

HINTS & TIPS

PIC MICROCONTROLLERS

Power Supply

PIC microcontrollers such as PICAXE and GENIE require a voltage of 3 to 5.5 DC supply which can be provided by AA Alkaline cells of 1.5V.

4.5V can be provided by using 3 AA cells
($1.5V \times 3 = 4.5V$)

If a diode is used in series with the AA cells, it will provide polarity protection for the PIC.

As the diode has a 0.7 voltage drop across its leads, 4x AA cells can be used giving a voltage of $4 \times 1.5V = 6V - 0.7V = 5.3V$.

Never use a 9V PP3 battery as this is well above the maximum voltage of 5.5V and will damage the PIC. Most AA battery holders use the same type of press-stud connector which fits the PP3 battery snap.



Be careful NOT to connect the PIC to a PP3 battery.

Battery Holders

3x AA Battery Holder (18-0126)

4x AA Battery Holder (18-0115)

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