Plain Diecast				
5001P	50	50	25	88p
5002P	100	50	25	110p
5003P	113	63	31	130p
5004P	121	66	40	150p
5005P	152	82	50	195p
5006P	192	113	61	305p
Grey painted Diecast				
5001	50	50	25	116p
5002	100	50	25	145p
5003	113	63	31	190p
5004	121	66	40	145p
5005	152	82	50	322p
5006	192	113	61	428p

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Save you time, trouble and money

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Each pack contains 100 in one decade quantities of each value according to popularity — ideal for general stock.  
RD1 (1-8.2 $\Omega$ ) RD2 (10-82 $\Omega$ ) RD3 (100-820 $\Omega$ ) RD4 (1K-8K2) RD5 (10K-82K) RD6 (100K-820K) RD7 (1M-10M) Price £1.50 each  
CAPACITORS Type CP1 Price £4.20  
Contains 100 ceramic capacitors, most values 1.8pF to 0.1 $\mu$ F, quantities of each according to popularity.

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Types 5F2, 5F,  
18F2, 18F, 22F,  
266F  
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2Y-T03 96p  
TV3 29p  
TV35 10DN £1.98  
6W4 (Drilled) £4.30

Many other types  
and sizes in stock

## ANALOGUE IC SELECTION

741C8	38p
749C8	36p
7555	86p
CA3080E	86p
CA3130E	99p
CA3140E	55p
LM380N	99p
LM381	£1.51
LM3914N	£2.68
NE555V	23p
NE556A	76p
TDAX20	£1.45
TL071CP	45p
TL072CP	75p
TL074CN	£1.20
UAA170	£1.52
XR2206	£4.80
ZN414	£1.22
ZN425E	£3.90

## SWITCHES

A selection of popular best-sellers from  
our great assortment of different types

### MINIATURE TOGGLE

250V AC/2A Chrome dolly

Made in U.S.A.

S7101 Single throw/Double pole 57p

S7103 SP DT/Centre OFF 71p

S7201 DP/DT 96p

S7211 Single Pole/Three way 140p

S7301 Three pole/DT 180p

### DUAL IN LINE (D.I.L.)

Single Throw 54p

4 Pole 85p

8 Pole 126p

10 pole 187p

14 pole 210p

18 pole 252p

Wide British gold-plated contacts

### ROTARY TYPE

One pole/12 way: Two pole/6

way: Three pole/4 way: Four

pole/3 way all 40p each

MAINS SWITCHES

Double pole double throw,

slider or standard

Standard

Slider

Min

## CONNECTORS

We stock connectors from highly specialised types to the  
everyday kind that you must be sure of being able to get  
when you want them. Here are some examples. See also  
Catalogue 82.

### AUDIO DIN

Ways	Plug	Socket
2	8p	8p
3	14p	8p
4	15p	14p
5 (180°C)	14p	
6	18p	20p
7	19p	19p

### D-TYPE

Ways	Sock	Plug
9	104p	78p
15	147p	106p
25	218p	150p
37	315p	210p

## PANEL MOUNTING METERS

SPECIAL OFFER TO MARCH 31st

Panel mounting meters offered in the following  
F.S.D. ranges:—

0-50 $\mu$ A, 0-100 $\mu$ A, 0-500 $\mu$ A, 0-1mA, 0-5mA,

0-10mA, 0-50mA, 0-100mA, 0-500mA, 0-1A

Normal price, each £2.69 Special offer price to Mar. 31 £2.20

## SABTRONICS

### FREQUENCY METERS

Model 8000B: 9-digit 1GHz Frequency Meter.

Professional specification:	£160.00
2015A Bench DMM (LCD)	£83.00
2035A Hand-Held DMM (LCD)	£52.00
8110A 3 digit 100MHz DFM	£57.00
8610A 8 digit 600MHz DFM	£82.00
5020A 1.200KHz Function Generator, Sine, Squarer, Triangle and separate TTL Square wave outputs	£79.00
S.a.E. brings full details	

## TRANSFORMERS

BUDGET RANGE All primaries 240V

SECONDARIES	5VA	15VA	24VA
0-6, 0.6	£2.85	£3.40	£4.40
0-12, 0.12	£2.85	£3.40	£4.40
0-15, 0.15	£2.85	£3.40	£4.40
0-20, 0.20	£2.85	£3.40	£4.40

### CHARGER TYPES Secondaries

0-9-17V 1A	£3.15
0-9-17V 2A	£3.70
0-9-17V 4A	£4.70

(giving about 14V on full load)

### TOROIDAL RANGE

For details of secondary outputs, please see current I.L.P. Advertisements

All primaries — 240 Volts

30VA — £5.25; 50VA — £6.40; 80VA — £6.80; 120VA — £7.75; 160VA — £10.10;

225VA — £11.65; 300VA — £13.50; 500VA — £17.25

Remember — C.W.O. Orders (UK) are sent post paid if value £6.00 or over

## ORDERING DISCOUNTS & VAT

V.A.T. — PLEASE NOTE ALL PRICES IN THIS ADVERTISEMENT  
ARE EXCLUDING V.A.T. 16% MUST BE ADDED TO THE TOTAL  
VALUE OF YOUR ORDER WHEN PAYING.

DISCOUNTS 5% allowed on orders £23.00 and over. 10% on orders  
£57.50 and over except for a small number of items with prices showing  
Net or N.

POSTAGE — Free on C.W.O. orders in U.K. over £8.00 in value. Under  
— please add 50p handling charge.

## COMPUTER CUSTOMERS

Are invited to contact our associates EV COMPUTING LTD,  
700 Burnage Lane, Burnage, Manchester M19 1MA  
Telephone 061 432 4945

## ELECTROVALUE LTD

Head Office and Shop (ALL mail order and correspondence) Dept ET/4, 28 St Jude's  
Road, Englefield Green, Egham, Surrey TW20 0HB Telephone — Egham 33603 (STD  
0784; London 87) Telex 264475  
NORTHERN BRANCH (Personal shoppers only) 680 Burnage Lane, Burnage,  
Manchester M19 1MA Telephone (061) 432 4945

## MORE POWER TO YOUR £

Start with CATALOGUE 82 and our newest  
price list (effective to June 1st) and see how  
much you save on ordering — and see too  
how Electrovalue service gives you  
confidence and satisfaction no matter what  
the size of your order. Send 70p for your  
Catalogue (A4 88 pages) by return. It  
includes a free voucher for 70p spendable  
on orders for £10 or more.

SEND FOR YOUR  
COPY AND START  
SAVING NOW!



More still in Cat 82 as well  
as semi-conductors in great  
variety



ETI NEWS SEPT 1981

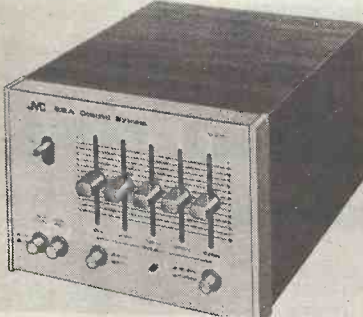
## Mini Discs

Philips, Sony and PolyGram have declared the Compact Disc Digital Audio System ripe for production. These companies are unanimous in the belief that this new

system will eventually replace the LP as we know it. PolyGram Records Operations and CBS/Sony have now put their productions on Compact Disc. It is not expected that the CD will be on the market before the autumn of next year.

## STEREO CONTROL UNIT

Connect this unit to your existing power amplifier, and at your fingertips you will have a degree of control over the audio spectrum previously unattainable with conventional tone control systems. JVC's unique Model SEA-10 takes the full audio range of 20 to 20,000Hz and divides it up into five discrete frequency bands centred at 40, 250, 1000, 5000, and 15,000Hz. Each band can then be varied independently by  $\pm 12$ dB using the professional type slider controls with 2dB click stops.



ETI NEWS JULY 1973



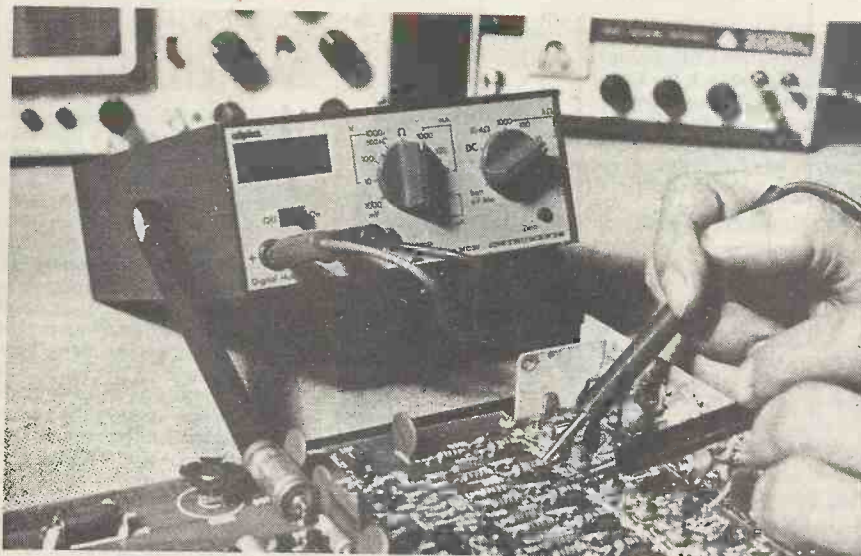
ETI NEWS MAY 1975

## CARTRIDGE PERCUSSION UNIT

Bandmaster Limited of Gloucester Street, Glasgow, have designed a rhythm unit called the Powerhouse

which uses multi-track continuous tape loop to produce multi bar synchronised "live" percussion rhythms.

## DIGITAL MULTIMETER FROM ADVANCE



The way things are going, the adjective 'digital' will soon be dropped when talking about test gear. The advantages of digital readout are overwhelming compared to the standard meter (which has of course an analogue readout) and most new quality

test equipment utilises direct digital readout.

One of the recently introduced DMM's is the Alpha from Advance Electronics; amongst the many attractive features is the price of £55.

ETI NEWS JUNE 1973

## MPG meter.....

A device called a Mileage Computer (what else?) from the Young Corporation in America is designed to produce a digital readout of miles per gallon being obtained from a vehicle at any given instant.

The device is composed of speed and distance sensors, fuel level indicator and calculator circuit. A sensor attached to the speedo picks up pulses every revolution to provide some of the info needed.

The MPG meter will sell at around \$20 in the USA. ETI NEWS DEC 1977

## COLOUR PREJUDICE?

Official figures for the number of homes with colour TV's, i.e. those with a license, have just exceeded 50% of the total. Some lesser mortals might well be tempted to conjecture how high the total would be if the un-licensed felons in our midst could be stood up and counted. Naturally we refrain from any such thoughts.

ETI NEWS DEC 1976



## TELEPHONE COMPONENTS

High-standard telephony today relies on components and function elements whose design and properties render them equally suitable for use in completely different fields. Read-only memories, MT components, keylock connectors and automatic cutouts are some examples of such components.

The MT (magnetic-core transistor) component developed detection of switching criteria in dc signalling systems, has a magnetic core with a rectangular hysteresis loop to detect signals which are amplified by the transistor. The core and transistor circuits are operated at the same potential and the defined Yes/No statements can be evaluated electronically or via relay circuits.

ETI NEWS APRIL 1973



## CMOS IN PLASTIC PACKAGES

Motorola Semiconductors have just announced that 39 devices from their standard CMOS logic family are now available in plastic packages. In the past, ceramic packages have been used for all CMOS devices

ETI NEWS SEPT 1973

## FAIRCHILD TO MAKE CONSUMER PRODUCTS

The USA's Fairchild group are actively planning to enter the consumer products market, according to a usually reliable source.

Fairchild's first products are believed to be a low-end of the market one-chip hand-held calculator with 8-12 digits. However several industry commentators query Fairchild's ability to produce the necessary MOS chips, quoting Lester Hogan's (president of Fairchild) own description of his company's performance in the MOS field as 'disappointing'.

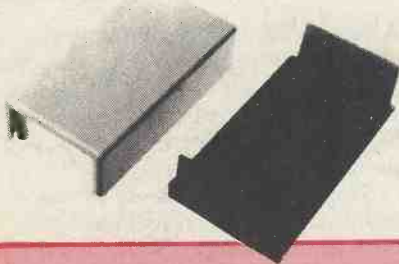
ETI NEWS JUNE 1974

## PLASTIC BOXES

Vero Electronics Limited have recently become distributors for the Odenwalder Kunststoffwerk range of plastic products which include a range of plastic boxes. These are manufactured from high impact polystyrene, which is suitable for machining, engraving and silk screen printing. The upper portion of the box is coloured light grey and the lower portion, dark grey. The latter is provided with integral fixing points for circuit boards. The boxes can be free standing or wall mounting and should provide an attractive enclosure for reader's projects.

Vero Electronics Limited, Industrial Estate, Chandler's Ford, Eastleigh, Hants.

ETI NEWS JAN 1974



## SOVIET RADAR BLAMED FOR HIGH HEART DISEASE

A Russian radar tracking station near the Finnish town of Ilomariitsi may be responsible for a sharp increase in heart disease and cancer according to Dr. Milton Zaret, an American microwave expert.

The Finnish border towns have the highest rate of heart disease in the world and cancer has increased inexplicably.

ETI NEWS JULY 1975

## BLUE RESEARCH

Your choice of LED colours might include blue in the not so distant future. The new devices, being developed by Siemens, use silicon carbide and are predicted to have a forward voltage drop of 4 V at 50 mA.

ETI NEWS OCT 1979

\* Polaroid are about to release an automatic focusing camera that uses an ultra-sonic transducer to measure distance.

\* Computers stores in the US are opening up literally every day — we have just heard that 700 have been identified by someone preparing an exhibition! In addition to those dedicated to Home computers, office equipment suppliers and camera shops are at the forefront when it comes to jumping on the bandwagon; even Macey's stores have now got a computer department in some of their stores.

\* Sanyo have demonstrated a 6 mm thin solid state green and black television. The display is made out of 6,144 green LEDs in an area only 50 mm by 75 mm. They hope to have a commercial set by 1981.

\* A radar based overspeed detector is in use in the U.S. of A, the unit measures your speed and lights up a neon sign saying YOUR SPEED IS ... REDUCE SPEED. The unit is very effective, only problem was the local hot-rodgers using it to check their top speed! Problem solved by limiting display to 75 instead of 99.

ETI NEWS SEPT 1978

## the little cb that santa forgot

Citizen Band radio manufacturers around the world are crying into their transceivers after Xmas. They expected a boost to sales to revive their drooping business, and it didn't materialise. Seems no-one wanted to contact anyone else — not even the reindeer.

ETI NEWS MARCH 1978

## Watch This!

If you're sick of digital watches, how about taking a look at this watch from Casio. It's all analogue, but with a difference. It's fully electronic and has no moving parts. It uses LCD and has conventional hours, minutes and sweep seconds hands. The Model AN8GL is designed to be attractive and fashionable, face colour matches the synthetic strap. Hour positions are marked by standard Roman numerals and all the time settings and adjustments are handled by two buttons, keeping the compact gold-plated watch case simple and uncluttered. The display shows hour and minute hands, and seconds indication is by a third sweep hand or as a series of marks on the face edge to show accumulated seconds. Accuracy is to within 15 seconds a month. RRP is £27.95, but products of this type are often sold cheaper. Further information can be obtained from Casio Electronics Co Ltd, 28 Scruton Street, London EC2A 4TY.

ETI NEWS NOV 1981





# GREENWELD

443A Millbrook Road Southampton SO1 0HX

All prices include VAT at 15% — just add 50p post

## CONGRATULATIONS TO ETI ON THEIR 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Here are some special Bargains to celebrate!!!

**ET1** Electrolytic Pack — 10 each of these PC mntg types: (uF/V) .47/50, 1/50, 2.2/50, 4.7/40, 10/40, 22/50, 33/25, 47/16, 47/40, 100/16, 100/35, 220/63, 330/25, 1000/16. Total 150 caps for **£6.95**  
**ET2** 1A rects — 25 each 1N4001, 3, 5 & 7. Total 100 for **£3.95**  
**ET3** Minibox polyester caps — 10 each of .01/630, .022/250, .047/400, .068/250, 1/100, 22/100, .33/100, 47/100, 1/100. Total 90 caps for **£3.50**  
**ET4** TTL pack — 5 each of: 7400, 02, 05, 10, 13, 20, 30, 47, 73, 74, 86, 90, 93, 96, 107, 121. Total 80 chips for **£14.95**  
**ET5** 100V 12A stud mntg diodes — 10 for **£2**  
**ET6** 2 1/2" in 8R speakers — 2 for **£1**  
**ET7** 200V 4A Triacs — 6 for **£1**  
**ET8** 1500uF 40V PC mntg caps. 5 for **£1**  
**ET9** 750uF 16V axial caps — 12 for **£1**  
**ET10** 1/2W 5% CF resistors, 20 each of these values: 2R2, 4R7, 6R8, 22R, 33R, 47R, 68R, 150R, 270R, 560R, 820R, 1k2, 1k5, 2k2, 3k3, 12k, 68k, 82k, 120k, 180k, 750k, 3M9, 5M6, 6M8, 10M. Total 500 for just **£3.50**  
**ET11** Mains transformer, 12—0—12V 50mA, 2 for just **£1**  
**ET12** 100 1N4148 diodes **£2**

### STABILIZED PSU PANEL



**A199** A versatile stabilized power supply with both voltage (0—30V) and current (20mA—2A) fully variable. Many uses inc bench PSU, Nicad charger, gen. purpose testing. Panel ready built, tested and calibrated. **£7.75**. Suitable transformer and pots **£6.00**. Full data supplied.

### SPECIAL ETI BIRTHDAY OFFER

(Aren't we nice!!!!)

The above PSU, transformer, pots, heat-sink, 0—30V and 0—2A meters, switch, terminals, neon and smart cabinet to mount it all in, plus wiring diagram & info.

**JUST £24.95**

### MIXED LED PACK

All new full spec by Micro, Fairchild, etc. Red, Yellow, Green, Amber, Clear, 3mm & 5mm. Pack of 50 assd **£3.95**; 250 **£15**

### 1W AMP PANELS

**A011** Compact audio amp intended for record player on panel 95 x 65mm including vol control and switch, complete with knobs. Apart from amp circuitry built around LM380N or TBA820M, there is a speed control circuit using 5 transistors. 9V operation, connexion data supplied. **ONLY £1.50**.

### OP—AMP PSU KIT

**A198** All parts + instructions to make a 50mA + 15, 0, —15V supply from mains input. **Only £1.95**

### P.C. ETCHING KIT MkV

The best value in etching kits on the market — contains 100 sq ins copper clad board, Ferric Chloride, Etch resist pen, abrasive cleaner, two miniature drill bits, etching dish and instructions. All for **£4.95**.

### PANELS

**Z521** Panel with 16236 (2N3442) on small heat sink, 2N2223 dual transistor, 2 BC108, diodes, caps, resistors, etc. **60p**.  
**Z522** Reed relay panel — contains 2 x 6V reeds, 6 x 2S030 or 2S230, 6 x 400V rects + Rs. **50p**.  
**Z529** Pack of ex-computer panels containing 74 series ICs. Lots of different gates and complex logic. All ICs are marked with type

no. or code for which an identification sheet is supplied. 20ICs **£1.00**; 100 ICs **£4.00**  
**A504** Black case 50 x 50 x 78mm with octal base. PCB inside has 24V reed relay, 200V 7A SCR, 4 x 5A 200V rects, etc. **60p**.

### CHEAP CHIPS

**76477** Sound IC **£1.25**  
**2102A** RAM 8 for **£3**  
**MK4027** shift reg. 8 for **£6**  
**uA78MG** — volt reg **£1.00**  
**uA79MG** — volt reg **£1.20**  
**74LS112** Dual Flip-Flop 8 for **£1**  
**TIL311** Hexadecimal display with decode 0—9 and A—F. With data **£3.50**.

### DEVELOPMENT PACKS

These packs of brand new top quality components are designed to give the constructor a complete range so the right value is to hand whenever required. They also give a substantial saving over buying individual parts.

**K001** 50V ceramic plate capacitors, 5%, 10 of each value 22pF to 1,000pF, total 210 **£4.80**.  
**K002** Extended range 22pF to 0.1. Values over 1000pF are of a greater tolerance. 10 of each value 22, 27, 33, 39, 47, 56, 68, 82, 100, 120, 150, 180, 220, 270, 330, 390, 470, 560, 680, 820, 1000, 1500, 2200, 3300, 4700, 6800, 01, 015, 022, 033, 047, 1 **PRICE £7.66**

**K003** C280 or similar Polyester capacitors, 10 each of the following: .01, .015, .022, .033, .047, .068, .1, .15, .22, .33 and .47uF **PRICE £5.40**

**K004** Mylar capacitors. Small size, vertical mounting 100V, 10 each of the following: .001, .0012, .0015, .0018, .0022, .0027, .0033, .0039, .0047, .0056, .0068, .0082, .01. Total 130 capacitors **PRICE £4.70**

**K007** Electrolytic capacitors 25V working small physical size axial or radial leads. 10 each of the following: 1, 2.2, 4.7, 10, 22, 47, 100uF. Total 70 capacitors. **PRICE £3.59**

**K008** Extended range, as above, also including 220, 470 and 1000uF all at 25V. Total of 100 capacitors. **PRICE £6.35**

**K021** CR25 resistors or similar, miniature 1/4 watt carbon film 5%, as used in nearly all projects. 10 of each value from 10 ohms to 1M. E12 series. Total 610 resistors. **PRICE £5.95**

**K041** Zener diodes 400mW 5%. 10 each of all the values from 2V7 to 36V. Total 280 zeners. **PRICE £15.95**

**K051** LEDs. Pack of 60 comprising 10 each red, green and yellow 3mm and 5mm together with clips. **PRICE £8.95**

### UHF TUNERS

**GJE** Sylvania F4720 Channels 21—69. Brand new, no data **£3.00**.

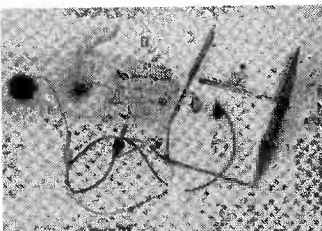
### VHF TUNERS

Type F3720 (CCIR) by Sylvania. Bargain at only **£3.00**.

### RELAY/TRIAC PANEL MKII

**Z537A** PCB 100 x 75mm containing a wealth of components: 2 x 12V DPCO min relays, SC146E 10A 400V triac, 555 timer, 10 x 1N4001 diodes, 2N5081 SCR, 2 x 3mm LED's 3 x 2N3704, R's & C's — Amazing value — if bought separately, parts would cost around £8!! Our price for the panel, just **£1.50**

### LIE DETECTOR



Not a toy, this precision instrument was originally part of an "Open University" course, used to measure a change in emotional balance, or as a lie detector. Full details of how to use it are given, and a circuit diagram. Supplied complete with probes, leads and conductive jelly. Needs 2 4 1/2V batts. Overall size 155 x 100 x 100mm. Only **£7.95** — worth that for the case and meter alone!!

### 1000 RESISTORS £2.50

We've just purchased another 5 million preformed resistors, and can make a similar offer to that made two years ago, at the same price!!! **K523** — 1000 mixed 1/4 and 1/2W 5% carbon film resistors, preformed for PCB mntg. Enormous range of preferred values. **1000 for £2.50; 5000 £10; 20k £36**

### 200 ELECTROLYTICS £4.00

**K524** Large variety of values/voltages, mostly cropped leads for PCB mntg. 1—1000uF, 10—63V. All new full spec components, not chuck-outs!! **200 £4; 1000 £17.50**

### CAPACITOR BARGAINS

**2200uF** 100V cans 80 x 40mm dia **75p**; 10/£5.50; **220uF** 10V axial 5p; 100 **£2.30**; 1000 **£16**; 400 + 100uF 275V 102 x 44mm dia. **75p**; 10 **£5.50**; **200uF** 350V, 100 x 100 + 50uF 300V can 75 x 44mm dia. **40p**; 10/£3; 100/£20; 100uF 25V Axial **£3/100**.

**0.33uF** 50V rad. **£1.50/100**, **£12/1000**  
**0.47uF** 50V rad. **£1.50/100**, **£12/1000** elec  
**22uF** 50V rad **£3/100**, **£24/1000**

**Electrolytics: 10u40V PC mntg 25/£1.25 100/£3;**

**4.7u/63V PC mntg same price**

**1250u/25V can 10/£1.60 100/£10**

**1500u/40V can 10/£2.20 100/£15**

**800u/250V can 10/£5.50 100/£44**

**400u/400V can 10/£8 100/£56**

**100u/350V, 100 + 100 + 50/300V (all in one can)**

**10/£5.00 100/£36.00**

### TOROIDAL TRANSFORMER

110mm dia x 40mm deep. 110/240V pri., Sec 118V 4A, 6.3V 1A, 240V 0.3A. Ideal for scopes, monitors, VDU's etc. Special low price **£5.95**

### TRANSFORMERS

Mains primary, 50V 20A sec **£20.00**  
Mains pri. 110V 15A sec **£30**; 20A **£40.00**

### DISC CERAMICS

**0.22uF** 12V 9mm dia. Ideal for decoupling. 100 for **£2.75**; 1000 **£20.00**  
**0.05uF** 12V 15mm dia. 100 **£1.50**; 1000 **£12.00**  
Pack of disc ceramics, assorted values and voltages — 200 for **£1.00**

### 1N4006 DIODES

Special purchase of 1A rects, Russian made. Packed in boxes of 300, **£8.50** per box; 4 boxes **£30.00**; 10 boxes **£75**

### AUDIBLE WARNING DEVICE

Solid state circuit drives high efficiency transducer to give high output. Voltage reqd 6—18V. Can also be driven direct from TTL or CMOS. Module size 45 x 21 x 12mm. Comprehensive data supplied **£150**

### NICAD CHARGER

Versatile unit for charging AA, C, D and PP3 batteries. Charge/test switch, LED indicators at each of the 5 charging points. Mains powered. 210 x 100 x 50mm. **£7.95**

### ULTRASONIC ALARM — £14.95

Originally made to retail at over £50, these neat units housed in a 120 x 100 x 45mm case are brand new and boxed. They work by transmission of a 40kHz beam which responds to movement by detecting the Doppler freq. shift. Mains operated with internal buzzer and provided with data, these units are excellent value at only **£14.95**

### SOLENOIDS AND RELAYS

**W921** Solenoid rated 48V at 25% duty cycle, but work well on 24V (700gm pull, 10mm travel) push or pull 27 x 18 x 15mm **55p**

**W922** Mains 240V ac solenoid, 10% duty cycle, push or pull, 16mm travel. 50 x 20 x 16mm. Only **£1.50**

**W895** 9V DC relay 500R SPCO 28' x 24 x 19. **50p**  
**W733** 11 pin plug in relay, 240V ac, 3PCO 5A contacts **£2.50**. Base **£3.6p**

**W836** 700R 24V 4PCO "continental" relay 35 x 30 x 18, only **84p**; 10/£7.00

**W847** 37R 5—10V relay, SP 3A contact, PCB mntg 11 x 33 x 20. **95p**; 10/£7.50

**W893** Omron LY4 mains relay, 4PCO 5A contacts. **£2.50**  
**W896** 24V ac coil, but works well on 6V DC. 2 x 10A c/o contacts. Ex-equip, only **60p**

### AMAZING! COMPUTER GAMES PCB's for PEANUTS!!

A bulk purchase of PCB's from several well known computer games including Battleships, Simon, Logic 5 and Starbird enable us to offer these at incredibly low prices:

#### 'STARBIRD'

Gives realistic engine sounds and flashing laser blasts — accelerating engine noise when module is pointed up, decelerating noise when pointed down. Press contact to see flash and hear blast of lasers shooting. PCB tested and working complete with speaker and batt. clip (needs PP3). PCB size 130 x 60mm. Only **£2.95**

#### 'SIMON'

The object of this game is to repeat correctly a longer and longer sequence of signals in 3 different games. (Instructions included). PCB contains chips, switches, lampholders and lamps, and is tested working, complete with speaker. Needs PP3 and 2 x HP11. PCB size 130 x 130mm. Only **£3.95**

#### 'COMPUTER BATTLESHIPS'

Probably one of the most popular electronic games on the market. Unfortunately the design makes it impractical to test the PCB as a working model, although it may well function perfectly. Instead we have tested the sound chip, and sell the board for its component value: **SN76477** sound IC; **TMS1000** u-processor; bat clips, R's, C's etc. Size 160 x 140mm. Only **£1.50**. Instruction book and circuit 30p extra

#### 'MICROVISION' Cartridges

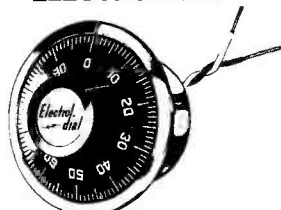
These are a small PCB with a micro-processor chip, designed to plug in to the microvision console. Only snag is we don't have any consoles!! However, they can be used as an oscillator with 4 different freq. outputs simply by connecting a battery and speaker. Tested and working (as an osc) with pin out data. PCB size 72 x 60mm.

**ONLY 25p each!!**

### LOGIC 5 PANEL

Tested Logic 5 now sold out — but we have some PCB's with 10 LED's and chip on, but no keyboard. Not tested. **50p**

### ELECTRO-DIAL



Electrical combination lock — for maximum security — pick proof. 1 million combinations!! Dial is turned to the right to one number, left to a second number, then right again to a third number. Only when this has been completed in the correct sequence will the electrical contacts close. These can be used to operate a relay or solenoid. Overall dia. 65mm x 60mm deep. Only **£9.95**  
Also available without combination — Only **£3.95**

### 1982 CATALOGUE

... is not ready yet!!! 1981 edition is now out of print, but the big new 1982/3 edition should be ready by late March '82 — Send 75p for your copy now!!

### WHOLESALE LIST

We have in stock many millions of components — we supply shops, M/O companies, Schools, Industrial Users etc. Can we supply you, too? Our quantity (100+) prices for new full-spec components is very competitive. Ask for our free bulk-buyers list.



## NEW CONTROL SYSTEM FOR SLR CAMERAS

Electronic shutter speed and exposure controls can now be built into single lens reflex cameras without mechanically modifying the camera bodies or lenses.

A new control system, developed by Matsushita Electrical Industrial Corporation, measures the light at a preset aperture (in less than two

milliseconds) and then sets exposure time accordingly. Control range varies from 0.0005 seconds to four seconds — dependent upon lens aperture and film speed.

Prior to the Matsushita development, it was necessary to have a light measuring device accommodated behind the main lens — calculating light intensity with the lens held wide open. ETI NEWS JULY 1975

Elrad: ETI Germany.....

A new edition of ETI starts this month — Elrad in Germany. The name Elrad itself means nothing and is simply an amalgamation of electronics and radio. It is being published by Heinz Heise in Hanover and is edited by Udo Wittig

ETI NEWS JAN 1978

## COSMOS NOW CHEAPER THAN TTL FOR MAJORITY OF DIGITAL SYSTEMS

RCA has announced further price reductions in its CD4000 range of COS/MOS integrated circuits. The reductions range from 35% to 50%. The biggest price reductions have affected the more established MSI devices of the CD4000 range, with many types being reduced by over 50%.

As a result of the price cuts, many of the popular TTL devices are currently more expensive than the equivalent COS/MOS functions.

ETI NEWS SEPT 1975

## CB2B

At long last a specification has been published by the Home Office for the legalisation of Citizen's Band radio. Two frequencies will be allocated: 934.025 to 934.975 MHz and 27.60125 to 27.99125 MHz. For the 934 MHz (AM) frequencies the maximum power is 8 W (25 W ERP), 20 channels at 50 kHz channel spacing. Hand-held units are restricted to 3 W PEP. On the 27 MHz (FM) frequencies the maximum power is 4 W (2 W ERP), 40 channels at 10 kHz spacing. Frequency tolerance:  $\pm 1.5$  kHz. Maximum frequency deviation:  $\pm 2.5$  kHz. Adjacent channel power: -60 dB to 2  $\mu$ W, spurious emission less than 50 nW.

ETI NEWS JULY 1981

## PLAY-ALONG-WITH-RCA

Single chip I/O for video games is the laudible aim of messers. RCA. To be introduced in January the device is primarily a vertical and horizontal synchronising circuit designed for use with RCA's 1802 MPU. Price could well be around £12 when and if introduced into this country.

ETI NEWS DEC 1976

## RIDING HIGH

The next step in America's space programme is the testing of NASA's space shuttle. Landing tests are to be carried out in mid 1977. Amazingly the machine will be launched 'piggy-back' from a Jumbo 747! Several



flights will be made to ensure stability before the shuttle is actually released. Trust Americans to build the worlds largest airliner and then carry people outside it! ETI NEWS AUG 1976

## CBM AGAIN!



Right — now you've stopped staring at the picture can we proceed with this month's news. Thank you. Once again our old friends CBM have managed to get in on the act. The above watches — yes **watches** — represent their

long-awaited entry into the digital watch market — with the 5,000 series. All three use a common module, with the casings making for a price range of £17.50-£21.00.

ETI NEWS JAN 1977



TTLs	74368	55p	4014	80p	LINEAR I.C.s	M83712	225p
7400	11p	74390	100p	4015	60p	MC1310P	150p
7401	11p	74393	100p	4016	30p	MC1458	40p
7402	30p	74400	12p	4017	60p	MC1495L	350p
7403	12p	74LS SERIES		4018	60p	MC1496	70p
7404	12p	74LS00	12p	4019	32p	MC1340P	40p
7405	18p	74LS01	14p	4020	60p	MC3401	90p
7406	28p	74LS02	14p	4021	65p	MC3403	120p
7407	30p	74LS03	14p	4022	70p	MC5038	70p
7408	14p	74LS04	15p	4023	24p	ML920	90p
7410	15p	74LS05	15p	4024	60p	ML921	90p
7411	20p	74LS06	15p	4025	20p	ML922	90p
7412	20p	74LS07	15p	4026	130p	ML923	90p
7413	22p	74LS10	15p	4027	32p	ML924	90p
7414	22p	74LS11	15p	4028	60p	ML925	90p
7415	22p	74LS12	15p	4029	75p	ML926	90p
7416	25p	74LS13	25p	4030	40p	ML927	90p
7417	25p	74LS14	25p	4031	170p	ML928	90p
7420	17p	74LS21	15p	4034	160p	ML929	90p
7421	30p	74LS22	15p	4035	80p	ML930	90p
7422	20p	74LS26	15p	4039	295p	ML931	90p
7423	22p	74LS27	15p	4039	295p	ML932	90p
7425	28p	74LS30	15p	4041	55p	ML933	90p
7426	30p	74LS32	15p	4042	55p	ML934	90p
7427	25p	74LS33	15p	4043	60p	ML935	90p
7428	30p	74LS38	18p	4043	60p	ML936	90p
7430	15p	74LS42	38p	4044	70p	ML937	90p
7432	25p	74LS47	40p	4046	70p	ML938	90p
7433	27p	74LS51	15p	4047	75p	ML939	90p
7434	30p	74LS52	15p	4048	75p	ML940	90p
7438	50p	74LS55	30p	4049	27p	ML941	90p
7440	17p	74LS74	18p	4050	27p	ML942	90p
7441	70p	74LS75	24p	4051	60p	ML943	90p
7442	30p	74LS76	20p	4052	80p	ML944	90p
7443	30p	74LS83	45p	4053	80p	ML945	90p
7444	30p	74LS85	45p	4054	80p	ML946	90p
7445	30p	74LS86	45p	4055	125p	ML947	90p
7446	45p	74LS88	28p	4056	120p	ML948	90p
7450	17p	74LS92	40p	4059	50p	ML949	90p
7451	17p	74LS93	30p	4060	90p	ML950	90p
7453	17p	74LS96	45p	4063	100p	ML951	90p
7454	17p	74LS98	100p	4067	40p	ML952	90p
7460	17p	74LS107	40p	4068	18p	ML953	90p
7470	38p	74LS109	30p	4069	18p	ML954	90p
7472	30p	74LS112	34p	4070	18p	ML955	90p
7473	30p	74LS113	34p	4071	18p	ML956	90p
7474	20p	74LS114	30p	4072	18p	ML957	90p
7475	30p	74LS122	42p	4073	24p	ML958	90p
7476	30p	74LS123	50p	4074	24p	ML959	90p
7480	60p	74LS124	120p	4075	20p	ML960	90p
7481	100p	74LS125	30p	4076	60p	ML961	90p
7482	70p	74LS126	30p	4081	18p	ML962	90p
7483A	45p	74LS132	45p	4082	20p	ML963	90p
7484	100p	74LS133	30p	4083	20p	ML964	90p
7485	100p	74LS134	30p	4084	20p	ML965	90p
7486	20p	74LS136	30p	4089	40p	ML966	90p
7489	210p	74LS138	36p	4094	150p	ML967	90p
7490A	25p	74LS145	75p	4095	95p	ML968	90p
7491	60p	74LS147	160p	4096	95p	ML969	90p
7492A	30p	74LS148	90p	4098	30p	ML970	90p
7493A	30p	74LS151	70p	4099	120p	ML971	90p
7494	50p	74LS152	70p	4099	120p	ML972	90p
7495A	50p	74LS154	70p	4098	90p	ML973	90p
7496	45p	74LS155	40p	4097	120p	ML974	90p
7497	120p	74LS156	40p	4098	120p	ML975	90p
7498	85p	74LS157	35p	4099	120p	ML976	90p
7499	85p	74LS158	35p	4099	120p	ML977	90p
7500	85p	74LS159	35p	4099	120p	ML978	90p
7501	85p	74LS160	35p	4099	120p	ML979	90p
7502	85p	74LS161	35p	4099	120p	ML980	90p
7503	85p	74LS162	35p	4099	120p	ML981	90p
7504	85p	74LS163	35p	4099	120p	ML982	90p
7505	85p	74LS164	35p	4099	120p	ML983	90p
7506	85p	74LS165	35p	4099	120p	ML984	90p
7507	85p	74LS166	35p	4099	120p	ML985	90p
7508	85p	74LS167	35p	4099	120p	ML986	90p
7509	85p	74LS168	35p	4099	120p	ML987	90p
7510	85p	74LS169	35p	4099	120p	ML988	90p
7511	85p	74LS170	35p	4099	120p	ML989	90p
7512	85p	74LS171	35p	4099	120p	ML990	90p
7513	85p	74LS172	35p	4099	120p	ML991	90p
7514	85p	74LS173	35p	4099	120p	ML992	90p
7515	85p	74LS174	35p	4099	120p	ML993	90p
7516	85p	74LS175	35p	4099	120p	ML994	90p
7517	85p	74LS176	35p	4099	120p	ML995	90p
7518	85p	74LS177	35p	4099	120p	ML996	90p
7519	85p	74LS178	35p	4099	120p	ML997	90p
7520	85p	74LS179	35p	4099	120p	ML998	90p
7521	85p	74LS180	35p	4099	120p	ML999	90p
7522	85p	74LS181	35p	4099	120p	ML1000	90p
7523	85p	74LS182	35p	4099	120p	ML1001	90p
7524	85p	74LS183	35p	4099	120p	ML1002	90p
7525	85p	74LS184	35p	4099	120p	ML1003	90p
7526	85p	74LS185	35p	4099	120p	ML1004	90p
7527	85p	74LS186	35p	4099	120p	ML1005	90p
7528	85p	74LS187	35p	4099	120p	ML1006	90p
7529	85p	74LS188	35p	4099	120p	ML1007	90p
7530	85p	74LS189	35p	4099	120p	ML1008	90p
7531	85p	74LS190	35p	4099	120p	ML1009	90p
7532	85p	74LS191	35p	4099	120p	ML1010	90p
7533	85p	74LS192	35p	4099	120p	ML1011	90p
7534	85p	74LS193	35p	4099	120p	ML1012	90p
7535	85p	74LS194	35p	4099	120p	ML1013	90p
7536	85p	74LS195	35p	4099	120p	ML1014	90p
7537	85p	74LS196	35p	4099	120p	ML1015	90p
7538	85p	74LS197	35p	4099	120p	ML1016	90p
7539	85p	74LS198	35p	4099	120p	ML1017	90p
7540	85p	74LS199	35p	4099	120p	ML1018	90p
7541	85p	74LS200	35p	4099	120p	ML1019	90p
7542	85p	74LS201	35p	4099	120p	ML1020	90p
7543	85p	74LS202	35p	4099	120p	ML1021	90p
7544	85p	74LS203	35p	4099	120p	ML1022	90p
7545	85p	74LS204	35p	4099	120p	ML1023	90p
7546	85p	74LS205	35p	4099	120p	ML1024	90p
7547	85p	74LS206	35p	4099	120p	ML1025	90p
7548	85p	74LS207	35p	4099	120p	ML1026	90p
7549	85p	74LS208	35p	4099	120p	ML1027	90p
7550	85p	74LS209	35p	4099	120p	ML1028	90p
7551	85p	74LS210	35p	4099	120p	ML1029	90p
7552	85p	74LS211	35p	4099	120p	ML1030	90p
7553	85p	74LS212	35p	4099	120p	ML1031	90p
7554	85p	74LS213	35p	4099	120p	ML1032	90p
7555	85p	74LS214	35p	4099	120p	ML1033	90p
7556	85p	74LS215	35p	4099	120p	ML1034	90p
7557	85p	74LS216	35p	4099	120p	ML1035	90p
7558	85p	74LS217	35p	4099	120p	ML1036	90p
7559	85p	74LS218	35p	4099	120p	ML1037	90p
7560	85p	74LS219	35p	4099	120p	ML1038	90p
7561	85p	74LS220	35p	4099	120p	ML1039	90p
7562	85p	74LS221	35p	4099	120p	ML1040	90p
7563	85p	74LS222	35p	4099	120p	ML1041	90p
7564	85p	74LS223	35p	4099	120p	ML1042	90p
7565	85p	74LS224	35p	4099	120p	ML1043	90p
7566	85p	74LS225	35p	4099	120p	ML1044	90p
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7568	85p	74LS227	35p	4099	120p	ML1046	90p
7569	85p	74LS228	35p	4099	120p	ML1047	90p
7570	85p	74LS229	35p	4099	120p	ML1048	90p
7571	85p	74LS230	35p	4099	120p	ML1049	90p
7572	85p	74LS231	35p	4099	120p	ML1050	90p
7573	85p	74LS232	35p	4099	120p	ML1051	90p
7574	85p	74LS233	35p	4099	120p	ML1052	90p
7575	85p	74LS234	35p	4099	120p	ML1053	90p
7576	85p	74LS235	35p	4099	120p	ML1054	90p
7577	85p	74LS236	35p	4099	120p	ML1055	90p
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7579	85p	74LS238	35p	4099	120p	ML1057	90p
7580	85p	74LS239	35p	4099	120p	ML1058	90p
7581	85p	74LS240	35p	4099	120p	ML1059	90p
7582	85p	74LS241	35p	4099	120p	ML1060	90p
7583	85p	74LS242	35p	4099	120p	ML1061	90p
7584	85p	74LS243	35p	4099	120p	ML1062	90p
7585	85p	74LS244	35p	4099	120p	ML1063	90p
7586	85p	74LS245	35p	4099	120p	ML1064	90p
7587	85p	74LS246	35p	4099	120p	ML1065	90p
7588	85p	74LS247	35p	4099	120p	ML1066	90p
7589	85p	74LS248	35p	4099	120p	ML1067	90p
7590	85p	74LS249	35p	4099	120p	ML1068	90p
7591	85p	74LS250	35p	4099	120p	ML1069	90p
7592	85p	74LS251	35p	4099	120p	ML1070	90p
7593	85p	74LS252					



## CZECH ON CALCULATOR PRICES

ETI NEWS MAY 1976

A typical dour Czech day. The rain sleets across Prague. Somewhere in the back streets well away from the patrols and the populace, Ivan scuttles into a dingy corner shop.

There, amid the Western papers and naughty mags, he spots the object of his desires.

Eyes alight he lifts the proscribed machine from the rack, and carries it reverently to the counter, behind which stands the owner.

"How much?" he stammers, hands shaking.

"Novus 650 comrade? To you, £172. Crossed the border this morning right under the army's noses," he looks around furtively, and leans across the counter, whispering.

"Interested in the REAL thing eh comrade?" Ivan nods. The man reaches below the counter and produces a battered show box. Ivan's eyes are wide by now, riveted to the lid as it lifts. Inside lies a full frontal scientific, a HP 45.

Ivan faints.

Now before you dismiss this as merely the alcoholic follies of the ETI staff, following a party, let us inform you dear reader, that whilst we may be guilty of slight embroidery, our flight of fancy is based on fact.

It seems our Eastern friends consider pocket calculators to be highly prized items, and will pay vast sums to acquire them. What would cost you or I £7, our Ivan would need £172 to own. For that HP 45 you could possibly get a weekend with Siberian Sue, belle of the Balkans.

The reason behind this black marketing and smuggling is that calculator ships are not produced behind the ferric curtain and the machines are banned from importers lists by the governments, to preserve foreign exchange as their value is so high.

I wonder how they count it?

## FOUR CHANNEL DISCS

In the UK the EMI group have announced plans to release quadraphonic discs — using the CBS developed 'SQ Matrix' system — in April.

The company claims that the new discs will be fully compatible with existing stereo equipment.

ETI NEWS APRIL 1972

## COMPUTER 'ON A CHIP' WITH CASSETTE TAPE

A new byte-orientated micro-computer with its own in-built cassette tape backing storage has been produced by Computer Electronics Ltd, of Saffron Walden, Essex, as part of its range of cassette tape data systems.



Believed to be one of the first 'processors on a chip' computers to be developed in this country, the complete computer fits on one of the company's standard printed circuit cards. ETI NEWS AUG 1973

**CALLING ALL K9s,  
R2D2s, ROBBIES,  
C3POs, MICROMICE  
etc, etc.....**

ETI is very keen in getting a robot dialogue going.

Anyone out there on the other side of the printers ink interested in robotics, especially anyone actually building robots - of WHATEVER complexity - should contact us here at ETI. If possible how about some photographs of your machines? They may well be in line for an appearance in ETI. So come on, lets be hearing from you - ALL of you - take pen in hand (or get the robot to do it) and write to

The Editor,  
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145 Charing Cross Road,  
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Mark your envelope  
"ROBOTS"

So we can deal with it  
with our usual  
machine-like efficiency.

ETI NEWS NOV 1979

## TV GAMES LSI CHIP AVAILABLE SOON

Rumours have been abounding for about a year now that an LSI chip for television games was being developed.

We now have definite news that Logic Leisure, a British Company, have produced a chip which will produce four TV games, with two variations on each, giving eight permutations. There is score and sound facility. Type number is not yet known but the chip is suitable for both 625-line, 50Hz and 525-line, 60Hz.

It is hoped that the chip will be on sale in October and the price tag is going to be in the £10-£12 range (plus VAT). U.K. distributorship is in the hands of Television Sprots Co. Ltd., 6 Half Moon Street, Mayfair, London, W1Y 7RA.

ETI NEWS AUG 1975

## brief news

NASA have received weak signals from Skylab for the first time in four years. The possibility of sending it deeper into space is being considered. . . .

★ A study by the American National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (Niosh) has concluded that VDUs in use in the offices of the New York Times are not responsible for cataracts developed by two copy editors working there. . . .

ETI NEWS SEPT 1978

## Hitachi MAGic

Hitachi have developed an experimental colour video camera combined with a video tape recorder — provisionally christened the 'MAG Camera'. Using high density recording techniques, the combination is little bigger than an 8 mm cine camera. The cassette, using 1/4" tape, is almost as small as an audio cassette and allows two hours of recording/playback. The complete unit weighs only 2.6 kg, including a rechargeable battery pack. Watch this space for news on development of the MAG Camera.

ETI NEWS JAN 1981





From a firm called James Niell comes the Micro 2000 to rise into our News Digest with carefully measured precision. This instrument gets our vote for the best innovation of the year already! A digital *micrometer* no less.

As you can see from the picture, it actually reads out a measurement in seven-segment format. Goodbye verniers. It has so many features and advances, it is perhaps best simply to list them.

Accuracy to  $\pm 0.002$  mm., with a 'constant force' spindle and self-calibration facility. As soon as it is switched on, the 2000 self zeros.

The zero reset means that it can be used as a comparator against a known standard, and variations from that can

## BRITISH? PRECISELY!



be read directly. Also in awkward situations, the instrument can be

zeroed, utilised, and then removed to be read. ETI NEWS JUNE 1977

## Sat 54

Well, it was Satcom 3 actually, but the plot is reminiscent of that old, old American telly series. The Car 54 in this case, however, was an RCA communications satellite, last heard of in December, 22,000 miles above mother Earth.

If anyone finds a communications satellite answering to the name of Satcom 3, send it to RCA, nto us. Mind you, if it has gone up in a puff of smoke, it has probably burned up on its way back to Earth. NASA quick to assure us that it won't cause another Skylab incident. So, you needn't dust off your anti-Skylab umbrella, yet.

ETI NEWS MARCH 1980

## HP AT A (CALCULATED) LOSS;

Hewlett-Packard — renowned for their up-market calculators, are apparently running this section of the business at a loss. Equipment and other activities are keeping them in the black, and H.P. cite the delays occurring on the introduction of new models as the cause for this. Also named as a culprit is "severe price erosion in the pocket calculator marketplace". Pick the bones out of that ye rivals of the beast.

ETI NEWS NOV 1976

## CEEFAX AND ORACLE SYSTEMS COMBINED

The BBC and IBA, together with BREMA and the Broadcasting Department of the Home Office have agreed on a unified system of data broadcasting.

Until now the BBC have been working on CEEFAX, the IBA on ORACLE. Both systems allow a TV viewer to select at will from a number of different 'pages' of information and put these onto his screen.

ETI NEWS JULY 1974

## Text To Talk

Kurzweil Computer Products of Cambridge, Massachussetts has developed a machine to turn written text into speech.

The machine contains an optical scanner, a small computer, a small synthesiser and a loud-speaker unit.

The page to be read is placed over the scanning unit which then converts the written text to digital signals for the computer. The computer then converts them into sound

ETI NEWS APRIL 1980

## junk calls

From the land that brought us Muzak and MPUs comes the Junk call — the same as Junk mail but verbal! A machine is being used to dial up to 1,000 numbers a day and make a pre-recorded sales pitch, unlike junk mail there is no way of knowing when the call will be junk or not. By dialing up numbers from 0001 to 9999 the machine annoys everybody who answers on a particular exchange, even if you hang up

it holds the line open until the pitch is finished — this has caused emergency calls to be delayed in some cases.

Ten states are considering legislation to curtail the activities of the machines. However they intend to exempt charities, pollsters and politicians. Some people want an electronic 'no thanks' sign to be developed, although nobody is quite sure how it would work. What next?!

ETI NEWS SEPT 1978

★ A computer system capable of controlling the lighting and heating in up to one hundred buildings has been set up in London by Honeywell. The system, called BOSS, is the first of its kind in the UK ...

ETI NEWS MAY 1978

## ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS' SALARIES FALL BEHIND

The 'Survey of Salaries', published by the Management Survey Centre this August, shows that the salaries of electronic engineers working for large companies have stagnated whilst other engineers' salaries have increased. Senior chemists have done best - their salaries have increased 3-4 times more quickly than the average.

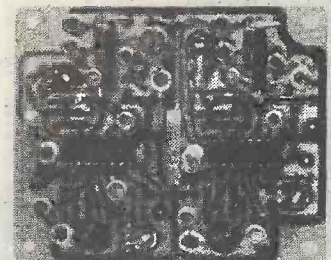
For a senior professional in development (with major responsibilities) the median salary is £4,174; for electronic engineers in particular the median at this level is £3,720.

ETI NEWS OCT 1973

## ANRS INTEGRATED INTO A SINGLE IC CHIP

In 1972, JVC first introduced their Automatic Noise Reduction System (ANRS) into their top-range cassette decks. Since then, ANRS has been incorporated into a wide range of tape decks. Recent improvements however, in cassette deck quality and the possibility of "noise-reduced" FM broadcasts have meant improvements in the quality of noise reduction systems and the application of these systems to components other than cassette tape decks.

To meet these new requirements, JVC has recently completed the development of the ANRS IC.



ETI NEWS OCT 1975



A Preview from the Next Issue of

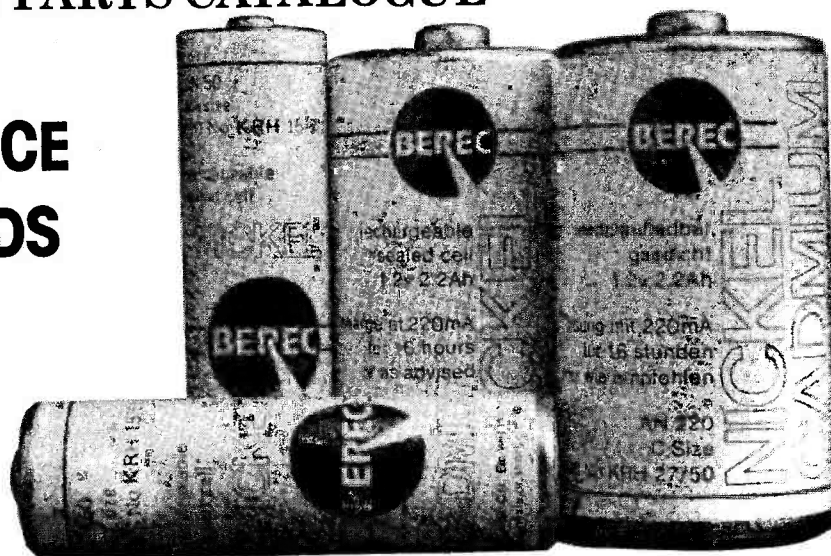
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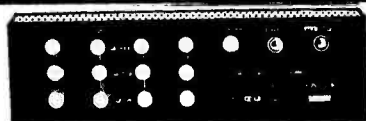
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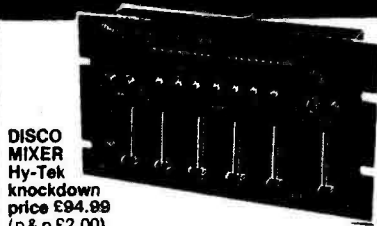
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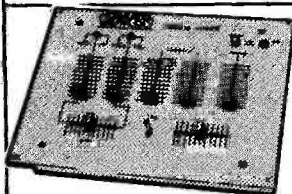
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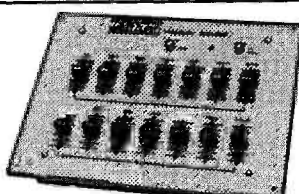


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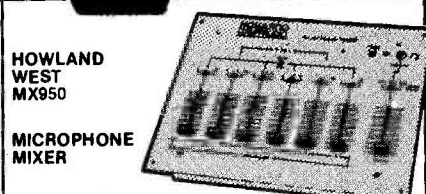
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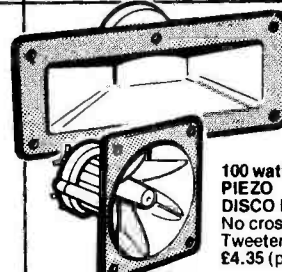
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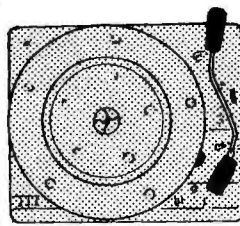
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# AUDIOPHILE

Soon burglars won't be bothering to nick your whole hi-fi; they'll just take the cartridge. This month Ron Harris reviews two new pickups, one with a gemstone cantilever and the other a work of modern art.

**N**ews just in of a new piece of British circuitry genius. This is a new protection circuit, soon to be added to a famous manufacturer's product, which is claimed to make an amplifier totally invulnerable electrically.

Totally in this case means "even from 240 V mains at input or output". Ultra-fast relays are set at the output and on the supply lines to the PCB. These are driven from the new circuit, which has as its final stage a voltage amp with an incredibly high slew rate. This ensures a high speed of operation for the relays.

## Out Of Phase

The protection circuit operates like this: if an amplifier is suddenly faced with a massive input signal, the ratio of the feedback signal to input will drop dramatically. A comparator senses the change and a 'low-feedback' signal is generated. This by itself is sufficient to trip the supply relays, so that the overload cannot be passed on to the output stages, thus destroying them — and probably the speakers.

A second block within the circuitry watches the supply rails and any surges which are outside the requirements of normal drive will trip the protection circuit, since this is a "low-feedback likelihood situation" as the designer puts it. Great play is made of the fact that the music signal and the feedback voltage are in anti-phase at the point of comparison, so no interaction within the buffer is likely. 'Anti-phase reset', as it is called, thus introduces no colouration. Hence the protection reset of the relays can occur either in the case of low feedback-to-signal ratio, or in event of an "overload likelihood". I suppose this is where the somewhat pompous title of the circuit is derived — **Anti-Phase Reset In Low Feedback (Or Overload) Likelihood.**



## Shure MV30HE

A dedicated offshoot of the renowned V15 IV design, the MV30HE is for use in the SME Series III or IIIS only. The cartridge is built into a SME carryarm such that no headshell is used, or needed.

The moving components are those of the V15, save that no damper is provided. The cartridge body is all new, however, and quite a few problems it must have given them getting the coils and poles into a body as slim as this. The design is so arranged that the point of bearing intersection and the stylus line up parallel to the record. This will tend to aid stability in the replay of warped records.

As in the V15 a hyperelliptical stylus is used, which will give lower distortion results than either a spherical or elliptical tip. Tip mass is commendably low and output level is on a par with the V15 IV.

Once fitted into the SME the MV30HE looks very smart indeed and is visually extremely classy!

## Testing an Armful

In the lab the MV30HE had an easy time passing just about every test. It tracks as well as the V15 IV and measures slightly better. There is no higher technical accolade than that. The LF resonance came out — surprisingly — at around 16 Hz, a little higher than optimum in my opinion. Best values are somewhere around 10-12 Hz so as not to affect extreme LF reproduction. Best tracking was obtained at around 1.0 g, and no improvement was forthcoming for increased force.

Frequency response was boringly perfect at 20 Hz — 20 kHz  $\pm$  1.3 dB with a separation figure of 27 dB at 1 kHz. Compliance measured very high at 34 cu, so only the smallest damping paddle is required. It is required however — see later.

## Instructive Stuff

The instruction booklet is worth a special mention. It is a straight 'copy' of the SME style, right down to the little diagrams with ticks and crosses for right and wrong answers. Some sort of deal has been struck here, methinks!

One point that I just *have* to mention here; I could not,


At long last Quad have released their new tuner, the FM 4. It was shown for the first time at the Audio 82 exhibition in Swiss Cottage recently. Designed to match the Quad 44 control unit (preamp to the rest of us) the FM - only unit has digital tuning and seven pre-set stations. Programme locations are stored in memory.

A tuning knob has been retained in preference to a set of push-buttons, since Quad say it is easier to use.

### Brief Specification:

Full limiting	1 V	IF Rejection	100 dB
S/N (1 V input)	7 dB (stereo)	AM Supression	60 dB
Distortion (1 KHz)	0.15%	Image Rejection	80 dB
Capture Ratio	2.5 dB	Crosstalk (1 KHz)	40 dB





The MV30HE set up in a Series III. About the best looking piece of hi-fi you'll ever see. As the compliance is very high only the smallest damper paddle is required, despite the lack of dynamic stabiliser (as fitted to V15 IV).

in any circumstances, get the arm to balance out using the recommended mixture of weights and spacers in the SME. Despite Shure patiently showing me the same arm set up perfectly in their Series III, would it balance once I left the factory? It would not!

I would be most interested to hear from any MV30HE purchaser as to balance requirements. I agree the total mass is 11.8 g but I'll be damned to an eternity of music centres playing Barry Manilow before I'll agree that an MV30HE balances in an SME Series III with four weights and six spacers.

## Down To Sound

I suppose the obvious comparison with the MV30HE must be the V15 IV. So, as I'm getting old and predictable (I *still* hunger after Felicity Kendal...) that was the first pickup against which I auditioned the unit. Frankly, I had expected to discern no difference, and initial tests confirmed this to some degree. However, having settled in at home with my own system around me and the reassuring brandy in hand, subtle differences began to manifest themselves. The MV30HE has a more coherent sound — the mid-range is more open under close examination and the bass is 'cleaned-up' and tighter, if a little more prominent. These are exactly the changes to be expected from a unit which simply matches

the arm better, but has a higher resonance. Which, of course, if I'd thought about, is exactly the MV30HE/V15 IV relationship. Serves me right for being so sure of myself! In comparison to the market as a whole, the MV30HE/SME pickup stands well-up with the best. The damper is not significantly missed, provided the SME paddle is employed.

Leave it off and boom is liable to result, as is a certain lack of stability on warped records.

A limited application, then, but a very creditable performance and one which will compete with Shure's own V15 IV. After all, if you've got an SME and were contemplating a V15 IV, the MV30HE is a better bet all around. It is no more expensive than the V15 IV with a CA1 arm to hold it and it provides a cleaner, more refined performance. All in all, a nice touch Shure. Whither goest thou now?



## Dynavector Karat Ruby

Both this month's cartridges are unusual in their own way; Dynavector's Karat is notable for its gemstone cantilever. This 2.5 mm long piece of single-crystal ruby is cut with a laser to accept the stylus (diamond) and then allowed to cool, thus fixing the stylus in place. The length is remarkably short, since Dynavector say that the less material the stylus information has to pass through, the higher will be the fidelity of the output.

Wave propagation through a medium is something not many of us take up as a hobby, but someone down at Dynavector must have it all well sussed! Apparently this equation:-

$$\frac{EI}{m} \frac{\partial^4 y}{\partial x^4} + \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} - \rho \frac{EI}{m} \left( \frac{1}{E} + \frac{\gamma}{G} \right) \frac{\partial^4 y}{\partial x^2 \partial t^2} + \frac{\rho^2 \gamma}{mG} \frac{\partial^4 y}{\partial t^4} = 0$$

$$C_B = \alpha \sqrt{2\pi f} \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{4} \beta \frac{2\pi f}{\alpha^2} + \frac{1}{4} \delta (2\pi f)^2 + \dots \right]$$

where E = Young's modulus; I = secondary moment of section area; G = shear modulus; m = mass per unit length of a cantilever; p = density of the cantilever material; x = distance from the end of the cantilever; y = flexural displacement of the cantilever; r = constant; t = time.

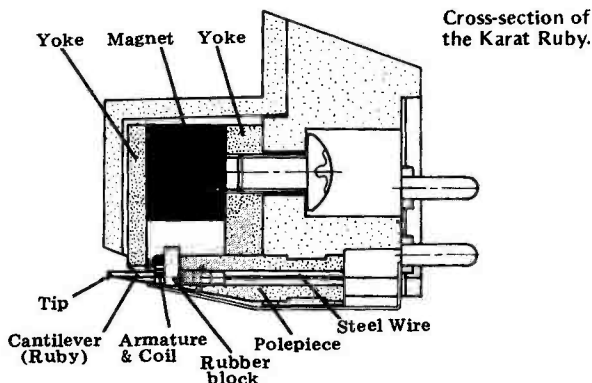
sums up the vibrational behaviour of a cantilever under dynamic conditions. It can also be used to prove that rigid materials, such as ruby and diamond, make for better cantilevers than boron, beryllium and the rest.

(There is a 'big brother' to the Ruby, which has a diamond cantilever and costs around £450 as opposed to the Ruby's £100. If I can persuade the ever-helpful Dynavector into lending one I hope to report on the differences soon. Maybe if I say "please" ... ?)

## Temperate Zones of Test

Another piece of original thinking has gone into solving the problem of temperature dependence and damping material. The only rubber used in the Karat is to prevent the cantilever taking its jewelled self up into the body whilst playing records. Normally the pivot damping in a cartridge is accomplished by a rubber block and this is prone to suffer from changes in temperature and slow deterioration as it ages — the Karat suffers neither of these weaknesses.

In fact, due to the short rigid construction of the cantilever, the Ruby requires no damping at all.



Under test the Karat showed a ruler flat response from 100 Hz to 30 kHz of under  $\pm 0.5$  dB! It was only 1 dB down at 30 Hz and separation measured an excellent 24 dB at 1 kHz and a more than adequate 18 dB at 20 kHz. Stylus resonance fell at 49 kHz and in the SME Series III (what else?). LF resonance was well placed at 12 Hz, below audibility and above warps.



Tracking was exemplary for a moving-coil unit — at 1.75 g it tracked all my test bands perfectly; the first moving coil to do so. Bias was set for 2.0 g, a high value, but one that worked well. In actual use the Karat was never caught out by any recorded information.

If at this point you're looking around the pages in search of the usual response graphs, don't bother — I haven't included any. If you really want to see a straight line, go buy a ruler. Dishearteningly disappointing for us cynics.

## Listening Out

As the Karat Ruby matches the SME Series III so well, it was left in that arm all through the listening test. One brief excursion into a Linn Itokk showed the two to be completely incompatible in my opinion, as the sound stage broke up and the bass became so loose as to be positively flapping! Strange that, as both are capable of much better and there is little on paper to point to such obvious mutual abhorrence.

The loudspeakers used were my trusty KEF 105 II's fed by a variety of amplification from Crimson, Monogram and Trio. Source equipment remained at Thorens 160S/SME III throughout.

On the very first LP side I played with the Ruby it was obvious that here was something special. The sound is so detailed and open, with such tight control of the bass that it makes you sit up and take notice of the music. This is a cartridge that will be much appreciated by reviewers, as it is so easy to listen through for long periods.

In fact there is little I can say against the Karat. It is a trifle recessed — I cannot account for this impression from the lab results, however, but it remains a definite impression — but is so relaxed and balanced a sound that none but the most obnoxious could find aught to quibble with. The sound quality reminded me greatly of the Ortofon MC30, but with greater resolution of complex passages and a more extended bass end.

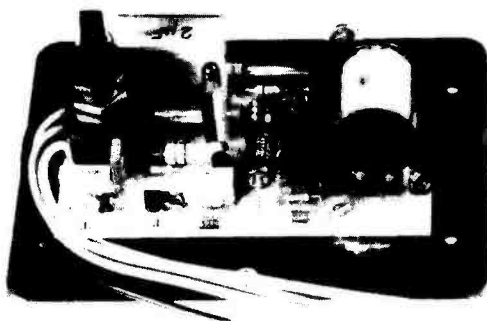
At around £100 the Karat Ruby is an excellent bargain. Even accounting for the required step-up device, this pickup is required listening for anyone in the market. I have no hesitation in saying that it out-performs many units costing much, much more and will give more musical pleasure than just about any other cartridge I know.

Mind you, I haven't heard the Karat Diamond yet... but can it really be worth £350 more? On this evidence I would doubt it! (Pause while Dynavector work out whether this is a compliment or an insult...)



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The traditional capacitive discharge system has this high power spark but, due to its very short spark duration and consequential low spark energy, is incompatible with the weak air/fuel mixtures used in modern cars. Because of this most manufacturers have abandoned capacitive discharge in favour of the cheaper inductive system with its low power but very long duration spark which guarantees that sooner or later the fuel will ignite. However, a spark lasting 2000µs at 2000 rev/min. spans 24 degrees and 'later' could mean the actual fuel ignition point is retarded by this amount.

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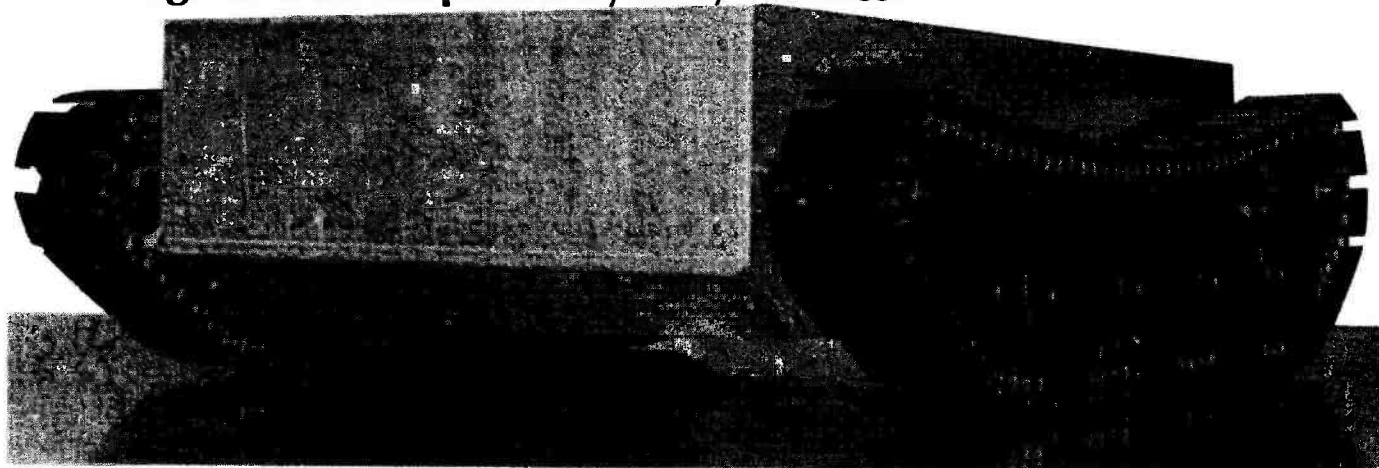
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# ROBOT MOTOR CONTROL

This month we feature a control board for last month's motor driving board. This is part 2 in a series of DIY robot modules — collect them all! Design and development by Rory Holmes.



In this second part of the series on the ETI intelligent programmable mobile we shall describe the design of an analogue pulse width modulator for controlling the motor driver stage featured last month. We shall also take a brief look at some of the modules being offered later in the series which can be added in stages to enhance the motorised vehicle. The intention is to build up to a complete computerised mobile.

A lot of flexibility has been allowed for in the actual use and configuration of the modules, as we are well aware that constructors interested in this type of project have firm ideas of their own on the final form and capabilities of their mobile. Construction and interconnection details for all the modules we are presenting will be given along with guidelines to a range of applications.

The facilities we have planned for the mobile will continue with the digital motor control and an on-board programmable computer for overall control of other modules. A light-weight manipulator arm complete with teaching arm has also been designed, for mounting on the front of the mobile. It is powered by four radio control servo motors and the electronics interface between the servos and computer will be described

along with details of the arm mechanics. Optical proximity detectors for object sensing, and infra-red tachogenerators for speed sensing will also be featured on the ETI mobile.

It is hoped that the designs will also prove useful as stand-alone modules for individual use in other applications. Optical proximity detectors, for example, have numerous applications in batch counting, limit sensing, detection, alarms and so on.

The digital pulse width modulator in next month's issue will find many uses in the control of analogue functions; how about a computer interfaced to a pulse width modulated optical data link, for analogue information transmission? Our version will control two pulse width modulated channels, with a resolution of one part in 256, via an eight bit data port; modulation being achieved solely by logic to satisfy the all-digital purists.

## Optical Proximity Detectors

These have been designed as small independent units with as much in-built versatility as possible. The circuitry is housed in a short length of aluminium tube axially aligned in the detector direction, with three external

connecting points; ground, positive supply, and an open collector digital output. A number of detectors can thus be easily mounted in strategic locations. All circuit operating parameters are independent of the supply voltage, which can be anywhere between 5 and 35 V at a current of 20 mA.

The proximity switch works on the principle of transmitting and detecting a modulated infra-red beam. The infra-red transmitter receives 1 A peak current pulses, of 10  $\mu$ S duration, with a modulation frequency of 1 kHz. The 100:1 duty-factor thus achieved allows high currents to be used to increase the detection range, while reducing the average supply current to only 10 mA.

The sensor can be set by a preset pot, accessible through a small hole, to detect an object at any distance in the range 1 cm to 35 cm.

A small amount of hysteresis is introduced into this switching distance to ensure clean switching thresholds and stability of the output signal. The use of tuned detector amplifiers provides excellent infra-red interference rejection.

## Analogue Speed Control

The analogue speed control has



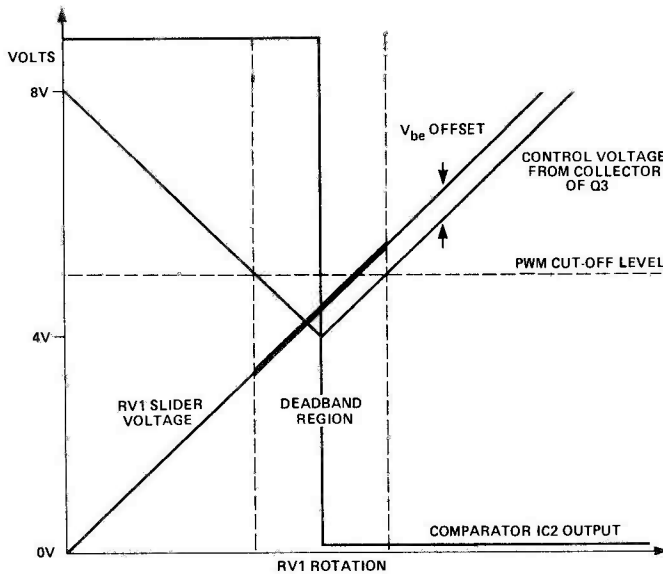


Fig. 1 Various voltages associated with the circuitry around Q3. The control voltage is measured at point A in Fig. 5.

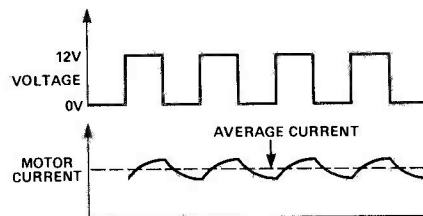


Fig. 2 PWM motor driving waveforms for last month's circuit.

been devised for manual control of the main traction motors; it provides two pulse width modulated signals suitable for the motor driver amplifier.

The circuit is designed to provide a linear control-voltage-to-pulse-width relationship for greater flexibility in application, and to simplify the addition of speed feedback velocity control.

The modulator can be built either single or dual, and the manual control section, if not required, is easily omitted. Speed control is achieved via two remote potentiometers, allowing speed to be set in either forward or reverse directions independently for each traction drive.

Since both motors are controlled via switching amplifiers from the same battery supply, it is important to reduce the peak currents that are drawn. This can be achieved by offsetting the phase of the switching waveforms relative to each other, such that at 50% duty cycle modulation, power

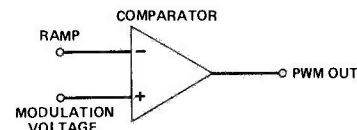
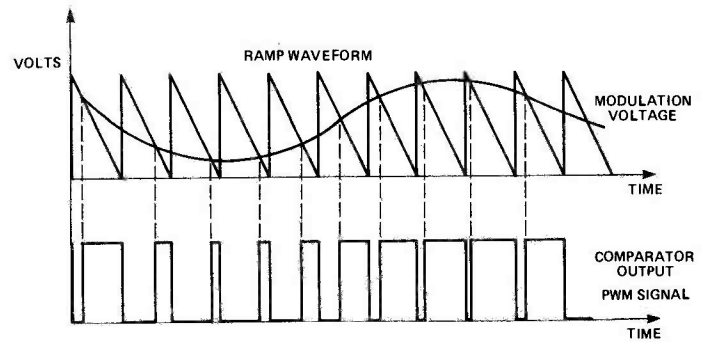


Fig. 3 How PWM waveforms may be generated using a comparator.

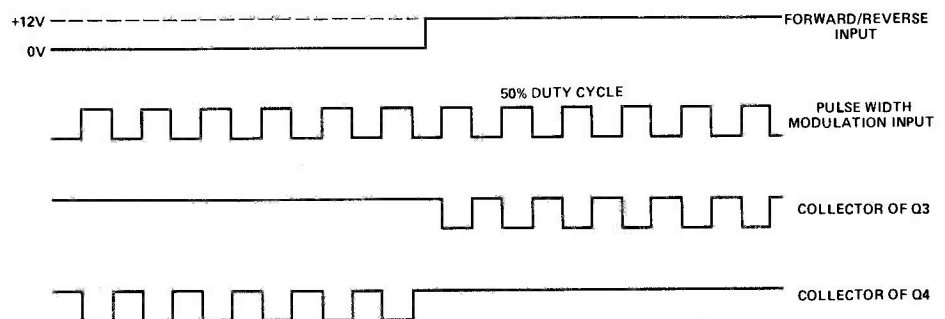


Fig. 4 The waveforms needed by our motor driver board, published last month. (Q3 and Q4 refer to last month's circuit.)



An internal view of the driver unit showing the interwiring to the bridge rectifier of one channel. Constructional details for the pulse width modulator will appear next month.

## BUYLINES

No problems here with any of the components specified — most mail order companies who advertise in the magazine will be able to supply everything. We can supply the PCB — see page 44 for details.



The circuit for the dual analogue pulse width modulator is shown in Fig. 5; it will be seen that each channel is identical with the exception of the circuitry around the CMOS gates IC1 and IC4. As described earlier the two switching waveforms must be the same frequency and synchronized 180° out of phase, to distribute the motor current peaks more evenly through the cycle. This is achieved by synchronizing both pulse generators to a master clock based around IC1a and b. A 20 kHz square wave is generated by this conventional astable arrangement and its frequency, set by R1 and C1, is fairly independent of supply variations.

The output of IC1d at pin 6 provides a buffered square wave in the same phase as the output on pin 10 of IC1b. C2 and R3 differentiate the positive-going edge of the square wave to produce a very short logic low pulse at the output of Schmitt inverter gate IC1c. In similar fashion Q3 and R16 produce a logic high pulse coinciding with the negative-going square wave edge. IC4b further inverts this signal to a logic low pulse. Two separate trains of 500 nS negative-going pulses are thus provided in the correct phase relationship for resetting the charging cycle of two sawtooth oscillators as described below.

The pulse width modulators are identical from here on and we shall refer to the topmost circuit for description. Voltage controlled pulse width modulation is, in principle, very simple; a ramp waveform (sawtooth) is applied to one input of a comparator and the modulation voltage to be encoded is applied to the other, producing the required PWM squarewave at the comparator output. Figure 3 illustrates this operation.

Due to the design requirement of a linear relationship between control voltage and pulse width, a constant current source formed from Q2 is used to generate the linear ramp waveform. LED1 and the base-emitter junction of Q2 are forward biased by R6 and together define a temperature-compensated voltage across R7 which in turn defines a constant emitter and collector current of about 1 mA. C3 is charged up negatively from this current, until the negative-going reset pulse arrives from inverter IC1c. This pulse turns Q1 hard on for a very short period (500 nS), during which C3 is completely discharged, taking the ramp voltage back to +8 V. This process repeats at the clock frequency of 20 kHz, providing a negative-going sawtooth of about 3 V peak-to-peak referenced to the +8 V rail.

IC3b, the comparator used to perform the modulation, is an LF353 dual op-amp,

chosen for its large bandwidth and high slew-rate. The inverting terminal on pin 2 is fed from the ramp waveform, while the non-inverting terminal is fed from op-amp IC3a, an inverting amplifier configured to sum control voltage inputs relative to a 4 V reference.

The potential divider R11 and R12 provides the 4 V reference to the non-inverting terminal of IC3a, and the control voltage applied to R13 at point A is summed relative to the 4 V. An offset voltage set by PR1 is also summed at the inverting terminal of IC3a, and is used to bring the control voltage into the correct operating range and for setting a deadband region on the manual control pot RV1.

The output of op-amp IC3b (and indeed most others) will not swing to the full supply rail voltages, so the inverter gate IC1e is used to buffer the square wave to full CMOS logic levels.

The manual control system included in this circuit enables a single potentiometer to control the speed in both forward and reverse directions. When the pot is at centre travel, and for a certain deadband around this point, the motor must be stopped and no switching pulses should occur (ie the PWM signal is continuously low). As the pot is turned in either direction from its midpoint, the pulse width should in-

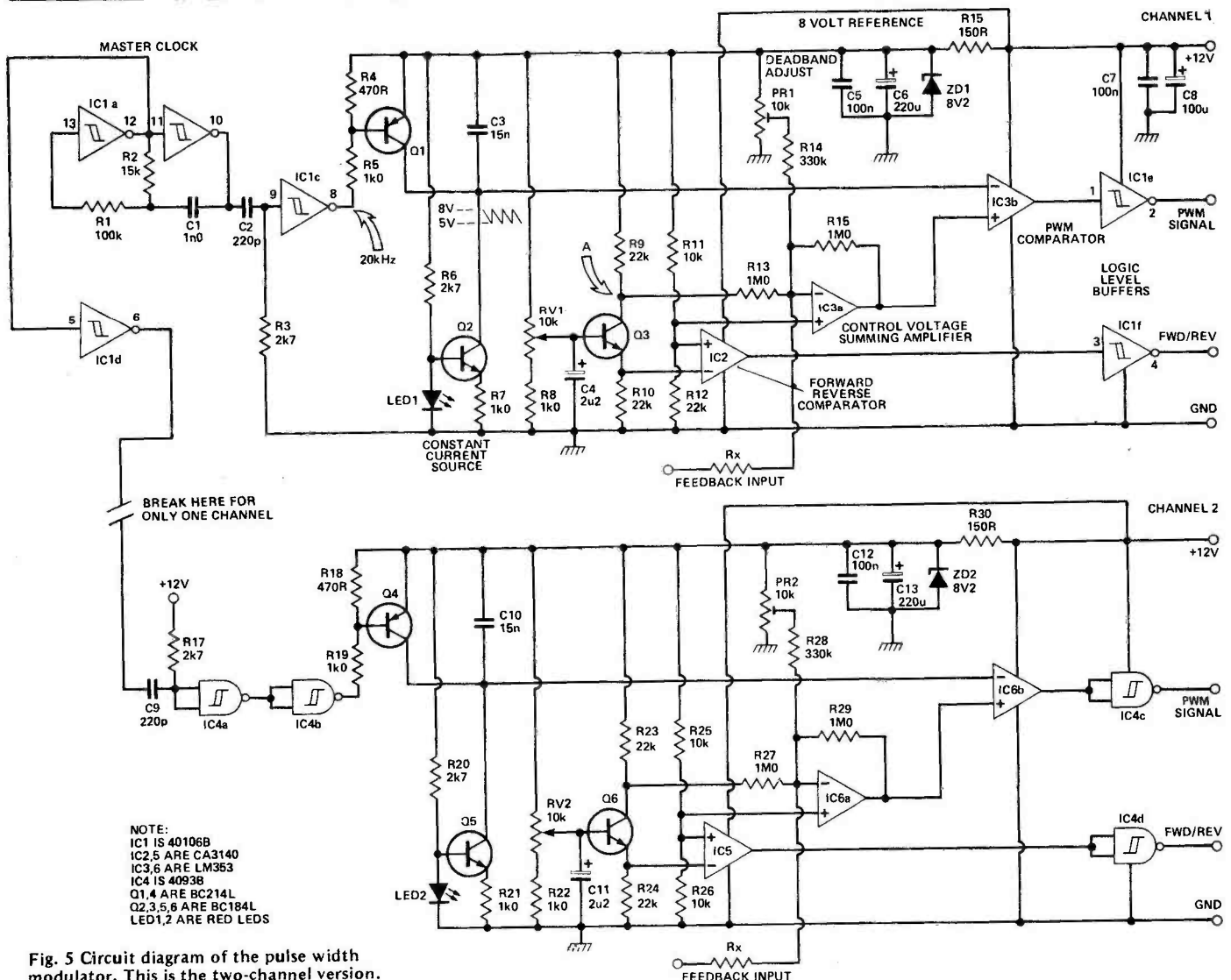


Fig. 5 Circuit diagram of the pulse width modulator. This is the two-channel version.



# PROJECT : Robot Motor Control Part 2

crease and this requires a positive-going input voltage to the summing amplifier IC3a. The forward/reverse logic level should also change state as the pot moves through its midpoint. Q3 provides the necessary voltage transfer function from the pot RV1 to the control voltage summing amplifier, as explained graphically in Fig. 1.

The emitter and collector resistors of Q3 are both equal and the base voltage is taken directly from the slider of the manual control pot RV1. The output voltage is taken from the collector of Q3 to feed the summing amplifier, and will be held at +8 V via R9 when Q3 is switched off. As the slider of RV1 moves toward the centre of travel, the base voltage rises, slowly turning on Q3 and lowering the collector voltage.

When Q3 is turned hard on as RV1 reaches its mid-point, R9 and 10 will form a potential divider giving 4 V as the minimum control voltage. Further increase of base voltage can now only increase the emitter and collector voltages back up to the positive rail, reaching a maximum at one  $V_{be}$  drop from the +8 V rail.

During the above process the voltage on the emitter of Q3 rises from zero to the same maximum voltage, and is fed to the inverting terminal of IC2, a CA3140 used as a comparator. The other comparator input receives 4 V derived from the potential

divider R11 and R12. This provides the required forward/reverse signal that corresponds to each half of the control pot. Inverter gate IC1f buffers the output of IC2.

C7 and C8 provide supply decoupling for both channels, while C5 and C6 provide further smoothing for the 8 V zener regulator formed by R16 and ZD1. This 8 V reference rail is used for two reasons; firstly to allow for fluctuation in the 12 V battery power supply that would otherwise affect the output pulse width, and secondly to ensure that the op-amp supply voltage is well above the maximum input voltage.

The resistor marked as Rx in the circuit shows where a speed feedback voltage will be added to the controller to close the velocity control loop. An infra-red tachometer module to directly sense the traction speed will be described later in the series.

If the manual control input is not required, the components associated with this can be simply omitted (ie RV1, R8, R9, R10, C4, Q3, IC2 and their equivalents in the other channel). Control voltages may now be fed to the unconnected end of R13, where a variation of 3 V, set by PR1 to be anywhere in the range 0 V to 8 V, will provide 100% control of the output pulse width. Forward/reverse switching must also be applied to the input of IC1f on pin 3.

will be switched alternately to each motor. This spreads the current peaks more evenly over the switching cycle.

Construction and setting up with interconnection details for the motor driver will be described next month.

## PARTS LIST

Resistors (all  $\frac{1}{4}$  W, 5%)

R1	100k
R2	15k
R3,6,17,20	2k7
R4,18	470R
R5,7,8,19,	
21,22	1k0
R9,10,23,24	22k
R11,12,25,26	10k
R13,15,27,29	1M0
R14,28	330k
R16,29	150R

Potentiometers

RV1,2	10k linear
PR1,2	10k linear miniature horizontal preset

Capacitors

C1	1n0 ceramic
C2,9	220p ceramic
C3,10	15n polycarbonate
C4,11	2u2 35 V tantalum
C5,7,12	100n ceramic
C6,13	220u 16 V axial electrolytic
C8	100u 25 V axial electrolytic

Semiconductors

IC1	40106B
IC2,5	CA3140
IC3,6	LF353
IC4	4093B
Q1,4	BC214L
Q2,3,5,6	BC184L
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c - 150(d) x 76(h) x 134(w)mm	£3-04 £3-80
d - 184(d) x 70(h) x 160(w)mm	£4-08 £5-00

**R-A-Q. 19" RACK-MOUNTING CABINET.**  
★ Top, bottom and rear cover removable for access ★ Plates have heavy duty grey paint finish ★ Front panel is heavy gauge - 3mm aluminium ★ Strong, construction throughout - screws included ★ Heavy gauge chassis mounting plate is pre-drilled and has four mounting positions to choose from ★ Front panel is of brushed aluminium finish enhanced with heavily chromed handles ★  
Front Panel 480 x 150 mm  
Rear Case 425 x 250 x 140 mm  
**£23-95**  
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**TOP QUALITY**  
**Or Free Standing**  
This is a professional rack mounting cabinet that will allow you to get your equipment off the bench. Rack mounting provides security for your equipment and easy access for maintenance. This Precision rack mounting cabinet has all of the features you would expect from a professional unit.  
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Available drilled to accept two power transistors of most types including 10-3 10-126 10-220 10-66 Size 75(h) x 102(w) x 25(d)mm. Thermal resistance mounting surface to ambient -1°C/Watt (2.0h/sec air velocity). Mounting surface temperature rise above ambient 60°C @ 30W heat dissipation.

**SLIDE SWITCHES**  

1P2T	10p	6P3T pcb	42p
2P2T	12p	4P4T "	45p
2P2T	12p	6P3T+ "	45p
2P3T	20p	4P3T side "	48p
1P4T	26p	1P2T spg/rtn	20p
4P2T	28p	6P3T toggle	55p
4P3T	35p	+ ALL KNOWN	

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# CRICKLEWOOD ELECT

## 40 CRICKLEWOOD BROADWAY, LONDON NW2 3ET

SUPERIOR QUALITY CARBON FILM RESISTORS, HI STAB LOW NOISE		Veroboard 0.1"		Grade One Glass PCB		2N2714		2N3906		2N5194		BC177A		BC413		BOX14		BSX19		MPS101	
1W 10% 10M 5% E24		2.5 x 3.75		Single Sided		2N2848		2N3907		2N5209		BC177B		BC414		BOX15		BSX20		MPS102	
1W 10% 10M 5% E24		2.5 x 5		178 x 240mm		2N2850		2N3908		2N5210		BC178A		BC415		BOX16		BSX21		MPS103	
1W 10% 10M 5% E12		3.75 x 3.75		420 x 195mm		2N2852		2N3909		2N5211		BC178B		BC416		BOX17		BSX22		MPS104	
2W 10% 10M 5% E12		3.75 x 5		420 x 245mm		2N2854		2N3910		2N5212		BC179		BC417		BOX18		BSX23		MPS105	
		4.7 x 17				2N2856		2N3911		2N5213		BC180		BC418		BOX19		BSX24		MPS106	
		4.7 x 17				2N2858		2N3912		2N5214		BC181		BC419		BOX20		BSX25		MPS107	
		4.7 x 17				2N2860		2N3913		2N5215		BC182		BC420		BOX21		BSX26		MPS108	
		4.7 x 17				2N2862		2N3914		2N5216		BC183		BC421		BOX22		BSX27		MPS109	
		4.7 x 17				2N2864		2N3915		2N5217		BC184		BC422		BOX23		BSX28		MPS110	
		4.7 x 17				2N2866		2N3916		2N5218		BC185		BC423		BOX24		BSX29		MPS111	
		4.7 x 17				2N2868		2N3917		2N5219		BC186		BC424		BOX25		BSX30		MPS112	
		4.7 x 17				2N2870		2N3918		2N5220		BC187		BC425		BOX26		BSX31		MPS113	
		4.7 x 17				2N2872		2N3919		2N5221		BC188		BC426		BOX27		BSX32		MPS114	
		4.7 x 17				2N2874		2N3920		2N5222		BC189		BC427		BOX28		BSX33		MPS115	
		4.7 x 17				2N2876		2N3921		2N5223		BC190		BC428		BOX29		BSX34		MPS116	
		4.7 x 17				2N2878		2N3922		2N5224		BC191		BC429		BOX30		BSX35		MPS117	
		4.7 x 17				2N2880		2N3923		2N5225		BC192		BC430		BOX31		BSX36		MPS118	
		4.7 x 17				2N2882		2N3924		2N5226		BC193		BC431		BOX32		BSX37		MPS119	
		4.7 x 17				2N2884		2N3925		2N5227		BC194		BC432		BOX33		BSX38		MPS120	
		4.7 x 17				2N2886		2N3926		2N5228		BC195		BC433		BOX34		BSX39		MPS121	
		4.7 x 17				2N2888		2N3927		2N5229		BC196		BC434		BOX35		BSX40		MPS122	
		4.7 x 17				2N2890		2N3928		2N5230		BC197		BC435		BOX36		BSX41		MPS123	
		4.7 x 17				2N2892		2N3929		2N5231		BC198		BC436		BOX37		BSX42		MPS124	
		4.7 x 17				2N2894		2N3930		2N5232		BC199		BC437		BOX38		BSX43		MPS125	
		4.7 x 17				2N2896		2N3931		2N5233		BC200		BC438		BOX39		BSX44		MPS126	
		4.7 x 17				2N2898		2N3932		2N5234		BC201		BC439		BOX40		BSX45		MPS127	
		4.7 x 17				2N2900		2N3933		2N5235		BC202		BC440		BOX41		BSX46		MPS128	
		4.7 x 17				2N2902		2N3934		2N5236		BC203		BC441		BOX42		BSX47		MPS129	
		4.7 x 17				2N2904		2N3935		2N5237		BC204		BC442		BOX43		BSX48		MPS130	
		4.7 x 17				2N2906		2N3936		2N5238		BC205		BC443		BOX44		BSX49		MPS131	
		4.7 x 17				2N2908		2N3937		2N5239		BC206		BC444		BOX45		BSX50		MPS132	
		4.7 x 17				2N2910		2N3938		2N5240		BC207		BC445		BOX46		BSX51		MPS133	
		4.7 x 17				2N2912		2N3939		2N5241		BC208		BC446		BOX47		BSX52		MPS134	
		4.7 x 17				2N2914		2N3940		2N5242		BC209		BC447		BOX48		BSX53		MPS135	
		4.7 x 17				2N2916		2N3941		2N5243		BC210		BC448		BOX49		BSX54		MPS136	
		4.7 x 17				2N2918		2N3942		2N5244		BC211		BC449		BOX50		BSX55		MPS137	
		4.7 x 17				2N2920		2N3943		2N5245		BC212		BC450		BOX51		BSX56		MPS138	
		4.7 x 17				2N2922		2N3944		2N5246		BC213		BC451		BOX52		BSX57		MPS139	
		4.7 x 17				2N2924		2N3945		2N5247		BC214		BC452		BOX53		BSX58		MPS140	
		4.7 x 17				2N2926		2N3946		2N5248		BC215		BC453		BOX54		BSX59		MPS141	
		4.7 x 17				2N2928		2N3947		2N5249		BC216		BC454		BOX55		BSX60		MPS142	
		4.7 x 17				2N2930		2N3948		2N5250		BC217		BC455		BOX56		BSX61		MPS143	
		4.7 x 17				2N2932		2N3949		2N5251		BC218		BC456		BOX57		BSX62		MPS144	
		4.7 x 17				2N2934		2N3950		2N5252		BC219		BC457		BOX58		BSX63		MPS145	
		4.7 x 17				2N2936		2N3951		2N5253		BC220		BC458		BOX59		BSX64		MPS146	
		4.7 x 17				2N2938		2N3952		2N5254		BC221		BC459		BOX60		BSX65		MPS147	
		4.7 x 17				2N2940		2N3953		2N5255		BC222		BC460		BOX61		BSX66		MPS148	
		4.7 x 17				2N2942		2N3954		2N5256		BC223		BC461		BOX62		BSX67		MPS149	
		4.7 x 17				2N2944		2N3955		2N5257		BC224		BC462		BOX63		BSX68		MPS150	
		4.7 x 17				2N2946		2N3956		2N5258		BC225		BC463		BOX64		BSX69		MPS151	
		4.7 x 17				2N2948		2N3957		2N5259		BC226		BC464		BOX65		BSX70		MPS152	
		4.7 x 17				2N2950		2N3958		2N5260		BC227		BC465		BOX66		BSX71		MPS153	
		4.7 x 17				2N2952		2N3959		2N5261		BC228		BC466		BOX67		BSX72		MPS154	
		4.7 x 17				2N2954		2N3960		2N5262		BC229		BC467		BOX68		BSX73		MPS155	
		4.7 x 17				2N2956		2N3961		2N5263		BC230		BC468		BOX69		BSX74		MPS156	
		4.7 x 17				2N2958		2N3962		2N5264		BC231		BC469		BOX70		BSX75		MPS157	
		4.7 x 17				2N2960		2N3963		2N5265		BC232		BC470		BOX71		BSX76		MPS158	
		4.7 x 17				2N2962		2N3964		2N5266		BC233		BC471		BOX72		BSX77		MPS159	
		4.7 x 17				2N2964		2N3965		2N5267		BC234		BC472		BOX73		BSX78		MPS160	
		4.7 x 17				2N2966		2N3966		2N5268		BC235		BC473		BOX74		BSX79		MPS161	
		4.7 x 17				2N2968		2N3967		2N5269		BC236		BC474		BOX75		BSX80		MPS162	
		4.7 x 17				2N2970		2N3968		2N5270		BC237		BC475		BOX76		BSX81		MPS163	
		4.7 x 17				2N2972		2N3969		2N5271		BC238		BC476		BOX77		BSX82		MPS164	
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		4.7 x 17				2N2976		2N3971		2N5273		BC240		BC478		BOX79		BSX84		MPS166	
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		4.7 x 17				2N2980		2N3973		2N5275		BC242		BC480		BOX81		BSX86		MPS168	
		4.7 x 17				2N2982		2N3974		2N5276		BC243		BC481		BOX82		BSX87		MPS169	
		4.7 x 17				2N2984		2N3975		2N5277		BC244		BC482		BOX83		BSX88		MPS170	
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		4.7 x 17				2N2990		2N3978		2N5280		BC247		BC485		BOX86		BSX91		MPS173	
		4.7 x 17				2N2992		2N3979		2N5281		BC248		BC486		BOX87		BSX92		MPS174	
		4.7 x 17				2N2994		2N3980		2N5282		BC249		BC487		BOX88		BSX93		MPS175	
		4.7 x 17				2N2996		2N3981		2N5283		BC250		BC488		BOX89		BSX94		MPS176	
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		4.7 x 17				2N3000		2N3983		2N5285		BC252		BC490		BOX91		BSX96		MPS178	
		4.7 x 17				2N3002		2N3984		2N5286		BC253		BC491		BOX92		BSX97		MPS179	
		4.7 x 17				2N3004		2N3985		2N5287		BC254		BC492		BOX93		BSX98		MPS180	
		4.7 x 17				2N3006		2N3986		2N5288		BC255		BC493		BOX94		BSX99		MPS181	
		4.7 x 17				2N3008		2N3987		2N5289		BC256		BC494		BOX95		BSX100		MPS182	
		4.7 x 17				2N3010		2N3988		2N5290		BC257		BC495		BOX96		BSX101		MPS183	
		4.7 x 17				2N3012		2N3989		2N5291		BC258		BC496		BOX97		BSX102		MPS184	
		4.7 x 17				2N3014		2N3990		2N5292		BC259		BC497		BOX98		BSX103		MPS185	
		4.7 x 17				2N3016		2N3991		2N5293		BC260		BC498		BOX99		BSX104		MPS186	
		4.7 x 17				2N3018		2N3992		2N5294		BC261		BC499		BOX100		BSX105		MPS187	
		4.7 x 17				2N3020		2N3993		2N5295		BC262		BC500		BOX101		BSX106		MPS188	
		4.7 x 17				2N3022		2N3994		2N5296		BC263		BC501		BOX102		BSX107		MPS189	
		4.7 x 17				2N3024		2N3995		2N5297		BC264		BC502		BOX103		BSX108		MPS190	
		4.7 x 17				2N3026		2N3996		2N5298		BC265									



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