Most electronic door minders function by having a beam of light shining across a doorway interrupted, but are incapable of detecting whether the light beam is broken by a person entering or leaving the room. This project overcomes that problem with the aid of digital logic.

HAVE YOU NOTICED how annoying the buzz of a door minder is every time you enter your favourite bottle shop? What's usually more annoying is having the damn thing sound when you leave. Well, this project solves the problem. It will sound a buzzer (flash a light, operate a counter, etc) when a person either enters or leaves a room via the door being monitored. In other words, it senses the direction in which the person is moving.

This immediately opens up the field for much experimentation. For example, the circuit could be adapted to operate as an automatic light switch, that is, to switch the light on in a room when someone enters and off when they leave.

Another use would be to count the number of people entering the premises (similar to a turnstile counter). Or, if you really want to be clever, the two previous ideas can be combined so that the light comes on in a room when a person enters and then the circuit counts...