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# Basics of the Stamp Processor and <br> the Programming Language 

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## BASIC Stamp



## BASIC Stamp 2 Pins

Pin 1: $\mathrm{S}_{\text {OUT }}$
Transmits serial data during programming and using the DEBUG instruction

Pin 2: $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ Receives serial data during programming
Pin 3: ATN
Uses the serial DTR line to gain the Stamps attention for programming.
Pin 4. $V_{S S}$
Communications Ground (0V).

Pins 5-20:
Input/Output (I/O) pins P0 through P15

Pin 24. $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$
Un-regulated input voltage


## RAM Memory

- The code space is 2 K bytes (2048 bytes) in size and fills from the bottom up.
- INS, OUTS and DIRS are the registers (RAM locations) which hold the status of the I/O pins.
- REG0 - REG12 are 16-bit registers (word sized) used for general variable storage.
- The variable registers may hold:
- 13 16-bit variables (Words)
- 26 8-bit variables (Bytes)
- 52 4-bit variables (Nibbles)
- 208 1-bit variables (Bits)


## OR

- Any combination of the above within memory size constraints.

- The I/O can also be addressed as nibbles, bytes or the entire word.



## Programming Languages

- basic
- fortran
- C/C++
- Perl
- Java


## PBASIC

- Simple
- Easy
- Reach instructions
- common
- specialized


## BASIC Stamp Editor



## DEBUG Window



## Help Files



## Instruction Syntax Convention

- BASIC Stamp instructions follow a common code convention for parameters (parts) of instructions.
- Take for example the FREQOUT instructions, which may be used to generate tones from a speaker: FREQOUT Pin, Period, Freq1 \{, Freq2\}
- The instruction requires that the Pin, Period, and Freq1 is supplied and that each are separated by commas.
- Optionally, the user MAY provide Freq2 indicated by braces $\}$.
- While PBASIC is NOT case-sensitive, the common convention is to capitalize instructions, and use $1^{\text {st }}$ letter upper-case for all other code.


## Rules for Variable Names

- Variables cannot contain special characters such as !, @,\$ except for an underscore, _.
- Variables may contain numbers but cannot start with a number.
- Variable names cannot be a PBASIC instruction.
- Declare all variables at the top of your code and comment their use.
- Size the variable appropriate to its use conserving memory whenever possible.


## Example Variable Names

Examples of legal variable names:
x VAR BYTE 'General use variable
PressCount VAR WORD 'Holds number of times
Pot_Value VAR WORD 'Value of Pot
Switch1 VAR BIT 'Value of switch 1
Examples of illegal variable names:

My Count
1Switch
Stop!
Count

Space in name
Starts with a value
Invalid name character
PBASIC instruction

## Variable Modifiers

| Symbol | Definition |
| :--- | :--- |
| LOWBYTE | low byte of a word |
| HIGHBYTE | high byte of a word |
| BYTE0 | byte 0 of a word |
| BYTE1 | byte 1 of a word |
| LOWNIB | low nibble |
| HIGHNIB | high nibble |
| NIB0 - NIB3 | individual nibbles |
| LOWBIT | low bit |
| HIGHBIT | high bit |
| BIT0 - BIT15 | individual bits |

## Examples:

Robot VAR WORD Wheels VAR Robot.HIGHNIB 'bits 12-15
Arms VAR Robot.NIB0 'bits 0-3

## Variables

| Basic unit | Types |
| :---: | :---: |
| - bit - 1 bit <br> - nibble - 4 bits <br> - byte - 8 bits <br> - word - machine dependent | - char - 8 bits <br> - integer - 16 bits <br> - long integer - 32 bits <br> - long long - 64 bits <br> - float - 32 bits <br> - double float - 64 bits <br> - long double - 128 bits |

## Number Representations

| Types | Examples | Decimal Values |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Bin (base 2) | 101101011 | 363 |
| Oct (base 8) | o15021 | 6673 |
| Hex (base 16) | 0x8A02F5 | 9044725 |

## Number Conversion Table

| Binary | Hex | Decimal |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0000 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 0 |
| 0001 | 1 | 1 |
| 0010 | 2 | 2 |
| 0011 | 3 | 3 |
| 0100 | 4 | 4 |
| 0101 | 5 | 5 |
| 0110 | 6 | 6 |
| 0111 | 7 | 7 |
| 1000 | 8 | 8 |
| 1001 | 9 | 9 |
| 1010 | A | 10 |
| 1011 | B | 11 |
| 0100 | C | 12 |
| 1101 | D | 13 |
| 1110 | E | 14 |
| 1111 | F | 15 |

ASCII Chart (first 128 characters)

| Dec | Hex | Char | Name / Function |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 00 | NUL | Null |
| 1 | 01 | SOH | Start Of Heading |
| 2 | 02 | STX | Start Of Text |
| 3 | 03 | ETX | End Of Text |
| 4 | 04 | EOT | End Of Transmit |
| 5 | 05 | ENQ | Enquiry |
| 6 | 06 | ACK | Acknowledge |
| 7 | 07 | BEL | Bell |
| 8 | 08 | BS | Backspace |
| 9 | 09 | HT | Horizontal Tab |
| 10 | 0 A | LF | Line Feed |
| 11 | 0 B | VT | Vertical Tab |
| 12 | 0 C | FF | Form Feed |
| 13 | $0 D$ | CR | Carriage Return |
| 14 | $0 E$ | SO | Shift Out |
| 15 | 0 F | SI | Shift In |
| 16 | 10 | DLE | Data Line Escape |
| 17 | 11 | DC1 | Device Control 1 |
| 18 | 12 | DC2 | Device Control 2 |
| 19 | 13 | DC3 | Device Control 3 |
| 20 | 14 | DC4 | Device Control 4 |
| 21 | 15 | NAK | Non Acknowledge |
| 22 | 16 | SYN | Synchronous Idle |
| 23 | 17 | ETB | End Transmit Block |
| 24 | 18 | CAN | Cancel |
| 25 | 19 | EM | End Of Medium |
| 26 | 1 A | SUB | Substitute |
| 27 | $1 B$ | ESC | Escape |
| 28 | 1 C | FS | File Separator |
| 29 | $1 D$ | GS | Group Separator |
| 30 | 1 E | RS | Record Separator |
| 31 | 1 F | US | Unit Separator |


| Dec | Hex | Char |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 32 | 20 | space |
| 33 | 21 | ! |
| 34 | 22 | " |
| 35 | 23 | \# |
| 36 | 24 | \$ |
| 37 | 25 | \% |
| 38 | 26 |  |
| 39 | 27 | , |
| 40 | 28 | ( |
| 41 | 29 | ) |
| 42 | 2 A | * |
| 43 | 2B | + |
| 44 | 2C | , |
| 45 | 2D | - |
| 46 | 2E |  |
| 47 | 2F | 1 |
| 48 | 30 | 0 |
| 49 | 31 | 1 |
| 50 | 32 | 2 |
| 51 | 33 | 3 |
| 52 | 34 | 4 |
| 53 | 35 | 5 |
| 54 | 36 | 6 |
| 55 | 37 | 7 |
| 56 | 38 | 8 |
| 57 | 39 | 9 |
| 58 | 3A | : |
| 59 | 3B | , |
| 60 | 3C | < |
| 61 | 3D | $=$ |
| 62 | 3E | $>$ |
| 63 | 3 F | ? |


| Dec | Hex | Char |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 64 | 40 | $@$ |
| 65 | 41 | A |
| 66 | 42 | B |
| 67 | 43 | C |
| 68 | 44 | D |
| 69 | 45 | E |
| 70 | 46 | F |
| 71 | 47 | G |
| 72 | 48 | H |
| 73 | 49 | I |
| 74 | 4 A | J |
| 75 | 4 B | K |
| 76 | 4 C | L |
| 77 | 4 D | M |
| 78 | 4 E | N |
| 79 | 4 F | O |
| 80 | 50 | P |
| 81 | 51 | Q |
| 82 | 52 | R |
| 83 | 53 | S |
| 84 | 54 | T |
| 85 | 55 | U |
| 86 | 56 | V |
| 87 | 57 | W |
| 88 | 58 | X |
| 89 | 59 | Y |
| 90 | 5 A | Z |
| 91 | 5 B | C |
| 92 | 5 C | I |
| 93 | 5 D | l |
| 94 | 5 E | A |
| 95 | 5 F | - |
|  |  |  |


| Dec | Hex | Char |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 96 | 60 |  |
| 97 | 61 | a |
| 98 | 62 | b |
| 99 | 63 | c |
| 100 | 64 | d |
| 101 | 65 | e |
| 102 | 66 | f |
| 103 | 67 | g |
| 104 | 68 | h |
| 105 | 69 | i |
| 106 | 6 A | l |
| 107 | 6 B | k |
| 108 | 6 C | l |
| 109 | 6 D | m |
| 110 | 6 E | n |
| 111 | 6 F | o |
| 112 | 70 | p |
| 113 | 71 | q |
| 114 | 72 | r |
| 115 | 73 | s |
| 116 | 74 | t |
| 117 | 75 | u |
| 118 | 76 | v |
| 119 | 77 | w |
| 120 | 78 | x |
| 121 | 79 | y |
| 122 | 7 A | z |
| 123 | 7 B | l |
| 124 | 7 C | l |
| 125 | 7 D | l |
| 126 | 7 E | $\sim$ |
| 127 | 7 F | delete |
|  |  |  |

## Data Types

| Primitive | char, integer, float, etc. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Array | vector indexed with numbers |
| Hash | vector indexed with keys |
| Class | complex/combined |

## PBASIC Variable Types

| Name | Size | Values | Value Range |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| BIT | 1 bit | $2^{1}$ | 0 or 1 |
| NIB | 4 bits | $2^{4}$ | $0-15$ |
| BYTE | 8 bits | $2^{8}$ | $0-255$ |
| WORD | 16 bits | $2^{16}$ | $0-65535$ |

## Binary Operators (not complete)

| Symbol | Description |
| :---: | :--- |
| + | Add |
| - | Subtract |
| $*$ | Multiply |
| $/$ | Divide |
| $\ll$ | Shift left |
| $\gg$ | Shift right |
| $\&$ | Logical AND |
| I | Logical OR |
| $\wedge$ | Logical XOR |

## Unary Operators (not complete)

| Symbol | Description |
| :---: | :--- |
| ABS | Returns absolute value |
| COS | Returns consine |
| $\sim$ | Inverse |
| - | Negative |
| SIN | Returns sine |
| SQR | Returns square root |

## Order of Math Operation

- The BASIC Stamp solves math equationsfrom left to right. The steps of computing $12+3$ * $2 / 4$ :

$$
\begin{gathered}
12+3=15 \\
15 * 2=30 \\
30 / 4=7
\end{gathered}
$$

- The BASIC Stamp only performs integer math. $30 / 4$ results 7 , not 7.5 . Be careful with the order.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 3 / 2 * 10=10(\text { not } 15!) \\
& 10 * 3 / 2=15
\end{aligned}
$$

- Use parentheses to show intention

$$
\begin{aligned}
& (12+3) * 2 / 4 \text { (clear to others what you intend }) \\
& 12+(3 * 2 / 4)
\end{aligned}
$$

## Stamp I/O (Input/Output)

- 16 I/O pins on the BS2x labeled P0 to P15.

These are the pins through which input and output devices may be connected.

- Each pin may act as an input from a device, or as an output to a device.

Depend on program codes.

## BASIC Stamp I/O

- Serial Input/Output: connect to PC
- Loading program
- Debugging
- Pins 0-15: Sense/Set voltage
- High (5V)
- Low (0V)


## Flow Control

## Branching

IF...THEN Compare and conditional branch
GOTO
GOSUB
Branch to an address
Branch to a subroutine
RETURN Return from a subroutine
Looping
FOR...NEXT Setup a loop
Memory access
READ Read a byte from memory
WRITE
Write a byte to memory

## Instructions for Pin Control

- HIGH defines the pin to be an output and sets it to a HIGH state, digital 1 or 5V.
- HIGH pin (pin takes a value between 0-15, e.g. HIGH 8)
- LOW defines the pin to be an output and sets it to a LOW state, digital 0 or 0V.
- LOW pin (pin takes a value between 0-15, e.g. LOW 8)
- INPUT sets the specified pin to input mode.
- INPUT pin (pin takes a value between 0-15, e.g. INPUT 10)


## Program Execution

- Data input from files, mouse, keyboard, joystick, etc.
- Data processing signal manipulation (math calculation, etc.)
- Data output to screen, files, printers, motors, etc.


## Execution Flow



## Stamp Execution Flow

## Poll Pins' Voltage

Decide how long each pin to stay high or low Check which pins are high or low
Decide which pins to set high or low $\boldsymbol{O R}$ exit

Set Pins' Voltage

## BASIC Stamp Directive

- Stamps come with several different models $1,2,3 \mathrm{e}, 2 \mathrm{sx}, 2 \mathrm{p}$, etc.
- Must specify model type (via one of three methods):
- Directive: ‘\{\$STAMP BS2sx, prog2.bsx\}
- File extension: prog1.bsx
- Predefined default
- Assume program contain the directive '\{\$STAMP BS2sx \} 'indicates to use the BASIC tamp 2sx


## A Simple Program

```
' a simple demo program
' loop through 10 elements of an array (vector)
'=== declare variables
index VAR NIB '4 bits, maximum value 15
vector VAR WORD(10) 'array data
'=== first assign a value to each element
FOR index = 0 TO 9
    vector(index) = index
NEXT
'=== then print the value of each element
FOR index = 0 TO 9
    DEBUG ? vector(index) ' print to screen
NEXT
```


## A Simple Program (Perl version)

```
#!/usr/local/bin/perl
# === not necessary to declare variables
# my ($index, @ vector);
# === first assign a value to each element
for $index (0 .. 9)
    {
    $vector[$index] = $index;
}
# === then print the value of each element
for($index = 0; $index < 10; $index++)
{
    print $vector[$index], "\n"; # print to screen
}
```


## Output - Connecting an LED

- Connect an LED to P8 as shown:


Vdd, NOT Vin.
Note cathode: the 'flat side' of LED

Connected on P8. Angle of shot makes it appear to be on P9.

> An LED is a diode, meaning electrons can flow in only one direction, so polarity is important. The LED should have a flat side indicating the cathode or negative terminal. Also, the anode (positive terminal) generally has a longer lead than the cathode.


- In this configuration a LOW, or 0 V , at P8 will allow current to flow through the LED to Vdd ( +5 V ) lighting it. When P8 is HIGH ( +5 V ), no current will flow and the LED will not light. The LED is Active Low.


## Blinking the LED with HIGH, LOW

- Use the Stamp Editor to enter the following program:

```
'Prog 4A: Blink LED program
Main:
    HIGH 8 'Turn off LED
    PAUSE 1000 'Wait 1 second
    LOW 8 'Turn on LED
    PAUSE 5000 'Wait 5 seconds
GOTO Main 'Jump back to beginning
```

- Download or run the program.
- Monitor the LED. It should blink at a rate of 1 second OFF, 5 seconds ON. If not, check your configuration and code.


## BUTTON Instruction

## BUTTON Pin, DownState, Delay, Rate, Workspace, TargetState, Address

Pin (0-15) specify the I/O pin and set it to input mode.
DownState (0 or 1) specify the logical state when the button is pressed.
Delay (0-255) specify minimum press time before auto-repeat starts.
Rate (0-255) specify number of cycles between auto-repeats.
Workspace a byte variable used by BUTTON for workspace.
TargetState (0 or 1) specify the state to branch
Address a label specifying where to branch

## Simple BUTTON circuit



## Demo Program (BUTTON.bas)

'With the active-low circuit connected to pin 0 , 'when you press the button, anasterisk(*) will 'be printed on the screen.

BtnWrk VAR BYTE ‘Workspace Loop:
BUTTON 0, 0, 255, 250,BynWrk,0,NoPress
DEBUG "*"
'can take other actions, such as turn on/off the wheels
NoPress:
GOTO Loop

