

Short Answer: This is an Arduino...



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• First we'll need to know what is a "microcontroller"





ATtiny 85

ATmega 328



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Micro-controllers are...

Like a miniature computers...

- Contains processor, RAM, storage, and more
- Can be programmed like a computer



Unlike a computer...

- Provides direct electrical connection to external devices
- Can't run Minecraft or Fortnite...

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Micro-controllers can be a pain...

• Require a special device to program...



AVRISP (In-System Programmer)



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Micro-controllers can be a pain...

• Difficult to read code, that's different depending on the model...

```
// Enable ADC in single mode and slow clk pre-scaler.
ADMUX = _BV(REFSO) | _BV(MUX2) | _BV(ADLAR);
ADCSRA = _BV(ADEN) | _BV(ADPS2);
ADCSRA |= _BV(ADSC); // Trigger read
while (ADCSRA & _BV(ADSC))
; // Wait for completion
temperature = (float) ADCL / 256.0;
temperature += ADCH;
```

temperature = analogRead(sensorPin);

Code for ATmega8 (Doesn't work for all microcontrollers) Code for Arduino (Work on all Arduinos)

Both of these codes do the same thing!



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Micro-controllers can be a pain...

 Require external parts to work (eg. voltage regulator, crystal oscillator, decoupling capacitors)



Voltage Regulator (...this is the simple type)



Crystal Oscillator



Capacitor



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So what is an Arduino?

• Combines a micro-controller with all the other components into a single device



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Exercise 1a External LEDs

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Breadboard

- Helps to make electrical connections
- Many components (eg. LEDs) can be plugged in directly
- Use dupont wires to make connections





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LED

- Light Emitting Diode
- Longer leg connects to positive
- Shorter leg connects to ground (0V)
- Doesn't work if connected in reverse





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Important!!! Take note of which leg of the LED is longer

In this example, the bottom leg is longer.

Long leg : Positive Short leg : Gnd

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Connect a wire from "GND" to the shorter LED leg.

* My shorter leg is on top.

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Connect the other end of the resistor to the "5V" pin

The LED should light up immediately!

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This is how the electricity is flowing

From...

- 5V to...
- Resistor to...
- LED to...
- GND

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Controlling the LED

To control the LED, we need to connect it to an output pin instead of 5V.

- Disconnect it from 5V.
- Connect it to Pin 11.

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Why the resistor?

- Arduino pins provide **5V**
- Different color LEDs require different voltages
 - Red, Yellow, Infra-red: 1.8V
 - Blue, White, UV: 3.3V
 - Green: Depends. Try **1.8V** first.
- Resistor helps to reduce the voltage
- What happens when you connect 5V to a Red LED without a resistor?

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Challenges

1) Program the connected LED blink continuously

2) Program the connected LED to blink at a varying rate (slow-fast-slow)



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Exercise 1b External Inputs

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Push Button Switch



External View



Internal View



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Make these connections

Resistor

Value isn't as important as before. Recommend to pick 1000 ohm, but most other values will do as well.

Push button switch

Connects the adjacent pins. Only need to use one side...

Connected to 5V



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- When switch is open...
- Pin 11 is connected to 0V via the resistor
- Pin 11 not connected to 5V

Voltage of pin 11 = 0 V = False = Low



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- When switch is closed...
- Pin 11 is connected to 0V via the resistor
- Pin 11 is connected to 5V directly

Voltage of pin 11 = 5 V = True = High



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• This resistor is call a **pull-down resistor**, because it pulls the voltage down to 0V when the switch is open

• We can also connect the resistor to 5V and the switch to Gnd. This is call a **pull-up resistor**.



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- Can we connect the switch to Gnd without a resistor?
 - NO! Without the resistor, we will have a short circuit when the switch is pressed





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Challenges

1) Make an LED blink rapidly for 2 seconds when the button is pressed

2) Make an LED toggle between on and off when the button is pressed



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