Assembly of the Kit74 V2

Date: Wednesday, Apr 21st 2004 11:52am CDT
Category: Electronics
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Materials:

Soldering Iron
Solder
Wire Cutters
Kit74 version 2

A new model of the Kit74 is now available.

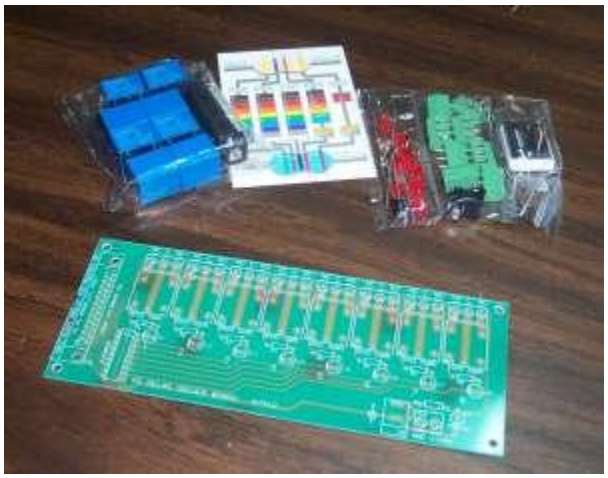
Assembly of the Kit74, version 2

Recently, Kits R Us modified the Kit74, reduced the number of components, board size, and overall improving the kit74.

The operation of the kit has not changed, and it still works with the Haunt Controller programs.

It took me about 20 minutes to assemble the kit74 version 2 (kit74v2 from here on out), which is a good 15 or 20 minutes less than what it took me to do the original version.

Here's the photos I took of the process. You will need a soldering iron, solder, and a pair of wire cutters to complete this project.



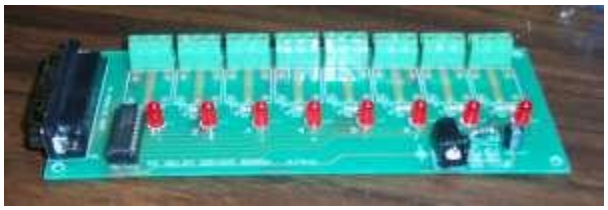
This first photo shows the contents of the kit. The PCB is physically smaller, and the biggest difference between the two kits is that the diodes, transistors and resistors have been replaced with a single IC. This makes the kit much easier to assemble. The kit did come with a nice resistor color chart.

First, put on the low-profile components, like the resistors, diode, capacitor and LED's. Component orientation is silk-screened onto the PCB, so watch which way you insert the diode, capacitor, and LED's.

I think this is just a slightly less blurry shot.

Next, add the terminal blocks, IC, and power plug. Don't solder the IC socket onto the board with the IC inserted, insert the IC after you have the socket soldered on. Also, pay attention to the terminal blocks, and make sure your wire connection holes face the outside of the PCB.

The one thing about this kit that was disappointing was that the barrel plug socket was chosen over the terminal block. I didn't happen to have any terminal blocks hanging around, but I did find a barrel plug, which was not included with the kit. The kit would be more usable with the terminal block instead of the socket for the barrel plug.



Now, it's time to install the right angle parallel port connector.

Lastly, add the relays, as they are the tallest component.

Here's a photo of the final assembled kit74v2. This was purchased from one of the outlets here in the states, so this kit is already hitting the mass market. For the money, it is still the best relay kit around!

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Artid: 1082566342