

PRACTICAL

ELECTRONICS

NOVEMBER 1972

20p



Simple

AUDIO SIGNAL GENERATOR

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT!

Electronic **MUSICAL
INSTRUMENTS**

A SURVEY OF THE COMMERCIAL SCENE



Why take the risk?

of damage to expensive transistors and integrated circuits, when soldering?

Use Antex low-leakage soldering irons



220-240 Volts or
100-120 Volts

Model X25

The leakage current of the NEW X25 is only a few microamps and cannot harm the most delicate equipment even when soldered "live". Tested at 1500v. A.C. This 25 watt iron with it's truly remarkable heat-capacity will easily "out-solder" any conventionally made 40 and 60 watt soldering irons, due to its unique construction advantages.

Fitted long-life iron-coated bit 1/8".
2 other bits available 3/32" and 3/16".

Totally enclosed element in ceramic and steel shaft Bits do not "freeze" and can easily be removed

PRICE: £1.75 (rec. retail)
Suitable for production work and as a general purpose iron

Model CCN 220 volts or 240 volts

The 15 watt miniature model CCN. also has negligible leakage.

Test voltage 4000v. A.C.
Totally enclosed element in ceramic shaft. Fitted long-life iron-coated bit 3/32"

4 other bits available
1/8", 3/16" 1/4" and 1/16"

PRICE: £1.80 (rec. retail)

OR Fitted with triple-coated, (iron, nickel and Chromium) bit 1/8"

PRICE: £1.95 (rec. retail)

A SELECTION OF OTHER SOLDERING EQUIPMENT.



MODEL CN

Miniature 15 watt soldering iron fitted 3/32" iron-coated bit. Many other bits available from 3/64" to 3/16". Voltages 240, 220, 110, 50 or 24
PRICE: £1.70 (rec. retail)

MODEL CN2

Miniature 15 watt soldering iron fitted with nickel plated bit 3/32". Voltages 240 or 220.
PRICE: £1.70 (rec. retail)



MODEL G

18 Watt miniature iron, fitted with long life iron-coated bit 3/32". Voltages 240, 220 or 110.
PRICE: £1.83 (rec. retail)

MODEL SK.1 KIT



contains 15 Watt miniature iron fitted with 3/16" bit, 2 spare bits 5/32" and 3/32", heat sink, solder, stand and "How to Solder" booklet.

PRICE £2.75
(Rec. retail)

MODEL SK.2 KIT

contains 15 Watt miniature iron fitted with 3/16" bit, 2 spare bits 5/32" and 3/32",

heat sink, solder and booklet "How to Solder"



PRICE £2.40
(Rec. retail)



MODEL MES.KIT

Battery-operated 12v. 25 watt iron fitted with 15' lead and 2 heavy clips for connection to car battery. Packed in strong plastic wallet with booklet "How to Solder."

PRICE £1.95
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Connoisseur

B.D.2 Press Button Speed Change Turntable

Now a new development on the well established Connoisseur BD2 belt drive turntable - press button speed change. This new development is exciting news for the enthusiast and comes as part of an integrated turntable and pickup arm assembly which also features a special version of the popular SAU2 arm. This is now fitted with a new lifting device which gives improved lowering characteristics, the headshell allowing for lateral adjustment of the cartridge. The BD2 is supplied as a chassis unit or spring mounted on a wooden plinth with dust cover.

S.A.U.2 Pick-up Arm

Recognised as one of today's most advanced pick-up arms it features

- Auto-bias Compensator
- Hydraulic Lowering Device
- Precision Balance
- New Adjustable Head Shell.



B.D.1 Turntable Kit

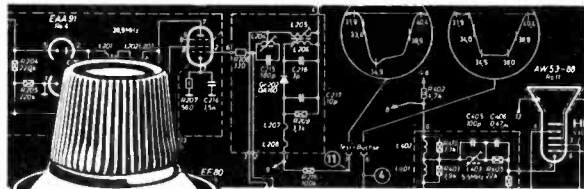


The B.D.1, well known for its superb performance and quality two speed working through a flexible belt drive system is now available in kit form. Construction is simplicity itself with no soldering required. Now it's so easy to own the best.

A.R.SUGDEN & CO.(ENGINEERS) LTD.

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Non-toxic, non-inflammable, Cold Spray 75 is a chemically inert coolant capable of producing temperatures of down to -42 centigrade. It can also be used to prevent heat damage during soldering processes, for the rapid freezing of small articles for biological and technical purposes and the prompt location of hairline cracks and other faults in temperature dependent components.

Other Kontakt products:

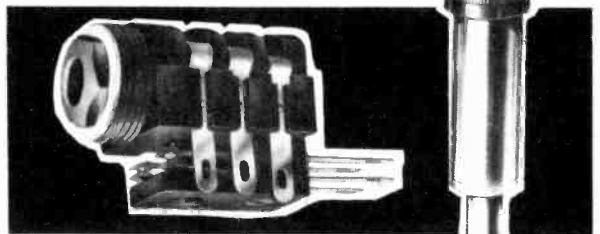
Kontakt 60 and Kontakt 61 for relay contact cleaning; Plastic Spray 70, transparent protective lacquer; Insulating Spray 72; Kontakt WL, Spray Wash; Antistatic Spray 100, Antistatic agent for plastics; Politur 80, Polish and cleaner; Fluid 101, Dehydrating Fluid.

Details from U.K. distributors:

Special Products Distributors Ltd.

81 Piccadilly, London, W.1. Tel. 01-629 9556

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Standard, mini and sub-miniature sizes... plugs in both screened and unscreened versions... socket bodies in high melting point thermoplastic... several unique features (some protected by UK and US Patents)... Post Office and NATO specifications.

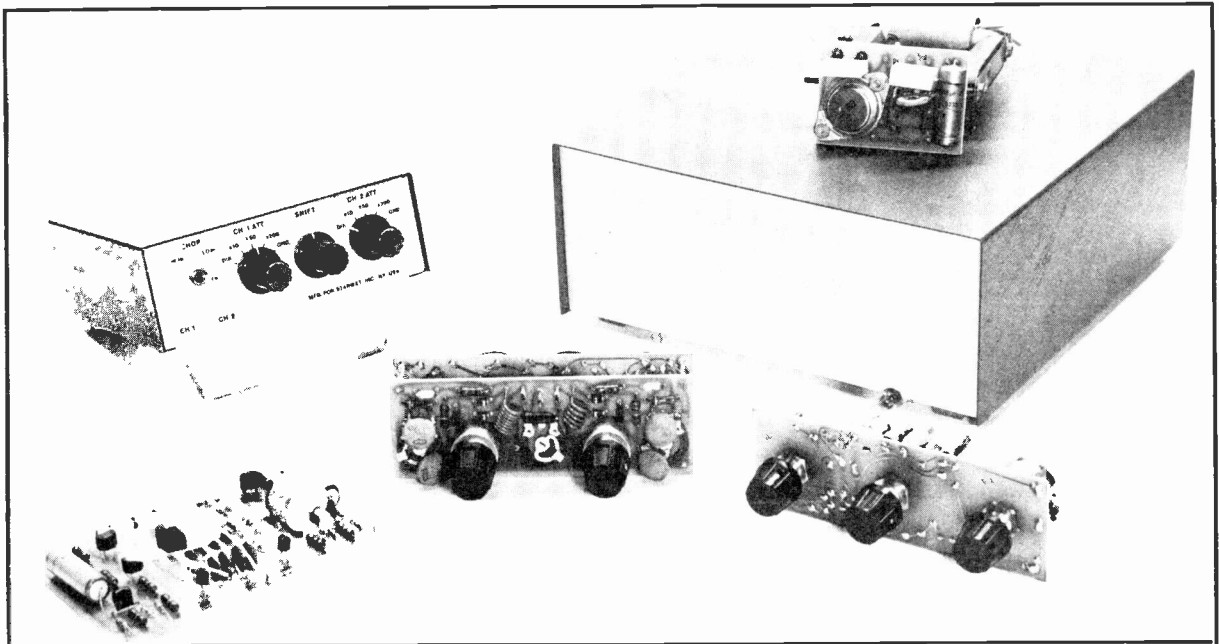
If you want to study all the facts and figures, all the ingenious construction details, send for the Rendar Electronic Components Catalogue of technical data sheets covering their entire range of products.

The cost of the catalogue is 25p, including P & P, and it's money very well spent!



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Size 8in wide, 3in high, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in deep. Price **£1.87 each.** P & P 25p.

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For BC 221 Frequency meter. Slide-in and connect. **ONLY £3.75 each.** P & P 75p.

The advertised Beam Switch, Square Wave Generator and Sine Wave Generator will fit the smaller case.

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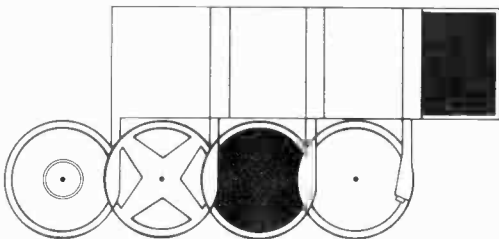
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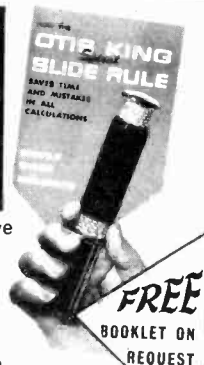
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Goldring	G800 Super E	£18.25	M55-E	£8.85
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ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE! Think of the year 1984 and what might be produced then—now get the fantastic **ASTRAD 17** and SEE for yourself that the incredible Russians have done it all NOW! It's the radio perfectionist's dream come true! **THIS ONE SUPERSEDES ALL EARLIER MODELS!** It will probably make your present radio seem like a "crystal set"! Complete with optional battery eliminator for both battery and mains use! We're almost giving them away at only £20.75—a mere fraction of even today's Russian miracle price! We challenge you to compare performance and value with that of £80 radios! *Test 7 days, we'll refund instantly if you are not astounded! Elegant black & chrome finish facia, set in fabulous Cabinet built case—constructed of fine Russian hardwood in beautiful Teak Veneer finish—prevents vibration, ensures purer & sweeter tone than ever! Volume controlled from a whisper to a roar that would fill a hall! Much wider band spread, for absolute "pin-point" station selection! Plus "MAGIC EYE" tuning level indicator for ultra perfect tuning sensitivity! Yes, the Russians have surpassed themselves, proving again their fantastic ability in the field of electronics and brilliantly reflecting their advanced micro-circuitry techniques in the field of spacehip and satellite communications. Yes, **EVERY WAVEBAND** instantly at your fingertips including Standard Long, Medium, Short and Ultra Short Waves to cover the four corners of the earth 24 hours a day including all normal transmissions. VHF, AM, FM, MW, LW, USW, plus local & new stations not yet operational, and messages from all over the world! Expensive TURRET TUNER side control waveband selection unit (as used on expensive T.V.'s!). Every waveband clicks into position giving incredible ease of station tuning! Genuine push-pull output! ON/OFF volume and separate Treble and Bass tone controls for utter perfection of reproduction and tone! Press-button dial illumination! Take it anywhere—runs economically on standard batteries (obtainable everywhere) or direct through battery eliminator from 220/240v AC mains supply. Internal ferrite rod aerial plus built-in "rotatable" telescopic aerial extending to 39ins approx. It's also a fabulous CAR RADIO. Can also be used through extension amplifier, tape recorder or public address system. SIZE 14ins x 10ins x 4ins overall approx. Magnificently designed, made to give years of perfect service. (U.K. service facilities & spares available for years & years to come, if ever necessary!). With WRITTEN GUARANTEE manual with simple operating instructions & circuit diagram. **ONLY £20.75** (with mains/battery eliminator £1.48 extra). **BOX, POST, ETC. 50p.** *BUT WAIT, for only 55p extra you get the sensational "COMPUTERISED" WORLD TUNING GUIDE (it enables you to time, pinpoint & get transmissions the whole world over—even a child can do it in a flash—it even lets you know when to tune into the U.K. when abroad. NO GUESSING! NO MESSING!) PLUS Standard 'longlife' batteries PLUS ultra sensitive earphone for personal listening. (Sorry—We cannot change these new radios for any earlier model purchased.) HURRY! Send today or call at either store.

JUST ARRIVED! THIS YEAR'S NEW * COMPUTERISED? RUSSIAN MIRACLE!

BRAND NEW SPACE AGE model - SO FAR AHEAD OF ITS TIME IT WILL STILL BE MAKING MANY LOOK OUT OF DATE IN 1984!

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PORTABLE RADIO & COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVER

THE OFFER ONLY FROM US!

WORLD WIDE RECEPTION
THOUSANDS OF TRANSMISSIONS & STATIONS POUR IN FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE EARTH!



28 TRANSISTORS AND DIODES!

WAVEBANDS:
STANDARD LONG and MEDIUM
Plus 5 SHORT WAVEBANDS
Plus ULTRA SHORT WAVES
(V.H.F. AM, FM, MW, LW, USW.)

***COMPARE ITS PERFORMANCE with £80 RADIOS!**

BATTERY MODEL £20.75 **BOX POST ETC. 50p**

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FIRST TIME EVER!

***NOW AVAILABLE WITH fabulous "COMPUTERISED" WORLD TUNING GUIDE!**

NO MORE GUESSWORK - INSTANT DATA at your fingertips - enables you to TUNE IN A FLASH to transmissions the world over!

ANOTHER EAST EUROPEAN MIRACLE!

FANTASTIC 2-in-1 PERSONAL PORTABLE and CAR RADIO

NOW WORLD WIDE RECEPTION

IN YOUR CAR TOO! (RUNS OFF 12v. CAR BATTERY)

4 WAVEBAND VHF AM FM / LONG & SHORT WAVEBANDS

FANTASTIC PRICE £9.95

Box, Post ETC. 45p.

TRY AND MATCH IT FOR UNDER £35!

Position it for CAR RADIO, results will justify! OR detach & use carry handle for PORTABLE with its own batteries!

FANTASTIC! Brand spanking new from East Europe—we bring you this incredible 2-in-1 Radio! First class makers—because of our crazy price, contract stipulates we must NOT mention name! Beautifully made, 9 x 4 x 2 1/2 inches overall approx. Every up-to-date technological improvement. 15 SEMI-CONDUCTORS, 9 Transistors, 5 Diodes and Stabiliser! **FOUR WAVEBANDS!** Yes, VHF model with AM/FM Long and Short wavebands! Will get stations around the world, including Standard Long, Medium and Short Wave, also local and new stations not yet operational! Built-in internal ferrite aerial plus 5 section 26in. swivel telescopic aerial—on/off volume and tone controls. Clear Station Selector Dial. Waveband selector! Equally wonderful in CAR or HOME! **TWO Tuning Dials** for flat or upright use as illustrated. **RUNS OFF 12 VOLT BATTERY!** (ASA PORTABLE it runs on standard batteries.) **PLUG IN 12 VOLT ADAPTOR JACK PROVIDED** and automatically cut out internal batteries, using car battery only! Don't you think it's miraculous! Span the Oceans and pull in hundreds of transmissions 5 day and night, including short wave—even in car! **BUT WAIT—** simply remove Radio from car, "snap on" optional carry handle **AND YOU HAVE A DE-LUXE PORTABLE**, with additional upright tuning dial. **WRITTEN GUARANTEE.** Only £9.95 box, post 45p. *Sprung all metal matching detachable carry handle (as illus.) & batteries only 25p ex. if required. Match with sets costing £35 or more. Test 7 days—refund if not delighted. Order by post to Uxbridge Road address, or call at either store.



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FABULOUS BRAND NEW SOLID STATE

BATTERY/MAINS AC Combined V.H.F. AM/FM RADIO and CASSETTE TAPE RECORDER & PLAYER

WITH REMOTE CONTROL MICROPHONE

OUR PRICE £23.75 **CARR ETC. 35p**

RECOMMENDED RETAIL PRICE £44

This equipment's got EVERYTHING!



Shopertunities "thunder" ahead with an offer that's FANTASTIC (even by our standards!) We've snapped up 500 magnificent machines. Latest sensation in the world of sound! First-class makers! Fabulous VHF, AM/FM Radio AND Cassette Tape Recorder & Player combined & it also runs off standard batteries or mains. (Simply plug in the 220/240v. AC line cord.) Record and play back anything, anywhere! Even tape direct from the Radio as you listen! **RECOMMENDED RETAIL PRICE GENUINELY £44! WE OFFER AT ALMOST HALF PRICE!** Wonderful features: * Press-button Keyboard Control Panel or latest MASTER SWITCH CONTROL! * "MAGIC EYE" Visual Battery check/monitoring level indicator or built-in automatic Leveller! * Separate ON/OFF and HI-LO volume controls! * Heavy duty built-in speaker! * Earphone (for personal listening or "monitoring") and extension speaker sockets! * Remote control microphone! * Built-in swivel telescopic extension aerial (24in approx.!) Magnificently made case with carry handle. (DESIGNS VARY SLIGHTLY.) Takes standard 30, 60, 90 or 120-minute Cassette Tapes obtainable everywhere. **AND the amazing built-in full circuit VHF, AM/FM Radio** gives you superb clarity of tone, incredible station selection. Unique rotating Station Selector Dial—get all local city and regional stations in every part of the country plus B.B.C. National, VHF. Picks up dozens of foreign stations. Fabulous in your car! You could pay £ £ £'s more for a Car Radio or Car Cassette player ALONE! £23.75, CARR. ETC. 35p. Complete with simple instructions, remote control microphone with on/off switch and microphone stand. **WITH WRITTEN GUARANTEE.** Send today or call at either store. Test 7 days, refund if not delighted. **BONUS OFFER:** Batteries and Cassette Tape 25p extra if required.

Dept. PE/22, 164 UXBRIDGE RD. (facing Shepherds Bush Green), LONDON W12 8AQ. (Thurs. 1, Fri. 7). Also at 37/39 HIGH HOLBORN (opposite Chancery Lane), LONDON, W.C.1. (Thurs. 7 p.m.) **BOTH STORES OPEN FROM MONDAY TO SATURDAY FROM 9 A.M. UNTIL 6 P.M.**

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THE FABULOUSLY SUCCESSFUL VISCOUNT III AUDIO £52 complete

14 + 14 watts r.m.s. 40Hz to 40kHz \pm 3dB. Total distortion at 10 watts at 1kHz — 0.1%.

This is real value for money! We have designed 2 systems and the heart of them all is the Viscount III amplifier. A unit of great eye appeal with teak finished cabinet. FET's (Field effect transistors) are incorporated on the input stages, just like top priced units. FET's give you more of the signal you want and almost none of the hiss you don't. Both units have output sockets for headphones and tape recorder. Filters and tone controls give a wide range of bass and treble adjustment.

For both systems we have chosen the famous Garrard SP25 Mk. III deck which comes complete with simulated teak plinth and dust cover.

The exclusive Duo loudspeaker systems are incomparable for quality within their price range. Large speakers in extremely substantial cabinets. There's a choice of the Duo II's for the smaller room or the big Duo III's for real bass response.

SPEAKERS

Duo Type II Size approx. 17in. \times 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. \times 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Drive unit 13in. \times 8in. with parasitic tweeter. Max power 10 watts, ohms. Simulated Teak cabinet. £14 pair + £3 p & p.

Duo Type III Size approx. 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. \times 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. \times 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Drive unit 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. \times 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. with H.F. speaker. Max power 20 watts at 3 ohms. Freq. range 20Hz to 20kHz. Teak veneer cabinet. £32 pair + £3 p & p.

SPECIFICATION R101

14 watts per channel into 3 to 4 ohms (suitable 3-15 ohms). Total distortion @ 10W @ 1kHz 0.1%. P.U.1. (for ceramic cartridges) 150mV into 3 Meg. P.U.2. (for magnetic cartridges) 4mV @ 1kHz into 47K equalised within \pm 1dB R.I.A.A. Radio 150mV into 220K. (Sensitivities given at full power.) Tape out facilities: headphone socket, power out 250mW per channel. Tone controls and filter characteristics. Bass: +12dB to -17dB @ 60Hz. Bass filter: 6dB per octave cut. Treble control: treble +12dB to -12dB @ 15kHz. Treble filter: 12dB per octave. Signal-to-noise ratio: (all controls at max) — P.U.1. and radio — 65dB, P.U.2 — 58dB. Cross talk better than — 35dB on all inputs. Overload characteristics better than 26dB on all inputs. Size approx. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. \times 9in. \times 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Send S.A.E. for fully illustrated brochure.
12 MONTH'S WRITTEN GUARANTEE.

PRICES: SYSTEM 1

Viscount III R 101 amplifier	£22.00 + 90p p&p
2 \times Duo Type II speakers	£14.00 + £2 p&p
Garrard SP25 Mk. III with MAG. cartridge plinth and cover	£23.00 + £1.50 p&p
Total	£59.00

Available complete for only **£52** + £3.50 p & p

PRICES: SYSTEM 2

Viscount R 101 amplifier	£22.00 + 90p p&p
2 \times Duo Type III speakers	£32.00 + £3 p&p
Garrard SP25 Mk. III with MAG. cartridge plinth and cover	£23.00 + £1.50 p&p
Total	£77.00

Available complete for **£69** + £4 p & p

— ONLY FROM US



MUSIC MAKERS

UNISOUND FOR THE NEW SOUND

AT £25

The whole system is complete including superb cabinets in simulated teak—just simply screw together the components and you save pounds!

Amplifier is based on the famous Mullard Unilex system. Garrard 2025TC turntable complete with stereo ceramic cartridge, teak simulated plinth and tinted acrylic cover. Plus the big 13in. x 8in. EMI Twin-cone speakers ready for mounting in their elegant cabinets, which simply need screwing and glueing together. All glue and screws supplied. Easy to follow step-by-step instructions guide you quickly and effortlessly to taking the wraps off truly realistic stereo sound.

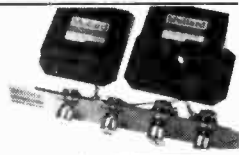
£25 complete plus £2.80 p. & p. Diamond Stylus £1.25 extra.

Power output: 4 watts per channel into 8 ohms. Inputs: 120 mV (for ceramic cartridges). Stereo headphones with adaptor £4.00.

UNISOUND MODULES ONLY £6.95

If you prefer, you can buy the three modules—pre-amplifier power supply/dual power amplifier, and control panel—by themselves for only £6.95. P. & P. 50p extra.

No soldering, just simply screw together with screwdriver supplied. Their overall specification is the same as shown for the complete Unisound console, using the high efficient I.C. monolithic power chips to ensure very low distortion at all power levels, correct operation in all ambient temperatures, full power over the audio spectrum.



AN **R T V C** EXCLUSIVE DESIGN

A 'NATURAL' ONLY FROM **R T V C** THE TOURIST PB CAR RADIO KIT

Apart from the output stage, which is an integrated circuit, the only other electronic components that need soldering are some capacitors, resistors, etc. The kit includes a pre-built RF tuner unit, and fully modulated IF stages which are pre-aligned before despatch. As well as electronic components, this kit also contains 2 diamond-spun aluminium knobs, elegant matching front panel, dial, washers, screws and wire.

The Tourist PB is suitable for 12 volt working on both negative and positive earth vehicles. It covers the full medium and long wave bands. Four push-buttons for medium wave, one for long wave. It is permeability tuned and sturdily constructed. Output is a full 2.5 watts into an 8 ohm speaker. But the Tourist PB will operate into any loud-speaker from 8 to 15 ohms. Power consumption is less than 1 amp.

The Tourist PB can be mounted in any standard size dash panel and it has an illuminated tuning scale for easy reading at night. Chassis size is: 7in wide, 2in. high and 4 1/2 in. deep (excluding front panel, etc.).

★ Circuit diagram and comprehensive instructions 50p, free with parts.

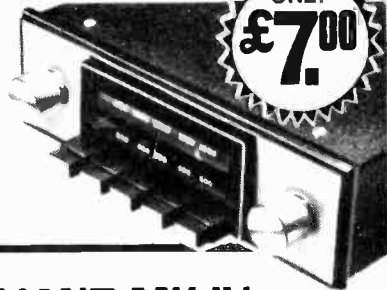
★ Fully retractable lockable car aerial £1.25 post paid.

PRICE ONLY £7 + p & p 50p

8 ohm speaker with baffle and fixing strips £1.50 + 25p p & p, post free if brought with the kit.

If you can solder on printed circuit board, you can build this push-button car radio kit. It's simple—just follow the step-by-step instructions.

ONLY
£7.00



RELIANT MK.IV

★ 5 Electronically Mixed Inputs. ★ 3 Individual Mixing Controls. ★ Separate bass and treble controls common to all 5 inputs. ★ Mixer employing F.E.T. (Field Effect Transistor). ★ Solid State Circuitry. ★ Attractive Styling. ★ Sides finished in solid teak.

INPUTS:—1. Crystal Mic. or Guitar 9mV. 2. Moving coil Mic. or Guitar 8mV. Inputs 3, 4 & 5 are suitable for a wide range of medium output equipment (Gram., Tuner, Monitor, Organ, etc.). All 250mV sensitivity.

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61	100	5 12	10.2 × 8.9 × 8.3	2.62 52
30	200	9 8	12.0 × 10.3 × 10.0	4.39 52
62	250	12 4	9.5 × 12.7 × 11.4	5.80 67
55	350	15 0	14.0 × 10.8 × 12.4	7.77 82
63	500	27 0	17.1 × 11.4 × 15.9	11.20 *
92	1000	40 0	17.8 × 17.1 × 21.6	20.63 *
128	2000	63 0	24.1 × 21.6 × 15.2	34.10 *

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64	75	1 14	7.0 × 6.4 × 6.0	0-115-210-240	1.66 30
4	150	3 0	8.9 × 6.4 × 7.6	0-115-200-220-240	2.00 36
66	300	6 0	10.2 × 10.2 × 9.5	3.89 52
67	500	12 8	14.0 × 10.2 × 11.4	5.78 67
84	1000	16 0	11.4 × 14.0 × 14.0	10.49 82
93	1500	28 9	13.5 × 14.9 × 16.5	15.20 *
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213	0.5	1 0	8.3 × 5.1 × 5.1	0-12V at 0.5A × 2	1.01 22
71	2	1 0	7.0 × 6.4 × 5.7	0-12V at 1A × 2	1.33 22
18	4	2 2	8.3 × 7.0 × 7.0	0-12V at 2A × 2	1.86 36
70	6	3 12	10.2 × 7.6 × 8.6	0-12V at 3A × 2	2.24 42
108	8	4 5	10.0 × 8.3 × 8.2	0-12V at 4A × 2	2.48 52
72	10	5 8	7.9 × 10.8 × 10.2	0-12V at 5A × 2	2.94 52
17	16	8 7	12.1 × 9.5 × 10.2	0-12V at 8A × 2	4.54 52
115	20	10 13	12.1 × 11.4 × 10.2	0-12V at 10A × 2	5.78 67
187	30	15 12	13.3 × 12.1 × 12.1	0-12V at 15A × 2	10.67 82
226	60	30 34	17.0 × 14.5 × 12.5	0-12V at 30A × 2	19.61 *

30 VOLT RANGE

Ref. No.	Ampls.	Weight lb oz	Size cm.	Secondary Taps	P & P
112	0.5	1 4	8.3 × 3.7 × 4.9	0-12-15-20-24-30V	1.01 22
79	1	2 0	7.0 × 6.4 × 6.0	1.35 36
3	2	3 2	8.9 × 7.0 × 7.6	2.01 36
20	3	4 6	10.2 × 8.9 × 8.6	2.48 42
21	4	6 0	10.2 × 10.0 × 8.6	2.94 52
51	5	6 8	12.1 × 10.0 × 8.6	3.66 52
117	6	7 8	12.1 × 10.0 × 10.2	4.36 52
88	8	10 0	14.0 × 11.7 × 10.0	5.64 67
89	10	12 2	14.0 × 10.2 × 11.4	7.14 67

50 VOLT RANGE

Ref. No.	Ampls.	Weight lb oz	Size cm.	Secondary Taps	P & P
102	0.5	1 11	7.0 × 7.0 × 5.7	0-19-25-33-40-50V	1.33 30
103	1	2 10	8.3 × 7.3 × 7.0	1.94 36
104	2	5 0	10.2 × 8.9 × 8.6	2.69 42
105	3	6 0	10.2 × 10.2 × 8.3	3.65 52
106	4	9 4	12.1 × 11.4 × 10.2	4.83 52
107	6	12 4	12.1 × 11.1 × 13.3	7.14 67
118	8	18 9	13.3 × 13.3 × 12.1	9.32 97
119	10	19 12	16.5 × 11.4 × 15.9	11.68 97

60 VOLT RANGE

Ref. No.	Ampls.	Weight lb oz	Size cm.	Secondary Taps	P & P
124	0.5	2 4	8.3 × 9.5 × 6.7	0-24-30-40-48-60V	1.35 36
126	1	3 0	8.9 × 7.6 × 7.6	1.88 36
127	2	5 6	10.2 × 8.9 × 8.6	2.94 42
125	3	8 8	11.9 × 9.5 × 10.0	4.48 52
123	4	10 6	11.4 × 9.5 × 11.4	5.78 67
120	6	16 12	13.3 × 12.1 × 12.1	8.37 82
122	10	23 2	16.5 × 12.7 × 16.5	13.85 *

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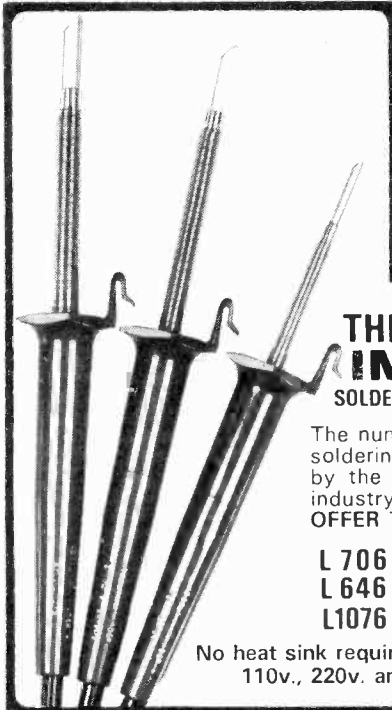
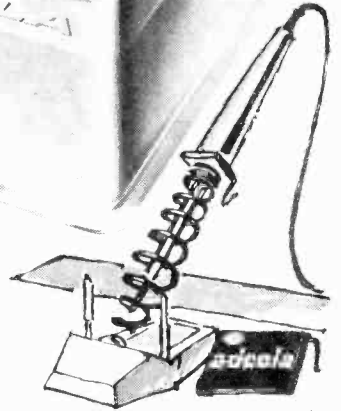


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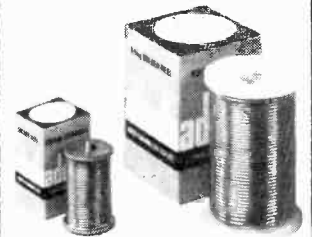
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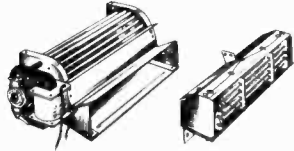
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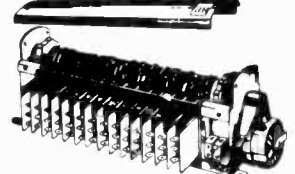
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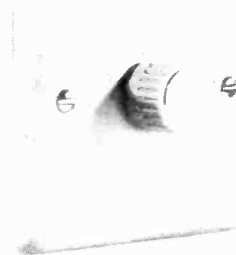


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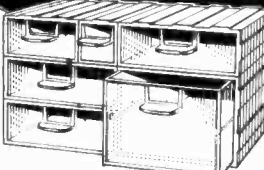
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BC154	0-10	2N4416FET	0-35
BC107	0-20		
BC108	0-10	Power Transistors	
BC109	0-10	OC20	0-40
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BFY50	0-15	OC26	0-25
BSY25	0-13	OC28	0-30
BSY26	0-13	OC35	0-25
BSY27	0-13	OC36	0-37
BSY28	0-13	AD149	0-35
BSY29	0-13	AU710	0-75
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OC44	0-13		
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OC71	0-10	AY42	0-10
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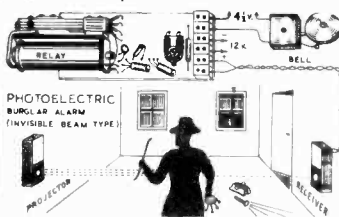
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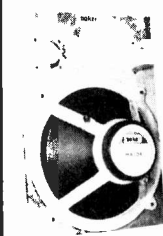
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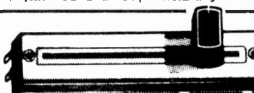
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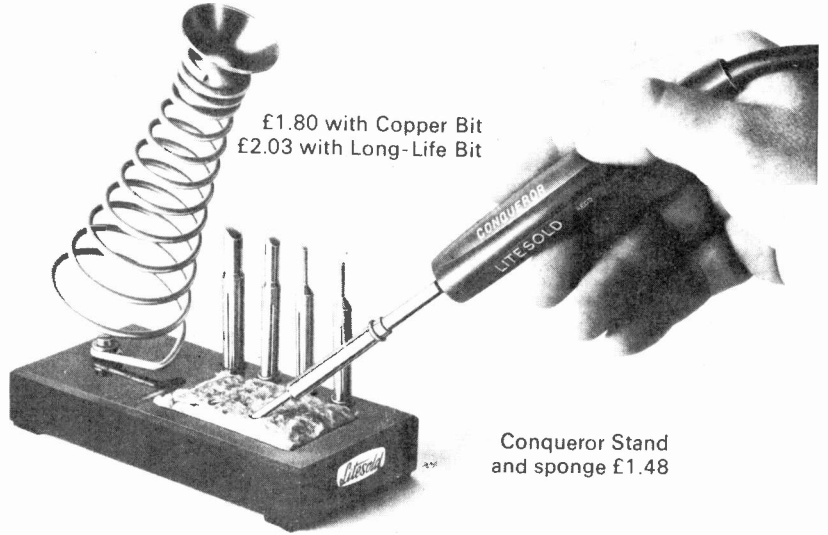
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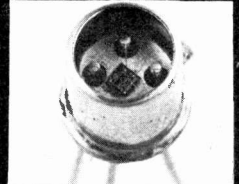


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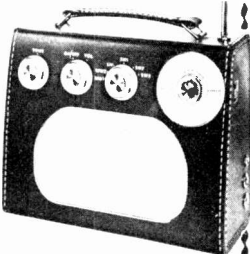
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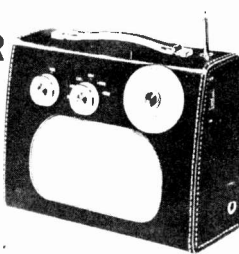
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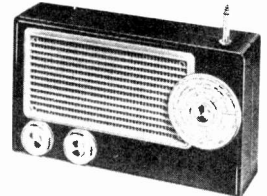
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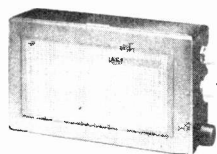
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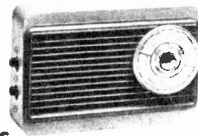
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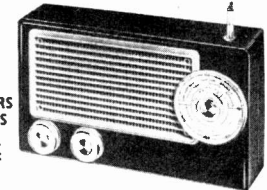
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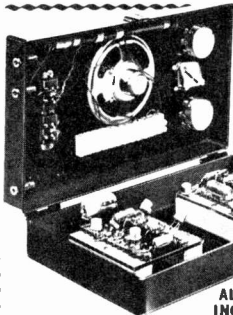
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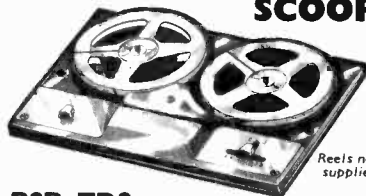
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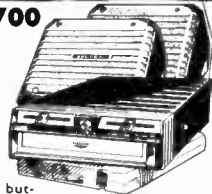
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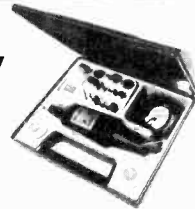
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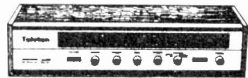
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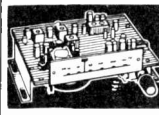
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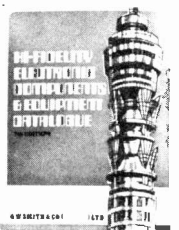


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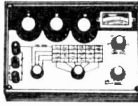
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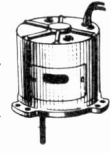
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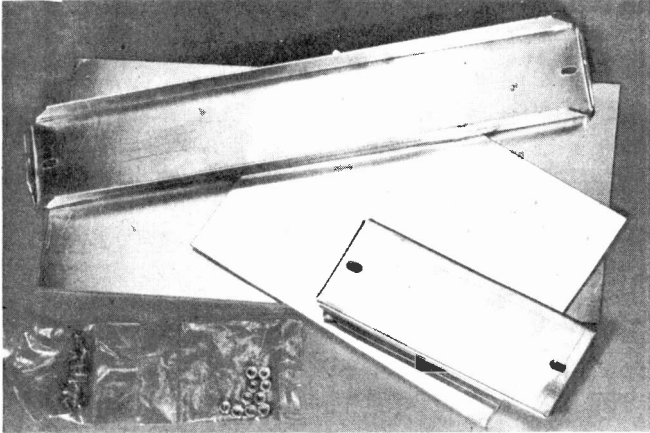
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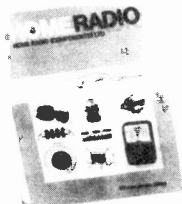
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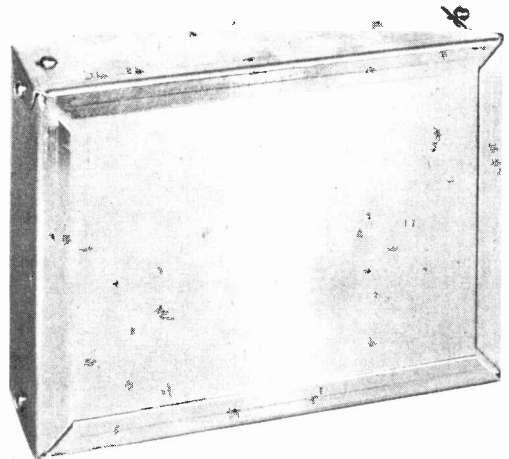


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OUR BUSINESS

THIS magazine has its own established editorial conventions relating to constructional projects. These have remained unaltered since we started business and we have no plans to depart from these well proven conventions in the future. Perhaps these conventions should be clarified for the benefit of our readers.

Firstly, let us deal with the "exceptional". From time to time a constructional project appears with the prefix "PRACTICAL ELECTRONICS" incorporated in its title. This distinction is not awarded haphazardly. Our name is attached to selected projects only when the following conditions are fulfilled: the project is unique, in that it offers the home constructor something not previously available in a detailed comprehensive form, and it represents a significant or important new application of electronic circuitry. The original concept for the project may have come from the staff of this magazine; or may be the result of consultation with an outside designer. In either case, the actual development and production of the first model is put in the hands of a specialist contributor.

Apart from such commissioned designs, there are examples where a completed project has been offered to us in the normal way (without prior collaboration in the initial planning stage) and upon examination the project proves to "qualify" in the terms stated above. In such an event it may be decided to "adopt" this design to bring it into a special, close relationship with this magazine. This is subject to the agreement of the contributor naturally—but none so far has raised any objections to an adoption proposal!

We are certain that every one of the selected designs published under the P.E. insignia has been a credit to the designer concerned; furthermore we believe these designs stand out as notable landmarks in the eventful story of home constructed electronics, an activity which has progressed and expanded so dramatically over the recent years.

This special singling out of certain projects in no way diminishes the merit of the other projects published in these pages. All designs are rigorously vetted before acceptance and many of these do indeed indicate a very high degree of technical inventiveness and skilful workmanship on the part of the individuals responsible for their conception and subsequent execution.

Constructional projects are obviously the life blood of this magazine. Only projects designed and built expressly for the home constructor (the designer may himself be either a professional or an amateur in the electronics sense) are considered for inclusion under this

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THIS MONTH

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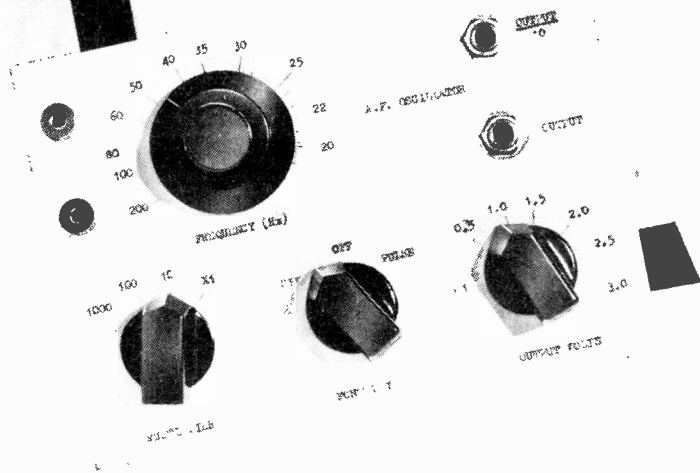
ELECTRONIC MUSICAL
INSTRUMENTS

*Our December issue will be published on
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Simple A.F. SIGNAL GENERATOR



By D. W. Easterling

THE audio frequency signal generator to be described here produces sine waves or pulses over the frequency range 19Hz to 200kHz in four bands. The amplitude of the sine waves is sensibly constant over the entire range, and the waveform good. The pulses are square in shape, with 1:1 mark/space ratio over the lower three bands, that is from 19Hz to 20kHz. Above this frequency the waveform and level progressively deteriorates.

The maximum output level, both for sine and square waves is 3V peak-to-peak, just over one volt r.m.s. A constantly variable output control enables this to be reduced to zero, and is calibrated down to 100mV.

There is also a second output socket permanently attenuated by 20dB, thus permitting accurate setting of the output level to 10mV.

The complete unit operates from a self-contained 9V dry battery, and is housed in a case measuring 7in x 5in x 2½in. Costing less than £4 to build from new components, this test set will be of value to the radio experimenter and hi fi enthusiast.

WIEN BRIDGE

The circuit is illustrated in Fig. 1. Transistors TR1 and TR2 are connected as an inverted Wien bridge oscillator. To sustain oscillation positive feedback is arranged between the two emitters via network LP1 and R5.

At the same time, considerable negative feedback from TR2 emitter to TR1 base prevents the circuit from oscillating at any frequency except that selected by the Wien bridge network. This consists of VR1a, R1, VR2, R2, and VR1b; a pair of capacitors selected by the range switch S1a ganged to S1b completes the network. The variable resistors VR1a and VR1b are in fact one double-gang control which is used to provide continuous tuning over each range.

The series resistors R1 and R2 are chosen to provide a 10:1 frequency swing without permitting the minimum resistance of the network to reach such a low value that it seriously loads the emitter circuit of TR2.

The potentiometer VR2 enables both arms of the network to be balanced, particularly at the high

frequency (low resistance) end of each range, otherwise there is a tendency for the output level to dip beyond the auto-control circuit. VR2 can be omitted and the values of R1 and R2 set by trial. For example, in the prototype the values of R1 and R2 were 4.7 and 5.1 kilohms respectively.

The capacitors C1 to C8 determine the frequency ranges as follows:

Capacitors	Nominal Value	Frequency Range
C1, C2	120pF	19kHz to 200kHz
C3, C4	1,500pF	1.9kHz to 20kHz
C5, C6	0.015 μ F	190Hz to 2kHz
C7, C8	0.15 μ F	19Hz to 200Hz

It will be noticed that C1 and C2 are made less than the expected 150pF, due to the effect of stray capacitances. To ensure accurate range multiplication each of these capacitors may consist of a 100pF silver mica fixed capacitor in parallel with a 30pF air spaced trimmer which is adjusted during calibration. In the prototype it was found that single fixed 120pF capacitors of close tolerance provided sufficient accuracy.

POSITIVE FEEDBACK

The amount of positive feedback in the oscillator is critical. It must be sufficient to sustain oscillation without being so large that it drives the transistors off the linear part of their characteristic and produces unwanted harmonic distortion.

Unfortunately the changing characteristics of the load, power supply, and frequency selective network, tend to cause large variations in signal level which can only be overcome by using some form of automatic level control. Changes in level due to range

switching can be countered by switching in different series resistors (VR3 to VR6), but this is insufficient when, as in this case, the frequency swing on each range is in the order of 10:1, consequently a more sophisticated arrangement is employed.

The usual method of solving this problem is to use sensitive thermistors which are both fragile, and costly. The circuit in Fig. 1 achieves the same result by using a 6 volt 40 mA lamp. The lamp in series with a 150 Ω resistor is connected across the oscillator output.

As the output voltage increases, so does the current through the lamp, heating the filament and causing the lamp resistance to rise. This has the effect of reducing the voltage appearing at the junction of the lamp with the resistor, and thus the positive feedback. With careful design, the circuit becomes self balancing, and the output level stable.

It will be noticed that the lamp normally runs just below the level where it produces light, although under certain conditions a glow can just be seen. The nominal current through the lamp is in the order of 20mA.

The output of the oscillator is taken direct from the emitter of TR2 as a sine wave, or via TR3 and TR4 as a pulse or square wave. TR3 is a grounded emitter amplifier with a high value collector load resistor. Squaring occurs because the input signal is sufficient to bottom the base and collector characteristics on alternate half cycles.

Resistor R8 isolates the input circuit of TR3 from the output of TR2, thus preserving the sine wave output, and with R9, regulates the input to TR3 to ensure a square wave mark space ratio of 1:1. Adjustment of these resistors provides a convenient

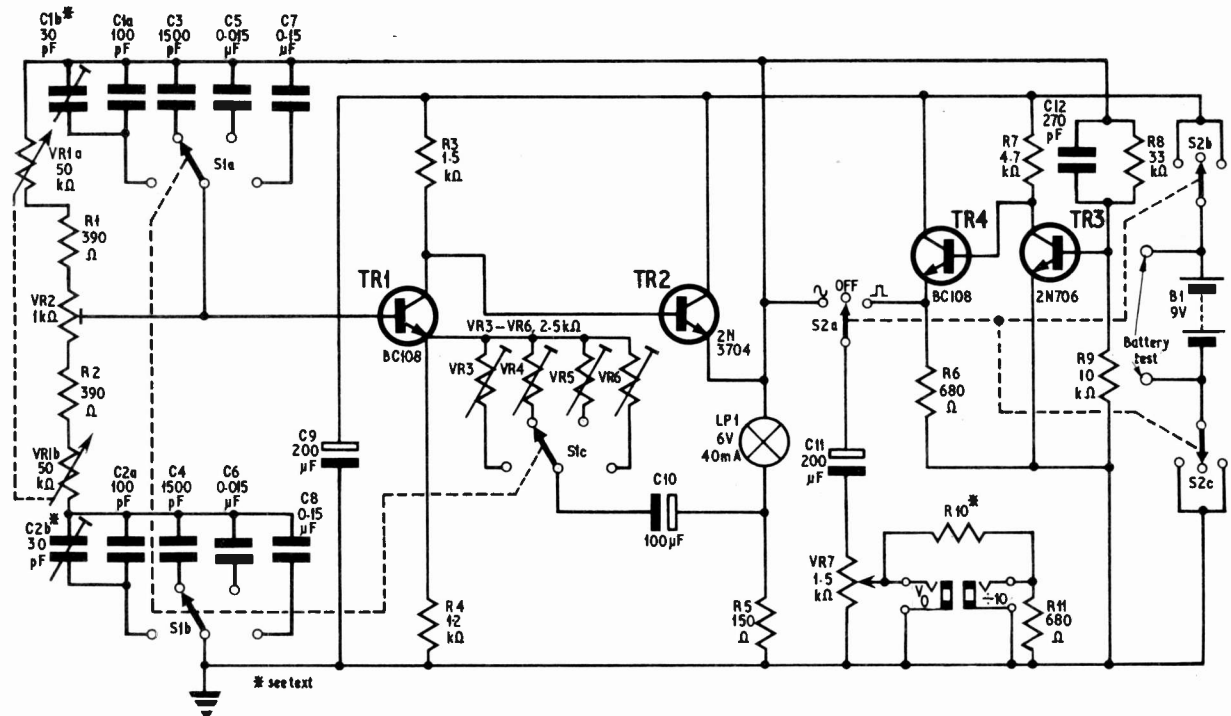


Fig. 1. The circuit diagram of the complete a.f. signal generator

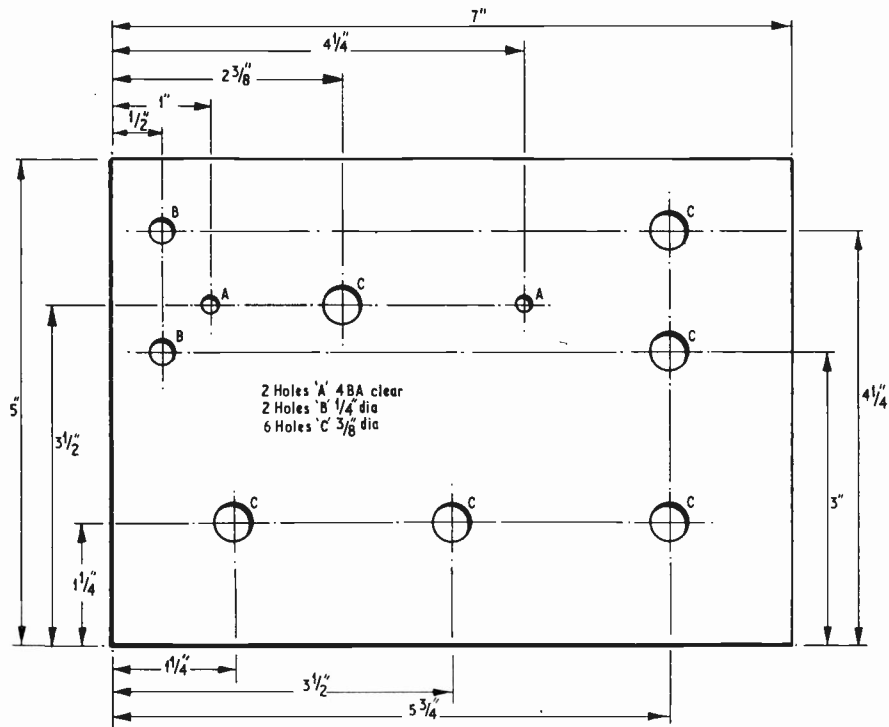


Fig. 2. The front panel drilling details to take the controls and sockets. The component board is bolted to this panel before the panel is covered with adhesive plastics sheet

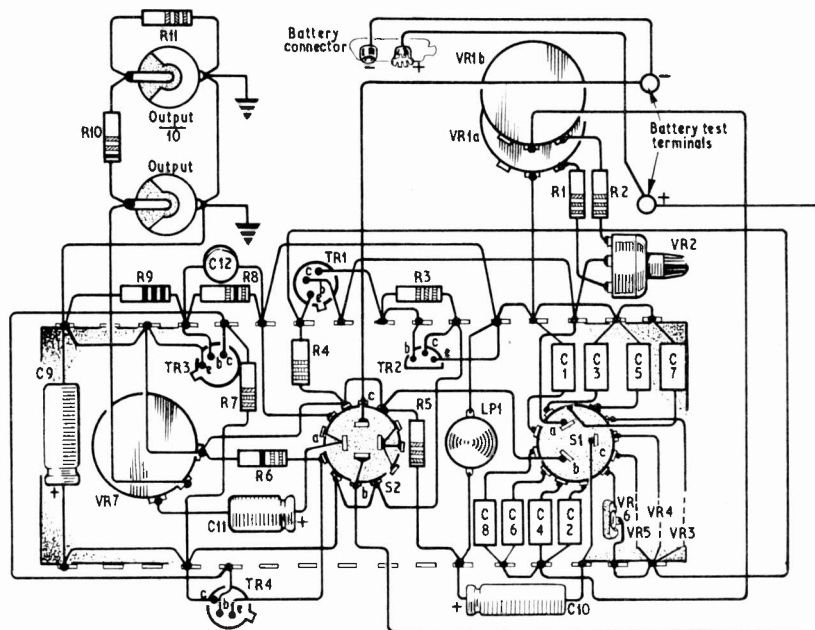


Fig. 3. The components are assembled on a tag board attached to the front panel

COMPONENTS . . .

Resistors

R1	390 Ω	R6	680 Ω
R2	390 Ω	R7	4.7k Ω
R3	1.5k Ω	R8	33k Ω
R4	1.2k Ω	R9	10k Ω
R5	150 Ω	R10	(see text)
		R11	680 Ω

All $\pm 5\%$ $\frac{1}{4}$ W carbon

Potentiometers

VR1	50k Ω linear, twin-gang
VR2	1k Ω linear preset
VR3, VR4, VR5, VR6	2.5k Ω linear preset (4 off)
VR7	1.5k Ω linear

Capacitors

C1, C2	100pF silver mica in parallel with a 30pF air spaced trimmer or single 120pF silver mica (see text)
C3, C4	1,500pF 400V
C5, C6	15,000pF 400V
C7, C8	0.15 μ F 250V
C9	200 μ F elect. 16V
C10	100 μ F 400V
C11	200 μ F 400V
C12	270pF ceramic disc

Transistors

TR1	BC108
TR2	2N3704
TR3	2N706
TR4	BC108

Switches

S1	3-pole, 4-way switch
S2	3-pole, 3-way switch

Battery

B1	9V dry battery
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Lamp

LP1	6V 40mA lamp
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Miscellaneous

Aluminium case	7in \times 5in \times 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in
Jack sockets	(2 off)
Wander sockets	(2 off)
Battery connector	
Pointer knobs	
Lamp holder, m.e.s.	
Component assembly board	

method of tailoring the mark space ratio to individual requirements.

Capacitor C12 provides a degree of high frequency compensation. Transistor TR4 matches the high load resistance of TR3 to the comparatively low impedance output circuit.

OUTPUT TERMINALS

Selection of sine wave or pulse is by switch S2a, which is ganged to S2b and S2c in series with the battery to put the unit to "off" in the centre switch position.

The standing d.c. potentials at the emitters of TR2 and TR4 are blocked from the output by capacitor C11, which must be of sufficiently large capacitance to pass the lowest frequency without significant attenuation.

The output control VR7 can be reliably calibrated down to 100mV, but for many applications, such

as testing pre-amplifiers, this is too high; hence the alternative output attenuated by network R10 and R11 which enables an output level of 10mV to be selected. Separate output sockets are preferred to a switched attenuator, as they facilitate simultaneous connection to two circuits, e.g. a test load and a monitor.

Terminals connected across the battery and brought out to the front panel facilitate battery checking, and may perhaps be useful in providing a power source for some other item of equipment but should not be allowed to interfere with the oscillator stability. The normal voltage across these terminals will be from 7.8 to 9 volts depending on the state of the battery. The battery should be replaced when the voltage falls below 7.8V on load.

CONSTRUCTION

The aluminium case was purchased ready made and consists of two "chassis" type box trays with butting corners. The shallow tray acts as a lid and becomes the front panel. All of the components are mounted on it including the battery, as shown in the photograph.

The frequency control VR1 dominates the front panel with sufficient space around it to accommodate a large pointer knob and associated calibration. It is positioned off-centre in order to provide accommodation for the battery which is mounted alongside VR1, and retained by spring curtain wire stretched between two 4B.A. bolts.

Switches S1 and S2, and the output control VR7, are mounted in line across the lower part of the panel. Their fixing also retains the tagboard on which all the other components including the transistors and preset controls are mounted. This arrangement facilitates wiring, which is kept as short as possible to minimise stray capacitance effects.

The holder for lamp LP1 is also wired on to the tagboard between S1 and S2. The output jacks and battery test terminals are fitted at opposite ends of the front panel in line with VR1.

In order to provide a suitable background for the calibration marking and switch legends the front panel is covered in self adhesive plastics sheet. The same material is used on the underside to insulate the tagboard. The panel is covered after it has been drilled and before the components were finally mounted.

A single sheet covered the whole panel including the holes, and unwanted parts were removed with a half round file. The covering will take instant lettering transfers, typewriter ink, or ball pen markings, which are then made permanent by a coating of clear varnish. Fingernail varnish is ideal. Without this protection the marks are easily removed using a clean cloth.

All the required words and figures can be typed on to a single sheet of plastics which is then varnished. It is a simple matter to cut out the appropriate word or figure as a label and attach it in the required position on the panel during the test and calibration process.

TESTING

After carefully checking the wiring, and correctly connecting the battery, switch the unit on to sine waves. For this first test a current meter was inserted in series with the battery to monitor the

current, which should not exceed 25mA. With the output connected to an oscilloscope, the appropriate positive feedback preset potentiometers VR3 to VR6 were adjusted for each range so that the level at the output remained sensibly constant over the entire sweep of the frequency control without there being any apparent distortion. The aim is to produce a clean sine wave with minimum harmonic content.

Due to the thermal lag of the lamp LPI, the level tends to "bounce" if the frequency control is adjusted too rapidly. A tendency for the change in level between the low and high frequency ends of the frequency control to be outside the control circuit was corrected by adjustment of VR2.

Having established that the sine wave generator was operating satisfactorily, the unit is switched to square waves, which should be good up to 20kHz, but thereafter deteriorate as the frequency is increased.

As an alternative to an oscilloscope, headphones or an amplifier and loudspeaker could be used for audible testing of the unit over the three lower ranges. The higher frequencies are of course outside audibility. The positive feedback preset potentiometers should be adjusted to the point where oscillation is sustained over the entire range. Remember that too much feedback will produce a distorted waveform. On sine waves the tone is clear and pure. On square waves the harmonics become noticeable, the tone harsh, and apparently louder.

CALIBRATION

Frequency calibration is most easily done using a counter. The writer used an oscilloscope to compare the low frequency end of the output against the 50Hz mains supply (via a suitable low voltage isolating transformer), and the high frequency end against a separate 100kHz oscillator beating against the carrier frequency of the transmission (BBC Radio-2 Long Wave 200kHz 1.500 metres) for the high frequencies.

An alternative method would be to compare the note heard through headphones with that from a well tuned piano. Piano keyboard frequencies based on orchestral pitch (A = 440Hz) are given in various reference books and cover the range 27.5Hz (bottom A) to 4,186Hz (top C).

The output control was calibrated in volts peak to peak because this value is meaningful for square waves as well as sine waves. Again an oscilloscope was used. An uncalibrated oscilloscope could be used for this purpose with reasonable accuracy by setting it up against the a.c. voltage range of a multimeter fed by the unit switched to sine waves at about 50 to 100Hz. One volt r.m.s. on the meter is $1 \times 2\sqrt{2} \approx 2.8$ volts peak to peak.

Suppose that the oscilloscope is adjusted so that 2.8V peak to peak produces a deflection of 5.6cm, then the oscilloscope sensitivity is $5.6/2.8 = 2\text{cm/volt}$, and so 500mV peak to peak would produce a 1cm deflection. Lower values can be measured by expanding the trace. For example, with 500mV peak to peak producing a deflection of 5cm, 100mV peak to peak would produce a 1cm deflection.

The values of the fixed attenuator network R10 and R11 are nominal preferred values and were selected on test to reduce the output to one-tenth using the methods of measurement just described. ★

OUR BUSINESS *continued from page 917*

heading. We do *not* include commercial kits in this category. Not that we have anything against kits. Some of our best advertisers are in this business, and for the man in a hurry, there's a lot to be said in their favour. But we feel it would be a mis-use of our editorial pages to describe in detail how to assemble some such kit. Provision of this kind of information is the business of the kit suppliers.

We know *our* business: encouraging genuine enthusiasts to build and learn; and encouraging individual circuit designers and application innovators to produce novel and practical projects to sustain this absorbing hobby. The steady expansion of our wide ranging readership at home and overseas convinces us that this policy is the right one. The almost insatiable demand for original designs is a challenge, but one our contributors and ourselves eagerly and willingly accept.

As stated in the opening paragraph, no changes are contemplated. (Why interfere with a successful formula?) PRACTICAL ELECTRONICS will continue as an unrivalled source of original design and construction information—conceived and planned throughout with the private constructor first and foremost in mind.

F.E.B.

POINTS ARISING

NOUGHTS AND CROSSES GAME (*Oct. 1972*)

In Fig. 6 p. 834 (caption omitted), all contacts on wafer S1e should be blank except for a "1" against position 5 instead of position 6 as shown.

The 10-pole 10-way switch can be made from "Maka-switch" components but if a ready made switch is purchased, all wafers being make-before-break, then one wafer can be converted to break-before-make as required by carefully trimming the wiper contact until it does not short two contacts as the position is changed.

COMBINATION LOCK (*Ingenuity Unlimited Oct. 1972*)

The transistors can be almost any low power pnp switching types or general purpose types, so long as they are all the same.

TTL EQUIVALENCE GATE (*Ingenuity Unlimited Oct. 1972*)

In the diagram the last gate before the output has two inputs. These inputs are connected to the outputs of the preceding pair of gates respectively; they should not be joined together.

In the truth table, both "difference" conditions should have a "1" output.

TRANSECTOR (*July 1972*)

The value of R6 is 2.2 k Ω .

WHO'S WHO

I.C. INTERCOM in the October 1972 issue has been accredited to the wrong author. The author of this article is **J. LEWIS**, to whom we offer our sincerest apologies. We regret any inconvenience which may have occurred to Mr Lewis and to Mr R. A. Penfold, who is the real author of the *CR Bridge* in this issue.



BY FRANK W. HYDE

ORBITING OBSERVATORY

The largest telescope that has ever been put into space is carried aboard the newest orbiting observatory *OAO-C*. It is to be named *Copernicus* in a tribute to Nicklaus Copernicus as the father of modern astronomy. This forms a fitting part of the celebration of the 500th anniversary of his birth.

The observatory weighs some 4,900lb and orbits at 460 miles altitude. The spacecraft is about ten feet long and the 32-inch reflecting telescope occupies the centre of the vehicle.

In an effort to save weight the mirror is made of fused quartz and has been reduced in thickness to save 250lb. The actual weight is 105lb as against a normal reflecting mirror which would amount to about 350/360lb.

To achieve the necessary rigidity and constant figure the thin main disc is supported by quartz ribs and since gravity is reduced there is a further safeguard by carrying the telescope in space. This type of construction has been put into operation before by amateurs in an effort to reduce costs using the normal glass.

The 32-inch primary mirror collects the light rays and directs them to a smaller mirror 3.9 inches in diameter and thence to a spectrometer. The received data is then telemetered to earth.

This telescope is designed for the observation of ultra-violet light which is absorbed in the atmosphere. By working at a level where the atmospheric effects are minimal very valuable observations can be made. This type of work has been continuing for some time but with much smaller telescopes.

In addition to the large telescope there are three smaller telescopes on board the main purpose of which

is the X-ray observations that are to be made. These telescopes are part of the equipment provided by University College, London.

Work on the detection of X-ray sources has been going on for some time and to date some 200 sources have been identified.

In the early days X-ray studies were made with the sounding rockets and later with the famous *Explorer 42* perhaps better known as *UHURU* which was launched in December 1970. The observations confirmed that there were X-radiations from distant sources very much greater in amount than those from the sun. It is believed that these may come from the far distant parts of the universe.

The record of these orbiting observatories has been an extremely good one. Apart from the unfortunate accidents during the early stages of the series, with the first one failing three days after launch in April 1966, and the third one failing to attain orbit because of the malfunction of the shroud jettison mechanism, the programme for the four observatories in this project has had its rewards. Some 10,000 observations of celestial objects have been made including major observations of comets and in May 1972 the event of a supernova.

On board the *OAO-C* observatory will be a computer capable of storing about 1,024 commands from the ground. This gives comprehensive and fully automatic operation while within range of the ground station at Rosman, North Carolina.

Any information obtained by the *Copernicus* observatory will be freely available to researchers all over the world.

LAST OF THE APOLLO'S

The *Apollo 17* spacecraft left its berth at vehicle assembly Cape Kennedy, Florida on August 28, 1972. This spacecraft, the last of the *Apollo* series will carry the sixth team to a landing on the moon.

This last mission for this period will commence on Wednesday, December 6 at 21.53 EST (02.53 GMT Thursday) for the 12-day round trip to the moon. Three days will be spent on the surface of the moon.

Making his first space flight will be 37-year-old Harrison H. Schmitt, Ph.D., who is the first geologist to take part in an *Apollo* mission. His companion on the lunar surface will be 40-year-old Eugene A. Cernan, a veteran of some 264 hours of space flight and one of which took him to within 8 miles of the moon. Cernan will also undertake specially selected tasks during the mission.

The two astronauts will set up the fifth automatic station on the moon. The instruments to be set

up are varied and one of these is the tidal gravimeter or lunar surface gravimeter. This instrument has been under development since 1964 and will be used to test the theory of gravity waves. This is at the moment a most important point in understanding the nature of the forces which celestial objects exert on each other.

Another type of gravimeter named the traverse gravimeter will be carried on the lunar rover. With this instrument the astronauts will record the changes in the gravity that take place over the lunar terrain. Thus, the anomalies will enable comparisons to be made with earth gravity changes.

Explosive measurements with seismic instruments will show the profile which will help determine the physical structure of the moon. Also operating will be instruments to check the cosmic dust and meteoritic fall-out, to see what are the effects of erosion on the moon.

The spacecraft will be launched on a *Saturn V* rocket and will be the first to be launched after dusk.

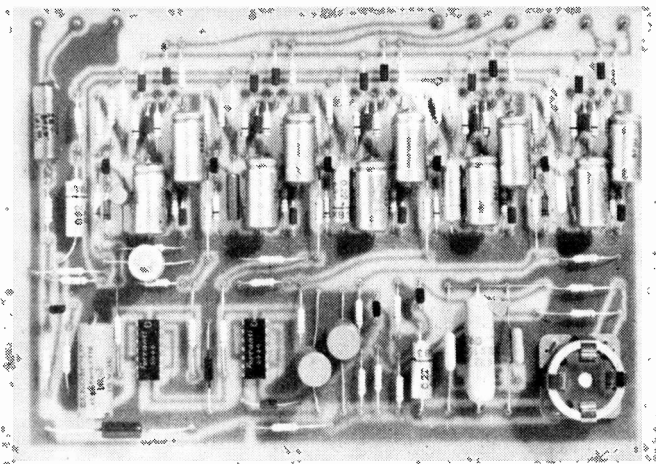
THE EXPLODED PLANET

Many people have explained the asteroid belt, the multitude of small bodies from less than egg size to chunks large enough for a space probe to land on, by the theory that there was a planet which was disrupted by the tremendous forces that exist in the solar system. This belt which lies between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter is being traversed by the Jupiter probe which may take photographs of some of them. In terms of proximity, of course, there is not likely to be many of these fragments near each other.

The problem of this debris is highlighted by the recent work of Michael Ovenden. Formerly of London and Edinburgh, Professor Ovenden is now at the University of British Columbia. He has been seeking a solution to certain celestial problems and his latest theory seems to be a satisfactory way of explaining the asteroid belt.

The various bodies which all interact with each other tend to settle to a minimum attraction position. Ovenden has checked this on such systems as Barnard's star which has planets. He has been able to get to an accuracy of 99 per cent with his theory.

To get the sums right for the earth and the rest of the solar system a planet 90 times heavier than the earth would be needed. It seems that the asteroid belt formed into a planet would be needed. It seems that the asteroid belt formed into a planet would satisfy this criterion. So he has called this planet *Aztec*. Though its real existence cannot yet be proved it is a good point from which to proceed.



ELECTRONIC PIANO

Part 3

By A. J. Boothman B.Sc.

THIS part of the series is devoted solely to the main circuit boards of which there are 13 containing 90 per cent of the electronic components involved in the project. For convenient reference this board has been called the pitch board.

The function of the board, as described previously, is to generate a basic pitch and sub-harmonics of the same, followed by attack, decay, mixing, and tone circuits.

PITCH OSCILLATOR

The important requirements of the pitch oscillator is that it should have good long term frequency stability, good stability under varying ambient temperatures, and that it should present a suitable waveform which will reliably drive the frequency divider circuits. The circuit used is given in Fig. 3.1 which shows the various circuit elements that go to make up a complete pitch board.

The frequency of operation is determined by the tank circuit components C48 and L1. The inductance L1 is variable and is wound on a bobbin set in a ferrite core. After initial setting up C48 is fixed and comprises a number of capacitors in parallel dependent on the pitch concerned.

The oscillator transistor (TR16) is followed by a high gain buffer stage (TR17) which squares the waveform to give sufficiently fast edges at the collector to drive the first divider IC2. The cathode of diode D34 is returned to the divider supply rail in order to limit the positive excursion of the output waveform from TR17 ensuring that the maximum voltage presented to the divider input is approximately 5.3 volts.

PITCH DIVIDERS

In order to produce sufficient tones to cover the five octaves the fundamental frequency from the

buffer transistor is used for the top octave, whilst the other notes are produced at the outputs of four integrated circuit dividers which are packaged in pairs.

With the increase in availability of certain integrated circuits, the cost of these devices has dropped considerably, and to such an extent that in addition to circuit board area saving and ease of assembly, the incorporation of integrated circuits results in a significant cost reduction when compared with equivalent discrete circuitry.

The divider circuits (IC2, IC3) are dual-in-line 14 lead packages each containing two flip-flops. The type of element used is described as a D-type edge triggered JK flip-flop. From its description it follows that the input waveform must have clean fast edges for reliable operation. For second, third and fourth stages this is provided by the previous flip-flop, but for the first stage it is important that the output from TR17 should have fast edges. To ensure that this condition is met R119 is kept deliberately low.

FLIP-FLOP ACTION

The D-type flip-flop element (Fig. 3.1) operates in such a way that when a leading (positive going) edge appears at the clock input (CP) then the output at Q takes up the same state as that present at the D input immediately prior to the appearance of the clock pulse. Thus, if D was at a high voltage before the input signal rises then Q will take up the high voltage state and remain there after the input voltage falls again. If the input at D is then changed to a low voltage then Q will change to a low voltage as soon as the input waveform rises.

The state of the D input is controlled by externally connecting the \bar{Q} output to the D input. By definition \bar{Q} is the complement of Q and so it can be seen that when the clock input is low D is always

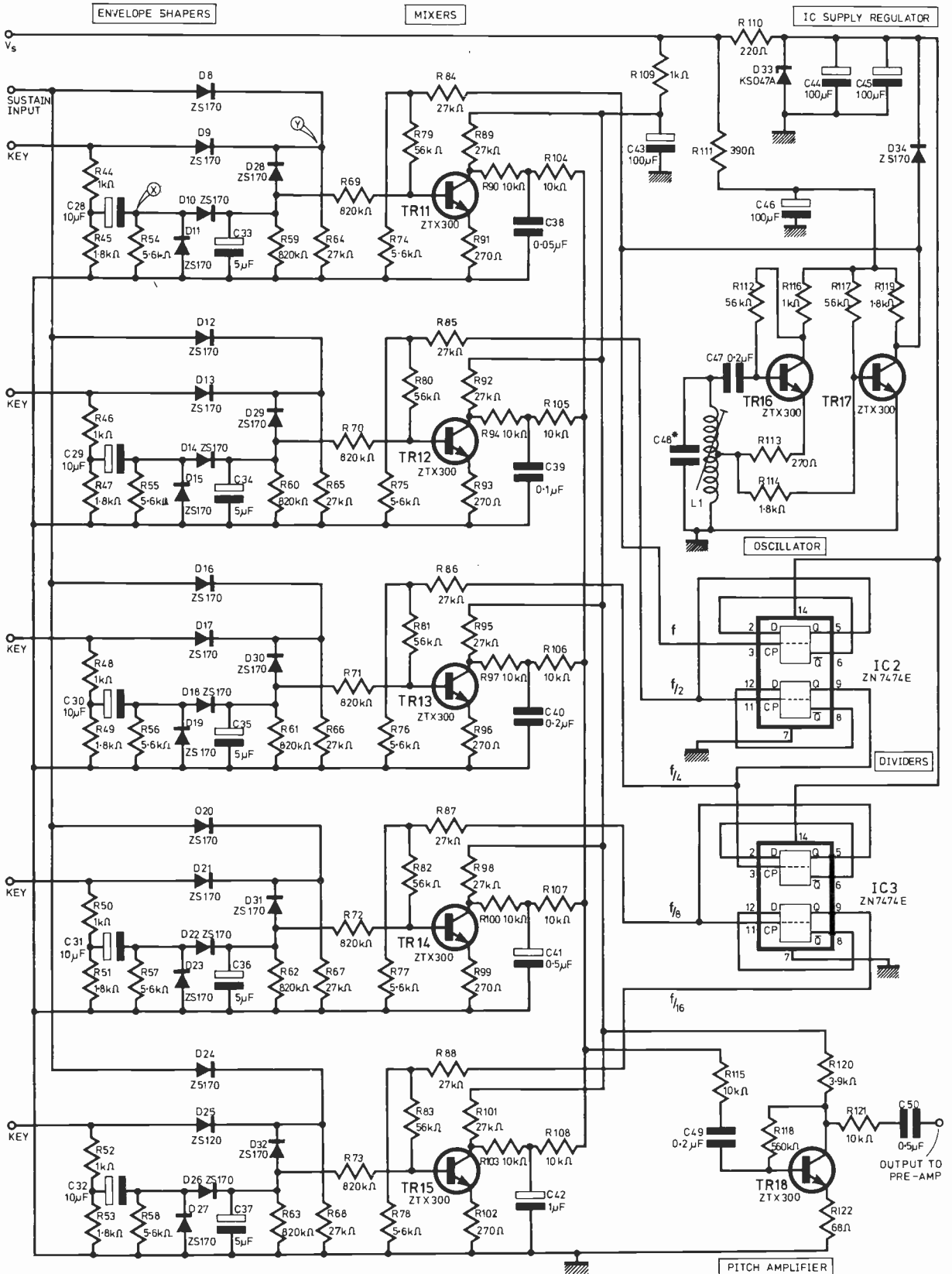


Fig. 3.1. Circuit diagram of a pitch p.c.b.

the opposite to Q, such that when the clock input rises Q will always change state, and remain in the new state until the clock has both fallen and risen again, at which point Q will again change state.

Since the clock input signal from the pitch generator is a square wave signal f, the Q output from the first flip-flop will be another square wave signal at half the frequency, $f/2$.

The other sub-harmonics are similarly generated by routing appropriate Q outputs to succeeding flip-flops.

ATTACK AND DECAY ENVELOPE

The most important area in determining the character of this instrument is that concerned with the envelope, or attack and decay characteristic.

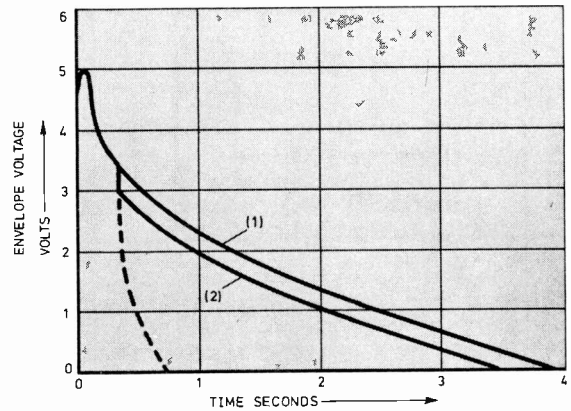
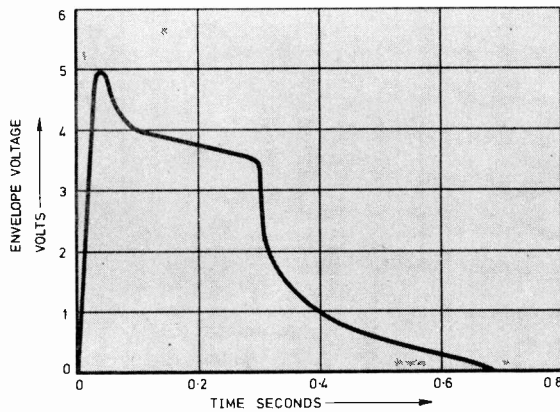


Fig. 3.2(a). Envelope circuit output characteristic in the non sustain mode with key released after 0.3 seconds. (b) Envelope circuit output characteristic with (1) key held depressed in the system or non sustain mode; (2) key released after 0.3 seconds in the sustain mode

The influencing factors involved are listed as follows:

- The rate of rise of the leading edge of the envelope (attack).
- The height of the leading edge.
- The amount of rapid fall following the attack.
- The length of decay when a key remains depressed.
- The length of decay after the key is released (non-sustained).
- The length of decay after the key is released with the sustain pedal on.

It is of course possible to display the output waveform of a string piano on an oscilloscope, and this could be followed by a point by point attempt at electronically simulating the envelope. In experimenting in this way, combined with straight-forward comparative ear tests, the author noted certain features of the electronic equivalent which made it desirable to depart from an identical copy of the string piano envelope.

SLOW DECAY ENVELOPE

The curve shown in Fig. 3.2a indicates the envelope required under non-sustaining conditions, i.e. when a key is depressed and released fairly quickly without use of the sustain pedal.

In order to obtain a percussive effect a fast rate of rise is required on the leading edge, followed by a rapid decay to a medium level of sound, and further followed by a relatively slow decay. On releasing the key the decay of sound should be fast but in the case of a piano this does take a finite time.

A string piano is activated by a hammer system where the level of attack is determined by the impact velocity of the hammer on the string, which is proportional to the rate of acceleration of the finger placed on the key. In the case of the electronic piano, in addition to a simulation of the hammer velocity action on each key, the maximum level of attack is determined by a five position touch switch which presets the key voltage supply.

The level of initial attack on a string piano, when compared with the mean level of sound output, is very high, and a similar ratio is difficult to reproduce electronically if economical amplifier and loudspeaker capacities are to be used. This is the first point of compromise which has to be considered. Having recognised the need for a clear pip at the commencement of the envelope it is then necessary to consider the rate of decay in the medium level of sound region mentioned above. This is clearly coupled with the full decay period and again due to peak/mean power considerations it is somewhat slower than on a string piano.

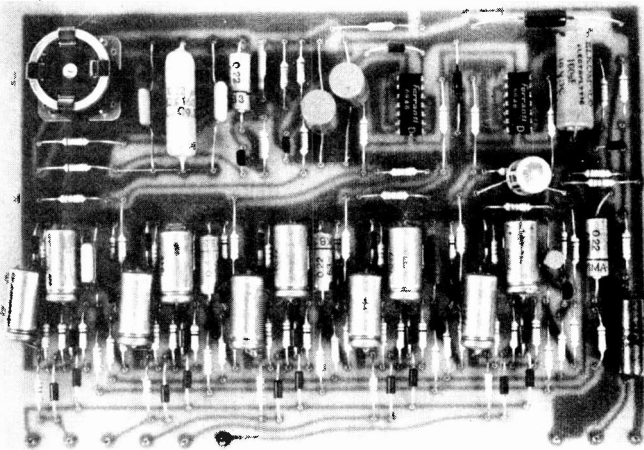
Finally, when the key is released on a string piano a damper comes into operation immediately and quickly kills the vibration of the string. This action is reproduced realistically by an analogous electronic circuit.

LONG DECAY ENVELOPE

The curve shown in Fig. 3.2b indicates the other two possible conditions.

- When the key is held depressed for a considerable time.
- When the key is released quickly, but the sustain pedal is depressed.

In both cases the first part of the envelope is



A completely assembled pitch p.c.b.

required to be exactly the same as in Fig. 3.2a. If the key remains depressed then the output decays slowly to zero in a time that is easily varied by the suitable choice of one resistor value in each envelope circuit. In the prototype this provides a decay of approximately 3.5 seconds, which is somewhat larger than for a string piano.

In the key released, sustain pedal on condition, it is more important to have a large amount of rapid fall following the attack in order to retain the percussive characteristic of the instrument when repeatedly playing the same note at a fast rate. As mentioned earlier a string piano has a very high peak capability and a fast initial decay. This allows fast repetition of one note whilst, even under sustain conditions, maintaining the discrete identity of each input via its attack characteristic.

The attack characteristic of the first curve in Fig. 3.2a is insufficient to reveal differentiation between consecutive notes in the sustain condition, and a second characteristic is therefore introduced whereby a second fall in level occurs as the key is released, followed by a shorter decay time of approximately 3 seconds.

THE ENVELOPE CIRCUIT

Each of the d.c. key inputs in Fig. 3.1 are shaped by envelope circuits. As can be seen there are five duplicated circuits that precede the mixers to fulfil this function. To understand the action of these let us look at the topmost shaper of Fig. 3.1.

A note is initiated when a d.c. level of between 11 and 18 volts, depending on the touch setting, is applied to the input of the circuit via the keyboard. Capacitor C33 is charged via R44 and C28, with R44 providing some slight slowing of the rise time in order to protect against key noise, and also being a factor in determining the height of the attack pip.

Following the relatively quick charging of C33, C28 is charged which means that point "X" falls towards ground potential. The presence of D10 isolates the input circuitry from C33 and there is no further interaction between the two circuits. Removal of the key voltage results in the discharge of C28 via the diode D11 and resistor R45.

It is important that R54 should be sufficiently low to provide fairly rapid charging of C28, and

that R45 should be sufficiently low to allow complete discharge of C28 before the next key voltage is applied. However, both resistors are involved in determining the voltage applied to C33 during attack (voltage sharing with R44), and all values are therefore both important and interrelated.

TOUCH SENSITIVITY

In order to give touch sensitivity R45 can be replaced by a grounded switch contact in the key-switch action which becomes a double throw switch between a zero volt potential and the supply voltage on the second pole.

During the interval when the switch is changing over, C28 is charged by a bleed resistor between rail voltage and the centre contact of the change-over switch. This reduces the attack voltage excursion at the point when the changeover is complete, by an amount dependent on the time taken over the movement between the two poles. Further details on this will be given later.

SUSTAIN AND DAMPING

Now, ignoring the input circuit, we can consider the sustain and damper portion of the envelope. The keying operation had charged C33 to approximately 5 volts, and whilst the key remains depressed point "Y" is held at approximately 14 volts, thus isolated from the output line by diode D28.

In this condition C33 is slowly discharged by the combined effect of R59 and the load placed across the output. If at any point during this decay the key should be released then D28 and R64 would appear across the output, and since R64 is made very low compared to R59 this provides the damper action.

When the sustain pedal is in operation D8 is held at approximately 4.5 volts which causes a quick drop in the output voltage on release of the key, but then holds off the action of R64 during the remaining part of the sustain period.

TONE FORMING

Tone forming in the system is very simple and consists only of a low pass capacitive filter after each transistor. The complete circuit of the combined envelope and tone forming section is shown in Fig. 3.1.

As stated in the first article the prime purpose of the project is to provide a reliable portable keyboard instrument with a percussive characteristic similar to that of the piano. The tone of a piano is of course extremely variable from one instrument to another, and whilst it is possible to incorporate involved tone circuits to match one particular piano colouring, the author decided that the simple filter above produced a sound which is completely acceptable for both the home and band applications.

TONAL CHARACTERISTICS

It is difficult for the author to give an objective description of the sound produced by the instrument, but generally the piano type characteristics are most noticeable above middle C, and the attack becomes less apparent in the lower registers, where a fuller more organ like sound is evident.

When driving an external amplifier of course, using the appropriate output socket, the tonal

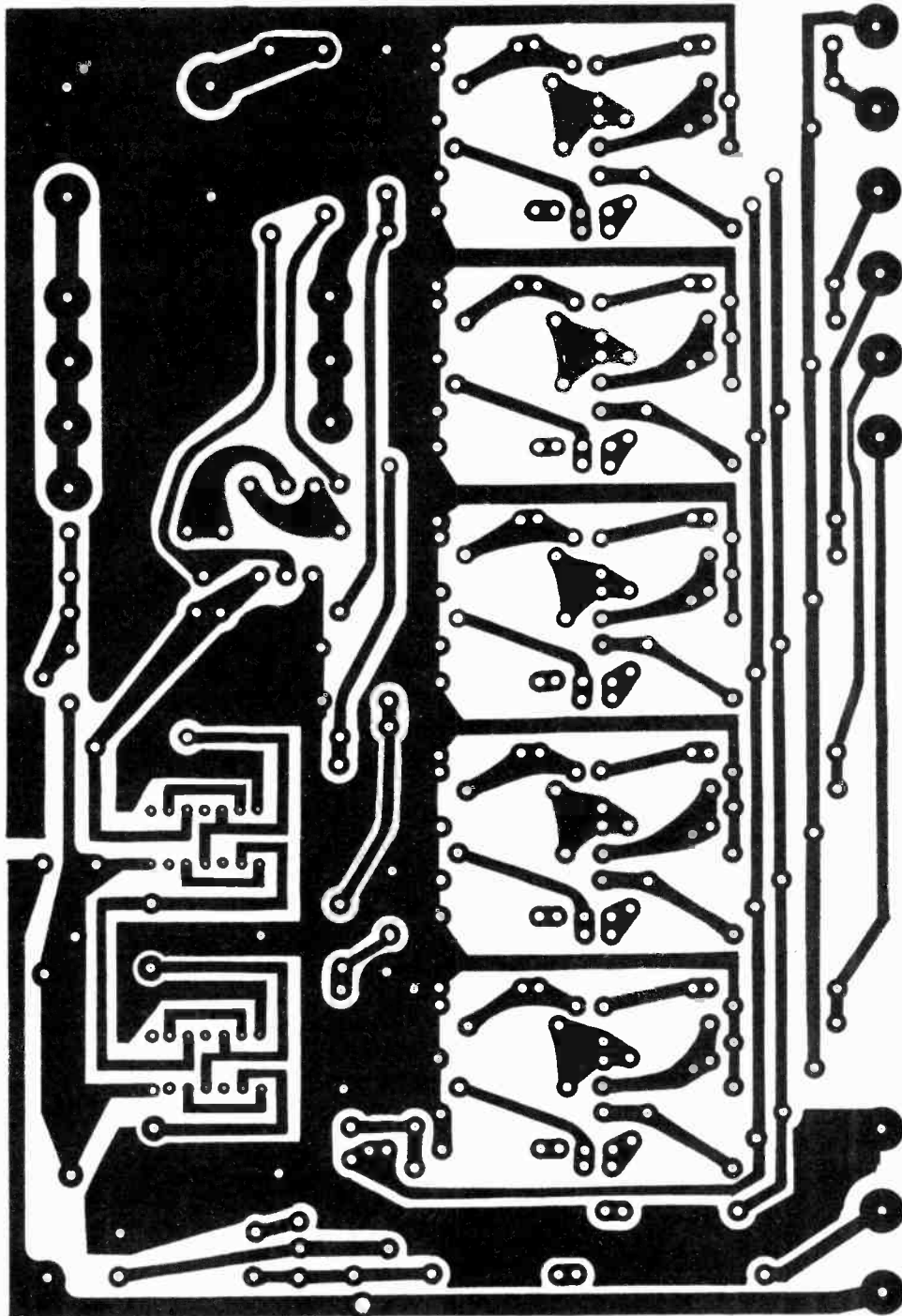


Fig. 3.3. Etching details for pitch p.c.b. This is full size

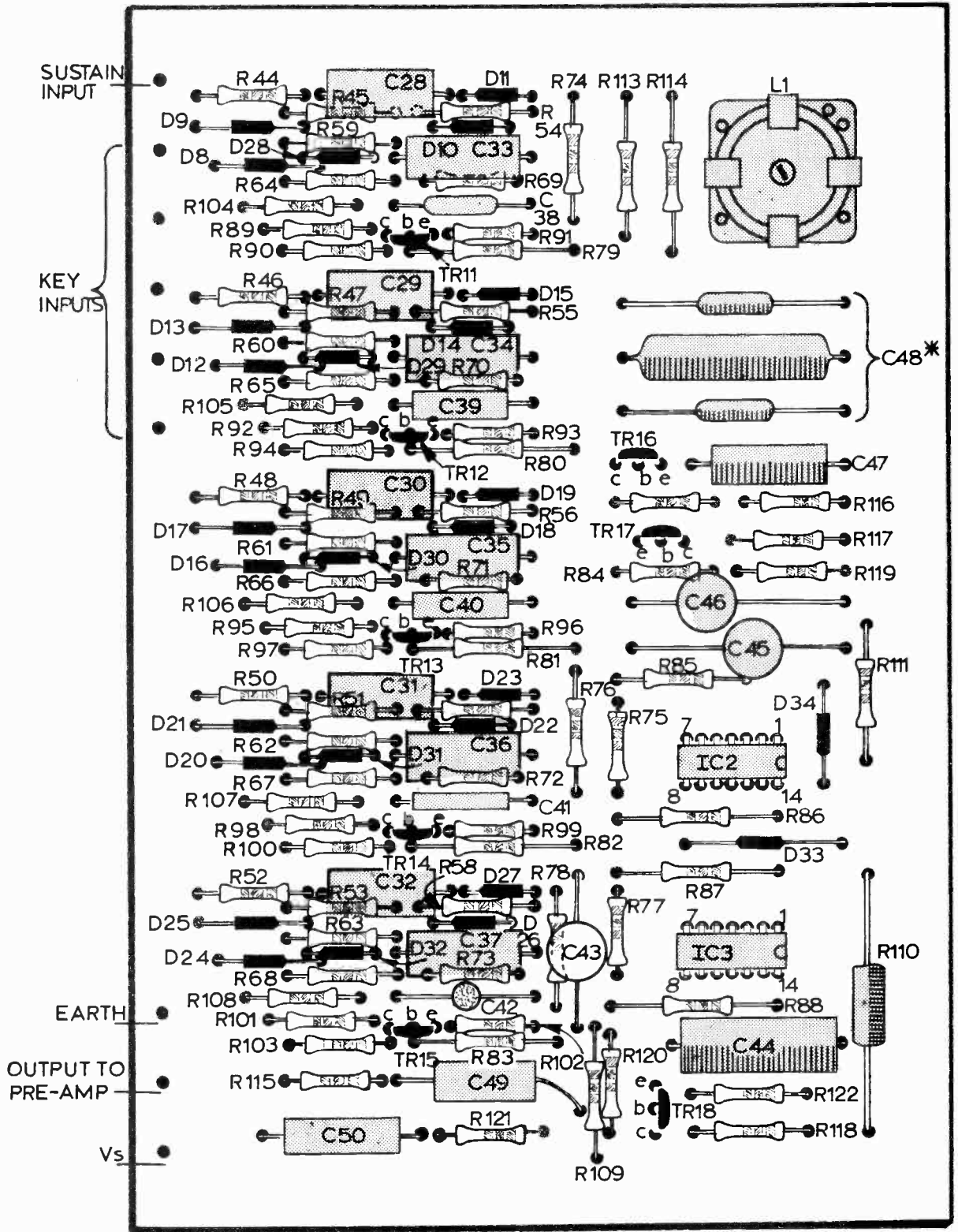


Fig. 3.4. Component layout for pitch p.c.b.

characteristics can be varied over a wide range by variation of the tone control settings on the external amplifiers.

The piano has been used in this manner on a number of occasions and exhibits the characteristics of piano, vibraphone and electric guitar depending on the chosen bass and treble positions, and the way in which it is played.

PITCH AMPLIFIER

Each printed circuit board contains five envelope circuits which are then fed into a pitch amplifier which in turn is followed by the pre-amplifier described last month.

The values of C49, R121 and C50 are important, as up to this point all coupling has been direct, and

it is necessary in the amplifier to filter out the large very low frequency excursions due to the keying action.

ETCHING DETAILS OF PITCH P.C.B.

The 8in × 5½in printed circuit board is etched according to the pattern of Fig. 3.3. Thirteen such boards are required. Fig. 3.4 shows the component layout for the boards.

COMPONENTS

All transistors specified are Ferranti type ZTX300. It is of course possible that other equivalent transistors could perform the same functions, but no work has been carried out to prove this. The diodes contained in the prototype were a mixed batch of

COMPONENTS . . .

PITCH BOARD

(12 are required with a full component complement as listed.
The thirteenth requires components as shown asterisked)

Resistors

R44*	1kΩ
R45*	1.8kΩ
R46	1kΩ
R47	1.8kΩ
R48	1kΩ
R49	1.8kΩ
R50	1kΩ
R51	1.8kΩ
R52	1kΩ
R53	1.8kΩ
R54*-R58	5.6kΩ (5 off)
R59*-R63	820kΩ (5 off)
R64*-R68	27kΩ (5 off)
R69*-R73	820kΩ (5 off)
R74*-R78	5.6kΩ (5 off)
R79*-R83	56kΩ (5 off)
R84*-R88	27kΩ (5 off)
R89*	27kΩ
R90*	10kΩ
R91*	270Ω
R92	27kΩ
R93	270Ω
R94	10kΩ
R95	27kΩ
R96	10kΩ
R97	270Ω
R98	27kΩ
R99	270Ω
R100	10kΩ
R101	27kΩ
R102	270Ω
R103	10kΩ
R104*-R108	10kΩ (5 off)
R109*	1kΩ
R110	220Ω 3W
R111*	390Ω
R112*	56kΩ
R113*	270Ω
R114*	1.8kΩ
R115*	10kΩ
R116*	1kΩ
R117*	56kΩ

R118*	560kΩ
R119*	1.8kΩ
R120*	3.9kΩ
R121*	10kΩ
R122*	68Ω

All resistors ±5% ¼W carbon except where otherwise stated

Capacitors

C28*-C32	10μF elect. 15V (5 off)
C33*-C37	5μF elect. 15V (5 off)
C38*	0.05μF
C39	0.1μF
C40	0.2μF
C41	0.5μF elect. 15V
C42	1μF elect. 15V
C43*	100μF elect. 15V
C44	100μF elect. 15V
C45	100μF elect. 15V
C46*	100μF elect. 15V
C47*	0.2μF
C48*	See text
C49*	0.2μF
C50*	0.5μF

Transistors

TR11-TR18 ZTX300 (8 off)
(4 required for p.c.b. 13)

Diodes

D8-D32 ZS170 (25 off) (see text)
(6 required for p.c.b. 13)
D33-KS047A 4.7V 400mW Zener (or equivalent)

Integrated Circuits

IC2-IC3 Z7474E (2 off)

Inductor

L1—260 ± 260 turns of 36 s.w.g. enamelled copper wire. S.E.I. pot core assembly for this can be obtained from Clef Products (Electronics Division), Yew Tree Lane, Poynton, Stockport, Cheshire

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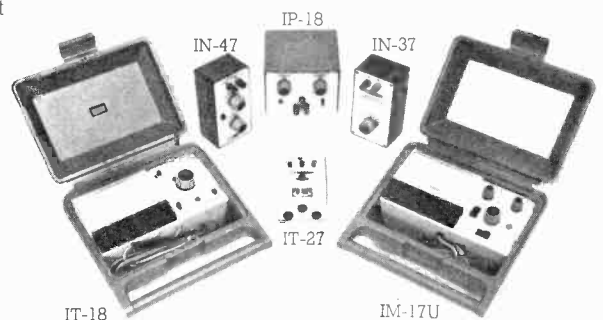
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8N7404	0.20	0.18	0.16	8N7460	0.20	0.18	0.16	8N74154	2.00	1.75	1.55
8N7405	0.20	0.18	0.16	8N7470	0.30	0.27	0.25	8N74155	1.55	1.47	1.35
8N7406	0.30	0.27	0.25	8N7472	0.30	0.27	0.25	8N74156	1.55	1.47	1.35
8N7407	0.30	0.27	0.25	8N7473	0.40	0.37	0.35	8N74157	1.80	1.70	1.50
8N7408	0.20	0.18	0.16	8N7474	0.40	0.37	0.35	8N74160	2.80	2.40	2.25
8N7409	0.45	0.42	0.35	8N7475	0.55	0.52	0.50	8N74161	2.80	2.40	2.25
8N7410	0.20	0.18	0.16	8N7476	0.45	0.42	0.39	8N74162	4.40	3.95	3.70
8N7411	0.23	0.22	0.20	8N7480	0.80	0.75	0.67	8N74163	3.40	3.25	3.00
8N7412	0.42	0.40	0.35	8N7481	1.25	1.15	1.10	8N74164	2.75	2.50	2.10
8N7413	0.30	0.27	0.25	8N7482	0.87	0.80	0.70	8N74165	4.00	3.50	3.00
8N7416	0.30	0.27	0.25	8N7483	1.00	0.90	0.85	8N74166	4.00	3.50	3.00
8N7417	0.30	0.27	0.25	8N7484	0.90	0.85	0.80	8N74167	6.25	5.60	5.10
8N7420	0.20	0.18	0.16	8N7486	0.45	0.41	0.38	8N74170	1.10	0.95	0.85
8N7422	0.48	0.44	0.40	8N7490	0.45	0.42	0.39	8N74172	2.00	1.75	1.60
8N7423	0.48	0.44	0.40	8N7491AN	1.00	0.95	0.90	8N74173	1.50	1.40	1.35
8N7425	0.48	0.40	0.35	8N7492	0.75	0.70	0.65	8N74176	1.80	1.65	1.50
8N7427	0.42	0.39	0.35	8N7493	0.75	0.70	0.65	8N74177	1.60	1.45	1.25
8N7428	0.50	0.45	0.42	8N7494	0.80	0.75	0.70	8N74180	1.55	1.30	1.20
8N7430	0.20	0.18	0.16	8N7495	0.80	0.75	0.70	8N74181	7.00	6.00	5.50
8N7432	0.42	0.39	0.35	8N7496	1.00	0.97	0.95	8N74182	2.00	1.80	1.60
8N7438	0.65	0.60	0.50	8N7497	1.00	0.95	0.90	8N74184	2.40	2.20	2.00
8N7437	0.65	0.60	0.50	8N74100	2.50	2.30	2.00	8N74185A	2.40	2.00	1.90
8N7438	0.65	0.60	0.50	8N74104	1.45	1.35	1.20	8N74190	1.95	1.85	1.75
8N7440	0.20	0.18	0.16	8N74105	1.45	1.35	1.20	8N74191	1.95	1.85	1.75
8N7441AN	0.75	0.72	0.70	8N74107	0.50	0.45	0.40	8N74192	2.00	1.90	1.80
8N7442	0.75	0.72	0.70	8N74110	0.80	0.70	0.60	8N74193	2.00	1.90	1.80
8N7443	1.00	0.95	0.90	8N74118	1.00	0.95	0.90	8N74194	2.00	2.25	1.90
8N7445	2.00	1.75	1.60	8N7415	1.90	1.75	1.65	8N74195	1.55	1.70	1.60
8N7446	2.00	1.75	1.60	8N74121	0.80	0.55	0.50	8N74196	1.55	1.40	1.30
8N7447	1.75	1.60	1.45	8N74122	1.25	1.25	1.10	8N74197	1.80	1.70	1.60
8N7448	1.75	1.60	1.45	8N74123	2.70	2.55	2.47	8N74198	4.80	3.70	3.35
				8N74141	1.00	0.95	0.90	8N74199	4.60	3.70	3.35

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ACY17 30p	BCY70 15p	(T03) 1.87	OC171 30p	2N404 20p	2N3771 1.75
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ACY21 20p	BCY72 10p	MJE340 50p	OC201 75p	2N596 15p	2N3790 2.25
ACY39 55p	BCY87 2.98	MJE370 70p	OC202 80p	2N597 15p	2N3820 50p
AD140 50p	BCZ11 50p	MJE390 75p	OC203 50p	2N706 75p	2N3820 50p
AD149 50p	BD124 80p	MJE2955	OCPT1 1.25	2N930 20p	2N3866 85p
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AD162 35p	BD132 80p	MJE3055	ORP60 40p	2N1131 25p	2N3906 12p
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AF118 50p	BF107 25p	MPF105 40p	RA8310AF	2N1302 18p	2N4062 12p
AF124 25p	BF173 25p	NKT214 20p	45p	2N1304 22p	2N4126 15p
AF139 30p	BF179 30p	NKT216 40p	RA8508A1P	2N1305 22p	2N4871 35p
AF186 40p	BF180 30p	NKT217 40p	55p	2N1307 25p	2N5457 30p
AF239 40p	BF194 15p	NKT403 70p	TAA263 75p	2N1308 25p	2N5777 55p
ASV27 30p	BF195 15p	NKT404 50p	TAL209 38p	2N1613 20p	28001 1.00
ASV28 25p	BF891 25p	OA5 50p	TIP29A 50p	2N1671 1.00	28012 10.00
BA102 30p	BF898 25p	OA10 35p	TIP30A 50p	2N1247 75p	28018 6.25
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BA145 15p	BFX34 75p	OA91 7p	TIP32A 70p	2N2217 25p	28301 50p
BAX13 5p	BFX37 30p	OA200 7p	TIP33A	2N2219 20p	28303 65p
BAX16 7p	BFX88 20p	OA202 10p	1.00	2N2221 25p	28324 95p
BC107 10p	BFY50 20p	OC16 75p	TIP34A	2N2222 50p	40250 50p
BC108 10p	BFY51 20p	OC20 85p	1.50	2N2369A	40360 40p
BC109 10p	BFY52 20p	OC23 65p	1.50	2N1302 15p	40361 40p
BC109C 12p	BFY84 50p	OC25 40p	1.50	2N2906 20p	40362 60p
BC113 15p	BFY90 80p	OC28 65p	1.50	2N2926 (all	40408 50p
BC117 20p	BSX20 15p	OC35 50p	3.00	coils) 10p	40486 75p
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 1N4003 200 8
 1N4004 400 8
 1N4005 600 10
 1N4006 800 12
 1N4007 1000 15
 1 1/2 amp miniature
 PL4001 50 8
 PL4002 100 9
 PL4003 200 10
 PL4004 400 10
 PL4005 600 12
 PL4006 800 15
 PL4007 1000 15

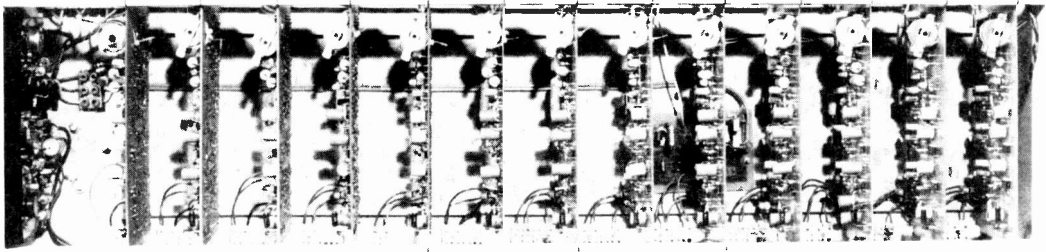
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500 +	6p
1000 +	5p

2N3819 Texas 35p

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100 +	25p
500 +	20p
1000 +	15p

BC107, BC108, BC109 10p each

All Makes	
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100 +	7p
500 +	6



The thirteen pitch boards mounted in a wooden sub-frame

rejects from the Ferranti ZS170 and ZS100 series production lines. *Reject devices are not available from the manufacturer*, but similar diodes are available from a number of suppliers.

The specification required is that all diodes should have a breakdown in excess of 20 volts, and be reasonable low leakage, which should be adequately covered by the use of silicon types.

The 4.7 volt Zener diodes were Ferranti type KSO47A, but again a number of equivalents should also be available.

PITCH BOARD LAYOUT

In arranging a component layout for the pitch board an attempt was made to match the physical to the circuit arrangement. This can be seen by comparing Figs. 3.1 and 3.4.

Thirteen boards are required in total. Of these 12 are required containing the full circuitry and they cover bottom F to top E.

It must be obvious, however, that in a five octave 61 key system a single note generator is required to produce top F. In general the only requirements for the thirteenth board are an oscillator, single envelope circuit, mixer and pre-amplifier. No divider circuitry is required.

The components required for this particular board are marked with an asterisk in the components list.

WINDING THE TUNING COIL

To make up the tuning inductors for the oscillators, simply pile wind 260 turns of 36 s.w.g. enamelled copper wire onto the bobbin. With even layers this works out at about 33 turns/layer. When this is done bring the wire end out through one of the slots on the bobbin on the same face as entry. Doubling the wire back, continue to wind on an additional 260 turns. The point where the wire is doubled is, of course, the centre tap and this and the two ends should be cleaned prior to tag soldering.

To hold the coil in place on the bobbin, wrap round a piece of insulation tape. With the pot core clamped round the bobbin and lead outs soldered to the tag board the inductor can be assembled to the p.c.b.

Details on the tuning process and choice of capacitor will be provided later.

Note: All enquiries for Kimber-Allen keyboard should be directed to Alan Douglas, 4 Lees Barn Road, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Notts.

AUDIO FESTIVAL AND FAIR

FOR the fourth consecutive year PRACTICAL ELECTRONICS is exhibiting at the International Audio Festival and Fair, held at Olympia, London from October 24 to 28, 1972. Equipment on display on **Stand 19** includes the P.E. Electronic Piano (currently being described in the magazine) and a number of other exciting projects to be published in the coming months; these are:

Sound Synthesiser

The P.E. Music Synthesiser is a completely self-contained sound effects unit whose composition possibilities extend as far as the user's imagination. The modular construction of the various electronic sub-assemblies means that the synthesiser can provide a limited facility for sound source production and treatments even in early stages of construction. This, of course, offsets the total production cost and enables the constructor to build, test and play with the separate modules according to his effects requirement.

A fascinating feature is that the synthesiser can be programmed to play by itself for as long as the listener wishes. (See *Lecture-Demonstration below*.)

Rhythm Generator

This variable-tempo rhythm generator can be programmed to any required rhythm to accompany a piano, organ or other musical instruments.

The percussive effects available are bass drum, high and low bongos, blocks, snare drum, cymbals and long and short brushes. Besides the programmed facility a selector switch provides a choice of a number of popular rhythms.

High Quality Tape Link

Forthcoming articles will describe how to build new stereophonic electronics for an existing tape transport deck or for a complete recorder.

The Tape Link employs separate record and replay amplifiers, the latter being driven via an extremely low current bias f.e.t. stage from a low impedance head; consequently noise and distortion figures are kept to a very low level. Replay equalisation is achieved with an integrated circuit operational amplifier, which also provides frequency compensation for circuit stability and output short circuit protection. Power amplifiers are not included. Tape speeds catered for are $1\frac{7}{8}$, $3\frac{3}{4}$, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches per second.

Lecture-Demonstration

Visitors to the Audio Fair should note the P.E. Sound Synthesiser is being demonstrated during a special lecture entitled "Sound Synthesis for the Amateur", presented in the exhibition lecture theatre on Tuesday, October 24 and again on Saturday, October 28, at 2 p.m.

We welcome all readers in London in October to see our exclusive designs in the flesh. Only at Olympia, October 24 to 28, 1972.

SINCE few component manufacturers use really identifiable identification markings on their components, it is inevitable that sooner or later the home constructor will require a piece of equipment, which will enable him to measure the value of a component from which these markings have been erased. Such a unit is also extremely useful when trying to locate a faulty component, or when trying to identify one with an unfamiliar colour coding. The bridge described in this article will fulfil all these functions.

CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

An extremely simple circuit with only three transistors is used. Ranges of the bridge cover capacitance from 100pF to 10μF and resistance up to 100 kilohms, in five ranges of capacitance, and five ranges of resistance.

These ranges are as follows:

Range	Capacitance	Resistance
1	100pf-1000pf	0-10Ω
2	1000pf-0.01μF	0-100Ω
3	0.01μF-0.1μF	0-1kΩ
4	0.1μF-1μF	0-10kΩ
5	1μF-10μF	0-100kΩ

THE WHEATSTONE BRIDGE

The circuit is based on the Wheatstone Bridge, and a short explanation of the operation of this will be given.

The circuit of a basic Wheatstone Bridge is given in Fig. 1. It will be seen that the bridge consists of four resistors and a meter. There will be no indication on the meter when the circuit is balanced, that

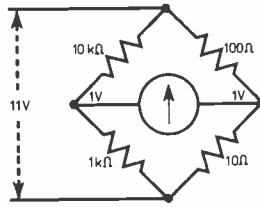


Fig. 1. The basic Wheatstone Bridge circuit (left)

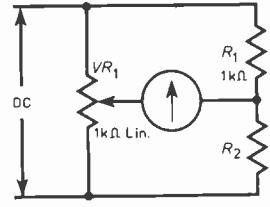


Fig. 2. A modification of the Wheatstone Bridge circuit normally used for resistance measurement (right)

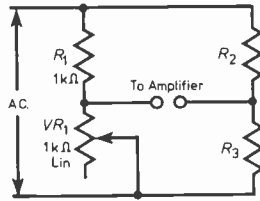


Fig. 3. An improvement of the previous circuit which produces a linear scale (left)

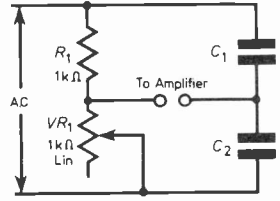
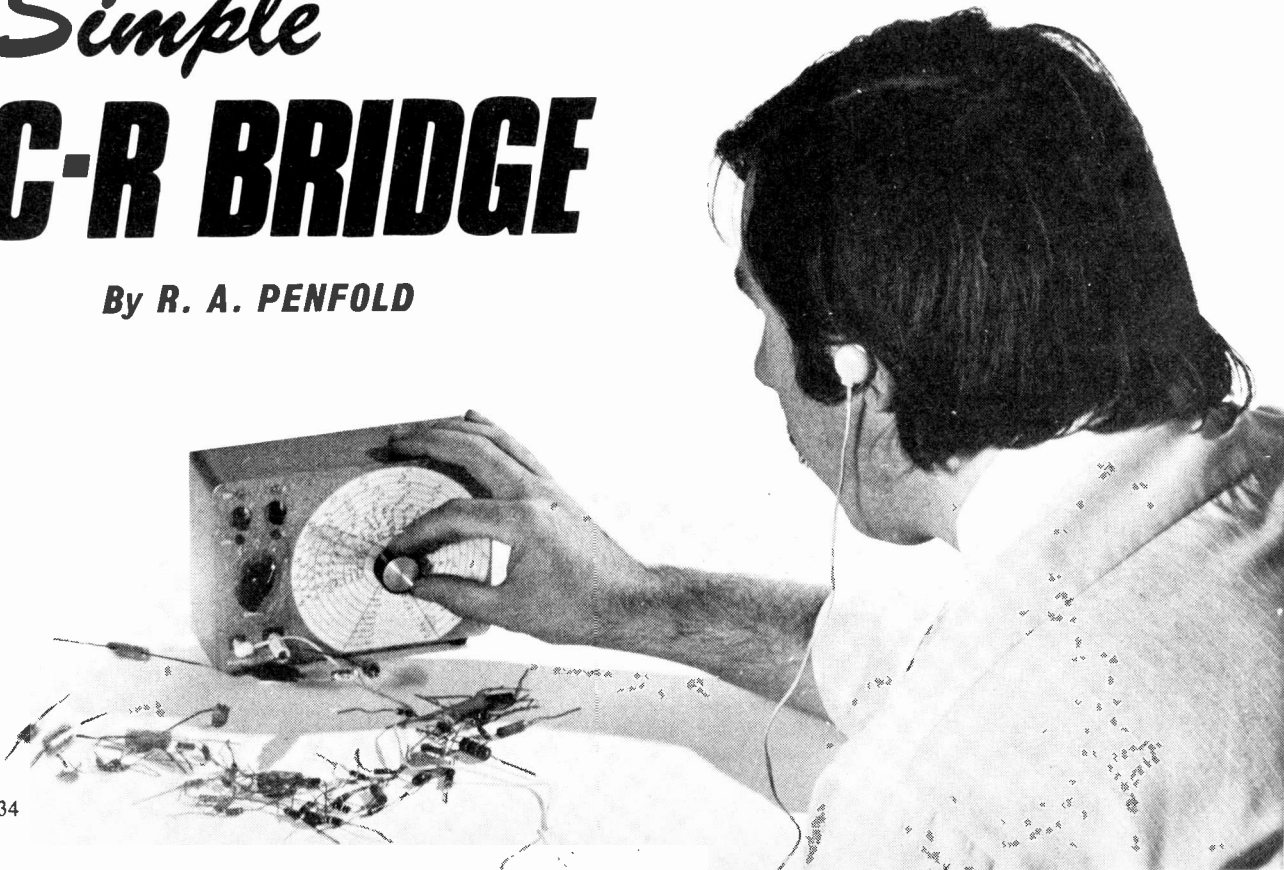


Fig. 4. A modification of the basic bridge circuit used to measure capacitance. This system does not produce a linear scale (right)

Simple C-R BRIDGE

By R. A. PENFOLD



is, when there is the same voltage at the junction of the 1 kilohm and the 10 kilohm resistors as there is at the junction of the 10 ohm and 100 ohm resistors.

The meter will read the difference between the two potentials at these points. As there is one volt across both points, there is no difference in potential, and there can be no deflection on the meter.

Should one of these resistors be altered in value, even very slightly, then there would be an indication on the meter. If R_1 and R_2 were replaced by a potentiometer, as in Fig. 2, then it would be possible to adjust this component so that the circuit was once again balanced.

The voltage on the slider of the potentiometer would be variable from zero to the supply voltage, and could therefore be adjusted for zero reading on the meter, whatever the ratio of R_1 to R_2 .

If the variable resistor is fitted with a suitable scale, then when this component is adjusted for a null on the meter, the value of the resistor under test may then be read off the scale.

This is of course only possible if R_1 is a fixed, and known value, or a series of resistors of known value. Whatever the value given to R_1 , the same value will appear at the centre of the scale of $\sqrt{R_1}$.

IMPROVED METHOD

Theoretically the circuit is capable of measuring any resistance from zero to infinity, but in practise, the scale would become so cramped at the ends, that it would be impossible to use.

Therefore if R_1 is made of several switchable resistors, then the resistor to be tested can be measured near the centre of the scale, where it is less cramped.

An improved arrangement is shown in Fig. 3. This will measure resistance from zero to the value of R_3 with a linear scale. There is no cramping of the

scale, which covers a far smaller range than the arrangement of Fig. 2.

This arrangement is also different in that the d.c. source has been replaced by an a.c. source, and the meter has been replaced by an audio amplifier, which would be connected to an earpiece.

Using an a.c. source enables capacitance to be measured by changing the resistor, R_2 , for a capacitor. Fig. 4 shows the arrangement for the measurement of capacitance.

Unfortunately, when measuring capacitance a linear scale is not obtained. This is due to reactance (resistance to an a.c. flow) decreasing as capacitance increases.

This means that the bridge will measure from the value of C_1 to infinity, with a centre scale of double the value of C_1 . The scale does become rather cramped at the high value end, but this is far less so than the arrangement of Fig. 2.

THE PRACTICAL CIRCUIT

A circuit diagram of the complete C-R Bridge is given in Fig. 5.

A multivibrator using two BSY95A transistors is used to provide the a.c. source. The audio amplifier uses a single type 2N2926 transistor, which feeds into a high impedance crystal or magnetic earpiece.

The range switch is a two-pole five-way wafer switch which selects one of five resistors from 10 ohms to 100 kilohms and one of five capacitors from 100pF to 1 μ F. A second switch is used to select either resistance or capacitance.

Separate power supplies have to be used for the amplifier and the multivibrator, to prevent the amplifier from picking up the output from the multivibrator through the supply lines. This also makes the coupling between the bridge, and the oscillator and amplifier much simpler.

Two torch batteries are used to supply the power.

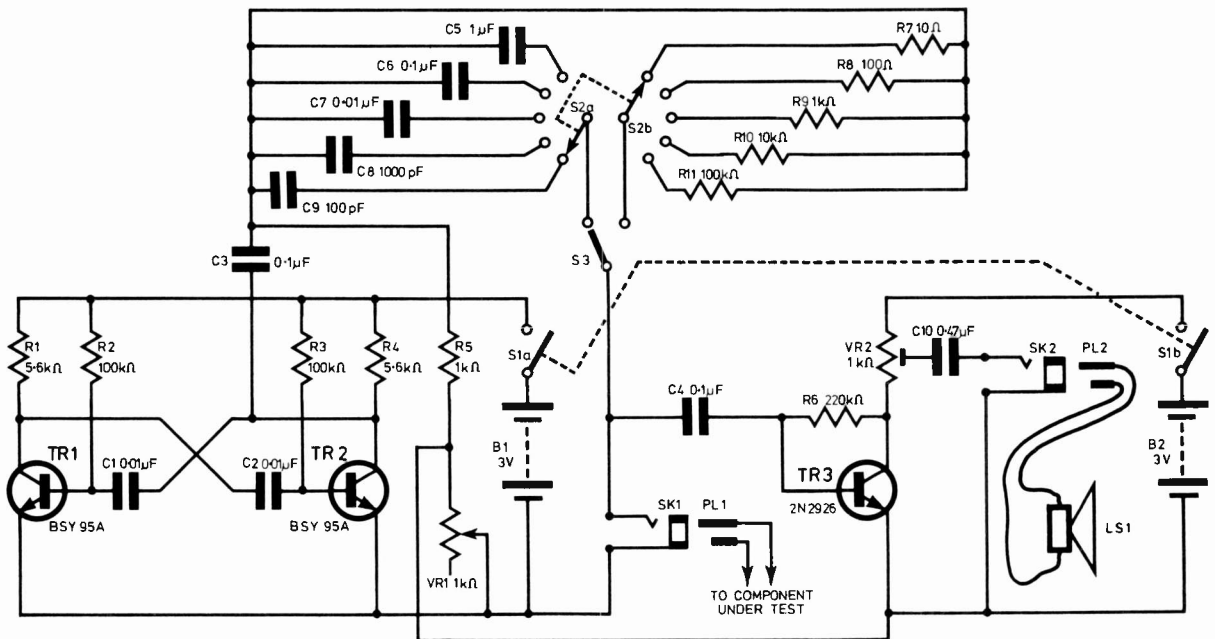


Fig. 5. Circuit diagram of the complete unit with the oscillator, bridge and amplifier

COMPONENTS . . .

Resistors

R1	5.6k Ω
R2	100k Ω
R3	100k Ω
R4	5.6k Ω
R5	1k Ω 2%
R6	220k Ω
R7	10 Ω
R8	100 Ω
R9	1k Ω
R10	10k Ω
R11	100k Ω

} 2%

All $\pm 10\%$ $\frac{1}{2}$ W unless otherwise stated

Potentiometers

VR1	1k Ω linear wirewound
VR2	1k Ω miniature skeleton preset

Capacitors

C1, C2	0.01 μ F ceramic (2 off)
C3, C4	0.1 μ F ceramic (2 off)
C5	1 μ F
C6	0.1 μ F
C7	0.01 μ F
C8	1000pF
C9	100pF
C10	0.47 μ F

} 5% or better

Transistors

TR1, TR2	BSY95A or similar (2 off)
TR3	2N2926

Switches

S1	2 pole on/off slide
S2	2 pole 5-way rotary
S3	1 pole changeover slide

Miscellaneous

PL1, PL2 and SK1, SK2	Miniature jack plugs and sockets (2 off)
LS1	High impedance earpiece
B1, B2	3V torch batteries (2 off)
$3\frac{1}{2}$ in \times $1\frac{1}{2}$ in	0.15in matrix Veroboard
	Aluminium case, battery clips, crocodile clips

COMPONENTS

As the sensitivity of the earpiece may vary according to which particular type is used, a one kilohm preset potentiometer is incorporated, so that the output may be reduced, should it be found to be excessive. The circuit is unsuitable for use with a low impedance earphone.

Although adequate results may be obtained using a carbon potentiometer for VR1, better results will almost certainly be obtained using a wirewound type. Other components for the bridge should preferably be one or two per cent tolerance types, with a high stability, if a reasonable accuracy is to be attained.

Transistors other than the types specified have been found to work in the circuit, and it would operate using almost any transistors.

CONSTRUCTION

The prototype was built in an aluminium case, measuring $6\frac{1}{2}$ in \times $4\frac{1}{2}$ in \times $2\frac{1}{2}$ in, but almost any case of about these dimensions could be used, although the unit could not easily be made much smaller than this.

If a metal case is used, neither the oscillator or the amplifier should be earthed to it as this would encourage oscillator breakthrough.

A small piece of Veroboard (0.15in matrix) 21×7 holes, was used as a basis on which to construct the main circuit. A wiring diagram for this is given in Fig. 6.

The best method for connecting the component under test into circuit was found to be a lead with a jack plug one end, and a couple of crocodile clips the other end.

The jack plug may be plugged into the bridge, while the crocodile clips connect to the leads of the component under test.

INTERWIRING

All wiring associated with VR1, switches S1 and S2, and the two crocodile clip leads, should be as short as possible otherwise breakthrough of oscillations may make it impossible to locate a proper null point on some ranges, and capacitance in the wiring could make capacitance Range 1 wildly inaccurate.

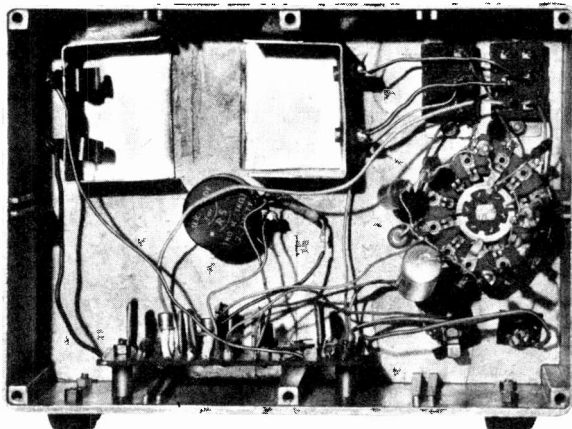
Both the earphone socket and the test lead socket have to be insulated from the front panel to prevent them from being electrically connected, and to prevent breakthrough. This may be achieved by drilling the mounting holes slightly too large, and then fitting bakelite washers either side of the panel.

Capacitor C10 is only required if the bridge is to be used with a magnetic earpiece. If a crystal type is used, C10 may be omitted, and the earpiece connected directly to the slider of VR2.

CALIBRATION ACCURACY

Although both the resistance and the capacitance scales can be calculated mathematically this is unnecessarily complicated, and is unlikely to be as accurate as the following method. This method is to calibrate the scale against a number of close tolerance components of suitable values.


An individual scale is required for each range. The resistance scales will read in the opposite direction to the capacitance scales. They should be marked in preferred values, from 10 to 100. At the end of each scale there should be added a multiplier. For example. On Range 4 resistance $\times 100$ should be added at the end of the scale, so that if



Rear view of the unit showing the disposition of the batteries, component board and switches

ELECTRONIC MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

...A SURVEY OF THE COMMERCIAL SCENE



If one goes back far enough, and includes isolated private experiments, it is difficult to know just when electrical music started. It is certainly more than 100 years ago. But practical instruments have only been in existence for some 40 years, so it is a comparatively new art, now rapidly expanding with the semiconductor and its offshoots.

Electronics is linked to music in two ways: either the sound is produced by a conventional instrument which uses electrical means to process it in some way (e.g. amplification or change in tonal quality), but where the sound could still be heard if there were no electronics; or, the "sound" is generated by electronic circuits, originating as electrical oscillations or waveforms and therefore inaudible without further electronic processing.

Electronics is a science; music is an art. They do not speak the same language for one is based on provable parameters, whilst the other relies entirely on personal

appraisal. For this reason we cannot comment on the aesthetic appeal (or otherwise) of electronic music. But to the technically inclined, there are other appeals; the future is pregnant with unlimited scope for generating new sounds, modifying existing ones, simplifying playing techniques and many other facets of the art.

Electronics and music have grown into a formidable combination, and so we take this opportunity of bringing together some of the many examples of this association. But fully to appreciate these great advances, which so many people take for granted, one should know something of the long and fascinating history of electronic musical instrument development; the more so as this is a hobbies journal, and some of the ideas which were not suitable for commercial development make interesting propositions for "one-off" projects.

ELECTRONIC ORGANS

We begin with electronic organs, because these instruments represent the most ingenious combination of mechanics and electronics, can often be built at home, and are capable of endless development. All such instruments are played from keyboards and the controls follow internationally recognised methods to a great extent, but certainly not exclusively. The whole concept of organs has changed in the last 20 years. There is now no resemblance (in the popular mind) to the conventional organ with pipes. Yet, incredibly, the same conventional names for the sounds appear on the stops!

Harking back to the days when valve circuits tended to be unstable, mechanical systems with transducers seemed the best answer; of these, two survive today, Hammond and Compton. Such organs are permanently in tune but require complex circuitry and switching devices. With the increasing cost of manufacture it seems probable that they will disappear in time. Already solid state circuitry is taking the place of mechanical switching in pipe organs, although slowly, but for other kinds of electronic organ, semiconductors are paramount.

It is easier to start from the top and work downwards, so we give an example of an imitative organ by Conn as representing the "real thing". Fig. 1 illustrates a church or concert organ having tonal and control properties exactly corresponding with pipes.

This instrument has independently tuned oscillators for each note and these can give at least three different waveforms for tonal synthesis. As the sound in a pipe organ comes from a widely dispersed source, so this class of electronic organ requires many channels of amplification and many loudspeakers—a minimum of perhaps 25.

Multiple oscillators are never exactly in tune, but perhaps more important is the fact that there are trifling differences in the harmonic content of each oscillator. This gives a close resemblance to organ pipes, which have the same properties. The sound is full and rich, excellent for a real organ, but quite useless for pop or jazz.

Nine out of ten organs of the popular domestic type which can be seen in any music shop use a quite different generating system. The 12 top notes are produced by tuned master oscillators, but all

other pitches downwards are obtained by frequency division. Since the octave is an exact doubling or halving of any frequency, 2:1 bistables or flip-flop circuits serve admirably. Readers will recall that this was the method used in the P.E. organ. It lends itself to mass production especially now that i.c.s are becoming so cheap; and with diode or transistor keying, cheap single contacts per key suffice.

If properly designed, this kind of organ can be very satisfying more especially at the low output levels demanded in the home. Unfortunately it is commonly found in forms which have neither the proper playing facilities of imitative organs, or the "new" sounds associated with rhythmic organs. Excessive amplification makes these organs lose what character they possess, and underlines the old saying that you can't get a quart out of a pint pot.

However, the prompt attack and the easy application of rhythm units to this kind of instrument makes them eminently suitable for pop groups and this has led to a form of tonal synthesis which contrasts well with guitar or voice. To a great extent they must be treated

Fig. 1. The three manual Conn Custom organ has independently tuned oscillators for each note. These can provide at least three different waveforms for tonal synthesis of a church or concert pipe organ.



The Kentucky Challenger with string, flute and woodwind voicing available via the 4-octave solo and accompaniment manuals.

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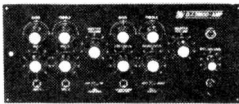
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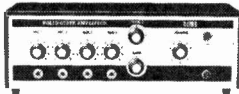
DISCO-SUPER. A slightly larger version of the Disco-Standard. Fitted individual controls for both mic. and deck inputs plus a cross-fade for deck to deck transfer. A built in P.F.L. cueing system, mic. over-ride, also a V.U. meter gives visual indication of output levels. DJ. 30L (3000w) 3-channel psychedelic light unit is a standard fitting. Deck cut out switches are also featured for ease of cueing. Size 38" x 27" x 10". **£224-00**

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PA-DISCO AMPLIFIERS



DISCO-AMP. 100 watt rms. output for 8-16 ohms, 4 channel inputs, 2-mic, 2 decks. Separate volume control plus masters. Response 30Hz -30KHz, distortion less than 1%. Treble/Bass/PFL/Mic over-ride etc. Panel size 16 1/2" x 7".



DJ.70S MIXER/AMPLIFIER. 70 watt rms. output for 8-16 ohms. 2-mic, 2-aux/decks. Master volume/Bass/Treble. Size 15 1/2" x 5" x 6".

DJ.105S. 30 watt rms. version. Size 11 1/2" x 5" x 6".
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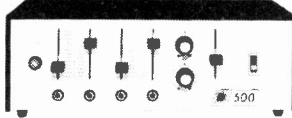
This new range incorporates many features that make them ideal for the professional user, clubs, discotheques, factories etc. Fibre glass P.C. Boards are used throughout with low noise silicon transistors, high stability resistors, generously rated components and hand-welded assembly to ensure reliability and quality.

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SPECIFICATION

Frequency Response	50-20,000 Hz ± 3db (10dB Bass Boost at 10 Hz)
Signal/Noise Ratio	better than =50db.
Harmonic Distortion	less than 1%
Speaker Impedance	8-16 ohms.
Inputs: Mic 1 & 2	5mV at 50K ohms (50 or 600 ohm to order)
Aux 3 & 4	100mV at 1 meg ohm.
Size (all models)	15 1/2" x 5" x 6".
Power Output:	Model D.J.500 — 50 watts R.M.S. £56-25
(at 8 ohms)	Model D.J.700 — 70 watts R.M.S. £67-50
	Model D.J.1000 — 100 watts R.M.S. £79-00

DISCO MINI

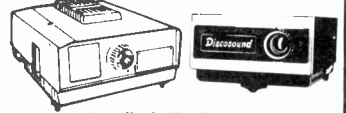
Hardly larger than a suitcase yet contains all the necessary features for a high quality mobile unit. The pre-amp has separate tone controls for both mic. and decks, and each input has its own individual volume controls and inputs.

plus the addition of a cross fade for deck to deck sound transfer. A built in P.F.L. system for cueing, together with mic-over-ride facility are standard on all units. Response 20-20,000 Hz. Mic. input 5mV. 50K. Output 1 volt.

McDonald M.P.60 Turntables are used with high quality ceramic cartridges, and each deck has its own individual cut out switch fitted. This unit is suitable for Discos or Clubs having a power amplifier, or for use with the "Discmaster" 100 watt power amplifier as above. Size 32" x 20" x 8". **£98-50**



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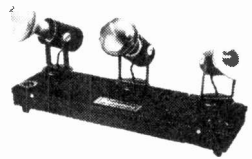
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as new sound devices and we show one of the most modern and effective examples in Fig. 2. This is made by Jennings Electronic Instruments, and bristles with ingenious features.

In this organ, the emphasis is on facilities for rhythmic playing rather than on simulation of conventional organ tonecolours; a special training and a special mentality is required to conform to the needs of a purely rhythmic group, and this is an excellent example of an instrument specially designed to this end.

The foregoing organs have all had tuned oscillators for each primary function and once these are adjusted, it is not possible to alter them easily. But now, it is possible to design and make an organ having only one master oscillator from which all pitches are derived. One great advantage is clearly that transposing is easily carried out—i.e., if one presses just one key, the pitch can be changed by a single adjustment so

that one passes through a succession of keys. The player who can only use the white keys can now accompany say, a B flat clarinet whilst still using his white keys.

There are several ways of doing all this, mostly very complex, and all a tribute to microminiature circuits; for without these it would be quite impossible to build such an organ within any console or case. Modern i.c. component density can reach 2,000 elements in a chip only $\frac{1}{4}$ in square and so the very complex circuitry required to steer and smooth the pulses of such a system can be made quite small. Two of the present methods for generating the frequency spectrum from a single source have been described in *Practical Electronics* for July 1972 but in the picture of the Philips generator the actual size was not obvious; in Fig. 3 you can see the relative size of this unit.

An organ built from half a dozen of these units would have amazing powers of synthesis.



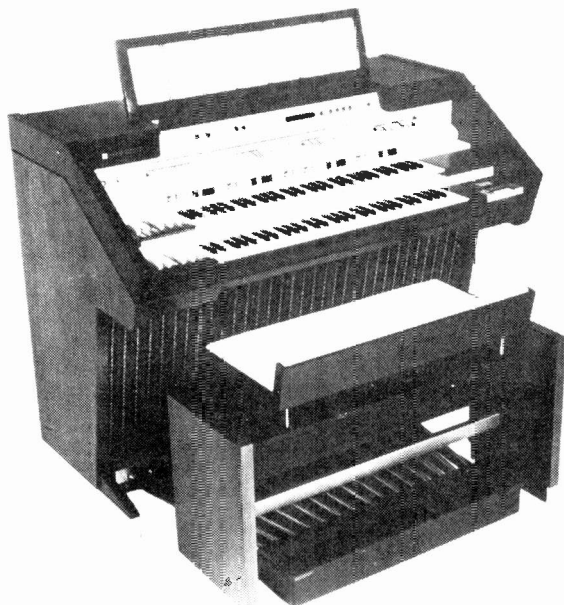
Fig. 3. Demonstrating the small size of the N.V. Philips' digital organ generator.

Fig. 2. The three manual, portable, Jennings J.71 with drawbar control of harmonics from 16' to 1' pitch and percussive attack. This, with the provision of dual waveforms, enables the organist to reproduce any mixture of sound required.

Other features include separate by-pass tabs for Theatre and Baroque organ. The top manual covers three octave providing 16'-8'- and 2' pitch with controls for tonal effects which include vibraharp, piano, string, percussion and sustain.



One of Hammond's new models, the Concorde, incorporates custom built LSI packages. This harmonic tone-bar organ has two 61 note keyboards and such features as polysyntoesis percussion, manual and pedal sustain, automatic accompaniment and automatic rhythm, lower manual to pedal couples and cassette recorder.



Talking about synthesis, we find small keyboard controlled devices mounted in the Wurlitzer organs on which many effects not obtainable with any ordinary organ circuits can be produced. For instance, gliding tones, wah-wah, touch sensitive vibrato, extended pitch range and other effects are some of the attributes of the Orbit synthesisers on this organ. Certainly it is time that double touch was more used on organs, especially since it was an integral fitment of all cinema organs since the 1920s. So many things can be done with a second touch.

Now we have seen three kinds of tone generating systems for organs of a more or less conventional kind. But for the beginner, or one who does not wish to lay out much money on a single-purpose instrument, there are other ways of making musical sounds. Perhaps the simplest device is the

stylophone, shown in Fig. 4. This is a simple multivibrator, played by using a metallic stylus to make the connection for changing the pitch. It is a continuously re-tuned system, capable of only one note at a time, but having a vibrato circuit which relieves the monotony. Constructional articles for something of this kind have appeared in various journals and it is a nice project for the beginner.

A more sophisticated device is the Pianomate. This assumes ownership of a piano, although it could be energised by a separate keyboard. It can be seen in Fig. 5 lying over the keys of a piano. Again, it is a simple generator, but chords can be played with care. The system uses one generator for every three notes, but if played with the piano, which of course is fully polyphonic, it appears that the organesque sounds from the generator are also fully polyphonic.

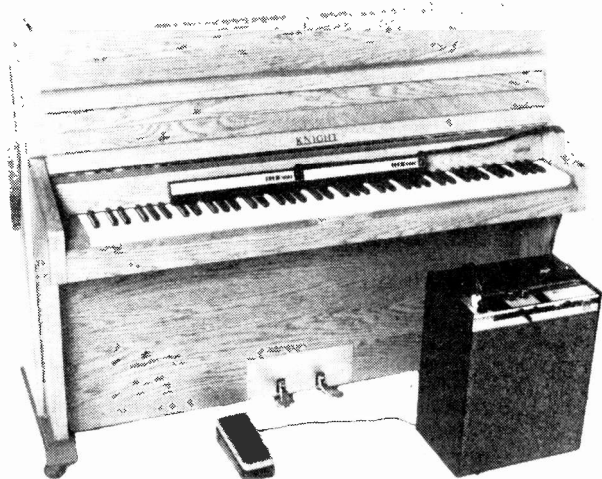
A small mains unit which stands on the floor contains all the electronics and allows changes of tone-colour; a volume control pedal is also available. Incidentally, as the contact unit for the four octaves of keys only rests on the back of the piano keyboard, it can be removed or placed on another make of piano in a moment and cannot damage the woodwork.

We find many people interested in playing music who are not satisfied with synthetic tone colours; certainly many organs become very trying to listen to for long and rely heavily on vibrato to break up the lifeless sounds. Many attempts have been made to bring the actual sounds from organ pipes or orchestral instruments to the keyboard, culminating in the Mellotron. Originally this instrument was much more complex but the present version is easily portable and just as accurate tonally.

Fig. 4. The Dubreq Stylophone has a reedy voice, derived from a multivibrator circuit. To this vibrato can be added if desired. This instrument is only capable of producing one note at a time, each being selected with a metal stylus which constitutes part of the electronic circuit. In concert the sound produced can be very pleasant.

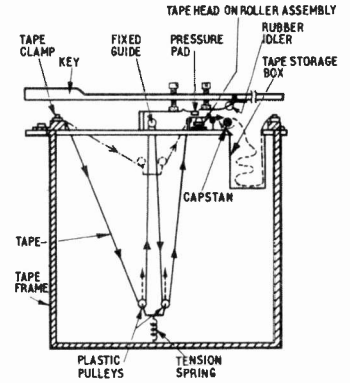


Fig. 5. The Dubreq Pianomate in position on a conventional pianoforte keyboard. This consists of two double octave unit whose contacts move with the piano key to augment the piano sounds with organesque tone colours. A tone selector switch provides three different colours: flute, church organ and jazz buzz. A two speed vibrato is also included. The Pianomate is completely tuneable via a single control for pianos which may be out of pitch by as much as a semitone



The system uses pre-recorded tapes but these are not in the form of loops as might be thought; the ingenious mechanism is too complex to describe here, but in essence when a key is pressed, a tape head is brought into contact with a record of the selected sound and continues to sound (so long as the key is held down) for up to 8 seconds. The tape then rewinds at once and is ready again. All the sounds provided are of course as authentic as the fidelity of the reproducer, all can be mixed, and many effects sounds can be brought in on other tapes; indeed, the Mellotron is popular as a pure effects machine, from which every conceivable noise can be obtained at will. Fig. 6 illustrates the action of this instrument.

Fig. 6 A pure effects machine, the Mellotron is a source for every conceivable noise. The system uses prerecorded tapes of other instrumental sounds or special effects which can be mixed at will by the performer making him, in effect, a one man band. The action of the Mellotron can be understood by referring to the profile drawing of the key and tape transport system; when the key is depressed the idler engages with the capstan pulling the tape into the storage box; the tape is kept in tension by the rising pulleys; with the key released the tape is made ready for replay as the tension spring returns to its original position pulling the stored tape with it.



The RIHA Largo, besides having the normal footages in the upper and lower manual, has fractional number stops to provide more colourful registration. Playing features include a two-speed Leslie tremulant (a spatial effect achieved by feeding the loudspeaker output into a rotatable drum), vibrato delay, which provides a much more natural vibrato sound and solo percussion which gives the choice of many effects such as banjo and Hawaiian guitar.

The sustain feature on the pedals provides a string-bass effect on the pedal 8' stops so giving rhythmic support to melody on the manuals. The sustain can also be used to play legato on the 13 note pedalboard.

The Harmonics Solette organ with a specification designed to cover all aspects of organ music from the classics to pop. It has a full size 61 note keyboard and a total of 19 registers.



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ISSUE ONE (NOVEMBER) OUT OCT 19

INSTRUMENT TRANSDUCERS

Electric guitar pick ups have been with us for a long time; more recently the use of transducers has spread to other instruments such as clarinets, saxophones, violins and accordions. The aim of these methods is twofold; to amplify the original sound, and to be able to alter the waveform of the sound by electronic means, e.g. to remove harmonics or to add extra octaves by frequency division; or to modify the steady tone in some other way. But firstly let us look at how the guitar operates.

The diameter of a string is so small compared with the wavelength of any frequency within the range of that string that the back wave from the vibration would at once neutralise the front wave and nothing would be heard; the string produces no sound, it drives the belly or resonating body of the guitar and this couples with sufficient air to make the resultant vibrations audible as sound. However, it is costly to make a good acoustic guitar and the resulting sound is not loud enough to compete with other sounds in a modern group; the acoustic guitar is therefore reserved for the classical player, since it is many times more sensitive to fingering than its electrical counterpart, and the tone is not coloured by amplifiers or loudspeakers.

For the pop scene, it is desirable to convert all sounds into electrical waveforms and hence have complete control over them. So all we need is the vibrating string with suitable pick-ups. This means a simpler instrument in theory, but by the time that electronic controls and perhaps multiple pick-ups are fitted, it may well be more complex. Constructional data for pick-ups has been published and it is very easy to amplify this sound; one can then add simple tone controls and so alter the effect. If, therefore, it is possible to use steel strings or strings wrapped with steel wire over the pick-up location, magnetic pick ups are easily applied to any stringed instrument.

Note that the string pick-up is to be preferred to any form of microphone attachment; because the latter is sensitive to air pressure waves as well, and can pick up breathing and scratching noises from fingering the string. But when one comes to other instruments, in which the same amount of energy is not required of the player (or in a different form, such as blowing a clarinet), then it is possible to use noise cancelling types of microphone to amplify the tone. Certainly this has advantages if only because the waveform of the generated sound can be changed

and one may get the effect of several different kinds of instrument from the one. An excellent example of this is the electric mouth organ or harmonica.

There are examples of amplified accordions and a number of purely electronic ones, using the circuitry of a miniature organ and connected to external amplifiers and loudspeakers. Then again, it is possible to obtain an electronic string bass unit, buttons producing all the effects from normal bowing to pizzicato or col legno (playing with the back of the bow). This is made by Hohner.

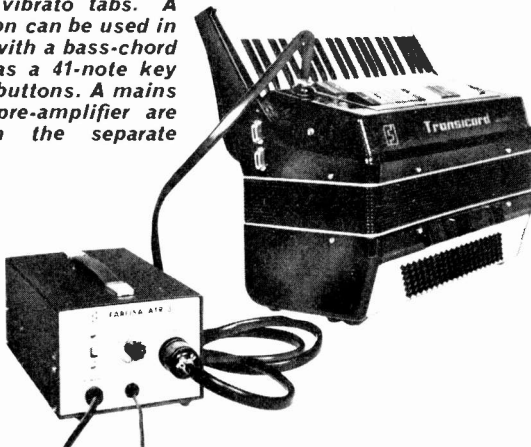
Many of these existing tone qualities can be completely transformed by, say, a percussion unit; this enables some sound which would normally be smooth and sonorous to be made aggressive and staccato. This kind of percussion unit can be wired in anywhere between a pick-up and its amplifier. It is not to be confused with a rhythm unit, which is a quite independent source of percussive sounds acting as rhythm markers and non-musical in effect. Many such rhythm boxes are on the market now, nearly every large domestic organ has one as an integral part and many can be bought to add to whatever sound source would benefit.



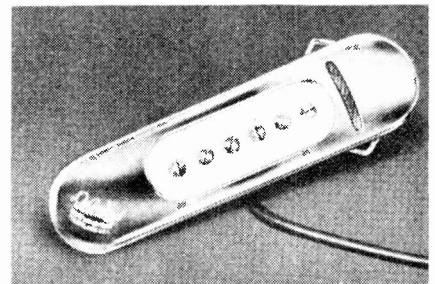
Hornby-Skewes accordion microphone is connected to the side of the accordion and picks up sound for feeding to an amplifier



Farfisa Transicord electric accordion with seven voices, sustain and vibrato tabs. A rhythm section can be used in conjunction with a bass-chord facility. It has a 41-note key and 120 bass buttons. A mains supply and pre-amplifier are contained in the separate module



Magnetic type contact pick-up with fingertip control. Suitable for nylon string guitar.

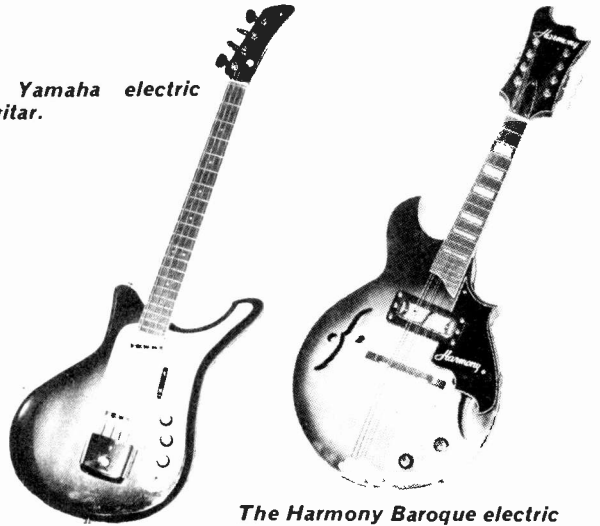


Six magnet pick-up for flat top guitars.



The Farfisa Super Piano with keyboard and decay as on the conventional piano. The effects which can be obtained on the first 24 notes are, for the bass: bass, string bass and bass guitar. For the chords: piano-forte, guitar and banjo. Also available is automatic bass and chord rhythms. Output available is 25 watts.

A Yamaha electric guitar.



The Harmony Baroque electric mandoline with a body shape that departs from the classical for ease of playing.



Maestro ring modulator.



The Jennings Winchester "Rifle" guitar with a body which is constructed entirely of metal providing a crisp, pure tone. Apart from the normal guitar sound this instrument has internal electronics to provide bass, treble, fuzz, presence and repeat.



Soundimension: a device for providing echo and reverberation affects when used with an amplifying system.



Typical reverberation unit from the Laney Sound Supergroup Series.



A "Cry-baby" wah-wah pedal.



"Fuzz-face" distortion unit with separate volume and fuzz controls.

SPECIAL EFFECTS

The continual search for new effects has led to the electronic controls known as wah-wah, growl, glide, etc. All of these do something not normally expected from the instrument to which they are attached. Once associated solely with the guitar, they are now found on electronic organs and other complex devices. Readers will be familiar with the effects on the tone, and constructional details for most have been described in the press.

The wah-wah is a tuned circuit, the resonance of which can be altered at will; some band of frequencies is then accentuated and moves progressively to another band by the manipulation of a foot control. The growl is almost identical, but operates at lower frequencies. A glide circuit is found on some organs, usually it provides a limited frequency shift by altering the base biasing of a transistor oscillator through a voltage control; again the foot is used to move a variable resistor of some form.

Since some of these effects may be needed at short notice, it is possible to combine the controls on a single foot pedestal where the toe selects the function, whilst the heel operates a rotary volume or similar control. A commercial

multiple control unit is shown in Fig. 7. There is clearly a limit to the number of controls which can be used by someone who is usually playing an instrument at the same time.

The vibrato produced by a violinist, which is an important part of his technique, may be imparted by a mechanism which alters the tension of the guitar strings by a lever; but it can also be done by an electronic circuit—commonly a form of adjustable speed multivibrator. This again can be inserted between the pick-up and the amplifier but naturally it is not so expressive or controllable as manipulation of the strings. However, playing finesse is not so important with groups.

Since power is such an essential ingredient with today's performers, we find large amplifiers which are now sophisticated in that they have mixing and vibrato circuits incorporated; however, we shall not discuss these or loudspeakers at this time. Suffice it to say that many groups prefer valves, since they stand such overloads and misuse.

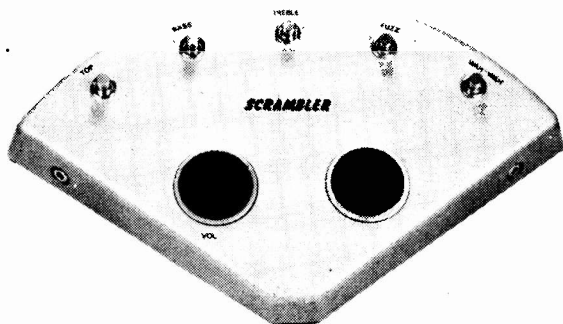
There is room for improvement in the means for connecting units together, there still are casualties from time to time and it is diffi-

cult to understand why Ministry of Defence or Home Office approved connectors are not compulsory.

One final piece of apparatus which has effects uses is the ring modulator. This is a circuit artifice whereby two applied signals are combined to form sum and difference frequencies, one of which is extracted and used as a final signal. For this reason the device should be fed from sine waves, but since these do not exist outside the laboratory, some very peculiar sounds result—always discordant.

The ring modulator is often fed from a musical source, a singing voice via a microphone, a pick-up from a saxophone, etc. Many intriguing effects are possible with care, certainly all are novel and often incapable of analysis by the hearing system yet of too short a duration to give rise to irritation. It is in fact interesting to note that distortion is deliberately sought, so intense is the search for novelty. The clipping amplifier or fuzz box is a good example of such techniques. Of course, as the ambient noise level around us increases, discomfort arising from other noises has less effect and we come to accept it.

Fig. 7. The Jennings Scrambler is a complete remote foot control of effects associated with amplification. Besides the quadrant of foot switches the Scrambler has two rotary turntable controls for intensity volume and wah-wah.



A quartet of effects units that can be used with almost any kind of electronic musical instrument.



SYNTHESISERS

The idea of compounding sounds from their bare ingredients is far from new; indeed, one of the most successful synthesisers was built 20 years ago; but, it occupies a whole room! So for a more general acceptance of these devices, we had once again to wait for the semiconductor.

Now a synthesiser is nothing more than a number of units which represent the basic parameters of sounds, so organised that they are easily controlled by the operator and of such a nature that the absolute values of these parameters can be set up again and again with accuracy; in other words, so far as is possible, the elements are calibrated.

One can compose music with a range of tonal qualities, but can-

not write this down in conventional musical notation, although it can be written in terms of instrument settings. It was never possible to write the composition of, say, a trumpet sound on a conventional music score, but one can write this electronically in terms of the values of the constituents; so in this way, the actual nature of a sound can be put in black and white so that someone else can recreate the same sound and this has never before been possible.

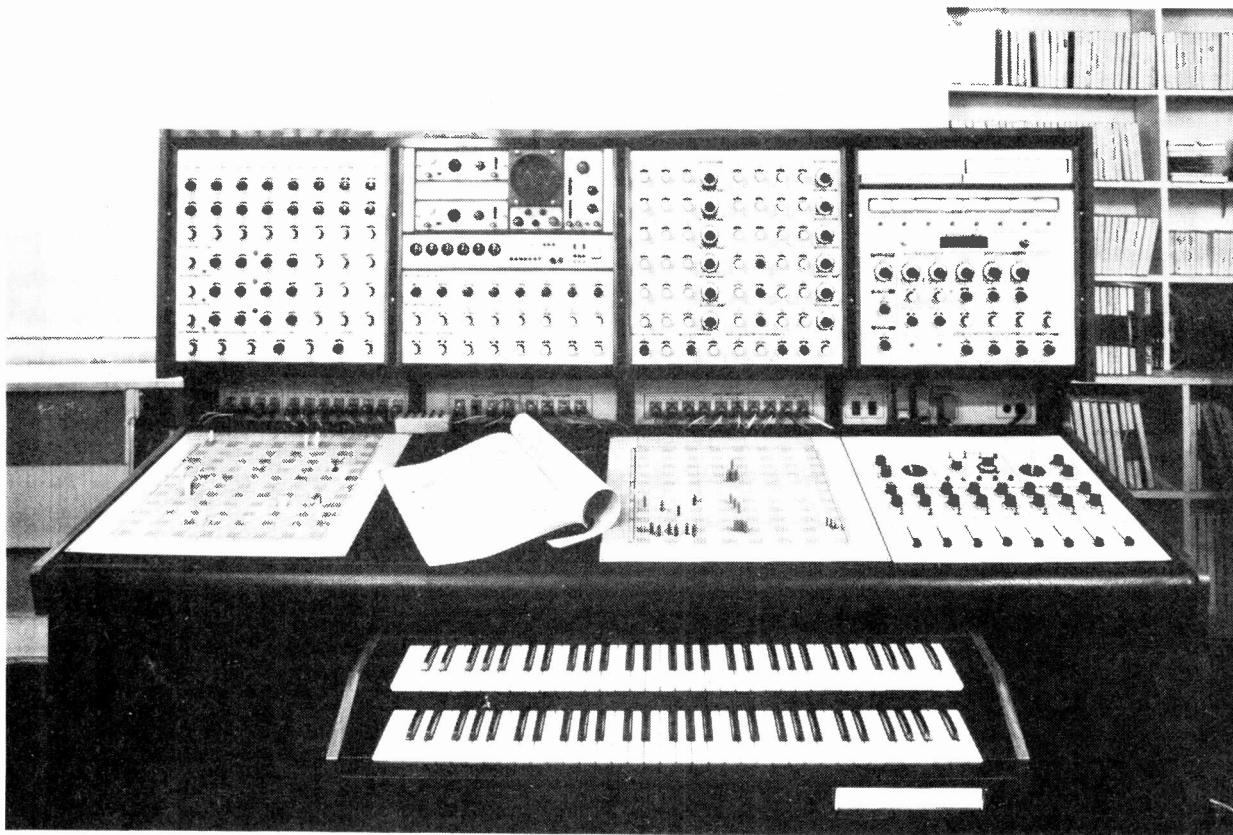
Clearly the facilities of a synthesiser relate to its use. An amateur experimenter may not need the many duplicated oscillators, noise sources, amplifiers and treatments which are called for by a professional musician or composer. So it is useful that simple modules can

be made or bought and added to as required. One must have at least one good tape recorder for the weakness of all synthesisers of low cost is that they have no storage facilities; all work involves short-term events and constant re-recording.

Most if not all modern synthesisers are voltage controlled; that is, the conduction properties of the transistors are set by applied d.c. voltages; in this way, several advantages follow at once, the principal ones being linearity of signal with applied voltage change; low impedance of control circuits; and complete absence of hum pick up because one does not trail base (or grid) circuits out from the main apparatus. Hundreds of feet of signal control cable can in this way be run out.

Voltage control is also convenient for a keyboard, since at no time would the voltage across any part of the system exceed about 30V. By controlling the frequency

The Synthi 100 synthesiser made by EMS of London has almost unlimited facilities for sound synthesis and serious composition. It has provision for storage and immediate recall of sounds devised. Compare the elaborate patch panels with that of the VCS3 synthesiser.

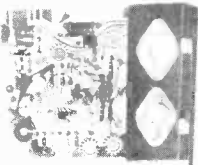


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SA35 £4-45 carr. free

35 WATTS R.M.S. 7 transistors, 7 diodes

SA100 £10-90 carr. free

100 WATTS R.M.S. 11 transistors, 6 diodes

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ONLY ADVANCED DESIGN TECHNIQUES MAKE
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BRIEF SPEC. FOR ALL THREE MODULES

Freq. response	15-40,000Hz ± 1dB
Distortion	0.2% at 1kHz
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Circuits, connecting instructions and application data
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PS45	Stabilised module for 2 SA25's or two SA35's, £35-0, carr. free
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MT30	Transformer for unstabilised supply complete with rectifier diodes mounted, £3-50, carr. 20p
PU70	Unstabilised supply for one or two SA100, £6-75, carr. 40p
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120 WATT HEAVY DUTY MODULE

Featuring a rugged class A driver stage, this module will run from all our mixers etc., and most other makes of mixer. It delivers 120W into an eight ohm load and employs 4 TO 3 can (115W) output transistors.

SPECIFICATION

Power output	120W into 8 ohms
Freq. response	30-30,000Hz ± 2dB
Input sensitivity	200mV into 10K
Construction	Fibreglass board
Size	8in × 4in × 4in (5in with supply)
Low distortion parallel push-pull output stage.	

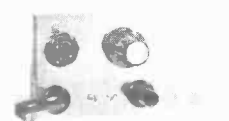
£13-90 + 20p carr. or with
supply £18-95 + 40p carr.



SINGLE CHANNEL SOUND/LIGHT CONVERTER

This compact and reliable unit operates from amplifiers with outputs from 5-100W. Does not impose a heavy load on the amplifier, or, if connected in the wrong polarity, cause any damage, as with some units.

Operation is simplicity itself and the unit is fully fused. The unit is supplied to function from bass notes but may easily be converted to respond only to treble or mid-range notes by the addition of components costing less than 5p.



£8-90 carr. free

THREE CHANNEL SOUND TO LIGHT UNIT

Handling the total of 3,000W (3kW) this unit is unique for its price in that not only bass middle and treble but also master controls are provided. Two amplifier sockets eliminate the need for split leads, etc. Supplied in tough white steel case with a blue televite hooded cover. Fully guaranteed.

£19-75 carr. 30p

SAXON STEREO CONTROL UNIT



£15-80 carr. 30p
MONO VERSION
£6-50, carr. 20p

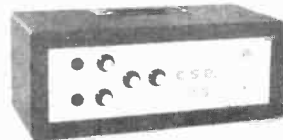
(As illustrated left. S.A.E. details. 9V operation)

OUTPUTS UP TO 1V RMS

Two decks, and full headphone monitoring. The unit is mains operated and measures 17½in × 3in × 4in deep and is finished with a smart white on black fascia. The controls are: Left/Right deck fader, volume, bass, treble, headphone selector and volume, microphone volume, bass, treble, mains on/off. THIS IS A MUST FOR THE HOME BUILT HIGH QUALITY DISCO-THEQUE AND IS COMPARABLE TO UNITS AT OVER TWICE THE PRICE.

COMPLETE AMPLIFIERS

THE CS 100. £34-90 carr. free



This versatile unit is now available in a black vynidie case and so represents even better value than ever, delivering speech and music powers of up to 100W R.M.S. and continuous sine wave outputs of 70W.

Two individually controlled inputs with wide range bass and treble controls. Ideal for small groups. D.J.'s, etc.

The SAXON 100. £48-50, carr. free.



With an R.M.S. output of 120W speech and music, 100W continuous power, four individually controlled F.E.T. input stages and wide range bass and treble controls, this amplifier has established itself as a unit offering quality and reliability at low cost.

LOUDSPEAKERS British made bargains ! ! !

12in 25W 8/15 ohms £5-95, carr. 30p. 15in 50W 8/15 ohm, £14-50, carr. 50p.

12in 40W 15,000 gauss magnet system 8/15 ohm, £11-50, carr. 40p.

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D11DHL r.r.p. £11, our price £9-45 post free.

D190C High Z r.r.p. £21-50, our price £17-45 post free.

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ORGAN KITS

Build your own Electronic Organ, if you want the best value for your money. Yes you really save over 50% and get the best and up-to-date designs. There are four models to choose from.

- ★ Portable—4 octave keyboard with 10 voices, 3 pitches—vibrato, at £103-00, P/P £1-50.
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- ★ Console—2 x 4 octave keyboards and 13 note pedal board, 29 voices, Vibrato, Delay Vibrato, Sustain Reverberation, Precussion, Wah Wah, etc. at £404-00. Carr. paid on complete kit U.K. only.
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We regret H.P. facilities are not available, but components can be bought separately. Trade and overseas enquiries welcomed. Send 25p for latest catalogue.

Please call in for demonstration. Business hours: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday to Saturday. Thursday closed.

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For details see our PROJECT X advert. on page 982 of this issue Practical Electronics.

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WAH-WAH PEDAL KIT (Illustrated)



Kit comprises a SELECTIVE AMPLIFIER MODULE KIT to convert the FOOT VOLUME CONTROL PEDAL (as photo) to Wah-Wah operation. Amplifier module £1-75, pedal unit £5-13, COMPLETE KIT £6-50 add 30p for assembly of module, but please note we cannot supply kits fully built.

REVERBERATION UNIT KIT. For dimension effect. Connects between sound source, mic., etc., and amplifier. Battery powered. COMPLETE KIT £9-50 (excluding case £7-50). Assembled and tested £12-50.

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of an oscillator by adjustment of the base voltage from a resistor chain contacted by playing keys, intervals other than those of the equally tempered scale can be produced. This is very useful for exploring the possibilities of the quarter or tenth tone scale—or other subdivisions. This is an approach to the continuous or gliding scale, available on certain instruments like the violin or trombone, but only to a very limited extent; there is no limit to electronic glissando.

Synthesisers have envelope controls; the overall shape of a waveform is called its envelope. By altering the rate at which the wave starts, or stops, or both, profound changes in the character of the sound emerge. One could thus determine, for instance, if it would be a good thing to make the attack of a 'cello longer or shorter, by simply feeding the pick up on the

'cello into the envelope shaper circuit. These methods have been used on the continent to try to improve the properties and characteristics of some instruments of the orchestra.

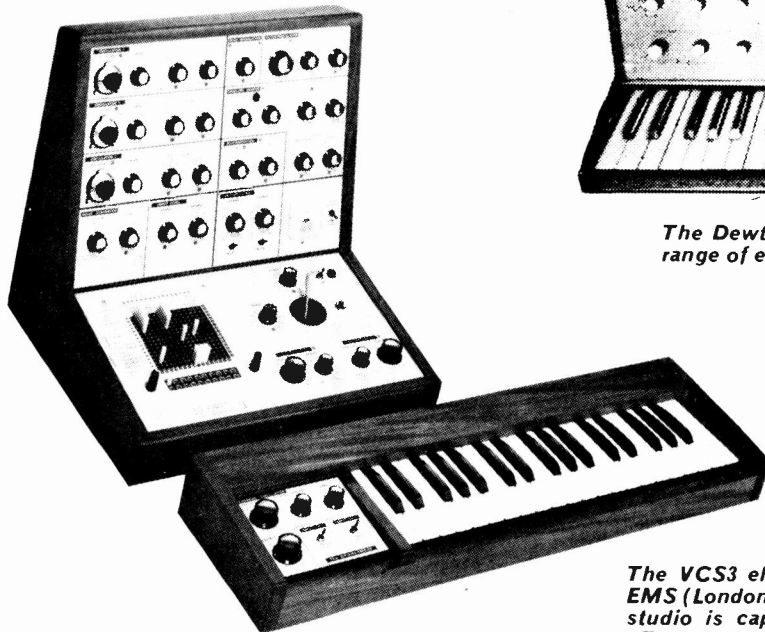
Then there are noise generators. Electronic noise is very controllable and can be useful to augment the impact of certain musical effects. It is also valuable to imitate storm, rain or wind and for this latter purpose can be coloured by a tone superimposed, rather like the sound of wind in telegraph wires. In short, if the synthesiser has enough parameters, almost any musical or abstract array of waveforms can be achieved and recorded; and there are commercial examples of disc records based on purely electronic sound.

Today there are many synthesisers on the market; most have similar parameter facilities, but some are much easier to patch or

cross-connect than others. As experience was gained in their use, controls became simpler and more accurate. The one time room full of gear became a table-top unit as we can see in the illustration of the EMS portable synthesiser.

The ultimate in versatility is the Synthi 100, as used by the BBC and other broadcasting authorities, and made by EMS of London. It has storage facilities and quite elaborate compositions can be realised and performed on it. There is provision to call up anything previously recorded, erase or add to it, and play it at any time. In short, it has all the facilities one could reasonably demand.

Supplement cover picture by courtesy of St. Giles Music Centre.

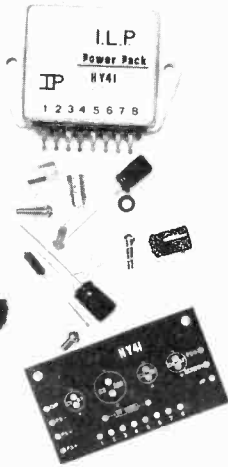


The Dewtron synthesiser which combines a whole range of effects in a simplified unit.

The VCS3 electronic music synthesiser produced by EMS (London) Ltd. This small scale voltage controlled studio is capable of producing a great many sound effects by treatment of three oscillatory sources. Signal sources and treatments are labelled down the left-hand side of the patch board. These may be connected in any permutation to the signal input and control input listed along the top by simple jack plugs. Effects produced can then be applied to the keyboard if required.



THE HY41



The HY41 supersedes the popular HY40 introduced by I.L.P. last year. This highly improved module achieves true High Fidelity with a dramatic reduction in distortion (typically 0.05% at 1KHz into 8 ohms!) and is electronically and mechanically compatible with the HY40.

With this important improvement the HY41 retains all of the quality characteristics found in the earlier version and P.C. board, Resistor, Capacitors, Hardware Mountings and comprehensive manual are included in the basic kit. No further components are required to construct a complete power amplifier of extremely high performance sufficiently versatile to provide power not merely for Hi-Fi but also for public address systems and industry.

The free manual gives a full circuit diagram of the HY41 and its various applications including a complete stereo amplifier.

Like its predecessor the HY41 is based on conventional and proven circuit techniques developed over recent years.

OUTPUT POWER: British Rating 40 WATTS PEAK, 20 watts

R.M.S. continuous.

LOAD IMPEDANCE: 4-16 ohms.

INPUT IMPEDANCE: 30K ohms at 1KHz.

VOLTAGE GAIN: 30db at 1KHz

TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION: less than 0.15% (typical 0.05%) at 1KHz.

FREQUENCY RESPONSE: 5Hz-50KHz \pm 1db.

SUPPLY VOLTAGE: + 22.5volts D.C.

SUPPLY CURRENT: 0.8 amps maximum.

PRICE: inc. comprehensive manual, P.C. board, five extra components and P. & P.—

MONO: £4.90

STEREO: £9.80

UNIQUE HYBRID PRE-AMPLIFIER

The HY5 has rapidly established a position in the WORLD as the sole hybrid pre-amplifier to contain all feedback and equalization networks within an integrated pre-amplifier circuit.

Supplied with the HY5 are two stabilizing capacitors and by the addition of volume, treble and bass potentiometers it is ready for use.

Internally the HY5 provides equalization for almost every conceivable input, the desired function is achieved by use of a multi-way switch or by direct interconnection.

Two distinctive features of the HY5 are its inbuilt stabilization circuit, allowing it to be run off any unregulated power supply from 16-25 Volts and a balance circuit which, when linked by a balance control to a second HY5, forms a complete stereo pre-amplifier.

Specifically and critically designed to meet exacting Hi-Fi standards, the HY5 combines extremely low noise with a high overload capability. When used in conjunction with the HY41 and PSU45 forms a completely intergrated system.

INPUTS

Magnetic Pick-up (within \pm 1db RIAA curve)

2mV 47K Ω

Tape Replay (external components to suit

head), 4mV, 47K Ω

Microphone (flat) 10mV, 47K Ω

Ceramic Pick-up (equalized and compensatable) 20-2000mV, variable.

Tuner (flat) 250mV, 100K Ω

Auxiliary 1 250mV, 47K Ω

Auxiliary 2 2-20mV, 100K Ω

OUTPUTS

Main Pre-amp output 500mV.

Direct tape output 120mV.

ACTIVE TONE CONTROLS (Bexendall)

Treble + 12db.

Bass + 12db.

INTERNAL STABILIZATION

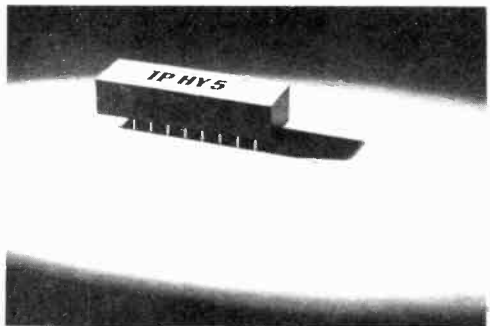
Enables the HY5 to share an unregulated supply with the Power Amplifier.

SUPPLY VOLTAGE

16-25 volts

PRICE: MONO: £3.60

STEREO: £7.20



SUPPLY CURRENT

6mA approx.

OVERLOAD CAPABILITY

better than 26db on most sensitive input infinite on tuner and auxl.

OUTPUT NOISE VOLTAGE: 0.5mV.

POWER SUPPLY PSU45

The versatile P.S.U.45 is designed to supply your HY41's +HY5's in stereo or mono format.

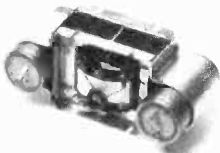
Specification

Input: 200-240 Volts

Output: + 22.5 Volts at 2amps.

Overall Dimensions: L. 7"; D. 3.8"; H. 3.1"

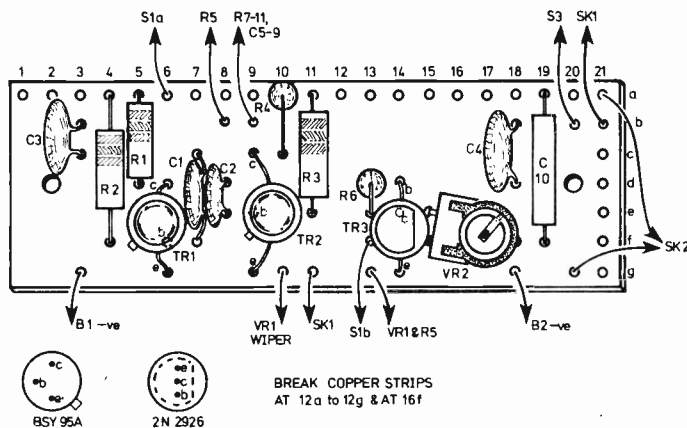
PRICE: £4.50 inc. P. & P.



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Fig. 6. Layout of the components on the Veroboard



82 is read off the scale, this multiplied by 100 to give 8200, which is the value in ohms of the resistor under test.

MARKING THE SCALE

The procedure for calibrating the unit is as follows. With the unit switched to resistance, a resistor of the same value as that switched in by S2 should be connected across the test leads. The control knob of VR1 should be swung towards the high value of the scale until the bridge balances, and then the scale should be marked 100 at this point.

A resistor one tenth of the value of that switched in by S2 should then be connected across the test leads. The knob of VR1 should then be swung to the low value end of the scale until the bridge balances, and the scale marked 10 at this point.

A full range of components should then be used to fill in all the numbers of preferred values between these two points. The same procedure should be used for all five resistance ranges.

CAPACITANCE RANGES

Suitable scales for the capacitance ranges may then be marked by the same method, except the

components required to mark the ends of the scales will have to be ten times the value, and the same value as that switched in by S2.

The accuracy of the unit will depend almost entirely on the tolerance of the components used in its calibration. The only other factors affecting this, being, the stability of the components used in the bridge, and the care taken when marking the scales.

Most potentiometers have fairly large tolerances, and it is possible that this could cause the unit to be unable to cover the full ranges quoted. If this should occur, it may be corrected by reducing the value of R5 to 910 ohms, or if full coverage is still not obtained, 820 ohms.

USING THE BRIDGE

Adjustment of VR2 has to be made before the unit may be used. The range switch should be switched to resistance Range 1, and the earphone plugged in. VR1 should then be adjusted for maximum output in the earphone. VR2 is then adjusted so that the volume is fairly loud, but not excessively so.

To measure the value of a component it is merely connected to the two crocodile clips, and then the bridge switched to read resistance or capacitance as appropriate. If the component under test is wired into a circuit, one of its leads must be disconnected, to prevent other components in the circuit from affecting the reading.

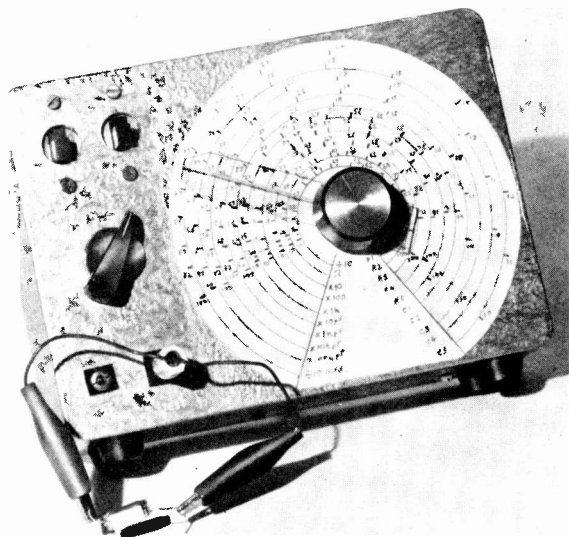
If the value of the component is known, and it is merely to be checked, then the bridge should be switched to the appropriate range, and then balanced (VR1 set for minimum output in the earphone).

COMPONENTS OF UNKNOWN VALUE

If a component of an unknown value is to be measured, then the bridge should be switched to a middle range such as Range 3, and then balanced if possible.

Should the bridge balance with the pointer of VR1 on the scale, then a reading may be taken. If the bridge will not balance and it is a capacitor under test, then a lower range should be tried.

Should this occur when a resistor is under test, then a higher range should be tried. If the bridge balances, but is off the scale, then either a higher range of capacitance, or a lower range of resistance is required. ★



The completed C-R Bridge showing the scale fixed to the front panel and calibrated

THE BIG INDUSTRIAL "TRANSFER" MARKET

THE past few weeks have seen a spate of activity in takeovers and mergers.

As forecast in this column in the July issue, Racal were in fact in negotiation at the time and the result was the acquisition of the communications division of S. G. Brown Ltd. from the Hawker Siddeley Group for a reported cash sum of about £1 million.

Unitech Group have acquired APT Electronics from the Bonochord Group. APT's range of

Then there was the merger of Gresham Recording Heads with Information Magnetics Corporation of California, a company little known in the U.K. but well-esteemed in the U.S.A. even though it has been in business only since 1969 manufacturing disc recording heads in competition with IBM and other U.S. giants.

All this flurry of activity (and the examples I have given are by no means all) shows a general trend towards re-grouping in the face of increasing competition and the need to decide which market sector is appropriate to the business you think you are in.

CALCULATED RISK

Advance Electronics has gone the whole hog in the competitive electronic calculator market by following up the Executive 8, announced at this year's I.E.A. exhibition, with a further five models including a pocket machine which sells at £52.50 for which Advance expect sales of at least 25,000.

It has been generally thought that the Japanese had the bulk of the world market for electronic calculators nicely sewn up. Not so. See what has happened in the United States when some of the more enterprising manufacturers decided to take the plunge in the low-price consumer field. They are choc-a-bloc with orders. So much so that they are now in trouble.

Computer Design Corporation, one of the entrepreneurs, has been complaining that the semiconductor manufacturers have let them down on the supply of the LSI MOS chips which are the heart of the machines. Computer Design has been reported as having over 4,000 machines on the shelf waiting for components. Computer Design has three suppliers of LSI memory circuits to be on the safe side but delivery dates have been seriously under-estimated, in some cases it is reported the delay is six months.

Another U.S. manufacturer of calculators is complaining not only of late delivery of circuits but also that rejects were as high as 70 per cent although the figure has now improved to 10 per cent.

Nobody has extolled the virtues of LSI more than the semiconductor manufacturers. Now they find they can't cope with the demand. The supply of LSI chips is in the hands of a very few multinational manufacturers who can dictate where available supplies should go. Such is their power that they could make or break a calculator manufacturer if they so wished.

ELECTRO-OPTICS

In our September issue I wrote that nobody has yet made a fortune out of lasers, but they could

become big business. I now record that the enterprising Munich Trade Fair Company is promoting a Laser '73 exhibition in their city next September with the forecast that this no-longer novel technology (the laser was first demonstrated in 1960 by Theodore H. Maiman in Hughes Research Laboratories) will have a civil market alone worth billions of dollars. Be that as it may, the exhibition should itself prove a profitable affair because despite its title it will cover the whole field of electro-optics which is about the fastest growing sector of electronics.

... AND MICROWAVES

If electro-optics is a booming industry so is microwaves judging from the response to the Microwave '73 international exhibition and conference scheduled to be held at Brighton next June. Stand area has just been increased by 40 per cent to cope with the demand for space. So far, nearly 80 companies from U.S.A. and Europe have booked space as exhibitors and the accompanying conference, I understand, will be heavily slanted towards applications of microwave technology rather than theory.

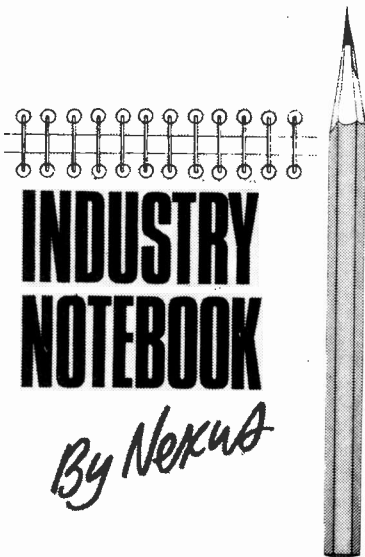
"FAX" MARKET OPENS UP

Facsimile transmission was first demonstrated—at least in principle—by Alexander Bain, a Scottish clockmaker, way back in 1842. Now, 130 years later it is really beginning to be big business and the high-powered companies are already moving in.

Plessey is one of the recent entrants with an American designed machine built in Japan. Plessey did a test marketing operation last year before deciding to go ahead. The operation is already swinging and Plessey expect to be selling over 5,000 a year by 1976.

Most unusual use for the Plessey "Remotecopier" was in "British Steel" during the recent single-handed transatlantic yacht race when skipper Brian Cooke had one aboard for reception of weather charts from which he was able to predict wind changes several hours ahead of his competitors. But the big market is in offices where it is being promoted as "business tool".

But, as the market opens up, so the competition increases. There are seven major manufacturers in the field. In the U.K., latest entry is EMI who is marketing EMIfax machines through its subsidiary company SE Computer Peripherals. The machine is produced by the German company Rudolph Hell which happens to be a subsidiary of Siemens.



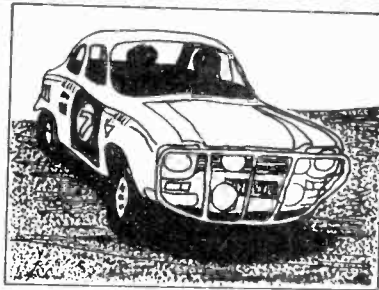
power supplies will now complement those already manufactured by the Unitech subsidiary, Coutant, although I understand that APT and Coutant will continue to operate as separate companies. Having hived off APT, the Bonochord Group then acquired Livingston Hire and its subsidiary companies for a sum in excess of £1 million.

RATIONALISATION

The old-established Dubilier, itself only acquired a few months ago by a consortium headed by Hambro's Bank and Slater Walker Securities, has now acquired Greenpar Engineering and Kenneth E. Beswick. Greenpar was acquired by Thorn Group not all that number of years back—was it two or three?—and Beswick, who has been in the fuse business for fifty years was a subsidiary of Tremletts.

TWO SPECIAL CONSTRUCTIONAL PROJECTS FOR THE PARTY SEASON

RALLY DRIVING GAME



Five different "cars" participate in a competition of "driving" skill. Which driver can keep his car on the road, under optimum acceleration and braking conditions, depends on the acquired skill of simulating his driving conditions on a control panel, bearing in mind the type of car he is driving.



HOOTING OWL

Leave the hooting owl in a conspicuous place in your lounge and someone is bound to pick it up to take a closer look.

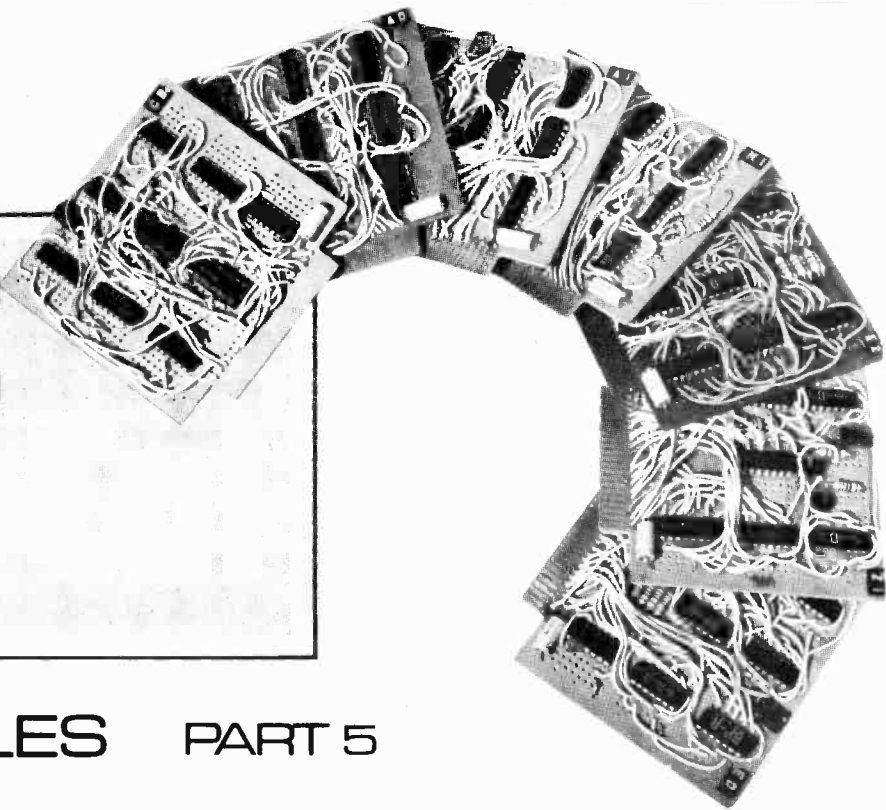
He arouses curiosity, he is a pet for the children; he just likes to sit and gaze into space. He feeds on small batteries (about twice a year when contented). But if he is frequently handled, his appetite goes up to help him hoot.

PRACTICAL

ELECTRONICS

DECEMBER ISSUE ON SALE NOVEMBER 10

PE



By R.W. COLES PART 5

ENTRY REGISTER LOGIC AND HARDWARE

LAST month we dealt with the construction of the keyboard logic panel which has the function of converting each key depression into suitable logic signals for entry and control of data.

As stated in the first part, entries of up to six digits can be made. The subject of this month's part is the Entry register and associated logic which has the function of storing these six entered digits in their correct order for use in calculation to come. A six digit number can also be placed in a memory for use at any number of times during the calculation.

This part also discusses the possibility of a "fixed constant" key whereby a single depression of an extra key causes a chosen number (such as π) to be entered into the entry register.

ENTRY REGISTER LOGIC

A block diagram of the ENTRY register complex is shown in Fig. 5.1, which is an expansion of the ENTRY register section of the overall arithmetic section block diagram from Part 1 (Fig. 1.3).

The operation of the ENTRY register and its associated constant store and display multiplexer is relatively straightforward, each of the possible six decimal entry figures being stored as a four-bit parallel B.C.D. code, requiring a total of 6×4 (= 24) separate storage bistables.

The 24 bistables or flip-flops are arranged as a shift register six decimal digits long and four B.C.D. digits wide, so that with each clock pulse a complete B.C.D. group (i.e. one decimal digit) is shifted into, or down, the register.

Each time a number key is pressed, the keyboard circuits (which were described last month) staticise the corresponding B.C.D. code and generate a single

clock pulse, which is used to clock the four bit code into the ENTRY register.

Pressing a second or subsequent number key causes the first group to shift down the register to the "left," its place being taken by the new entry. This process can continue until the first entered number ends up in the extreme left-hand location of the register, after which any further entries will cause that first number to be destroyed by being shifted out of the end of the register.

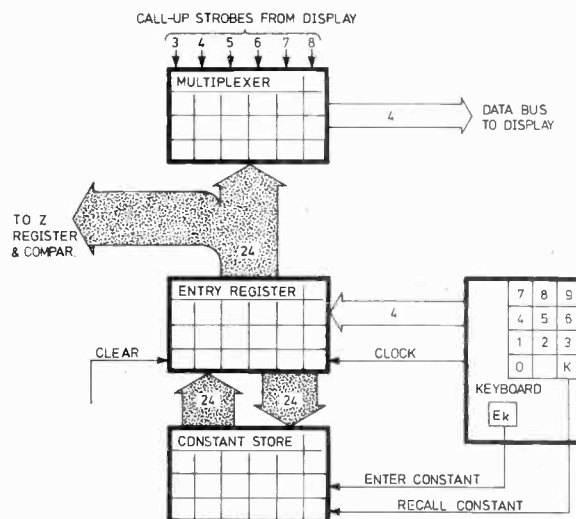


Fig. 5.1. Block diagram of the Entry Register complex showing the inputs and outputs

Note that the ENTRY register accepts the most significant digit of the complete figure entry *first*, just as we write figures ourselves. This makes the ENTRY register a "left-shift" register and distinguishes it from the other registers which normally accept the least significant digit (L.S.D.) first, and are thus termed "right-shift" registers.

CIRCUIT PARTITIONING

The ENTRY register and associated constant store and multiplexer, are built on three separate plug-in cards. The way in which the circuit is divided among the four cards is shown in Fig. 5.2., where it is immediately apparent that three of the cards are identical.

In effect partitioning the circuit in this way results in three independent shift-registers, each two decimal digits long and four B.C.D. digits wide, and each having a proportionate amount of constant storage.

In use these small units are connected in series, via the edge connector wiring, but because each card is identical they can be freely interchanged and this is a great help in tracing any faults which may occur.

The display multiplexer is built on a separate card with a 44-way edge contact instead of the 22-way type used for the other three cards, and although not shown on the block diagram, this card also houses two SN7440 buffer gate packages used to drive the CLOCK and CLEAR lines of the register.

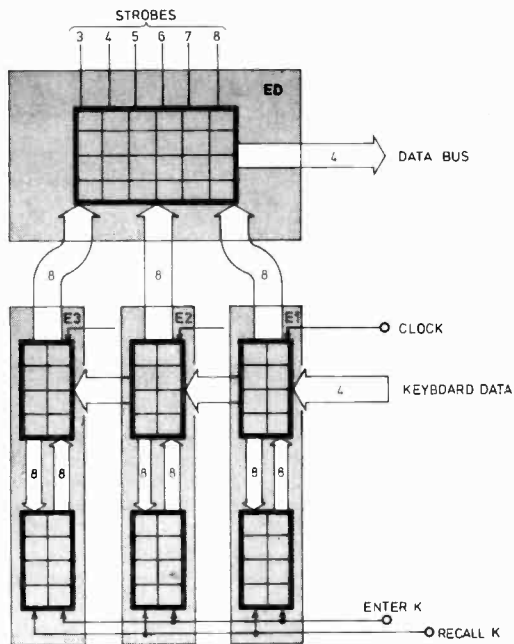


Fig. 5.2. Partitioning of the entry Register into the four boards. Boards E1, E2, E3 are identical and each contain two digits of the entry and two digits of the stored constant. Board ED contains the multiplexer

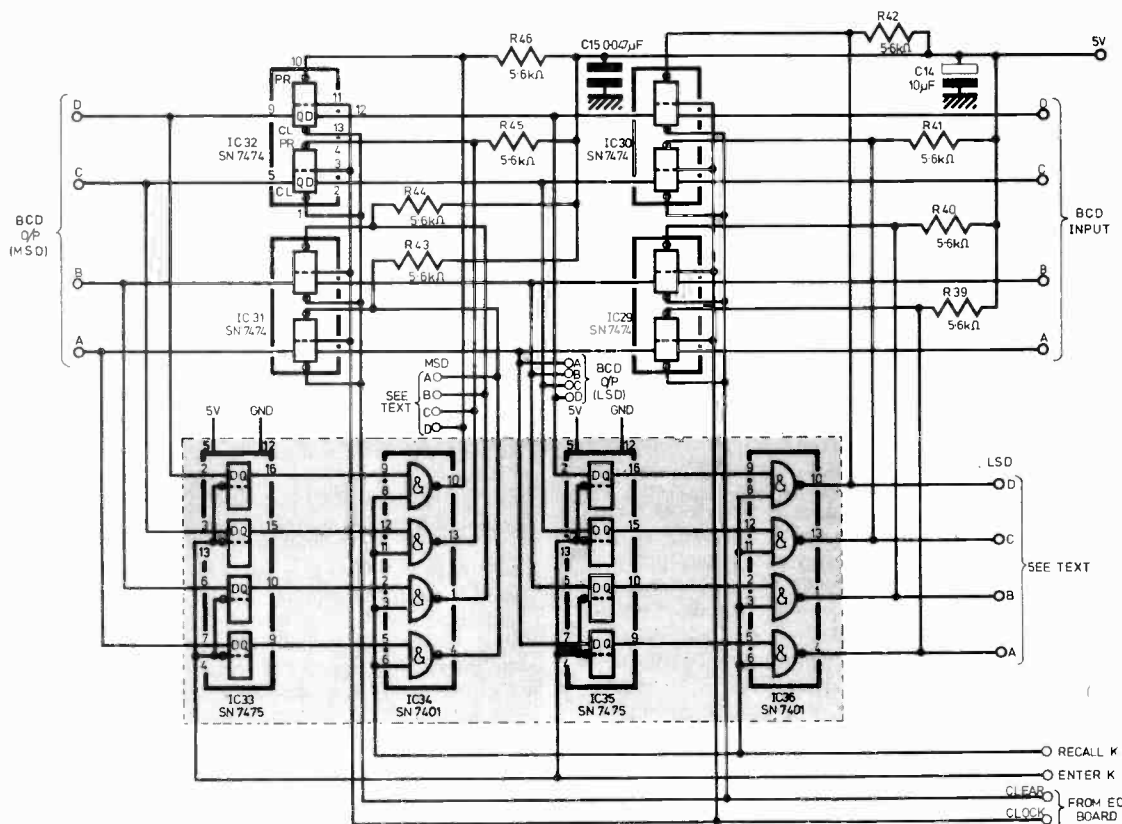


Fig. 5.3. Circuit of the Entry Register board E1. Boards E2 and E3 are identical to this. The dotted line encloses the constant store which may be omitted if not needed

REGISTER CIRCUIT

The full circuit diagram of an individual register board is shown in Fig. 5.3, three of these sections being required to form the complete register.

The circuit splits horizontally into two logical sections, the upper four i.c.s forming the shift register proper, and the lower four forming the constant store.

The components forming the constant store are enclosed in a dotted box for easy identification, and it is these i.c.s which may be left out if required, along with their associated wiring.

The eight bistables which comprise the shift register itself are SN7474 dual D-type elements, chosen because of their flexibility and low power dissipation.

Both of the two bistables in each package have independent clock, data, preset and clear inputs, together with true and inverted outputs. D-type flip-flops are more suitable than the J-K types for shift register application because they only require a single data (D) input which has the effect of reducing wire interconnections and leaving pins available for the independent preset function without recourse to the more expensive 16-pin package.

To form the register the flip-flops are connected in series pairs, there being four such pairs on each board to cater for the four separate digits (A, B, C, D) of the B.C.D. code.

Each vertical group will contain four binary digits which, taken together, represent one of the decimal numbers zero to nine.

The clock input to the register has to drive all of the flip-flop clock inputs in parallel so that after each pulse the data in a particular four bit group move one place to the left, and are themselves replaced by new data.

It is necessary to clear all the data from the ENTRY register simultaneously when required by the programme, and to this end all the CLEAR inputs are connected together to a common input, a low level, or "ground" condition on this input will set the Q outputs of all the flip-flops to zero, and the \bar{Q} outputs to one.

CLEARING OPERATION

The contents of the ENTRY register are transferred in parallel to the Z register early in the arithmetic programme, except during MULTIPLY, when they remain to be compared with the contents of the counter.

When the register contents are finished with the ENTRY register is cleared by a signal from the programme, ready for subsequent entries to be made by the operator.

Any errors made during figure entry (e.g. pressing "8" instead of "6") can be corrected by pressing the CLEAR ENTRY key which also has the effect of clearing the contents of the register ready for new data.

CONSTANT STORE

The constant store is shown beneath the ENTRY register, and is of the same 24 position capacity, so that any entry made can be stored for further use in a calculation.

This store is not essential to the correct operation of Digi-Cal and can be left out permanently or temporarily if desired, without the need for any modification to the rest of the circuit.

In operation, with the desired constant entered in the usual way into the ENTRY register, the ENTER K (EK) key is pressed, which duplicates the contents of the ENTRY register in the constant store by means of a single, parallel, 24 bit transfer.

Constants stored in this way remain available until they are either replaced by a new number or the machine is switched off, there being no requirement or provision for clearing this store, other than by entering a constant which consists of all zeros.

Constant recall is carried out by pressing the K key in the numeral section of the keyboard whereupon a reverse transfer occurs, in parallel, from the constant store to the ENTRY register. This operation does not destroy the contents of the store so that any constant can be used as many times as required in a calculation.

The constant store need not be used simply for storing constants in the accepted sense, since it will act as a memory of any result or intermediate answer if required, provided these numbers are entered through the keyboard in the usual way.

This mode of operation really acts as a substitute for pencil and paper, and can be most useful at times in long calculations.

DISPLAY MULTIPLEXER

The display board, described in Part 3, will display either entries or answers depending on a signal from the programme, entry and answer data being routed to the display via two four-line "buses."

Timing signals, in the shape of "character call-up" strobes are produced by the display board to enable the four line buses to carry all the data in their associated register to the display in a time-shared sequence, the sequence being produced in a multiplexer circuit.

There are two multiplexers in Digi-Cal, one for the eight digit answer and the other, which we are interested in here, to handle the six digit entries.

Only strobes three to eight inclusive are used by the ENTRY multiplexer, each of these allowing only one four-bit B.C.D. digit on to the bus at any instant in time, the strobe direction being from most to least significant digit (M.S.D. to L.S.D.).

CONSTANT CIRCUIT

Simpler storage elements can be used for the constant store since there is no requirement for PRESET or CLEAR inputs, and the devices chosen to fulfil this function are the SN7475 four bit latches.

Like the SN7474s these quad latches require only single "D" inputs, the data to be stored being of course the outputs from the shift register flip-flops.

Clocking is controlled by the ENTER K key, via a buffer gate mounted off the board. There is no need to "debounce" the output of this switch because of the simple "gated latch" operation of the SN7475 flip-flops and the static nature of the inputs during the entry operation.

Stored constants are returned to the shift register via the SN7474 PRESET inputs, transfer being controlled by the SN7401 quad NAND gates, which have a common input enabled by the RECALL K key, via a buffer gate. The PRESET inputs of the SN7474s are "active low," i.e. they set the Q output to "1" when an "0" input is present, and so require inverted data from the constant store. This inversion is provided by the SN7401 gates.

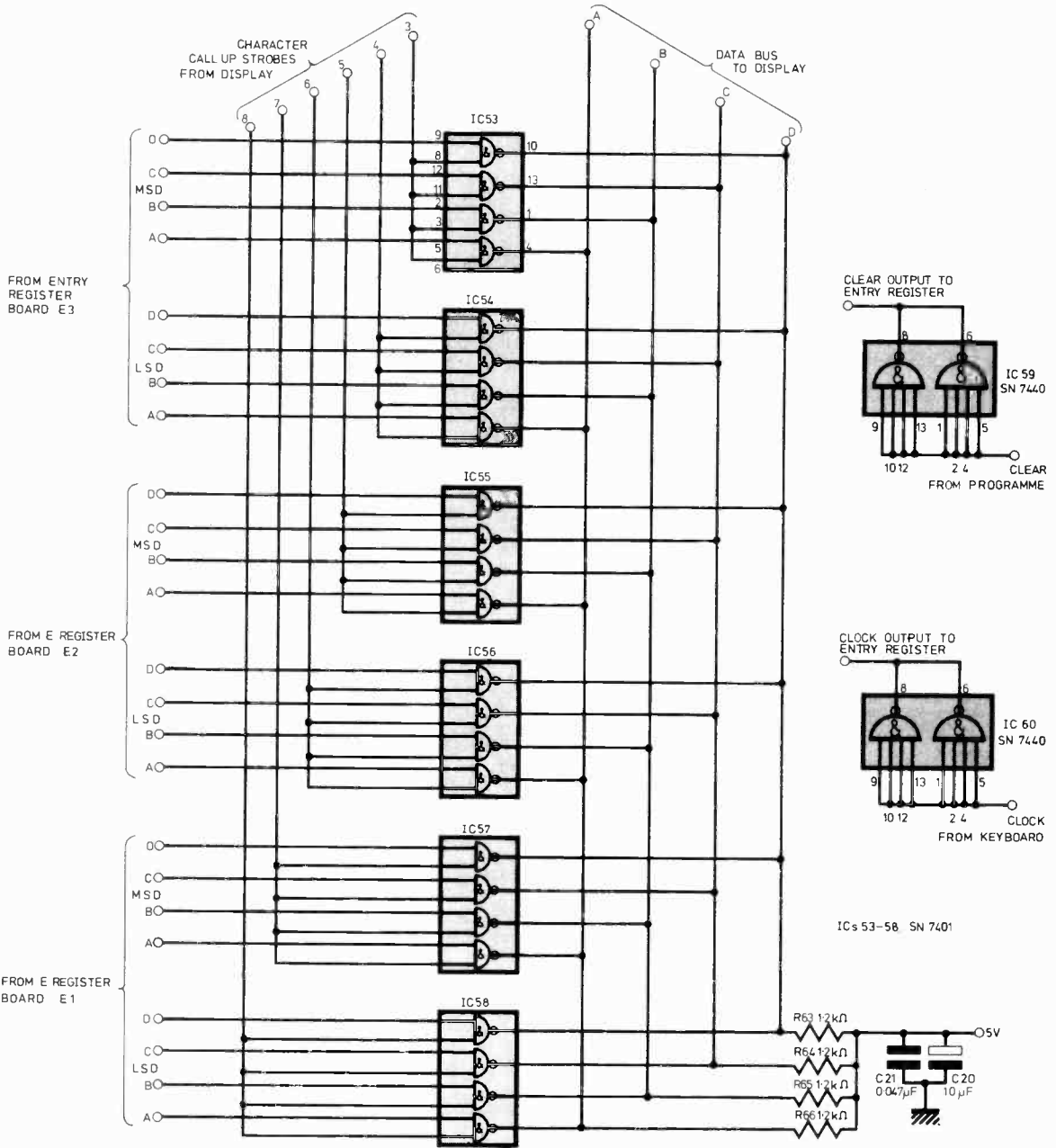


Fig. 5.4. Circuit of the Entry Register Board ED. The two SN7440 i.c.s are simply buffers and only placed on this board for convenience

MULTIPLEXER CIRCUIT

The circuit of the display multiplexer, Fig. 5.4, is quite straightforward, it being formed only from gates and resistors. Each SN7401 gate package has its four inputs wired to the corresponding four B.C.D. output pins on the appropriate register board, there being a separate gate i.c. for each decimal digit.

The common input to the four gates in each i.c. is driven by the "character call-up" strobe appropriate to that digit.

All the "A" outputs from the gate packages are wired together, as are the B, C, and D outputs, to form the four line display bus, which is referenced to the 5V line by the four 1.2 kilohm resistors.

Note that SN7401 open collector gates are essential for this circuit, SN7400 gates being unsuitable due to the fact that several gate outputs are connected directly together to provide the "Wired OR" function.

Interconnection of outputs is not permitted with the basic TTL gate because of the "active pull-up"

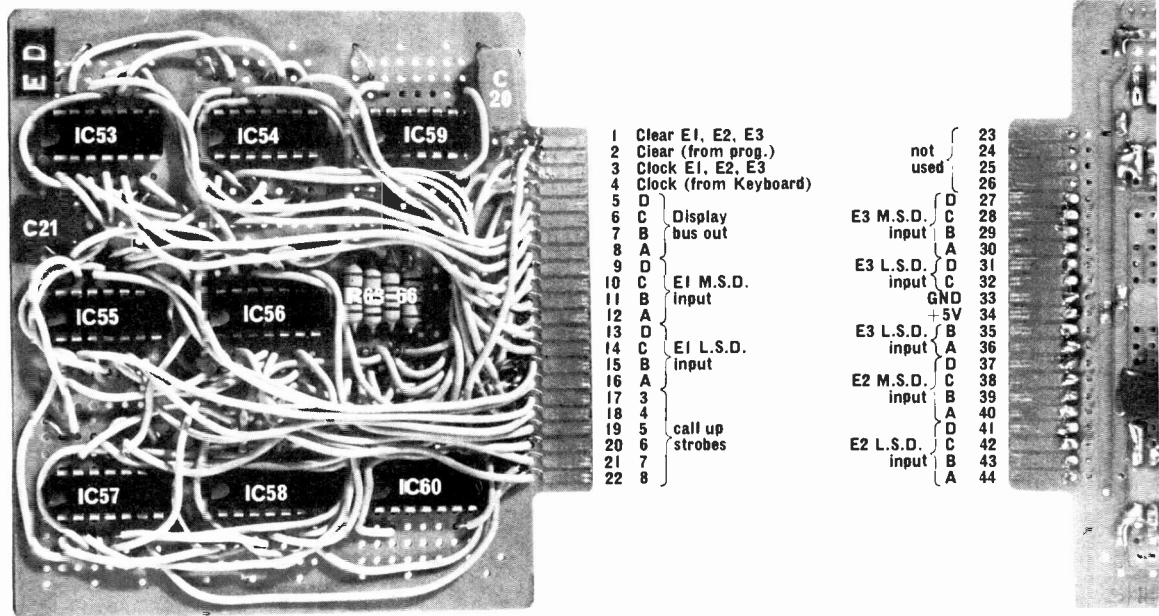


Fig. 5.5. Layouts of the components on the register board ED and functions of edge contacts

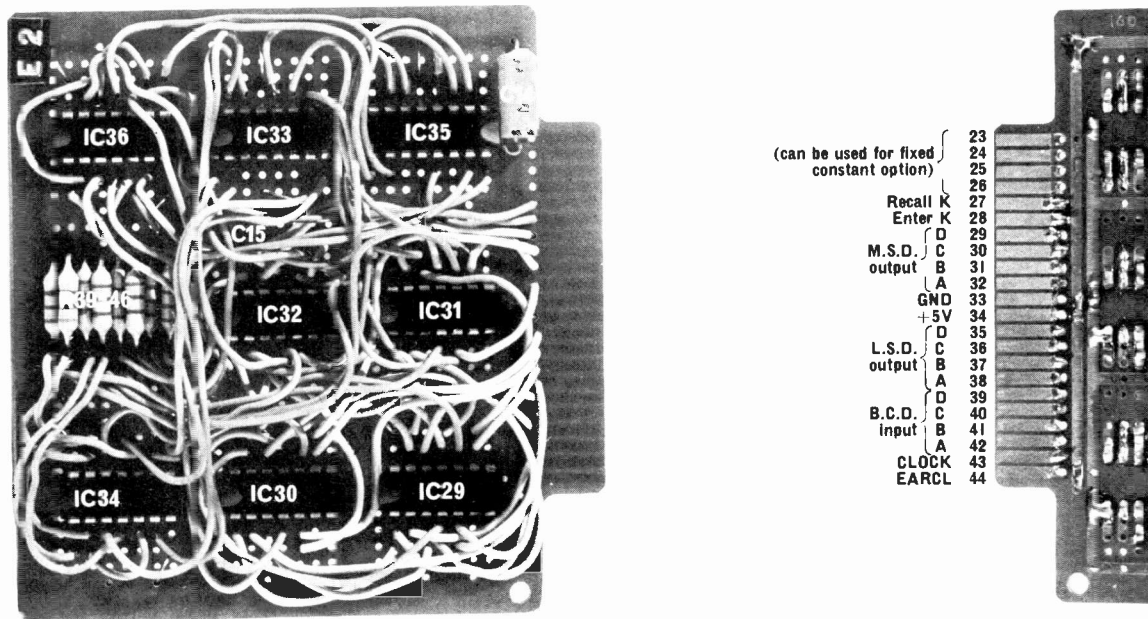
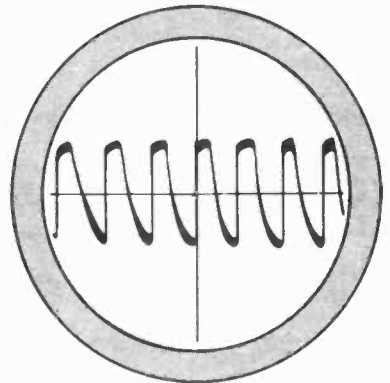


Fig. 5.6. Layout of the components on the Entry Register Boards E1, E2, and E3 and functions of edge contacts which only appear on the underside

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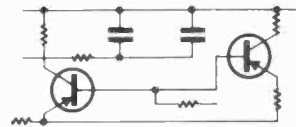
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COMPONENTS . . .

REGISTER BOARDS E1, E2, E3

Resistors

R39-R62 5.6kΩ ±10% ¼W carbon (24 off)

Capacitors

C14, C16, C18 10µF 15V elect. (3 off)
C15, C17, C19 0.047µF (3 off)

Integrated Circuits

IC29-IC32, IC37-IC40, IC45-IC48 SN7474 (12 off)
IC33, 35, 41, 43, 49, 51 SN7475 (6 off)
IC34, 36, 42, 44, 50, 52 SN7401 (6 off)

Printed circuit boards and sockets

Type DL109/22 (3 off) (Available from Shirehall Electronics Ltd., Station Yd., Borough Gn., Sevenoaks, Kent)
SK2-4 DPK165 edge connectors (Shirehall) (3 off)

(Note that the three boards are identical, each board taking one third of each group of components shown above)

REGISTER BOARD ED

Resistors

R63-R66 1.2kΩ ±10% ¼W carbon (4 off)

Capacitors

C20 10µF 15V elect.
C21 0.047µF

Integrated Circuits

IC53-IC58 SN7401 (6 off)
IC59, IC60 SN7440 (2 off)

Printed circuit board and socket

Type DL109/44 (Shirehall)
SK1 DPK165 edge connector (Shirehall)

output stage. The SN7401 is a gate specially produced to allow "Wired or" function in TTL systems, and has no pull-up device incorporated.

The two SN7440 buffer gates are positioned on the multiplexer board but have no direct connection with the multiplexer circuit. The two buffers in each package are wired in parallel to give sufficient drive capability (or "fan-out") to handle the large load represented by the ENTRY register CLOCK and CLEAR lines (48 loads and 72 loads respectively).

CONSTRUCTION

Wiring up is carried out in the same fashion as the display board described last month, though the plug-in cards are much easier to work with because of the pre-tinned finish and the ready formed i.c. pads which obviate the need for "spot face" cuts.

By referring to the appropriate circuit diagram and the i.c. layouts shown in Fig. 5.5 and Fig. 5.6 wiring is quite straightforward, the only points to remember being the need for links from the power buses to each i.c. and from these power buses to the appropriate edge contacts, along with the need to orientate the i.c.s correctly before soldering into circuit.

All wiring up is carried out on the blank side of the boards, using single core wire.

The best order to complete the construction of the boards is as follows: ED board (display multiplexer) including the buffer gates, on a Shirehall DL109/44; then the register section (SN7474s) of boards E1, 2, 3, on Shirehall DL109/22 cards; and finally when the above sections are operating correctly, the constant store and if required, the fixed constant option, may be added.

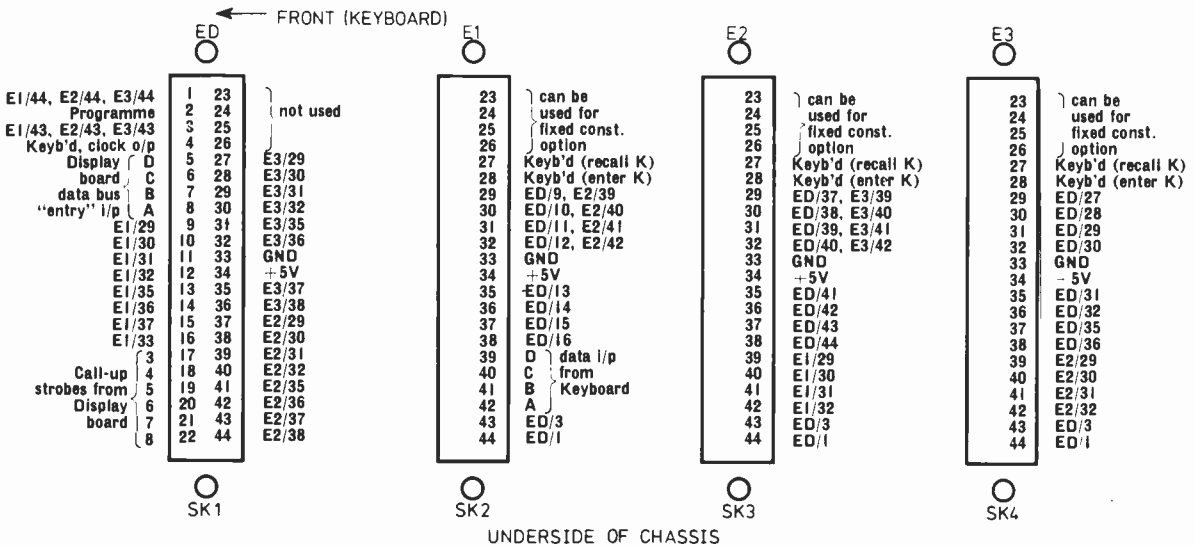


Fig. 5.7. Interwiring of the four entry register boards is carried out using the edge connectors fitted in the large hole cut in the chassis plate. The edge connectors are fitted so that the boards plug in from above. Destinations of wires are shown next to each contact (e.g. contact 30 on socket E1 should be wired to contact 10, board ED, and contact 40, board E2)

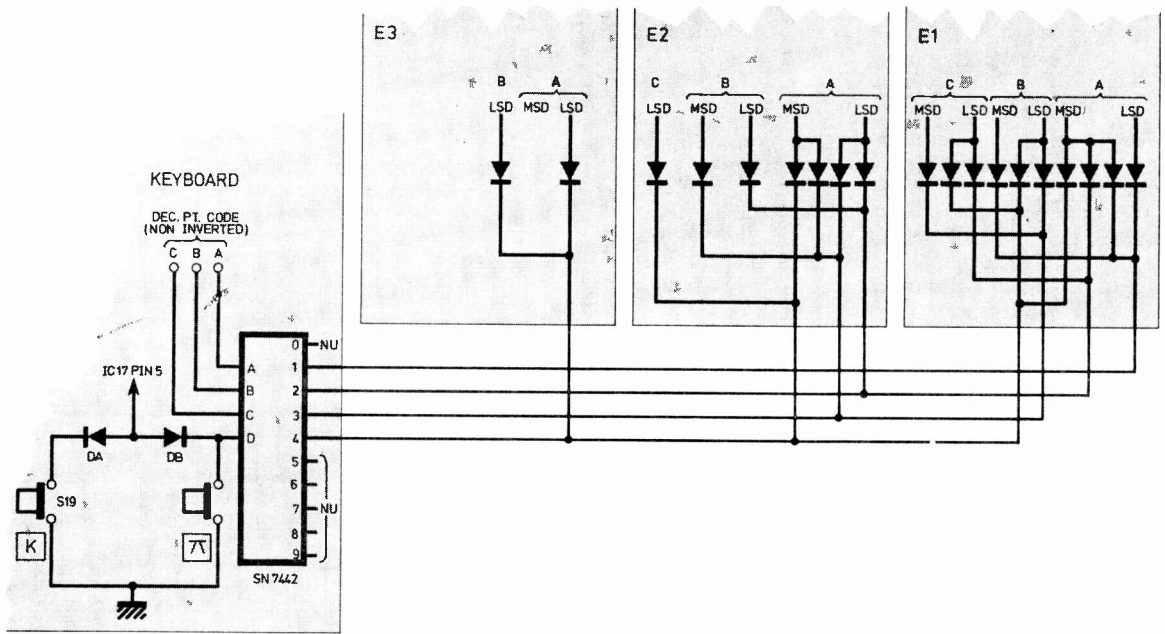


Fig. 5.8. Extra wiring to allow for a fixed constant key in addition to the K key. The diodes shown allow for the number π or a close approximation, to be placed in the entry register when a single key is depressed. The SN7442 is an extra i.c., space for which can be found on the Keyboard panel

INTERCONNECTION AND TESTING

Under chassis edge connector wiring can be started early in the construction sequence to allow operational testing to be carried out as necessary, and this task can be readily completed by referring to the edge connector layout and wiring tables (Fig. 5.7).

The tables are easier to use than wiring diagrams

their instructions being implemented by simply wiring the edge connector pin required to all (or any part as required) of the destination listed.

When the register section of one or more of the boards is completed, keyboard entries should be possible by pressing a sequence of number keys, provided of course that the display and keyboard are already functioning, and that the required CLOCK, CLEAR, and data interconnections have been made.

Table 5.1 EXAMPLE OF FIXED CONSTANT KEY DIODE PLACING

Dec. pt setting	Required " π " value	Decimal digit identification						B.C.D. digit
		Board E3		Board E2		Board E3		
		M.S.D.	L.S.D.	M.S.D.	L.S.D.	M.S.D.	L.S.D.	
1	3-1					x	x	D C B A
2	3-14				x		x	D C B A
3	3-142			x	x	x	x	D C B A
4	3-1416		x	x	x		x	D C B A

NEWS BRIEFS

The only temporary test connection required to render the circuit operational is a ground connection to the CLEAR buffer gate input to prevent a permanent CLEAR signal being produced.

FIXED CONSTANT OPTION

SN7401 open collector gates are used in the RECALL K path in preference to SN7400 gates because they can be used to perform the "Wired OR" function at their outputs. In practical terms this means that it is possible to "get at" the SN7474 PRESET inputs for use with other data sources than the constant register without altering existing logic.

This possibility opens the door to all sorts of custom modifications to enhance the usefulness of Digi-Cal, and to show how simple some improvements can be, let us consider a scheme for entering a constant which is very commonly used, without taking up space in the constant store itself.

The constant is the ubiquitous Pi (π), but in fact any constant which is likely to be often used is suitable for our purposes, the object being to have the chosen constant always available at the press of its own *separate* key, without interfering with the operation of the constant store which remains available for routine use.

This modification requires only the incorporation of a number of diodes into the ENTRY register boards and the addition of an extra "pi" key on the keyboard with a single extra i.c. The circuit for such a scheme is shown in Fig. 5.8.

An extra diode must be connected to the keyboard logic panel (Fig. 4.2), between the top of the "K" switch S19 and pin 5 on IC17, the previous direct connection being broken. This diode, marked DA in Fig. 5.8, together with diode DB forms an OR gate so that pressing either key "K" or " π " causes the automatic normalisation to be inhibited.

OPERATION OF CONSTANT FACILITY

The principle of operation is that when the "pi" key is pressed one of the outputs of the SN7442 decoder will go low, depending on the setting of the decimal point switch.

The energised output is used to PRESET a number into the ENTRY register via diodes wired in wherever a "1" is required. The diodes are connected to the PRESET inputs at the points marked in Fig. 5.3, and perform the "Wired OR" function with the SN7401 outputs.

The whole circuit acts as a diode "Read Only Memory," where the contents of the memory are programmed at the construction stage by wiring in diodes where required.

The memory contains four separate numbers to allow for the four possible decimal place selections. Table 5.1 shows how the placing of the diodes is determined, a cross marking the position of each.

This circuit can be very useful if Digi-Cal is to be used for calculations containing an often used constant, and can be substituted for the constant store or used to complement it. If this option is never likely to be taken up it would be possible to use SN7400 gates in the RECALL path instead of the SN7401s and resistors, but note that the pin connections for the SN7400s are different.

Next month: Logic and construction of A and Z registers.

New Data Transmission Technique

A NEW technique of data transmission is to be tested in a forthcoming experiment involving the Post Office and computer manufacturers and users. The system is known as "packet switching" and is basically the transmission of computer data in self-contained, addressed blocks like a series of high speed telegrams.

The user of such a system sends out the data together with the address of its destination and the data is automatically routed to that destination by the system. The need to set up a direct link between sender and receiver before transmission is thus eliminated.

Circuits connecting packet switching exchanges can be used for carrying packets sent by other customers in the time intervals between packets in a series making up a complete message. Because many signals travel on the same wire a large number of low capacity connections to a multi-access computer can be replaced by a single high capacity connection.

The system has the advantage of lower error rates than conventional systems and enables two terminals with different data transmission rates to be connected.

New Range of Calculators

A RANGE of five new electronic calculators has just been announced by the British firm Advance Electronics Ltd.

Because of large scale integration whereby all the electronics can be placed in a handful of discrete packages, assembly costs of complex instruments have been reduced drastically. The features which Advance are promoting are reliability and value for money rather than such dubious advantages as extreme miniaturisation.

The new range consists of four desk-top calculators known as the Executive 16 range and a pocket-sized calculator known as the Executive.

The Executive 16 range all feature 16 digit capability and a keyboard specially designed for high speed work. The keyboard allows a key to be pressed even when another has already been pressed providing that they are released in the correct order.

The basic model (retailing at £95) has the four basic arithmetic operations as well as a " $\%$ " key.

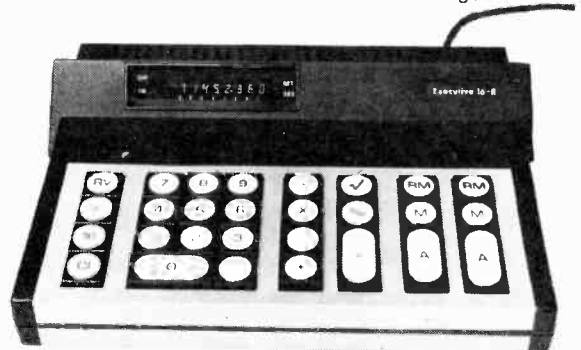
The 16 + 1 (at £115) has a versatile memory with full 16 digit capacity which can also function as an accumulator for automatic list totalling.

The 16 + 2 (at £145) is specially suitable for V.A.T. calculations featuring two memories.

The 16R (at £175) has all the features of the 16 + 2 but also includes a square root key.

The fifth member of the range is an eight-digit portable (at £52.50) with a plinth for desk use and mains power supply option extras.

Shown here is the Executive 16R which is the most versatile of the Executive 16 range



PATENTS REVIEW...

AUDIO FREQUENCY ANALYSIS

THE analysis of audio frequencies by separating a selected frequency component from a complex signal can be useful for any number of purposes. In BP 1 282 487 The Standard-Triumph Motor Company Limited describe an analysis system which they have found particularly suitable for checking the audible noise from a gear box to isolate gears which are unduly noisy.

Past practice, directed at separating the noise of the gear in question from the overall gear noise, has been to compute the main frequency of sound produced by any two gear wheels by considering their teeth number and speed. With the main frequency

component thus known it is isolated by applying a reference signal (from a tone wheel) to "beat" with the selected frequency.

A simple bridge and capacitor arrangement is used to measure the amplitude. But the snag has been poor low frequency response and confusion due to ripple in the output waveform due to the presence of rectified a.c.

In the new invention a tone wheel produces an audio frequency signal which is fed to the tone input. The noise signal to be analysed is applied to the noise input and the tone and noise signals are respectively amplified and applied to three transformers which constitute a balanced modulator.

The secondary of one transformer is applied to the primary of another via a ring modulator. The secondary of the latter is fed

to a 100Hz low-pass filter which passes the beat signal only and blocks all other residual signals (reference and noise).

The filter output is amplified, rectified and fed to a voltage comparator. Two gate drive transistors control a gate, which is opened once every half cycle, allowing a storage capacitor to sample the smoothed beat signal voltage available when the gate is open.

The criterion of the invention is the feature whereby the storage capacitor mentioned above is connected after the gate so that it can only sample the smoothed voltage available when the gate is open. Previously the storage capacitor would have been connected across the output of the rectifier and so responded to a low frequency ripple. This will of course confuse the true response.

ELECTRONIC CONTROL OF SORTING

IN BP 1 279 134 Gunson's Sortex Limited of London E3, describe a fairly simple method of detecting the difference between mixed objects to be sorted, e.g. between scrap polyethylene and scrap copper. They claim that if modified their device can also be used to sort objects made from different types of plastics material.

The basic feature is that the mixed objects falling down a chute pass through a coil (in Fig. 1) with a small number of turns. This coil is part of a tuned circuit connected into an oscillator circuit.

The output of the oscillator is used to control a sorting deflector which pneumatically deflects objects of one type.

The circuit (Fig. 2) shows the coil together with the tuning capacitors and transistor functioning as a Colpitts oscillator. The frequency produced is usually within the range 200 to 300 MHz.

When an object passes through the coil a positive going change occurs in the output signal from the oscillator. The change in output signal is amplified and fed to a magnitude detector stage. This transistor amplifies and inverts to provide a negative-going signal which can be used to drive a power amplifier for controlling the deflector mechanism.

To distinguish between different objects of similar material, the detector transistor switches according to the signal rate of change. Fig. 3 shows an arrangement whereby an "object presence" sensor makes sure that the deflector operates only when required by one object.

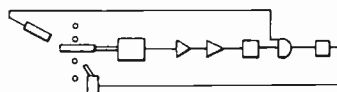


Fig. 3. Gating for one object at a time.

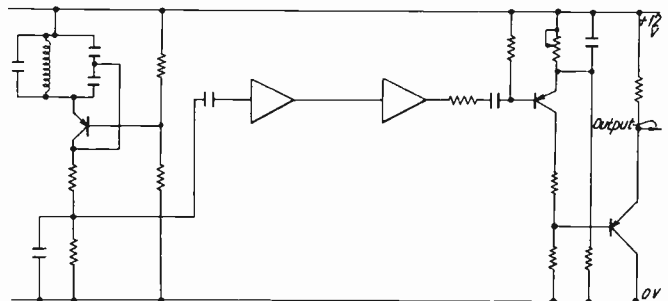


Fig. 2. Basic amplifier and switching circuit

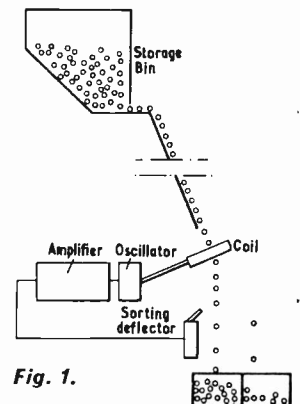


Fig. 1.

Gerry Brown ON THE FRINGE



CHARGE

Back in Queen Anne's time, the superstitious held that "air electricity" could have a profound influence on both behaviour and on general disposition. Indeed, such expressions as, "he has the wind in his tail" probably originated this long ago, since it was common practice in European courts to treat felonies with more tolerance whenever the Ides of March were blowing.

In common with many old beliefs which have subsequently become contemporary facts, air electricity is no exception. Apparently it is ions which are responsible for this effect on people. Ions are atoms (more likely, in this case, molecules) which have either lost or gained a number of electrons; those with extra electrons become negative ions, and those losing electrons, positive ions. For some obscure reason the positive ions make us feel tired and lower our capacity for work, while negative ions produce just the reverse; as when, for example, a thunderstorm has just passed.

Prior to a storm it has been noticed, though, that the air charge is predominantly positive so if the theory is right this would correlate with feeling "lifeless" and "head-achey" at such times.

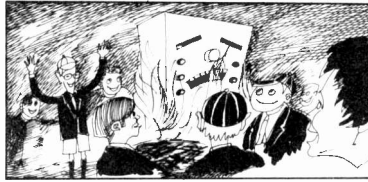
Thunder and lightning aside, in spite of our technical enlightenment we probably do more to make our lives uncomfortable than the "superstitious" people of yesterday.

Consider what we wear. Nearly all our clothing is prepared from synthetic material; shirts and dresses are made from nylon, rayon, or similar fibre, while the soles of our shoes are generally fashioned from some form of man-made "leather", all of which cause us to acquire a relatively permanent high-voltage charge.

This charge is positive and, what's more, according to some researchers causes most of the fatigue and general debility experienced these days. The question is, should we drag around discharging chains in order to maintain equilibrium, or would we be better off minimising "droop" under a d.c. version of the National Grid?

FIRE WITHOUT SMOKE

Since we have had every opportunity to become fully hyper-conscious about pollution and its effects, it is staggering to think that most of us are quite uncritical of the quantity of such belched into the atmosphere during that evening



on November the 5th. This is particularly hard to bear when one considers that fireworks have advanced little, technically, for the thousand or so years since the Chinese began using them; albeit, the bangers were likely better then!

So, since this burning sense of fun remains with us to relive the next year, and generally costs more per shower of sparks than it did the year previously, a nagging feeling is left that perhaps the time has now come to rethink the Guy Fawkes night phenomenon. And who could be more fortunate than us to enjoy a relatively luxurious imagination in this respect. While there's still a little time left before this year's "big burn", and before Dad sets light to the poplars again, let's see how realistic a smokeless 5th might be.

For starters, we could do-away with the conventional Catherine wheel and substitute it for a spinning frame of lights, faded electronically in sequence from the centre, and fed via slip rings on the drive shaft. Then add a bit of novelty to roman candles by employing solenoid-released, spring-ejected, miniature mercury cell

powered micro-lamps. Or what about capacitor discharge "canon crashers" with extra large xenon flash tubes for realistic back-up?

Occasional bursts of envelope shaped white noise would not come amiss, particularly in synchronism with periodically operated, brightly lit water fountains. Realistic smoke would be produced with solid CO₂.

With a philosophy like this fireworks could be arranged to have a virtually indefinite "burning time", and would hardly ever wear out. Honestly, when you consider just how much electrical power is available for the really enthusiastic, it's a wonder someone hasn't done a back-garden Son et Lumière already!

EYE-AYE!

Sensory deprivation still remains a bit of an enigma; indeed, the discovery of every new effect has raised an even greater number of questions about its possible mechanism.

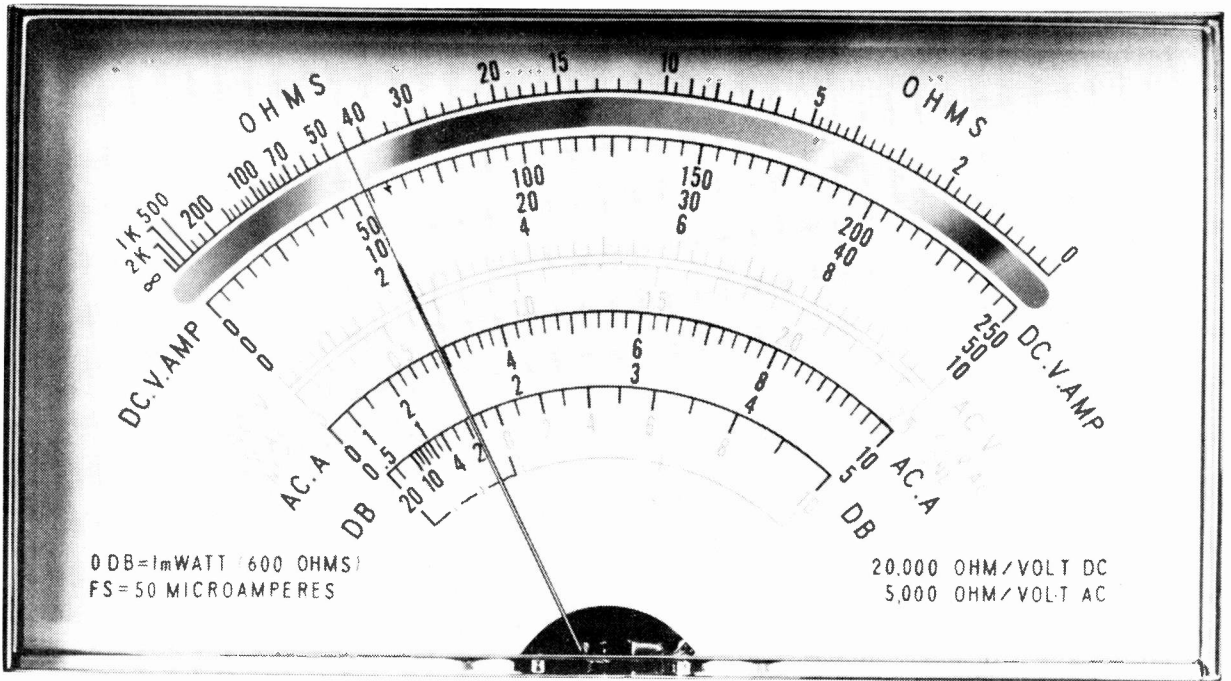
Many of the problems associated with experiments up until now could well have been attributed to the rather general nature of the experiments, and further complicated by interaction (or lack of it) between large numbers of unstimulated areas in the brain.

Although the days are not yet past when experimental volunteers need be suspended in tanks of warm water for hours at a time, there does appear to be a modest break-away toward more systematic examination by limited deprivation of inputs to individual senses.

Employing this technique, two workers at the University of Manitoba have recently discovered an effect very similar to that which occurs following actual severance of sensory nerves. For their experiment each of 15 students were asked to wear a light-blocking patch over one eye during a working day on the campus. The uncovered eye was checked periodically for sensitivity to flickering, rather than continuous light.

On aggregate, uncovered eyes were initially less sensitive, but, given several hours, subsequently began to increase in sensitivity, eventually exceeding even the normal level. In some instances students reported that this hypersensitivity lasted for days afterwards.

These odd happenings could, by implication, be no mere trifle, especially in the context of stimulus withdrawal for any great length of time. Paradoxically, though, an additional effect was that the covered eye maintained normal sensitivity throughout the tests. Perhaps Nelson, bless his heart, really didn't see any ships after all!



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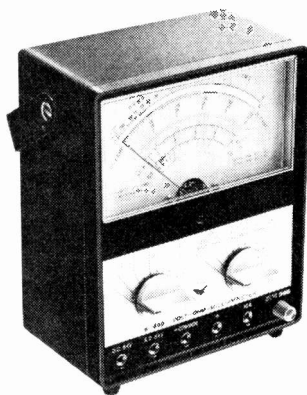
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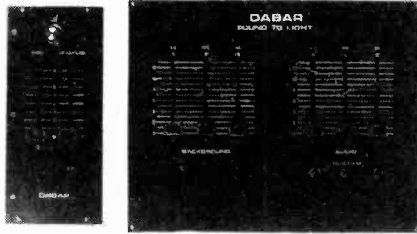


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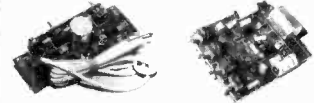
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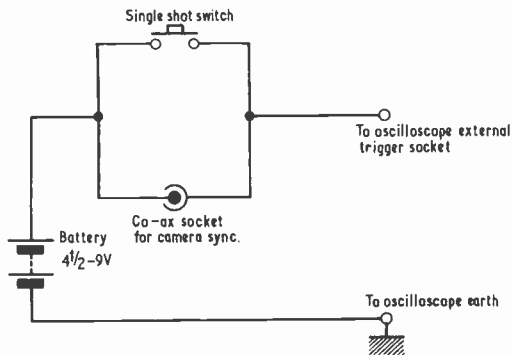


Fig. 1. Final circuit for adding a one shot facility to an oscilloscope

HAVING a double beam oscilloscope which does not have an integral single shot facility, it was felt that single shot operation would be useful in photographing traces. Inspection of the circuit diagram of the 'scope had shown that with a judicious choice in the setting of the trigger level and stability controls together with the application of external trigger pulses, a very simple system could be used to initiate single sweeps.

The external input to the trigger circuit of my 'scope (D51) can be a positive or negative going waveform of amplitude greater than three volts. The current required was small, so an old PP3 battery could be used until corrosion rendered it useless.

All that was thus required was a battery and a push on/release off switch connected in series with the external trigger socket of the 'scope.

It was realised that the switch could be replaced by the flash contacts of a camera. Use of a slow shutter speed and X (or electronic flash) synchronisation allows the trace to be recorded on film even under fairly high levels of ambient illumination.

The final circuit is shown in Fig. 1, the flash contacts being wired in parallel with the push on/release off switch to allow setting up and single shot operation without unnecessary wastage of film.

To set the equipment up, turn the trigger selector to external. Next turn the stability control from the free-run portion of its range until the trace just disappears. Turning the trigger level control from "auto" through the set level area of its range should at some point produce one trace. With the control in this position apply the external trigger pulses and optimise the settings of the stability and trigger level controls for reliable single shot triggering. The 'scope is then set up.

R. A. Shackelford,
Glasgow.

INGENUITY UNLIMITED

A selection of readers' suggested circuits. It should be emphasised that these designs have not been proven by us. They will at any rate stimulate further thought. This is YOUR page and any idea published will be awarded payment according to its merits.

SENSITIVE LIGHT SWITCH

ENCLOSE a circuit diagram, Fig. 1, of a very sensitive light operated switch which may be of interest to readers.

When the light dependent resistor PCC1 is illuminated its resistance is low making the inverting input of the i.c. positive with respect to the non-inverting (the potentiometer VR1 is adjusted to ensure this) so the output will be at 0V and the transistor TR1 will be cut off. As the light level falls the l.d.r.'s resistance increases until the inverting input is more negative than the non-inverting. This causes the amplifier to saturate and the output rises to +12V, which switches on TR1 and operates the relay.

The point at which the relay operates is controlled by VR1, and is really stable as supply voltage variations have small effect because both voltages vary together (l.d.r. junction and VR1 wiper).

If the reverse operation is required (i.e. relay operates as light increases) connect the l.d.r. to 0V and resistor R1 to +12V.

R. S. Girdwood,
Norwich.

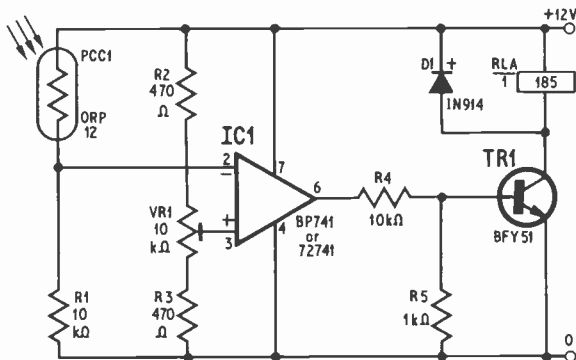


Fig. 1. Circuit diagram for a very sensitive light switch

Readout —

A SELECTION FROM OUR POSTBAG

Correspondents wishing to have a reply must enclose a stamped addressed envelope. We regret we are unable to guarantee a reply on matters not relating to articles published in the magazine. Technical queries cannot be dealt with on the telephone.

True values

Sir—Messrs. Bobker, Harrison, and Barrett have a rather strange sense of values (*Readout*—Oct. 1972). They seem to have been caught by the general malaise that is creeping over many sections of society that if you cannot make something for a "profit" then its not worth bothering. They seem to have blinded themselves with the financial matters of the subject and have forgotten that your magazine is not designed with commercial interests in mind but to offer amateur enthusiasts a source of up-to-date knowledge on all aspects of electronics coupled with instructions on how to make equipment.

You cater for amateur hobby interests and the value of a hobby is beyond price if you are sufficiently interested in the subject. The price it costs to make something and learn from it is irrelevant—provided one can actually afford the expenditure. If one cannot afford the price of making something then one can still get a high degree of satisfaction out of reading and understanding, in a very practical sense, the workings of a sophisticated piece of equipment.

Digi-Cal is the first publicly issued inside story of the workings of a desk calculator and as such is a long waited for event on the amateur front; the three correspondents named above should be thankful that at last someone has gone to the trouble of designing such a piece of equipment and is also capable of explaining its workings in a clear and straightforward manner.

Your correspondents have got the wrong end of the stick. If they want something cheap then they should buy it. If they want real value for money then they should make an effort to scrape together the money to do something worthwhile. Just for a moment let's consider whether they have their commercial facts right. Let's assume they have bought their cheap commercial instrument; something goes wrong with it that is outside the guarantee. What do they do (assuming no inside information regarding *Digi-Cal*)?

Of course they have to lay out more money to get the equipment repaired. If they had dropped or crushed their pocket sized instrument it is quite likely that they will have cracked the single i.c. element. How much does this cost to replace?—probably in the order of £24 to £40 depending on the type. How much would it cost if a similar thing happened to *Digi-Cal*? Certainly a lot of time sorting out the fault—but in material costs probably not more than a few pence!

I'm afraid I do not agree with the last paragraph of your editorial. *Digi-Cal* is NOT "priced out"—if anything it is absurdly cheap. An annual subscription to P.E. costs £2.65; the electronics, mathematical knowledge, and logic experience that can be gained from a series such as this is far beyond the learning one can gain in a whole year of university work in the same field.

My interest is in the field of digital electronics, but I know very little about calculators. This hole in my knowledge is now being filled. I would like to congratulate Mr. Coles for making such an effort in designing a topical, useful and educative project, and I measure that most enthusiastic readers would agree with me.

Michael J. Hughes,
Westerham, Kent.

Raudive voices

Sir—Mr Morton (September, '72) would appear not to have read "Breakthrough" as well as he might have. I quote, "Scientific tests have shown (in a Faraday cage, for example) that these voices originate outside the experimenter and are not subject to auto-suggestion or telepathy." Also, "They are twice the speed of human speech and of a peculiar rhythm which is identical in the 72,000 examples so far examined." Would different experimenters all have the same style of modulation?

There is the possibility that the tape irregularities themselves, when

passed through a high-gain amplifier, might sound like words to anyone who expected (however unconsciously) words to be there. However it sounds unlikely, but, until we know more, it must be an open question.

Michael Fleming,
Solihull, Warwicks.

Michael Fleming raises three issues: one trivial and two worth a closer look. I will try to deal with them in turn.

First, the "tape irregularity" explanation, which is in fact a politer way of saying "imagination" or even "fraud". Can we doubt that a phenomenon so seemingly preposterous as the Raudive voices would have been examined by reputable technicians well used to the vagaries of magnetic tape? If we are going to accuse Raudive of trickery then let's do so openly—and be ready to say how it is done—without invoking explanations which don't explain.

Secondly, the two quotations Mr Fleming gives certainly do not deal a deathblow to the psychic/electronic interaction hypothesis I proposed. Admittedly we have little real knowledge of the laws behind parapsychological activity; but all the evidence says that neither telepathy nor telekinesis are electromagnetic radiation; do not obey the known principles of propagation; and cannot be blocked by any shielding. Therefore the fact that Raudive voices appear on recordings made inside a Faraday cage is quite irrelevant to the present argument.

I will not try to answer the point about the "identical peculiar rhythm" of the recordings because I believe little sense can be said without more facts to go on. But I would point out that brains are not so dissimilar in some of their manifestations as Mr Fleming suggests; for example the alpha rhythms in most normal brains are too alike for it to be possible to distinguish between them by these traces alone; and one of the important things about psychical research is that its evidence suggests all minds are linked "under the surface" in a way we don't understand. Therefore it's not too surprising if all brains react with electronic circuitry in much the same way; or at least seem to with our relatively crude equipment. In any case, if Raudive is to be believed, the voices are quite distinctive in pitch and timbre. This is not to say that because the voices are recognised, they may therefore be taken to be those of dead people: I hate to think of any of my dead relatives being forced to utter the kind of imbecilities we have immortalised in "Breakthrough". We do know from research into mediums and their activities that



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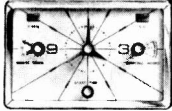
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Designed to operate transistor sets and amplifiers. Adjustable output 6v, 9v, 12 volts for up to 500mA (class B working). Takes the place of any of the following batteries: PP1, PP3, PP4, PP6, PP7, PP9 and others. Kit comprises: mains transformer, rectifier, smoothing and load resistor condensers and instructions. Real snip at only 85p, plus 20p postage.

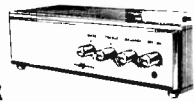
MULLARD AUDIO AMPLIFIERS. All in module form, each ready to mount complete with heat sinks and connection tags, data supplied.
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Model EP9000 4 watt power output £1.45p.
10% discount if 10 or more ordered.

MULLARD

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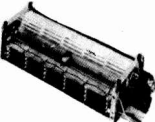
COMPUTER TAPE

2,400ft of the Best Magnetic Tape money can buy—users claim good results with Video and sound. 1in. wide £1.00 plus 33p post and insurance, with cassette. 3/4in. wide £1.00 plus 30p post and insurance with cassette, 3/4in. wide 85p plus 25p post and insurance with cassette. Spare spools and cassettes—1in. 75p, 3/4in. 75p each plus 20p post and insurance.



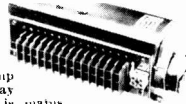
TANGENTIAL HEATER UNIT

This heater unit is the very latest type, most efficient, and quiet running. Is as fitted in Hoover and blower heaters costing £15 and more. We have a few only. Comprises motor, impeller, 2kW element and 1kW element allowing switching 1, 2 and 3kW and with thermal safety cut-out. Can be fitted into any metal line case or cabinet. Only need control switch. £3.50, 3kW. Model as above except 2 kilowatts £2.50. Don't miss this. Control Switch 35p, P. & P. 40p.



HONEYWELL PROGRAMMER

This is a drum type timing device, the drum being calibrated in equal divisions for switch setting purposes with trips which are infinitely adjustable for position. They are also arranged to allow 2 operations per switch per rotation. There are 15 changeover micro switches each of 10 amp type operated by the trips thus 15 circuits may be changed per revolution. Drive motor is mains operated 5 revs per min. Some of the many uses of this timer are Machinery control, Boiler firing, Dispensing and Vending machines Display lighting animated and signs, Signalling, etc. Price from makers probably over £10 each. Special snip price £2.75 plus 25p post and insurance. Don't miss this terrific bargain.



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TIMAC 94 hour 15 amp Clock Switch. Self-contained unit for flex connection to the mains. Clock switches 2 on/off's per 24 hours. Operates a 15 amp switch. All neatly made up in an ivory moulded case with outlet socket. The only snag is that the outlet socket is the continental type. Plugs for these can be brought in this country alternatively you could fit a connector strip in place of the outlet socket. Overall size of this unit is approx. 4" x 2 1/2" x 3" and the clock has a clear perspex cover which is easily removable for reprogramming. Ideal for blanket controller, etc. Price £2.75 each.



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For any lamp up to 1kw. Mounted on switch plate to fit in place of standard switch. Virtually no radio interference. Price £2.95, plus 20p post and insurance.



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Very stable and reliable crystal controlled circuit. Capable of work in excess of 15 MHz. Construction simplified by use of 15 integrated circuits. Complete kit with case £39.50 or construction data and price list 50p.

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13 AMP TWIN GANG SOCKETS

Offered at less than wholesale price your opportunity to replace those dangerous adaptors brown bakelite flush mounting—standard fitting. Unswitched 20p each, separately switched 30p each. Separately switched and with neon on/off indicators 45p each. Less 10% ten or more + 20p postage if order under £5.



Where postage is not stated then orders over £5 are post free. Below £5 add 20p. Semi-conductors add 5p post. Over £1 post free. S.A.E. with enquiries please.

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BAKELITE INSTRUMENT CASE

Size approx. 6 1/2" x 3 1/2" x 2" deep with brass inserts in four corners and bakelite panel. This is a very strong case suitable to house instruments and aerial rigs, etc. Price 45p each.



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Complete as illustrated. Save your legs, time and temper, simply by putting in some telephones. Ex-G.P.O., not new but guaranteed in good condition and serviceable. Supplied with diagram and instructions showing how to connect. Price 75p each + 50p post or 2 for £2 post paid. Also available separately, dials and handsets 50p each + 20p post.



ROCKER SWITCH

13 amp self-fixing into an oblong hole. Size approximately 1" x 1" 6p each, 10 for 54p.



SLIDE SWITCHES

Slide Switch. 2-pole changeover panel mounting by two 6BA screws. Size approx. 1in. x 1/2in. rated 250V lamp. 6p each, 10 for 54p. 100 for £5-10. 500 for £24. Ditto as above but for printed circuit 5p each, 10 for 46p. 100 for £4-25. Sub Miniature Slide Switch, DPT 19mm (1in. approx.), between fixing centres. 18p each or 10 for £1.05.



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THIS BALANCE KIT FREE. Educational kits, Japanese made these are excellent value for money. We do not expect to be able to repeat this offer once stocks are sold. Brief description of each kit is given below and with 3 kits or more we give FREE an accurate 11 piece balance kit. Price of kits 40p each post paid. Special price for all 8 kits £3 with free balance kit.

KA2 Lens Kit. Eleven parts, including candle, one concave lens, one convex lens, stage and slit frame, etc. Watch light rays bend as they pass through different lenses.
KA3 Water Pump Kit. Thirteen parts. Top of pump is transparent so that operating parts may be observed. Small parts are brightly coloured to be seen easily whilst working. Three types of pump may be made: Lift pump, Force Pump and Force Pump with reservoir and nozzle.
KA4 Burner Kit. Eleven parts. Transparent covers allow the operation of buzzer to be seen. Illustrates and teaches how electromagnetism with an automatic switch results in an operating buzzer.
KA5 2-Pole Motor Kit. Twenty-four parts including enamel wire, armature and pole piece, etc. Motor operates from 1 1/2 volt battery. Illustrates and teaches how electro-magnetism operates a motor.
SP Change over spring return 250v 1 amp 10p.
KA7 Electro-Magnet Kit. Fifteen parts, includes compass. Makes two electro-magnets, one with one layer of wire and one with several layers of wire. Picks up tacks, nails and any small parts showing how magnetism works.
KA8 Current and Resistance Kit. Twenty-nine parts, including bench and light bulb. Conduct interesting and educational projects to learn the application of "OHMS LAW" and see the difference in current and resistance with different types and lengths of wire.
KA9 Bell Kit. Eight parts, including bell and push button switch. Build a complete electric bell and see how the hammer is triggered to make the bell ring.
KA10 Morse Key trigger and bell kit. 25 part kit easy to construct, simple to operate.



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(FLITWICK) LTD.

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KEMPSTON HARDWICK
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PLEASE ADD 10p TO ORDERS UNDER £2.

Catalogue which contains data sheets for most of the
components listed will be sent free on request.
10p stamp appreciated.

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RESISTORS

1W Iskra high stability carbon film—very low noise—capless construction.
1W Mullard CR25 carbon film—very small body size 7.5 x 2.5mm.
2% ELECTROSIL TRS

Power watts	Tolerance	Range	Values available	Price 1-99	100+
↓	5%	4.7Ω-2.2MΩ	E24	1p	0-8p
↓	10%	3.3MΩ-10MΩ	E12	1p	0-8p
↓	2%	10Ω-1MΩ	E24	3.5p	3p
↓	10%	1Ω-3.9Ω	E12	1p	0-8p
↓	5%	4.7Ω-1MΩ	E12	1p	0-8p
↓	10%	1Ω-10Ω	E12	6p	5.5p

Quantity price applies for any selection. Ignore fractions on total order.

DEVELOPMENT PACK

0.5 watt 5% Iskra resistors 5 off each value 4.7Ω to 1MΩ.
E12 pack 325 resistors £2.40. E24 pack 650 resistors £4.70.

POTENTIOMETERS

Carbon track 5kΩ to 2MΩ, log or linear (log 1W, lin 1/2W).
Single, 12p. Dual gang (stereo), 40p. Single D.P. switch 24p.

SKELETON PRESET POTENTIOMETERS

Linear: 100, 250, 500Ω and decades to 5MΩ. Horizontal or vertical P.C.
mounting (0-1 matrix).
Sub-miniature 0.1W, 5p each. Miniature 0.25W, 6p each.

TRANSISTORS

AC107 15p	BC108 10p	BFY51 22p	OCF71 40p	2N3703 12p
AC126 12p	BC109 10p	BFY52 22p	ORP12 50p	2N3704 13p
AC127 12p	BC147 10p	BSY 56 32p	2N2369 16p	2N3705 12p
AC128 12p	BC148 13p	OC26 45p	2N2646 60p	2N3706 11p
AC131 12p	BC149 13p	OC28 45p	2N2926R 9p	2N3707 12p
AC132 12p	BC157 13p	OC35 45p	2N2926O 9p	2N3708 10p
AD140 50p	BC158 13p	OC42 12p	2N2926V 9p	2N3709 11p
AD161 33p	BC159 13p	OC44 12p	2N2926G	2N3710 11p
AD162 36p	BD131 75p	OC45 12p		2N3711 11p
AF114 20p	BD132 75p	OC70 12p	2N3054 58p	2N4062 12p
AF115 20p	BF179 32p	OC71 12p	2N3055 60p	ZTX302 15p
AF116 20p	BF181 25p	OC72 12p	2N3442	ZTX500 16p
AF117 20p	BF194 15p	OC81 12p	2N3472	ZTX503 16p
AF118 38p	BF195 13p	OC82 12p	2N3702 13p	40362 58p
BC107 10p	BFY50 22p			

ZENER DIODES

400mW 5% 3.3V to 30V, 15p. DIL Socket 14 and 16 pin. 16p

LINEAR I.C.'s (D.I.L.)
709 50p 741, 50p
710 50p 748, 50p

DIODES

DIODES RECTIFIER			SIGNAL	
BY127 1250V	1A	12p	OA85	7p
BZV10 800V	6A	25p	OA90	5p
BZY13 200V	6A	20p	OA91	5p
IN4001 50V	1A	7p	OA202	7p
IN4004 400V	1A	8p	IN4148	5p
IN4007 1000V	1A	12p	BA114	8p

BRUSHED ALUMINIUM PANELS

12in x 6in = 25p; 12in x 2in = 10p; 9in x 2in = 7p.

SLIDER POTENTIOMETERS

86mm x 9mm x 16mm, length of crack 59mm
SINGLE 10kΩ, 25kΩ, 50kΩ, 100kΩ, log or lin
DUAL GANG 10kΩ + 10kΩ, etc, log or lin
Knob for above
FRONT PANEL
20 gauge panel 12in x 4in with slots cut for use with slider pots.
Grey or matt black finish, complete with fixings for 4 pots.

40p
60p
12p
65p

MULLARD POLYESTER CAPACITORS C296 SERIES

400V P.C. mounting: 0.0015μF, 0.0022μF, 0.0033μF, 0.0047μF, 2p. 0.0068μF, 0.01μF, 0.015μF, 0.022μF, 0.033μF, 3p. 0.047μF, 0.068μF, 0.1μF, 4p. 0.15μF, 6p. 0.22μF, 7p. 0.33μF, 11p. 0.47μF, 13p.
160V: 0.01μF, 0.015μF, 0.022μF, 0.033μF, 0.047μF, 0.068μF, 3p. 0.1μF 3 1/2p. 0.15μF 4 1/2p. 0.22μF, 5p. 0.33μF, 6p. 0.47μF, 7 1/2p. 0.68μF, 11p. 1.0μF, 13p.

MULLARD POLYESTER CAPACITORS C280 SERIES

250V P.C. mounting: 0.01μF, 0.015μF, 0.022μF, 3p. 0.033μF, 0.047μF, 0.068μF, 4p. 0.1μF, 4p. 0.15μF, 0.22μF, 5p. 0.33μF, 6p. 0.47μF, 8 1/2p. 0.68μF, 11p. 1.0μF, 13p. 1.5μF, 20p. 2.2μF, 24p.

MYLAR FILM CAPACITORS 100V

0.001μF, 0.002μF, 0.005μF, 0.01μF, 0.02μF, 2p. 0.04μF, 0.05μF, 0.068μF, 0.1μF, 3 1/2p.

CERAMIC DISC CAPACITORS

100pF to 10,000pF, 2p each.

ELECTROLYTIC CAPACITORS—MULLARD C426 SERIES

100/40, 160/25, 40/2.5, 80/2.5, 320/2.5, 500/2.5, 8/4, 32/4, 64/4, 125/4, 250/4, 400/4, 6/4, 6/4, 25/6.4, 50/6.4, 100/6.4, 200/6.4, 320/6.4, 4/10, 16/10, 32/10, 64/10, 125/10, 200/10, 2.5/16, 10/16, 20/16, 40/16, 80/16, 125/16, 1-6/25, 6-4/25, 12.5/25, 25/25, 50/25, 80/25, 1/40, 4/40, 8/40, 16/40, 32/40, 50/40, 0.64/64, 2.5/64, 5/64, 10/64, 20/64, 32/64.

MULLARD C437 SERIES

100/40, 160/25, 250/16, 400/10, 640/6.4, 800/4, 1000/2.5, 9p. 100/64, 160/40, 250/25, 400/16, 640/10, 1250/4, 1000/6.4, 1600/2.5, 12p. 160/64, 250/40, 400/2.5, 640/16, 2000/4, 1000/10, 1600/6.4, 2500/2.5, 15p. 250/64, 400/40, 640/25, 3200/4, 1000/16, 1600/10, 2500/6.4, 4000/2.5, 18p.

ELECTROLYTIC CAPACITORS Miniature P.C. mounting

(μF/V): 10/12, 50/12, 100/12, 200/12, 5/25, 10/25, 25/25, 100/25. 5p each.

VEROBOARD

0-1	0-15		
2 1/2 x 3 1/2	22p	16p	
2 1/2 x 5	24p	24p	
3 1/2 x 5	24p	24p	
3 1/2 x 5	27p	27p	
1 1/2 x 2 1/2	75p	57 1/2p	
17 x 3 1/2	100p	78p	
17 x 5 (plain)	—	82p	
17 x 3 1/2 (plain)	—	60p	
17 x 2 1/2 (plain)	—	42p	
2 1/2 x 5 (plain)	—	12p	
2 1/2 x 3 1/2 (plain)	—	11p	
Pin insertion tool	52p	52p	
Spot face cutter	42p	42p	
Pkt. 50 pins	20p	20p	

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Standard screened	18p	2.5mm insulated	8p
Standard insulated	12p	3.5mm insulated	8p
Stereo screened	35p	3.5mm screened	13p
Standard socket	15p	2.5mm socket	8p
		3.5mm socket	8p

D.I.N. PLUGS AND SOCKETS

2 pin, 3 pin, 5 pin 180°, 5 pin 240°, 6 pin
Plug 12p. Socket 8p.
4 way screened cable, 15p/metre.
6 way screened cable 22p/metre.

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£1.90
9V mains power supply. Same size as PP9 battery.

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0.01μF 10p	0.047μF 13p	0.22μF 20p
0.022μF 12p	0.1μF 13p	0.47μF 22p

POLYSTYRENE CAPACITORS 160V 2 1/2%

10pF to 1,000pF E12 Series Values 4p each.

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Bargain component parcels include resistors, silver mica, polystyrene and electrolytic capacitors. Valve holders, rotary switches, transistor panels plus a generous selection of other components. Guaranteed to be the best mixed parcel on offer or your money back. 4 lb. nett weight, £1, post 40p.

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Assorted silver mica, polystyrene and ceramic capacitors, extra good selection, 100 for 50p, post 10p.

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Readout —

A SELECTION FROM OUR POSTBAG

the subconscious mind is capable of generating all kinds of personas (synthetic personalities) to give substance to its longings, hopes, hatreds, etc. That these figments should then escape into the "mental ether" and come to react with electronic equipment I find quite plausible, especially when supported by other experimental evidence.

And there is experimental evidence. If any readers are ready to jib at the notion of mere thoughts directly affecting electronic circuitry I would direct them to the work of Helmut Schmidt, a physicist of international repute. He has devised an apparatus on which trained subjects can both predict and control random events at the sub-atomic level (the decay of Strontium-90 nuclei) at a high level of probability by willing alone. There is a good summary of his work in Arthur Koestler's "The Roots of Coincidence", 1972.

— Peter R. Morton

Amongst the white noise

Sir—After reading Mr Peter Moreton's letter in the September edition of P.E. on "Psi-Tronics". I wondered if your readers would be interested in similar experiences of my own?

I have a temperamental (!) v.h.f. receiver which I use in a radiotelescope aerial system, and during tuning up of this receiver and its associated preamp to the required band, it was left switched on for long periods producing nothing but what has become to be known as "white noise". The preamp being very difficult to align, I was often switching the signal generator off and on, making adjustments, and trying again. On many occasions, during range testing of my aerial, I am sure I heard the signal generator whilst it was switched off, i.e. all the radio was receiving was the usual v.h.f. spurious noise. This happened so frequently that I had to keep checking that the signal generator was switched off, before I tried to properly "tune in" this figment of my imagination!

I put it to Mr Brown and Mr Morton that the mind has some mechanism whereby it hears amongst the white noise what it wants or expects to hear, and that

this explains the phenomena, since in my case, the familiar note of my signal generator is unmistakable, and I certainly was fully conscious of the fact I was hearing something that *couldn't* be there!

I must confess to being still sceptical about such things as the "Raudive Voices", but when it happens to you personally, it's something quite different!

L. M. Newell,
Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Road choir !

Sir—In connection with the recent interest shown in "Raudive voices" I should like to give an example of my own subjective interpretation of white noise.

Some years ago, while riding on the cab of a noisy long-distance lorry I was enveloped by the sound of the engine, the sound of other cars on the road and the various vibrations and rattles from parts of the lorry, i.e. a broad band frequency spectrum somewhat resembling white noise. I hummed a pop tune to myself and to my surprise I heard the pop song coming from somewhere inside the cab sung, as it seemed to me, by a choir of out-of-tune voices. There was no radio in the cab and it seems that the voices were a purely subjective interpretation of the random noise spectrum reaching my ears. With practice it was possible to hear the voices "sing" any tune at will, there being a period of some seconds between conceiving a tune and actually "hearing" it. Since that time I have met one or two people who have had the same experience. The moral seems to be that if it is possible for some people to hear pop songs in white noise, then it is equally possible for others to hear voices from the dead if they so wish.

An explanation may be as follows. When a memory comes to mind the brain cells that correspond to the sensual experience of that memory become active. If (when the memory is of a noise) the ears perceive white noise simultaneously, then the same mechanism that allows concentration on one conversation when several may be going on will come into effect, only allowing the memory of the noise to come into consciousness. This memory will, however, appear to come directly from the senses since the white noise components corresponding to the noise will be allowed to pass by the brain's "filters".

It may be interesting for psychologists to carry out experiments

in this area, and perhaps with other senses. (Is there any capacity to project visual images when in an environment of completely white light for example) perhaps even ending up with "White taste" and "White smell".

I would, of course, be interested to hear other people's interpretations and experiences in this area.

K. Willson, B.Sc.,
London S.W.16.

Unconvinced

Sir—I was interested to read in the September issue that the phenomenon of "Raudive Voices" had cropped up again under the general heading of Psitronics. The hypothesis on the origin of this phenomenon suggested by your correspondent, Peter Morton, is most ingenious but is open to criticism on one simple count.

It is now generally recognised that the operation of the brain is related to a measurable form of electrical activity. Thus it is reasonable to assume that telepathic communication is, ipso facto, electrical in origin also. If this assumption is accepted as being substantially correct it becomes increasingly difficult to explain the positive results from experiments into the phenomenon which were conducted with the recording apparatus sealed within a Faraday Cage.

If we accept that the phenomenon exists, and there appears to be plenty of evidence that it does, then it seems that we must resort to the explanation tendered by one of Raudive's original witnesses—"that it transcended the known laws of Physics". All of which leaves a wide open field for future experimenters.

Having read "Breakthrough" shortly after its publication a friend and I decided to carry out a number of experiments to prove the existence of the phenomenon for ourselves. My colleague in this, besides being a highly qualified electronics engineer, has had a genuine "feel" for what might be termed supernatural phenomena all his life, and thus felt that everything was on our side.

We built two forms of each type of detector described in the book and combined these, in turn, with six types/models of tape recorder. In addition we tried the microphone and radio methods of recording, but after many hours and several miles of tape had recorded only one voice which could not be directly attributable to spurious "E" propagation or something similar. Our prize voice resisted all attempts of filtration and re-amplification to

Readout—

A SELECTION FROM OUR POSTBAG

become intelligible so we decided to retire unconvincd.

I too would be interested to learn of the experiences of others in this field.

Douglas Shaw,
Eaton Socon, Hunts.

Authoritative opinion appears to be opposed to the view that telepathy is a form of electromagnetic radiation. Dr Grey Walter in his book, "The Living Brain" (1961) states: "if we consider the largest rhythms of the brain as casual radio signals, we can calculate that they would fall below noise level within a few millimetres from the surface of the head".

There is evidently much general interest in this topic. Many readers have written describing their own experiences and experiments, but no one has reported a success in recording "Raudive voices".

Retort from Australia

Sir—I read with great interest the article *Report from Australia* and I am sure that the article was written with the best of intentions in the world. However, the Australians in general tend to gloss over many things, and literally hate comparisons when it comes down to earth, i.e. hard cash! This particularly so in the radio field.

I go green with envy when I read the cost of components, transistors and integrated circuits in the U.K. and I compare them with those available here. For example,

take the BC108 listed in P.E. at 10p or 20 cents Australian, the BC108 here is 45 cents and on top of that there is up to 27% sales tax, depending on the State in which you live. This tax is very crippling when you come to build any of the available projects. So my advice to any intending migrant is to do two things: forget most of what the brochures from Australia House tell you, and if you still intend to come, take things as they are and you'll make out. The second thing is to bring out as much gear as you possibly can.

This is a mighty big country, so its a little unfair to classify most radio sets as made for local station reception. There are areas (fewer now than they used to be) of poor reception in the U.K. Well England from top to bottom is approx. 560 miles. Folks here often drive this distance, and more, just to visit friends at a weekend. It has to be a really good quality radio set to pull in inter-state radio stations during the day. At night of course it's not so bad. In the more thickly populated areas this situation may not arise as transmitters are closer together, but it is certainly true of South Australia.

It's all very well to say that Australia is as technically advanced as its contemporaries, but I have found that when dealing with i.c.'s the manufacturers' applications notes are so technical that they are for boffins only—and I include all American manufacturers — so I am indebted to your magazine for *Making The Most Of Logic* and subsequent articles on i.c.'s and most important the way these articles have been presented.

Talking of f.m. I bought a German radiogram in Singapore in 1959. I arrived in this country in 1966. F.M. was, as it is now, being

talked about but I'll believe it when I see it! I am told they had a few f.m. stations in the Sydney area of N.S.W., but they died through lack of interest as far back as 1966.

Well, this letter was prompted for two reasons, my personal dislike of half truths, and the fact that I'm in the radio field and I did migrate to Australia. So if this does anything to put the record straight I'll be happy.

P. Hickman,
Greenacres, South Australia.

Musician's ambition

Sir—As another of your younger readers I fully agree with Neville Powell's letter in your September issue. It would be nice to see designs for transistorised sound effects apart from the more common tremolo and fuzz, etc. These things are fairly easy for the average constructor to design whereas more complicated effects such as echo, reverb, and waa-waa are harder to design and build.

It is every musician's ambition (I am no exception!) to own a synthesiser, but the prices of commercially made instruments are out of this world! I am sure it would be possible to make a synthesiser using cheap and easily obtained i.c.'s.

Hoping to see something of this kind in the future issues of PRACTICAL ELECTRONICS.

Andrew Copesey,
Gildersome, Nr. Leeds.

You will! The P.E. Synthesiser will be on display at the Audio Fair, Olympia, London, October 24-28.

All of the sound effects mentioned in your first paragraph have been covered as constructional projects in past issues of this magazine.

BACK NUMBERS WANTED

Anyone who can supply the undermentioned are asked to communicate directly with the reader.

Any Back Numbers

Mr. E. N. Elia, P.O. Box 297,
Baghdad, Iraq.

December 1968

Mr. D. W. Jones, Hefindre,
Llangefni, Anglesey.

March, April, June 1972

Mr. G. A. Herd, 4, Graig Lwyd,
Radyr, Cardiff.

October 1971

Mr. T. Svenell, Östra Farmvägen
40B, S-21441 Malmö, Sweden.

February 1969

Mr. G. Paine, 21, Estridge Way,
Tonbridge, Kent.

March 1966

Mr. B. L. Codd, 46, Woodrows,
Woodside, Telford, Shropshire.

April 1970

Mr. M. Dowding, 89, Beresford
Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk.

February 1971

Mr. B. Whiting, Fellands Gate,
Old Leake, Boston, Lincs.

November 1964 to March 1965; October to December 1970, February and March 1972

Mr. P. U. Sukhadia, 1-16,
Shantinath Bhuvan, 427, Sion
Road, Matunga, C.Rly. Bombay-
19, India.

We regret that back numbers of Practical Electronics can no longer be supplied. We will try to publish announcements of readers' requirements (without a guaranteed date) free of charge.

May 1969 to March 1970

Mr. V. T. Brown, 242, Little
Waking Road, Woking,
Southend SS3 0JN.

March 1968, January 1971,

April 1971, June and July 1972
Urs Bachofner, Wulfingerstrasse
92, CH-8400 Winterthur,
Switzerland.

August 1969

Mr. M. Latter, 45, Wortley Road,
W. Croydon, Surrey.

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Mr. G. Slack, 87, Upham Road,
Swindon, Wiltshire.

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2N3703	0-10	BC177	0-09
2N3704	0-10	BC177	0-11
2N3819	0-25	BC184L	0-11
2N4286	0-15	BC212L	0-14
2N4289	0-15	BD130	0-65
2N4443	0-88	BD131	0-77
2N5062	0-42	BD132	0-81
2N5088	0-46	BD135	0-25
2N5192	0-77	BD136	0-27
2N5195	0-90	BDY20	0-97
2N5457	0-30	BFY51	0-20
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40362	0-45	BY164	0-45
40432	1-80	MJ481	1-20
40512	1-70	MJ491	1-86
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AD149	0-68	S2CN1	0-12
AD161	0-42	SD4	0-09
AD162	0-40	TO3 Transistor covers, ea.	7p

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C	1/2W	5%	4.7-10M	E24	1-2	1
C	1W	5%	4.7-10M	E12	2-5	2
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Codes: C = carbon film high stability low noise
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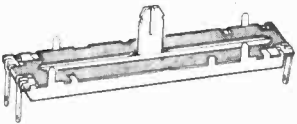
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PUBLICATIONS

Handbook of Transistor Equivalents, 40p. Handbook of Tested Transistor Circuits (H. News), Radio & Electronics. Colour codes & data wall chart, 15p. Engineers Reference Handbook & Tables, 20p. (Add 3p for postage on each of above if bought separately.)

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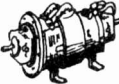
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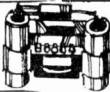


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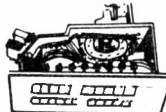
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2

Digital I.C. Gates

A BINARY information signal in logic i.c.s has only two possible states: a logic level 1 of about 4 volts and a logic level 0 of about 0 volts. Each logic circuit produces an output logic level that is a logical function of the input logic levels. These levels are not critical provided that they are clearly recognised as 0 or 1, and small changes in levels cannot accumulate to cause loss of accuracy.

Simple logic functions are achieved by using gates while more complex functions use specifically designed circuits, which may include gates but not necessarily so.

TTL SERIES

Several classes of integrated circuit logic are available, including RTL, DTL, TTL and ECL. However, now that TTL logic is available in a variety of speeds and a considerable range of functions, no other type need be considered for general use in this series of articles.

The Series 74 integrated circuits available from many sources are designed and characterised for general purpose high speed digital applications where a high d.c. noise margin and medium power dissipation are important. The series includes gates, bistables, complex logic functions, and many other circuits.

Four compatible TTL families are available to allow switching speed (and hence power dissipation) to be chosen according to the system requirements. The largest and most widely used family is the SN7400 series which has a 10ns propagation delay per gate. (Alternative types are made by various manufacturers and details of equivalents were given in the P.E. I.C. Identichart last month.)

The 74H00 or 74S00 series can be used for minimal propagation delay times, with the 74L00 series reserved for low speeds. A comparison between these families is shown in Table 2.1.

The speed differences over the range are not a matter of selection as the circuits differ, although the logic

Table 2.1

Series Code	Power Dissipation	Propagation Delay	Approx. Relative Price Factor
SN74L00	1mW per gate	33ns delay	1.8
SN7400	10mW per gate	10ns delay	1.0
SN74H00	23mW per gate	6ns delay	2.4
SN74S00	19mW per gate	3ns delay	6.7

functions and levels are compatible. The SN74S00 series, for example, have Schottky barrier-diode clamping to achieve ultra high speeds with the best speed-power product of any high speed logic family.

The Schottky barrier-diode clamping prevents the transistors from going into saturation and eliminates the effect of excess charge storage and subsequent recovery times. These recovery times contribute significantly to the overall propagation delays obtained with conventional saturated TTL circuits.

GUIDELINES WHEN USING TTL

Power Supplies. Ripple and spikes should be kept to 5 per cent or less and regulation should be maintained to better than 5 per cent. Every five to ten packages should be bypassed to r.f. with ceramic capacitors of 0.1 to 0.01 μ F.

A ground plane is desirable especially in large systems, or make the earth line as wide as possible on a printed circuit board and return both ends of long ground wires to a common point.

Gates. Gates should preferably be driven from a low impedance source. If the source impedance is greater than 100 ohms (for example, non TTL circuits) then the input rise and fall times should be less than 1 μ s to avoid instability and oscillation occurring when the gate goes through its active region of operation. Data pulse widths should be 30ns or more.

The unused inputs of AND and NAND gates and unused presets and clears of bistables can be treated as follows:

- They can be tied directly to $+V_{cc}$ where V_{cc} is guaranteed to be *always* equal to or less than 5.5V.
- Connected to $+V_{cc}$ through a resistor of 1 kilohm which protects the input if the supply exceeds 5.5V. Up to 25 unused inputs can be connected to one resistor.
- Connected to an independent supply of between 2.4 and 3.5V.
- Connected in parallel with a used input of the same gate if the maximum fan-out of the driving output will not be exceeded. Each input presents a full load in the logical 1 state to the driving stage.

Completely unused gates can be taken to ground for the lowest power dissipation, or left floating (unconnected).

Unused inputs of NOR gates can be tied to the used input of the same gate (if the maximum fan-out of the driving gate is not required) or returned to ground.

Bistables. If a clock pulse is present maintain the preset or clear pulse until the clock goes low. Rise and fall times of the clock pulse should be less than 150ns to aid noise immunity.

In general the input data of a master/slave JK bistable should not be changed while the clock pulse is high, but exceptions are given in manufacturers' data sheets.

BASIC GATES

Five logic functions are summarised in Table 2.2. Their interrelationship can be seen by comparing the

GLOSSARY

BUFFER An integrated circuit with a higher fan-out than usual, for driving heavy loads.

CHARGE STORAGE Energy stored in a transistor when it is heavily saturated.

DTL A logic circuit using diodes for the input coupling to a common emitter amplifier.

ECL A logic circuit consisting of an *npn* current mode switch.

FAN-OUT The number of inputs which can be driven by the output of a logic gate.

NOISE IMMUNITY A measure of the ability of a logic gate to reject noise pulses. It is the smallest 1 level output voltage minus the minimum effective 1 level input voltage, or the minimum effective 1 level input voltage minus the maximum 0 level output, whichever is the smaller.

PROPAGATION DELAY A measure of the time taken for a change in logic level to be transmitted through an element.

RTL A logic circuit using resistors for the input coupling to a common emitter amplifier.

TTL A logic circuit having all inputs connected to the multiple emitters of a single, common base connected transistor.

Table 2.2: The basic logic functions

IN-PUTS		OUTPUTS				
A	B	AND A.B	NAND $\overline{A.B}$	OR A + B	NOR $\overline{A + B}$	EXCLUSIVE-OR A \oplus B
0	0	0	1	0	1	0
0	1	0	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	1	1	0	1
1	1	1	0	1	0	0

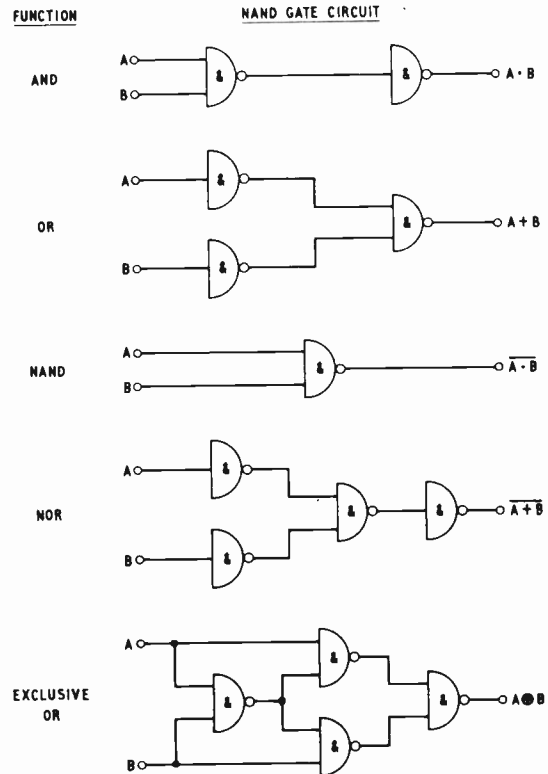


Fig. 2.1. Some logic functions obtained by using only NAND gates

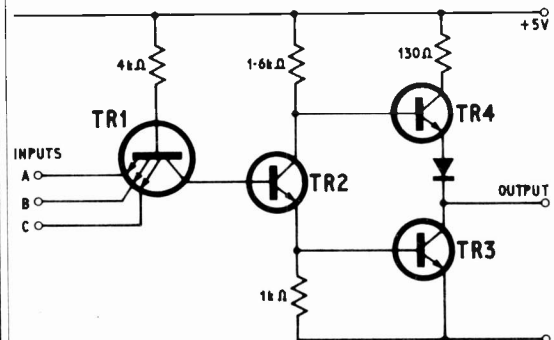


Fig. 2.2. The circuit for a 3 input NAND gate

Table 2.3: Some of the available NAND gate i.c.s

SN7400	Quadruple 2-input NAND gates
SN7401	Quadruple 2-input NAND gates with open collector output
SN7410	Triple 3-input NAND gates
SN7420	Dual 4-input NAND gates
SN7430	8-input NAND gate
SN7437	Quadruple 2-input NAND buffer
SN7440	Dual 4-input NAND buffer

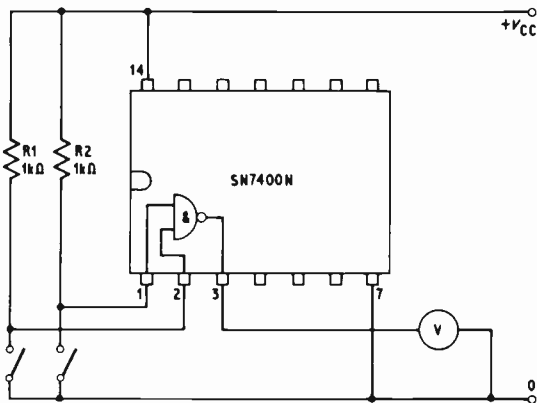


Fig. 2.3. Static tests on a 2 input NAND gate

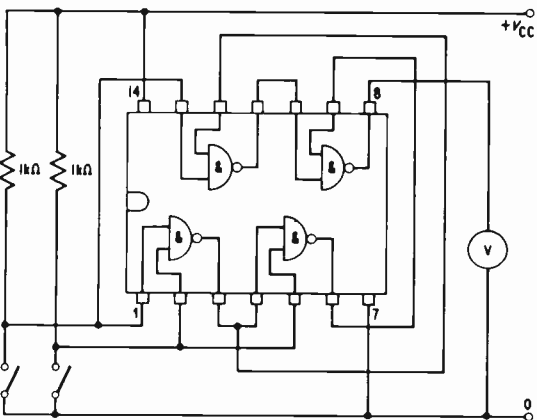
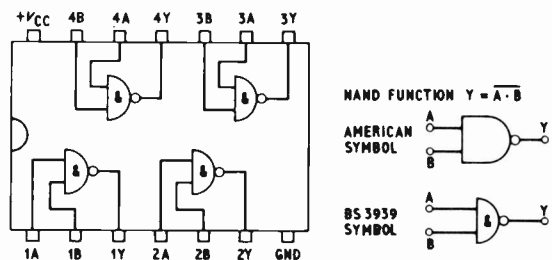


Fig. 2.4. An EXCLUSIVE-OR circuit realised with NAND gates. $V_{cc} = +5V$

Table 2.4:

Package details and parameters for the SN7400N



PACKAGE DETAILS FOR SN7400N (TOP VIEW)

Supply Voltage V_{cc}	5V	0.25V
Fan-out from each output	10	
Logical 1 input voltage required	2V min.	
Logical 0 input voltage required	0.8V max.	
Logical 1 output voltage	3.3V typical	
Logical 0 output voltage	0.4V max.	
Propagation delay time to logical 0 level	7ns typical	
Propagation delay time to logical 1 level	11ns typical	

output columns. The NAND is obtained by inverting the AND output, while the OR function is the NAND column upside down and can be obtained by inverting the A and B inputs.

It can be seen that the AND function gives a 1 when both A and B are at 1, and so on. The EXCLUSIVE-OR function has a symmetry of its own and is sometimes considered as a separate basic logic function.

Most of the logic functions can be achieved by using only NAND or only NOR gates at the expense of speed and package count, so that for experimental work it is not necessary to maintain a complete stock of all types. This is shown in Fig. 2.1.

NAND GATES

The internal circuit for a three-input TTL NAND gate is shown in Fig. 2.2. TR1 is a multiple emitter transistor. If one or more emitters are grounded the transistor is forward biased, the collector is at a low potential, and TR2 is turned off. This allows TR3 to turn off and TR4 to conduct, resulting in a logic 1 output level.

If, however, all inputs are high the base-collector junction of TR1 will conduct, forward biasing TR2. This turns TR4 off and TR3 on, giving a logic 0 at the output.

The standard TTL gate has a 10ns propagation delay time, a fan-out of about 10 and a noise immunity of at least 1V, making it suitable for most applications. Table 2.3 lists some of the common NAND gates available.

The SN7400 is a quadruple two-input positive NAND gate, package details and parameters are shown in Table 2.4. Although the logic functions can be worked out from the circuit in this case, for more complex packages the corresponding truth table would have to be used.

EXPERIMENT TO VERIFY THE NAND FUNCTION

For experimental work it is convenient to wire several dual-in-line type i.c. holders to pins on a patch board or experimental wiring board; six holders would be enough for many applications and facilitates replacing i.c. packages for other purposes.

The circuit in Fig. 2.3 could be made up to confirm the truth table, the meter indicating go or no-go conditions (or 1 and 0).

EXPERIMENT TO VERIFY THE EXCLUSIVE-OR FUNCTION

The circuit is shown in Fig. 2.4. This function gives an output when A and B are not equal. If one input is inverted the overall function will give an output when A and B are equal. Both arrangements are similar to the upstairs-downstairs light switching found in many homes where a lamp can be switched on or off from either of two places.

Although in this case an EXCLUSIVE-OR package is available (the SN7486) the circuit shows how a simple logic function can be obtained using NAND gates when a suitable package is not to hand.

This article has concluded with two experiments illustrating the static characteristics of the NAND gates. Future articles will deal with further applications of the TTL logic families.

Next month: Basic operational amplifiers

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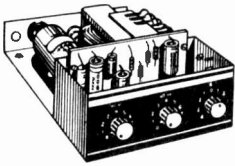
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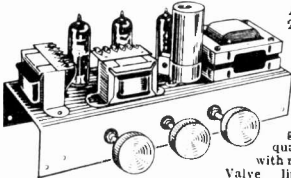


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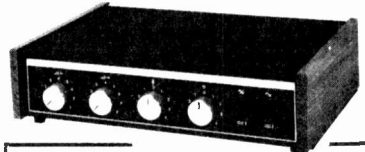
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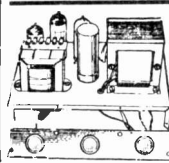
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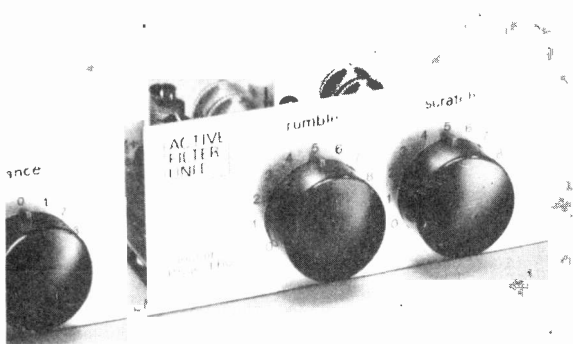
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Sinclair Project 60



Active Filter Unit (A.F.U.)

Built and tested
post free
£5.98

The value of an efficient filtering system cannot be over emphasized in these days of very high quality reproduction since there are so often occasions where its use can mean the difference between comfortable and uncomfortable listening. On the low pass side the Sinclair A.F.U. will effectively reduce hiss from radio or tape, cut out heterodyne whistles on A.M. reception, greatly reduce record surface noise and other imperfections; on the high-pass side it will cut out motor rumble and other spurious low frequency intrusion. The unit is for use between pre-amp (including tape pre-amps) and power amplifiers, and operates in two sections, both stereo. The cut-off frequencies are continuously variable, and since attenuation in the rejection band is rapid (12dB/octave) there is less loss of the wanted signal than has previously been possible. Amplitude and phase distortion are negligible. The A.F.U. is as easy to mount as the stereo 60 pre-amp/control unit which it matches in styling, along with the Stereo FM Tuner.

SPECIFICATIONS

The A.F.U. employs two Sallen and Key type active filter stages, one rumble (high pass) and one scratch (low pass). The two stages use complementary transistors to minimise distortion.

Supply voltage: 15 to 35 volts. Current 3mA maximum

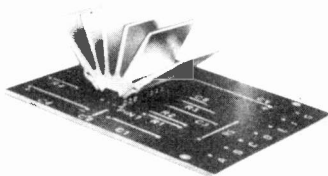
Gain at 1kHz: Filters flat 0.98 (—0.2 dB)

HF cut off: (—3dB) variable from 28 kHz to 5 kHz at 12 dB/octave.

LF cut off: (—3dB) variable from 25Hz to 100Hz at 12dB/octave.

Distortion: at 1kHz (35 volt supply) 0.02% at rated output.

Super IC.12 Integrated circuit high fidelity amplifier



Having introduced Integrated Circuits to hi-fi constructors with the IC.10, the first time an IC had ever been made available for such purposes, we have followed it with an even more efficient version, the Super IC.12, a most exciting advance over our original unit. This needs very few external resistors and capacitors to make an astonishingly good high fidelity amplifier for use with pick-up, F.M. radio or small P.A. set up, etc. The free 40 page manual supplied, details many other applications which this remarkable IC, make possible. It is the equivalent of a 22 tran-

sistor circuit contained within a 16 lead DIL package, and the finned heat sink is sufficient for all requirements. The Super IC.12 is compatible with Project 60 modules which would be used with the Z.50 and Z.30 amplifiers. Complete with free manual and printed circuit board.

SPECIFICATIONS

Output power: 6 watts RMS continuous (12 watts peak), 6—8Ω. **Frequency Response:** 5Hz to 100KHz ±1dB. **Total Harmonic Distortion:** Less than 1% (Typical 0.1%) at all output powers and frequencies in the audio band (28V). **Load Impedance:** 3 to 15 ohms. **Input Impedance:** 250 Kohms nominal. **Power Gain:** 90dB (1,000,000,000 times) after feedback. **Supply Voltage:** 6 to 28V. **Quiescent current:** 8mA at 28V. **Size:** 22 x 45 x 28mm including pins and heat sink.

Manual available separately 15p post free.

With FREE printed circuit board and 40 page manual.
£2.98 Post free

Project 605



The easy way to buy and build Project 60

Project 605 is one pack containing: one PZ5, two Z30's, one Stereo 60 and one Masterlink. This new module contains all the input sockets and output components needed together with all necessary leads cut to length and fitted with neat little clips to plug straight on to the modules. Thus all soldering and hunting for the odd part is eliminated. You will be able to add further Project 60 modules as they become available adapted to the Project 605 method of connecting.

Complete Project 605 pack with comprehensive manual, post free **£29.95**

Everything you need to assemble a superb 30 watt high fidelity stereo amplifier without having to solder.

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Sinclair Radionics Ltd, London Road, St. Ives, Huntingdonshire PE17 4HJ. Tel: St. Ives 64311

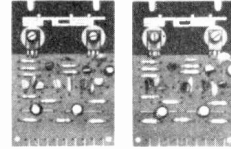
the world's most advanced high fidelity modules

Z.30 & Z.50 power amplifiers

Built, tested and guaranteed with circuits and instructions manual **z.30 £4.48 z.50 £5.48**

The Z.30 and Z.50 are of advanced design using silicon epitaxial planar transistors to provide unsurpassed standards of performance. Total harmonic distortion is an incredibly low 0.02% at 15w (8Ω) and all lower outputs. Whether you use Z.30 or Z.50 amplifiers in your Project 60 system will depend on personal preference, but they are the same size and are intended for use principally with other units in the Project 60 range. Their performance and design are such, however, that Z.50s and Z.30 may be used in a far wider range of applications.

SPECIFICATIONS (Z.50 units are interchangeable with Z.30s in all applications).— Power Outputs: Z.30 15 watts R.M.S. into 8 ohms using 35 volts; 20 watts R.M.S. into 3 ohms using 30 volts. **Z.50** 40 watts R.M.S. into 3 ohms using 40 volts; 30 watts R.M.S. into 8 ohms using 50 volts. **Frequency response:** 30 to 300,000Hz ± 1dB. **Distortion:** 0.02% into 8 ohms. **Signal to noise ratio:** better than 70dB unweighted. **Input sensitivity:** 250mV into 100 Kohms (for 15w into 8Ω). For speakers from 3 to 15 ohms impedance **Size:** 14 x 80 x 57mm

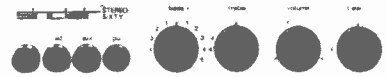


Stereo 60 Pre-amp/control unit

Built, tested and guaranteed. **£9.98**

Designed specifically for use on Project 60 systems, the Stereo 60 is equally suitable for use with any high quality power amplifier. Since silicon epitaxial planar transistors are used throughout, a really high signal-to-noise ratio and excellent tracking between channels is achieved. Input selection is by means of press buttons, with accurate equalisation on all input channels. The Stereo 60 is particularly easy to mount.

SPECIFICATIONS—Input sensitivities: Radio — up to 3mV. Mag. p.u. 3mV; correct to R.I.A.A. curve ±1dB 20 to 25,000 Hz. Ceramic p.u. — up to 3mV. Aux — up to 3mV. **Output:** 250mV. **Signal to noise ratio:** better than 70dB. **Channel matching:** within 1dB. **Tone controls:** TREBLE +12 to -12dB at 10KHz; BASS +12 to -12dB at 100Hz. **Front panel:** brushed aluminium with black knobs and controls. **Size:** 66 x 40 x 207mm.



Project 60 Stereo F.M. Tuner

Built and tested. Post free. **£25**

The phase lock loop principle was used for receiving signals from space craft because of its vastly improved signal to noise ratio. Now, Sinclair have applied the principle to an F.M. tuner with fantastically good results. Other advanced features include varicap diode tuning, printed circuit coils, an I.C. in the specially designed stereo decoder and switchable squelch circuit for silent tuning between stations. In terms of high fidelity this tuner has a lower level of distortion than any other tuner we know. Stereo broadcasts are received automatically, a panel indicator lighting up as the stereo signal is tuned in. This tuner can also be used to advantage with most other high fidelity systems.

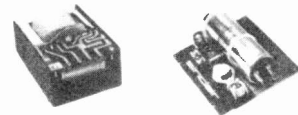
SPECIFICATIONS—Number of transistors: 16 plus 20 in I.C. **Tuning range:** 87.5 to 108MHz. **Sensitivity:** 7µV for lock-in over full deviation. **Squelch level:** Typically 20µV. **Signal to noise ratio:** >65dB. **Audio frequency response:** 10Hz — 15KHz (±1dB). **Total harmonic distortion:** 0.15% for 30% modulation. **Stereo decoder operating level:** 2µV. **Cross talk:** 40dB. **Output voltage:** 2 x 150mV R.M.S. maximum. **Operating voltage:** 25–30VDC. **Indicators:** Stereo on, tuning. **Size:** 93 x 40 x 207mm.



Power Supply Units

Designed specifically for use with the Project 60 system of your choice. Use PZ.5 for normal Z.30 assemblies and PZ.6 or PZ.8 where a stabilised supply is essential.

PZ.5 30 volts un stabilised £4.98
PZ.6 35 volts stabilised £7.98
PZ.8 45 volts stabilised £7.98
(less mains transformer)
PZ.8 mains transformer £5.98



Typical Project 60 applications

System	The Units to use	together with	Units cost
Simple battery record player	Z.30	Crystal P.U., 12V battery volume control, etc.	£4.48
Mains powered record player	Z.30, PZ.5	Crystal or ceramic P.U. volume control, etc.	£9.45
12W. RMS continuous sine wave stereo amp for average needs	2 x Z.30s, Stereo 60; PZ.5	Crystal, ceramic or mag. P.U., F.M. Tuner, etc.	£23.90
25W. RMS continuous sine wave stereo amp. using low efficiency (high performance) speakers	2 x Z.30s, Stereo 60; PZ.6	High quality ceramic or magnetic P.U., F.M. Tuner, Tape Deck, etc.	£26.90
80W. (3 ohms) RMS continuous sine wave de RMS stereo amplifier. (60W. RMS into 8 ohms)	2 x Z.50s, Stereo 60; PZ.8, mains transformer	As above	£34.88
Indoor P.A.	Z.50, PZ.8, mains transformer	Mic, guitar, speakers, etc., controls	£19.43

F.M. Stereo Tuner (£25) & A.F.U. (£5.98) may be added as required.

Guarantee

If, within 3 months of purchasing any product direct from Sinclair Radionics Ltd., you are dissatisfied with it, your money will be refunded at once. Many Sinclair appointed Stockists also offer this same guarantee in co-operation with Sinclair Radionics Ltd.

Each Project 60 module is tested before leaving our factory and is guaranteed to work perfectly. Should any defect arise in normal use, we will service it at once and without any charge to you, if it is returned within two years from the date of purchase. Outside this period of guarantee a small charge (typically £1.00) will be made. No charge is made for postage by surface mail. Air Mail is charged at cost.

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NOW YOU CAN CATCH SHOALS OF BIG FISH with new electronic miracle

First time marketed in England, this exciting electronic instrument (the "Decoytron") is the one responsible for starting the electronic fish-lure rage in the U.S.A. just recently. Uses ingenious double-action method of attracting all kinds of fish from hundreds and hundreds of feet away... saltwater or freshwater. Why this device is so fantastically successful is because it *actually imitates the sound of wet insects milling about the surface.* These sound waves spread out hundreds of feet in all directions. Although this peculiar sound frequency won't sound like much to you—to all the fish in the area it's their dinner bell! But that's not all... *electroluminescence neon tubes cunningly flicker intermittently,* penetrating the area for hundreds of feet around, at a frequency fish are unable to resist. The fish mistake this flickering glimmer for the soft phosphorescence glow given off by Plankton... a favourite delicacy of most fish! All you do is switch on, lower into the water (it's completely water resistant) allow around 5 minutes—then start reeling 'em in. We'll bet you won't be able to reel 'em in fast enough. Self-contained batteries last ages—cost pence. Kit of all parts including special easy as a, b, c. directions only **£2-50 + 25p P. & P.** (Parts available separately.)

BUILD 5 RADIO AND ELECTRONIC PROJECTS



ONLY £2-45

Amazing Radio Construction set! Become a radio expert for **£2-45.** A complete Home Radio Course. No experience needed.

Part 1 including simple instructions for each design. Illustrated step-by-step plans, all transistors, loudspeaker, personal phone, knobs, screws, etc., all you need. Presentation box **45p** extra as illus. (if required) (parts available separately) no soldering necessary. Send **£2-45 + 20p p. & p.**

SOOTHE YOUR NERVES RELAX WITH THIS AMAZING RELAXATRON



ONLY £2-75

CUTS OUT NOISE POLLUTION—SOOTHE YOUR NERVES! Don't underestimate the uses of this fantastic new design—the RELAXATRON—is basically a pink noise generator. Besides being able to mask out extraneous unwanted sounds, it has other very interesting properties. For instance, many people find a rainforest mystery relaxing, a large part of this feeling of well-being can be directly traced to the sound of falling raindrops—a well known type of pink noise. IF YOU WORK IN NOISY OR DISTRACTING SURROUNDINGS, IF YOU HAVE TROUBLE CONCENTRATING, IF YOU FEEL TENSED, UNABLE TO RELAX—then build this fantastic Relaxatron. Once used you will never want to be without it—TAKE IT ANYWHERE. Uses standard PP3 batteries (current used so small that battery life is almost shelf-life). CAN BE EASILY BUILT BY ANYONE OVER 12 YEARS OF AGE using our unique, step-by-step, fully illustrated plans. No soldering necessary. All parts including case, a pair of crystal phones, components, nuts, screws, wire, etc., no soldering. **£2-75 + 25p P. & P.** (Parts available separately.)

AMAZING MAGIC MUSIC BOX

make electronic music waving your hands about

ONLY £2-75

Everyone's heard the weird, wonderful, but beautiful music used in Science Fiction Films, Horror Films, etc. also on Radio & Television. This unearthly, eerie music is almost always produced by a little known electronic device measuring only a few inches... called a Theremin. All you have to do is switch on your radio (almost any type will do) and place the Theremin close by. Switch on the Theremin and proceed to wave your hands mysteriously in the air like a magician. The most fantastic musical sounds are then produced, and with a little practice people can learn to play all the well known tunes. Apart from its musical value, its small size allows it to be used to best advantage at parties, gatherings of friends, etc., where it attracts tremendous interest. Provides hours and hours of pleasure to young and old. Uses standard PP3 battery which lasts ages. The 3 Transistor circuit, though fairly advanced is simple to build with our pictorial step-by-step plans. No soldering necessary. Easily built in an hour or so using our special terminal board (Pat. applied for). All parts including nuts, bolts, case, etc., **ONLY £2-75 + 25p P. & P.** (Parts available separately.)



INGENIOUS ELECTRONIC SINGING & WARBLING CANARY!

ONLY £4-50

Actually whistles and warbles like a real live Canary! Amazing circuitry faithfully reproduces the Canary's magnificent song. Just switch on and leave it whistling down scale for some seconds, suddenly breaking into a delightful warble, then several seconds later shifting to a second or two only to start automatically again in a few seconds. People listen to the delightful song all day and never get bored! Relax, as the sweetest nerve-soothing birdsong takes you to leafy woods and glades. Provides countless hours of joy to young and old alike. Standard self-contained battery lasts ages. Easily built in an hour or so with special pictorial step-by-step plans. No soldering necessary. All parts including terminal board (Pat. applied for), transformers, loudspeaker, transistors, nuts, screws, wire, etc., plus case (which fits under cage—case and toy bird not supplied). **ONLY £4-50 + 25p P. & P.** (Parts available separately.)

EXAMINE AT HOME FOR 7 DAYS. YOUR MONEY REFUNDED IN FULL IF NOT 100% DELIGHTED.

CONCORD ELECTRONICS LTD. (PEI), 8 Westborough Grove, London, W.2. (Calls welcome. 9 a.m.-5.30 p.m.)



The amazing "Phototron" SOUND OPERATED FLASH

Take flash pictures at the exact instant of the bursting of a balloon. A champagne cork leaving the bottle. The split second a hammer strikes a light bulb. The mind boggles at the possibilities of the "Phototron"... *the only limit is your imagination.* Now that inexpensive flash guns are on the market in quantity, it has made possible, with strictly limited funds, the production of a wide variety of exciting photography effects, once extremely brief and normally measured in Milliseconds. Now, providing the camera shutter is left open in a dark or subdued light, it is the timing of the flash that determines what is imprinted on the film—not necessarily anything done by the camera. As electronic flash guns are fired by making a switched connection then it becomes obvious that one of the latest Silicon Controlled Relay's can be used. If we make this S.C.R. operate by sound (with variable sensitivity control for soft/light sounds) some real "eyes out" photography effects can be captured forever on film. Easily built in a couple of hours or so, the "Phototron" is fully solid state, uses self-contained PP3 battery. No soldering necessary using our special terminal board (Pat. applied for). All parts including special pictorial step-by-step plans, transistors, microphone, S.C.R., potentiometers, switches, test lamp, case, nuts, screws, etc., **ONLY £4-50 + 25p P. & P.** Made up must be worth at least £10. (Parts available separately.)

Eavesdrop on the exciting world of Aircraft Communications—

V.H.F. AIRCRAFT BAND CONVERTER ONLY £2-85



Listen in to AIRLINES, PRIVATE PLANES, JET-PLANES. Eavesdrop on exciting cross talk between pilots, ground crew control, airport tower. Hear for yourself the disciplined voices hiding themselves on talk-downs. Be with them when they have to take nerve ripping decisions in emergencies—Tune into the international distress frequency. Covers the aircraft frequency band including HEATHROW, GATWICK, LUTON, RINGWAX, PRESTWICK, ETC. CLEAR AS A BELL. This fantastic fully transistorised instrument can be built by anyone over nine in under two hours. No soldering necessary. Fully illustrated simple instructions take you step-by-step. Uses standard PP3 battery. All you do is extend lead aerial, plug close to any ordinary medium wave radio (even tiny portables) NO CONNECTIONS WHATSOEVER NEEDED. SEND **ONLY £2-85 + 20p p. & p.** for kit including case, nuts, screws, wire, etc. etc. (Parts available separately.)

FIND BURIED TREASURE!

Transistorised Treasure Locator



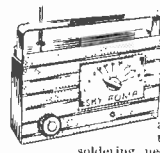
This fully portable transistorised metal locator detects and tracks down buried metal objects in signals exact location with loud audible sound (no phones used)—uses any transistor radio which fits inside—no connections needed. FINDS GOLD, SILVER, COINS, JEWELLERY, ARCHAEOLOGICAL PIECES, ETC. ETC. Extremely sensitive, will signal presence of certain objects buried several feet below ground! No knowledge of radio or electronics required. Can be built with ease in one short evening by anybody from nine years of age upwards. With the clear, easy-to-follow, step-by-step, fully illustrated instructions, uses standard PP3 battery. No soldering necessary. Kit includes nuts, screws, wire, etc. **ONLY £2-85 + 25p p. & p.** (Sectional handle as illustrated **95p** extra.) Parts available separately. Made up looks worth £15!

TREASURE LOCATOR MODULE

ONLY £4-50

FULLY TRANSDUCED METAL DETECTOR MODULE. Uses PP3 battery and phones. Put it in a case, screw a handle on and YOU HAVE A PORTABLE TREASURE LOCATOR EASILY WORTH ABOUT £20! Extremely sensitive—penetrates through earth, sand, rock, water, etc.—EASILY LOCATES GOLD, SILVER, JEWELLERY, HISTORICAL RELICS, BURIED PIPES, ETC. So sensitive it will detect certain objects buried SEVERAL FEET BELOW GROUND! GIVES CLEAR SIGNAL ON ONE COIN. **£4-50 + 30p** carr. for kit. (High quality Danish Stethoscope headphones **£2-75** extra if required.)

SHORTWAVE TRANSISTOR RADIO



ONLY £2-75
Anyone from 9 years old can follow the step-by-step, easy as ABC, fully illustrated instructions. No soldering necessary. 76 stations logged on top aerial in 30 mins—Russia, Africa, USA, Switzerland, etc. Experience thrill of world wide news, sport, music, etc. Eavesdrop on unusual broadcasts. Uses PP3 battery. Size only 3in x 4 1/2in x 1 1/2in. **ONLY £2-75 + 20p p. & p.** Kit includes cabinet, screws, instructions, etc. (Parts available separately.)

UNIQUE RADIO FOR BEDROOM OR OFFICE

No batteries, no electricity. **ONLY £1-70** never wears out



Tune in your favourite programmes of the news, or sports in the Office or in your bedroom. Uses sensitive, germanium diode originally evolved from wartime radar. Never buys a battery. Never use electricity. Never replace. Covers all medium waves. Clear beautiful tone. Size 4 1/2in x 2 1/2in x 1 1/2in in beautiful case. **ONLY SEVEN CONNECTIONS AND IT'S WORKING.** No soldering necessary. CAN BE BUILT ALMOST BLINDFOLD IN UNDER 15 MINUTES! Ideal for absolute beginner from 8 years of age upwards. SPECIAL PRICE TO CLEAR STOCKS OF COMPONENTS, **ONLY £1-70 + 20p P. & P.** for all parts including beautiful case. Germanium semi-conductor, tuning condenser, personal phone, wire, nuts, screws, SIMPLE AS ABC INSTRUCTIONS (Parts available separately.)

"READ PEOPLE'S MINDS"—TEST THEIR NERVES—BEAT THEM AT CARDS, ETC. WITH THIS ASTONISHING

ELECTRONIC BRAIN BOX Only £2-87

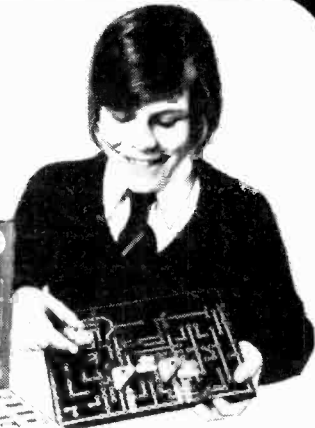
With this "Brain-box" you will be able to perform mind-boggling feats. THE MIND READING GAME will make people swear you can "telepathic" thoughts. THE AMAZING CARD TRICK UNIT completely mystifies and baffles from one to six people. You correctly "guess" the two cards each person has selected at random from a pack they themselves shuffled. THE ELECTRONICS NERVES TESTER puts your friends to a very lively test. It gives out fail and flush signals (the winner is the person with lowest number of fail signals). Can be adjusted from the person. THE ELECTRONIC MAZE tests the mental ability of the player because it uses psychology with an electronic twist on it. You can change the maze pathways in seconds to prevent the maze becoming too stale after lots of use. Completely safe and foolproof. Size 1 1/2in x 1 1/2in x 6in (max.). You can play all these games and more besides after building the "Brain-box". No soldering, you get pictorial, easy as ABC step-by-step simple instructions. **ONLY £2-87 + 35p P. & P.** for all parts including chassis, switches, stylus, signalling lights, wire, nuts, screws, etc. Uses standard battery. Presentation box 35p extra as illus. (if reqd.). (PARTS AVAILABLE SEPARATELY) FULL OPERATING DIRECTIONS WITH EACH OF THE PROJECTS.



Have fun with electronics...



Radionic Construction Kits



NO SOLDERING BATTERY OPERATED

Build your own radio receiver and many exciting experiments with the unique printed circuit board and mounted components. Easy to build, no soldering, battery operated, plus a fully illustrated instruction manual giving precise directions for each experiment. Ideally suitable for both the experimenter and beginner.

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SETS 1R5, 1R6, 1T4, 3R4, 3V4, DAF91, DF91, DK91, DL92, DL94.
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1R5	-28	30C17	-78	8B91	-10	EM80	-38	PCF806	-66	U329	-66
1R6	-22	30C18	-58	EBC33	-40	EM81	-38	PCF808	-68	U301	-80
1T4	-18	30F5	-84	EBC41	-54	EM84	-32	PCL82	-30	UABC80	-32
3R4	-26	30FL1	-65	EBC81	-30	EM87	-50	PCL83	-57	UAF42	-50
3V4	-47	30FL12	-89	EBC90	-22	EY51	-36	PCL84	-34	UBC41	-46
6U4G	-31	30FL14	-88	EBF80	-32	EY86	-29	PCL86	-38	UBF80	-34
6V40	-85	30L1	-29	EBF83	-39	EY87	-29	PCL86	-38	UBF89	-32
6Y3GT	-34	30L15	-70	EBF89	-29	EZ40	-43	PCL88	-68	UC84	-32
6Z4G	-38	30L17	-67	ECC81	-17	EZ41	-43	PCL90	-89	UC85	-35
6/30L2	-54	30P4	-65	ECC82	-20	EZ80	-22	PCL905	-38	UCF80	-32
6AL5	-11	30P12	-69	ECC83	-35	EZ81	-23	PENA4	-77	UCH42	-58
6AM6	-13	30P19	-65	ECC85	-34	EZ90	-25	PEN36C	-70	UCH81	-32
6AQ5	-22	30PL1	-60	ECC804	-54	GZ30	-34	PFL200	-52	UCL82	-32
6AT6	-20	30PL13	-89	ECF80	-31	GZ32	-40	PL36	-49	UCL83	-55
6AT6	-20	30PL14	-68	ECF82	-26	KT41	-77	PL81	-44	UF41	-52
6BA6	-20	35L6GT	-45	ECH33	-55	KT61	-55	PL81A	-47	UR89	-30
6BE6	-21	35W4	-25	ECH42	-59	KT66	-78	PL82	-31	UL41	-53
6BJ6	-41	35Z4GT	-25	ECH81	-29	LN319	-63	PL83	-33	UL84	-30
6BW7	-52	50CD6G	-68	ECH83	-40	LN329	-72	PL84	-30	UM84	-22
6F14	-40	807	-48	ECH84	-36	LN339	-65	PL500	-63	UY41	-39
6F53	-68	AC/AP2	-77	ECL80	-35	N78	-87	PL504	-83	UY85	-25
6FZ5	-53	B49	-65	ECL82	-31	P61	-40	PM84	-33	VF4B	-77
6J7G	-24	B729	-62	ECL86	-35	PABC80	-34	P255	-95	W77	-43
6K7G	-12	CCH35	-67	EP39	-38	PC86	-47	PY32	-52	Z77	-22
6K8G	-17	CY31	-30	EF41	-60	PC88	-47	PY33	-52	Transistors	
6Q7G	-35	DAF91	-22	EF80	-23	PC96	-42	PY81	-25	AC107	-17
6SL7GT	-30	DAF96	-38	EF85	-28	PC97	-38	PY82	-25	AC127	-18
6SN7GT	-30	DF91	-16	EF86	-30	PC900	-29	PY83	-26	AD140	-37
6V6G	-28	DF96	-38	EF89	-26	PC984	-29	PY88	-73	AF15	-20
6V6GT	-28	DH77	-20	EP91	-13	PC85	-23	PY800	-34	AF116	-20
6X4	-28	DK32	-33	EP92	-27	PC88	-38	PY801	-34	AF117	-20
6X5GT	-28	DK91	-28	EP98	-65	PC89	-45	R19	-30	AF125	-17
10P13	-53	DK92	-50	EF183	-28	PCC189	-48	R20	-70	AF127	-17
12AT7	-17	DK96	-45	EF184	-31	PC805	-70	U25	-73	OC26	-25
12AU7	-20	DF95	-19	EF90	-34	PC806	-28	U26	-70	OC44	-12
12AX7	-22	DL92	-28	EL33	-55	PCF80	-28	U27	-47	OC82	-12
19BG6G	-80	DL94	-47	EL34	-45	PCF82	-33	U49	-70	OC71	-12
20F2	-67	DL96	-38	EL41	-54	PCF86	-46	U52	-31	OC72	-12
20P3	-75	DY86	-24	EL84	-23	PCF800	-58	U78	-24	OC75	-12
25L6GT	-19	DY87	-24	EL90	-26	PCF801	-28	U191	-68	OC81	-12
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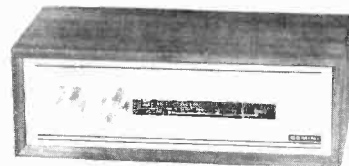
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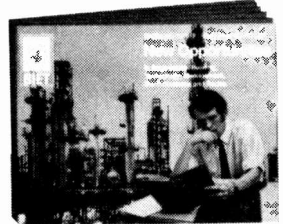
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2N2222A	25p	2N4059	90p	ACY39	47p	BC207	10p	BF183	40p	BSY790	45p
2N2368	11p	2N4060	11p	ACY40	17p	BC208	9p	BF184	17p	BSY95A	9p
2N2369	12p	2N4061	11p	ACY41	15p	BC209	10p	BF185	17p	BU104	£1-42
2N2369A	13p	2N4062	11p	ACY44	25p	BC219	80p	BF194	14p	BU105	36p
2N2646	41p	2N4302	25p	AD135V	84p	BC212K	10p	BF195	15p	C407	18p
2N2647	£1-20	2N4303	35p	AD140	49p	BC212L	18p	BF196	15p	C424	18p
2N2711	12p	2N4913	80p	AD142	50p	BC214L	14p	BF197	15p	C425	18p
2N2712	12p	2N4914	87p	AD143	45p	BC236	10p	BF198	15p	C426	25p
2N2713	17p	2N4915	96p	AD149V	50p	BC237	8p	BF199	18p	C428	25p
2N2714	17p	2N4917	17p	AD150	£1-23	BC238	9p	BF200	35p	C444	25p
2N2904	18p	2N4918	60p	AD161	35p	BC251	20p	BF224J	14p	D40N1	55p
2N2904A	25p	2N4919	58p	AD162	35p	BC252	18p	BF225J	19p	D40N3	62p
2N2905	25p	2N4920	60p	AD161 PR	BC253	23p	BF237	22p	GET111	45p	
2N2905A	23p	2N4921	50p	AD162 J	60p	BC257	8p	BF238	22p	GET113	40p
2N2906	18p	2N4922	55p	ADZ11	£1-50	BC258	11p	BF244	14p	GET114	20p
2N2906A	23p	2N4923	60p	ADZ12	£1-75	BC259	11p	BF245	33p	GET115	20p
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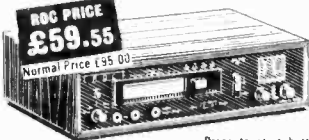
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The popular Lear-Jet type recording unit is the heart of the fantastic RP-1000ST, which has full record and playback facilities. Automatic track change with manual override.

Press to start button. Stereo headphone and Left and Right Mic sockets on front panel. Dual recording level meter, and Left and Right volume controls. Built-in pre-amp. Tape speed 3 1/2 ips (9.5 cms). Frequency response, playback 30-10,000 Hz; recording/playback 30-8,000 Hz. Line output: fully variable 0-500mV. The RP-1000ST incorporates all the features you'd expect on a top quality Cartridge Tape Deck. Size 16" wide, 4" high, 9" deep. Cabinet in walnut. Including connecting leads.

REALISTIC 30 WATT STEREO AMPLIFIER MODEL SA-500

A superb hi-fi amplifier with all the features you've ever wanted - for under £46.00. Saving over £10.00 on the normal retail value. Up-to-the-minute slider controls for bass and treble. Separate volume and balance controls. Headphone socket on front panel. Push-button input controls - magnetic phono (high/low) tuner, aux, mono, monitor. Loudness push-button control for perfect sound at low output levels. Left and right push-button on/off switches for speakers. Noise filtering and tape monitoring facilities. Two auxiliary AC outlets. Frequency response 20-20,000 Hz ± 1 db at full power. 15 watts rms per channel. Walnut cabinet with satin aluminium trims. Inputs: phono 2.5mV and 5mV RIAA, tuner/aux 250mV. Hum and noise: phono - 50db, tuner/aux - 65db. How's that for a specification! Size 14 1/2" wide, 3 1/2" high, 10 1/2" deep.



As reviewed in "POPULAR HI-FI" February 1972

ROC PRICE
£35.20
Normal Price £55.50



ROC PRICE
£31.20
Normal Price £50.00

OLSON RA-310 AM/FM/MPX STEREO TUNER

This ROC Tuner is especially designed to match the Olson AM-395 Stereo Amplifier. In price and value, as well as its good looking design! But of course it's also ideal for use with any other amplifier. The RA-310 costs £10.00 less than the normal retail value, and yet it is a highly sophisticated unit, incorporating the latest solid state techniques. Operation is drift free for supreme station-holding capability. You can connect this Tuner to a stereo amplifier, to a tape deck or a tape recorder. And of course it covers all the stations in the AM and FM bands. FM: 87-108 MHz, AM: 525-1605 kHz. FM Sensitivity: FM, 3µV, AM, 250µV. Stereo separation 30dB at 1kHz, image rejection 60dB. Size 11 1/2" wide, 4" high, 7 1/2" deep.



ROC PRICE
£12.45
Normal Price £21.00

REALISTIC SA-100B 6-WATT STEREO AMPLIFIER

Here's a fabulous, exciting value in miniature! This high quality stereo amplifier measures only 9" wide x 3" high x 5 1/2" deep. And yet it has separate gated volume, balance and tone controls. Plus speaker in/out, mono/stereo, phono/headphone and power on/off slide switches. The ends are oiled walnut, with matching enamelled metal top. The front panel is satin aluminium and walnut-brown enamel. Frequency response is 50 to 10,000 Hz ± 3 db. Output 3 watts r.m.s. per channel into 8 ohms. Inputs are 100mV for both phono and tuner.



EAGLE LC.05 STEREO MAGNETIC CARTRIDGE

For fabulous reproduction at a very low price, you'll find it hard to beat. 0.7 mil diamond stylus. Output: 6mV per channel. Frequency range: 30-18,000 Hz. Channel balance: ± 1.5 db. Channel separation: 20dB. Recommended stylus pressure: 2-4 grams. Compliance: 9 x 10⁻⁶ cm/dyne. **ROC PRICE** £4.75



EAGLE LC.07 STEREO MOVING-MAGNET CARTRIDGE

Here's your opportunity to own a transcription cartridge for the price of a ceramic! Is specially designed to match top quality tone arms, and to get the very best from your hi-fi amplifier. 0.7 mil diamond stylus. Output: 7mV per channel. Frequency range: 20-21,000 Hz. Channel balance: ± 1 db. Channel separation: 28dB. Compliance: 12 x 10⁻⁶ cm/dyne. **ROC PRICE** £6.37



ROC PRICE
£24.10
Normal Price £39.80

OLSON AM-395 40-WATT STEREO AMPLIFIER

An ideal unit for your new stereo separate system. It is more than £10.00 below the normal retail price! Making the AM-395 one of Britain's best hi-fi buys. It takes in signals from magnetic or ceramic pick-ups, tuners (see Olson RA-310) and tape decks. And it's got outputs for taping and for headphones. There are separate bass and treble controls, separate Left and Right channel volume controls. And a loudness switch for boosting the bass and treble notes when listening at low output levels. Frequency response: 20-20,000 Hz ± 3 db. Output: 20 watts r.m.s. per channel into 8 ohms. Inputs: magnetic phono 3mV RIAA, crystal phono 100mV, tape 160mV, tuner 160mV. Size 11 1/2" wide, 4" high, 7 1/2" deep. The specification reads well - sounds even better!



ROC PRICE
£28.00
Normal Price £30.70

A-3000 36-WATT SOLID STATE STEREO AMPLIFIER

The A-3000 looks as good as it sounds! Giving you a big performance this superb audio amplifier has a full range of facilities on the front and rear panels. On the front - all the controls you're ever likely to need plus a headphone socket. On the rear - signal inputs, speaker outputs and a line fuse for circuit protection. Specifications: 18 watts rms per channel into 8 ohms. Frequency response 20-35,000 Hz (± 2 db) Inputs: Magnetic, Ceramic, Tuner, Tape, Aux. Tape Play. Size: 345mm x 300mm x 130mm.



ROC PRICE
£10.50
Normal Price £15.70

OLSON AM-3574-WATT STEREO AMPLIFIER

Here's a marvellous value for someone just starting to set themselves up in audio! At only £10.50, you get a fine amplifier in a scratch resistant metal cabinet, with a smart brushed aluminium front panel. It incorporates separate tone and volume controls for each channel. Inputs are provided for tuntable (ceramic cartridge), tuner and tape deck or recorder. Frequency response: 70-20,000 Hz ± 3 db. Output: 2 watts r.m.s. per channel into 8 ohms. Inputs: phono 80mV, tuner/aux 80mV. Size 8" wide, 2 1/2" high, 4 1/2" wide.

25-WATT 3-WAY CRYSLER 'LIVING AUDIO' SPEAKER CE-56



ROC PRICE
£27.25
Normal Price £39.95 each.

This high quality speaker has its own built-in 3-way sound response switch, giving you the ideal frequency response for hi-fi, natural or mood music listening. Its beautiful, heavy, oiled walnut cabinet incorporates two separate speaker units an 8" woofer, and a 5" mid-range with 2" concentric tweeter. Power handling capacity: 25 watts r.m.s. into 8 ohms. Overall frequency response: 35-20,000 Hz. Cabinet size: 10 1/2" x 7 1/2" x 8 1/2". Exactly right for matching the most modern decor.

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ROC PRICE
£27.55
Normal Price £42.00

PALACE AM/FM/MPX STEREO TUNER AMPLIFIER SSA-18

This is one of the lowest priced stereo tuner amplifiers on the market. It covers the full range of both AM and FM broadcast frequencies. And when you're switched to FM, an indicator lights up when a stereo signal is received - that's the time to switch to 'Stereo'! The SSA-18 has all the facilities you'd expect to find on tuners costing twice as much - separate volume, bass, treble, balance and tuning controls. Selector switch for tape, phono, AM, FM, stereo. Jack socket on front panel for stereo headphones. Frequency range: FM 88-108 MHz, AM 535-1605 kHz. Frequency response: 50-10,000 Hz ± 3 db. Power output: 4 watts total music power into two 8 ohm speakers. Size: 16" wide, 4 1/2" high, 8" deep.



ROC 7-WATT STEREO AMPLIFIER CHASSIS SK-317

This exclusive ROC Stereo Chassis is completely self-contained, and it costs £2.25 less than the normal retail value! The SK-317 is a really compact unit measuring only 5 1/2" wide, 1 1/2" high and 6 1/2" deep. It contains its own mains power supply and has a gated volume control and separate treble controls for each channel. Specification: frequency response 40-17,000 Hz ± 3 db; output 3.5 watts music power per channel into 8 ohms; input, phono, 600mV; signal-to-noise ratio better than 45dB.

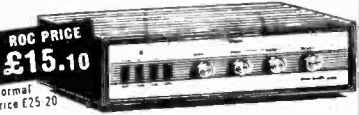
ROC PRICE
£5.50
Normal Price £7.75



R.446 3-WAY MATCHED SPEAKERS

These will do justice to your amplifier - and to your pocket. At only £16.40 a pair, they are real value-for-money. Each cabinet is heavily lagged and teak finished. They handle 16 watts rms (8 watts rms each). Each loudspeaker contains a large dual cone base unit, plus a separate tweeter. Frequency range: 40 to 19,000 Hz. Size 14" high, 9" wide, 6 1/2" deep.

ROC PRICE
£17.80
Normal Price £25.00 per pair.



ROC PRICE
£15.10
Normal Price £25.20

OLSON AM-372 18-WATT STEREO AMPLIFIER

Here's a really good amplifier at a really down-to-earth price - nearly £7 less than the normal retail value! Just look at what the AM-372 will do for you - reproduce signals from ceramic or crystal cartridges, AM and FM tuners, and tape recorders. And it gives you outputs for two sets of speakers, headphones and tape recorders. Frequency response is 30 to 20,000 Hz ± 3 db. Output 8 watts r.m.s. per channel music power into 8 ohm speakers. Phono input 200mV. Tuner input 200mV. Size: 12 1/2" wide, 3 1/2" high, 7 1/2" deep.

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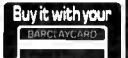
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4 6, 12V at 20A	46-43	45p		
5 17, 18, 20V at 20A	47-28	55p		
6 6, 12, 20V at 20A	46-88	55p		
7 24V at 10A	45-23	45p		
8 4, 6, 24, 32V at 12A	47-15	45p		
9, 6 and 12V at 10A	43-75	45p		

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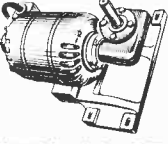
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TYPE: SD1.S/89400/OM
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The above motors are new and unused.



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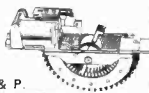
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100 WATT. 1 ohm, 10A; 5 ohm, 4.7A; 10 ohm, 3A; 25 ohm, 2A; 50 ohm, 1.4A; 100 ohm, 1A; 250 ohm, 0.7A; 500 ohm, 0.45A; 1 kΩ, 280 mA; 1.5 kΩ, 230 mA; 2.5 kΩ, 2A; 3.5 kΩ, 140 mA. Diameter 3 1/2 in. Shaft length 3/4 in. dia. 1/8 in. All at £1.65 each. P. & P. 75p.
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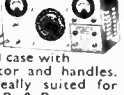
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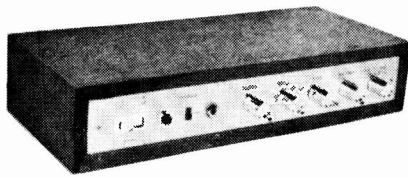


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Veroboard

	Copperclad	Plain
	0.1"	0.15"
2½" x 1"	6p	6p
2½" x 3½"	20p	16p (9)
2½" x 5"	24p	21p (7)
3½" x 3½"	24p	21p (8)
3½" x 5"	27p	27p (10)
17" x 2½"	67p	50p
17" x 3½"	90p	70p
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Spot-face Cutter 36p
Pin Insertion Tool 47p
Terminal Pins 18p per pack of 36

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Including baseplate and screws

No.	L.	W.	D.	Price	p. & p.
(7)	2½"	5½"	1½"	35p	8p
(8)	4"	4"	1½"	35p	8p
(9)	4"	2½"	1½"	35p	8p
(10)	4"	5½"	1½"	40p	8p
11	4"	2½"	2"	35p	8p
12	3"	2"	1"	32p	9p
13	6"	4"	2"	50p	10p
14	7"	5"	2½"	58p	12p
15	8"	6"	3"	75p	18p
16	10"	7"	3"	85p	20p

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1 watt	10% Carbon Composition	3p. each
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5 W	Wire wound	9p. each
10 W	Wire wound	10p. each

plus p. & p. 7p. for up to 25 resistors plus 1p. for each additional 25.

Semiconductors

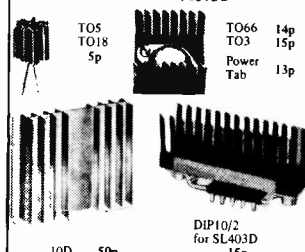
AC107	25p	AF239	30p	BF197	15p	2N1304	22p	AA120	9p
AC126	17p	BC107	10p	BU105	£2	2N1893	30p	AA129	9p
AC127	15p	BC108	10p	MPE102	40p	2N2926	10p	BA100	15p
AC128	15p	BC109	10p	MPE103	37p	2N3053	23p	BA154	13p
AC176	20p	BC147	10p	MPE104	37p	2N3055	49p	BA155	14p
AC187	25p	BC148	10p	MPE105	40p	2N3702	12p	BA156	15p
AC187K	25p	BC149	10p	MPE106	45p	2N3704	17p	OA47	10p
AC188	25p	BC157	12p	OC28	40p	2N3819	35p	OA79	9p
AC188K	25p	BC158	10p	OC35	40p	IN914	6p	OA81	7p
AD140	40p	BC159	12p	OC44	15p	IN4148	6p	OA90	7p
AD149	40p	BC169	15p	OC45	15p	IN4001	6p	OA91	7p
AD161	60p	BF180	25p	OC71	11p	IN4002	7p	OA200	10p
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AF114	18p	BF184	25p	OC170	23p	IN4004	8p	SL403D	£1.50
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2000pf	2p	0.05µF	3p
5000pf	2p	0.068µF	4p
0.01µF	3p	0.1µF	4p
0.02µF	3p	0.2µF	5p

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0.015µF	3p	0.33µF	6p
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0.033µF	3p	0.68µF	11p
0.047µF	3p	1µF	13p
0.068µF	3p	1.5µF	20p
0.1µF	4p	2.2µF	24p
0.15µF	4p		

Mullard C281 - 400V

0.01µF	4½p	0.1µF	7p
0.015µF	4½p	0.15µF	8p
0.022µF	4½p	0.22µF	10p
0.033µF	5½p	0.33µF	14p
0.047µF	6p	0.47µF	15p
0.068µF	6p		

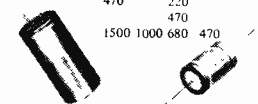
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Capacity µF	22	15	10	6.8	1		
	47	68	22	47	2.2		
	100	150	47	100	4.7		
	220	100	10	4.7			
		150					
10	8	6.4	4	2.5	1.6	1	0.64
40	32	25	16	10	6.4	4	2.5
80	64	50	32	20	12.5	8	5
160	125	100	64	40	25	16	10
320	250	200	125	80	50	32	20
500	400	320	200	125	80	50	32

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2.5	4	6.4	10	16	25	40	64
1000	800	640	400	250	160	100	64
1600	1250	1000	640	400	250	160	100
2500	2000	1600	1000	640	400	250	160
4000	3200	2500	1600	1000	640	400	250
			470				10p
			470				10p
			1500				18p



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16000	10000	6400	4000	2500

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32 + 100 + 125 + 200µF; 275 V.W	£1.23		
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25K Ω	250K Ω	2M Ω
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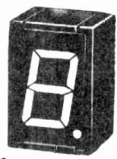
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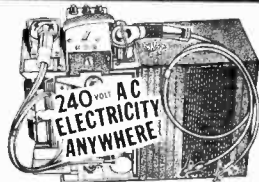
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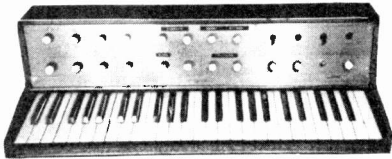
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0.068µf 35V	0.68µf 35V	5.6µf 6V	22µf 15V	150µf 6V
0.068µf 50V	0.68µf 50V	5.6µf 35V	22µf 75V	180µf 10V
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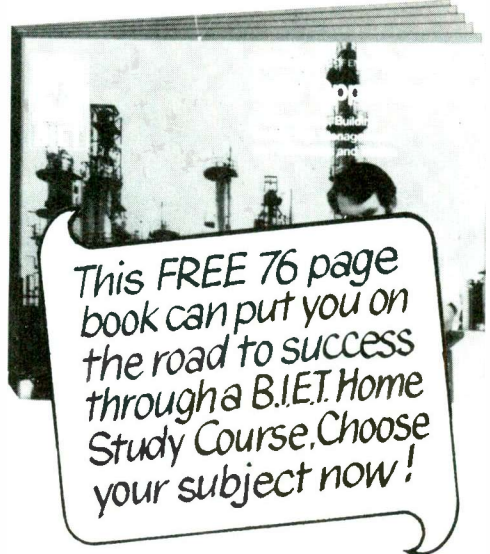
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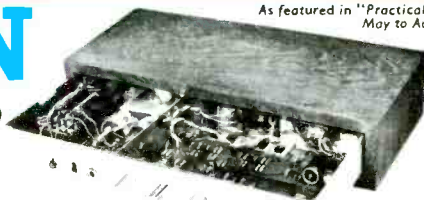
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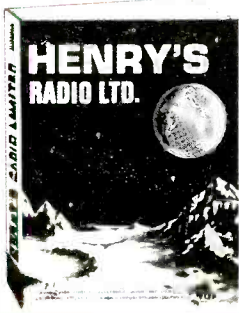
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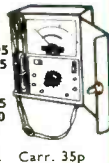
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