

8 Bit Serial <—> Parallel Transceiver with Host Control

Micro Basic's line of serial transceivers are designed with the hobbyist in mind. They are a welcome tool on every engineer's bench due to their

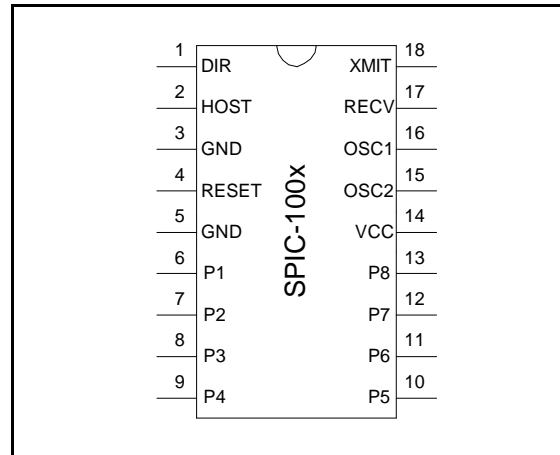
- ? Low cost
- ? Ease of use
- ? Versatility

These serial transceivers have two distinct modes of operation, based on the setting of the **HOST** pin. When set high, the direction of conversion is determined by the setting of the **DIR** pin. When **HOST** is set low, the direction of conversion is determined by commands sent to the SPIC.

The SPIC is based on the Microchip line of PIC microcontrollers. The machine code running on the PIC consists of three real time state machines, and is therefore full-duplex. There are no flow control issues to worry about, nor are any delays necessary.

The bit rate of the serial stream is determined by the oscillator speed, and was optimized for common ceramic resonator values. The following table may be used to determine the oscillator speed needed for common serial speeds:

Bitrate	Oscillator
2400bps	2MHz
4800bps	4MHz
9600bps	8MHz
19.2kbps	16MHz



Devices included in this Data Sheet:

- ? SPIC-1000
- ? SPIC-1001
- ? SPIC-1002

Versatile Serial <—> Parallel Transceiver

- ? 2 modes of operation
- ? RS232 standard
- ? Operating speed: DC to 20MHz clock
0 to 24kbps
- ? 8-bit data channel
- ? No Parity
- ? 1 Stop Bit
- ? Multiple oscillator configurations:
Crystal Oscillator
Ceramic Resonator
Clock input (TTL or CMOS)
- ? External Reset
- ? True or Inverted RS232 signaling

CMOS technology:

- ? Low power
- ? High speed
- ? Wide operating voltage range
- ? Wide temperature range
- ? 25mA sink, 20mA source each pin

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Device Variations

The SPIC chips all perform the same function, but accept and send different RS-232 signal polarities:

SPIC-1000 True (Mark = High)
SPIC-1001 Inverted (Mark = Low)
SPIC-1002 Set upon startup

The **SPIC-1000** is meant to be used with a TTL or CMOS to RS-232 level converter, such as the MAX232.

The **SPIC-1001** can connect directly to another serial device through a resistor, eliminating the need for an RS-232 level converter.

The **SPIC-1002**, upon reset or power-up, checks the state of the RECV pin and sets its polarity according to that line. This requires that the other RS-232 device be powered up and operating before powering up the SPIC, or a pull-up or pull-down resistor on **RECV**. The SPIC-1002 reads the state of the RECV line for the duration of one byte time, including start and stop bits. If the line remains stable for that period of time, it adopts that level as an RS-232 Mark.

All three variations receive and transmit in RS-232, 8 bit, No parity, 1 stop bit.

Modes of operation

Remote

In remote mode the SPIC waits for commands sent via the serial line. When the ascii character 'I' (Decimal 73, HEX '49') is received the SPIC sets **DIR** low, changes P[1:8] to high-impedance inputs, reads the state of P[1:8], and sends a single byte to represent their state.

When the ascii character 'O' (Decimal 79, HEX '4F') is received the SPIC waits for the next

byte. When that byte is received, it is written to P[1:8]. If needed, P[1:8] are set as outputs, and **DIR** is then set high.

This mode is most useful when communicating with an intelligent host, when polled communications is needed, or when software direction control is necessary.

Local

Local mode is chosen by bringing the **HOST** pin high.

In local mode the **DIR** input determines whether the SPIC is converting serial to parallel or parallel to serial. When **DIR** is high the SPIC waits for bytes and writes any byte received to P[1:8]. This mode can receive data at the fastest RS-232 rate, there does not need to be any time between the end of a stop bit and the beginning start bit of the next byte.

When **DIR** is low the SPIC sends a continuous stream of data. Each byte in the stream represents the state of P[1:8] read just before the byte is sent. Since many hosts cannot handle this stream it is most commonly used when communicating with another SPIC set to receive such a stream.

This can be used to transmit the status of 8 bits from one circuit to another using only two wires. At their fastest speed the receiving SPICs outputs are updated 2,400 times per second.

Oscillator Configuration

The SPIC has an on-board low power crystal driver which can drive external crystals and ceramic resonators. The SPIC can also accept an external clock signal (TTL or CMOS).

There are some limitations to the

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driver:

- ? It is set for 4MHz and faster crystals or resonators. Slower crystals or resonators may not run without a series resistor, and in some cases will not run at all. It is suggested that slower speeds be implemented with an external clock.
- ? There are two different SPIC speed ranges. The package markings identify the maximum speed of the SPIC, either 4MHz or 20MHz. While these devices may run faster than rated in a prototyping environment, they are not guaranteed to do so reliably, and the user is cautioned against using them above their ratings in a production unit.
- ? The SPIC is designed to be used with common oscillator frequencies, generally multiples of 1MHz. This design does not produce an exact bit rate. The bit rate is 0.160% faster than the bit rates shown in the table on the first page. The actual bit rate can be found by the following formula:

$$BitRate \text{ (bps) } = \frac{F_{osc}}{832}$$

This is not an issue when the SPIC is communicating with another SPIC. It is not an issue with other RS-232 receivers, which generally allow a bit rate error of greater than 2% before reception errors occur.

Remote/local

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Figure 1 is a circuit diagram showing the power, oscillator and reset connections common to all circuits using the SPIC. In cases where a reset button is not necessary, **RESET** may be connected directly to Vcc. A ceramic resonator may be used in place of X1. Ceramic resonators with built-in capacitors can be used to replace X1, C1 and C2. Not shown is a decoupling capacitor, which is placed across Vcc and Vdd.

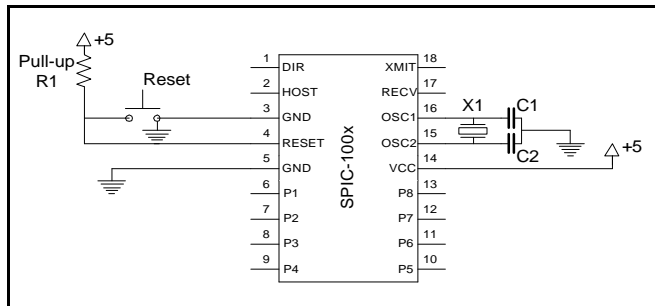


Figure 1

Figure 2 shows the RS-232 connection using a standard MAX232 RS-232 driver/receiver. This method prevents problems associated with static, voltage spikes and other line issues, which are buffered by the MAX232.

This method is only suitable for the SPIC-1000 and SPIC-1002.

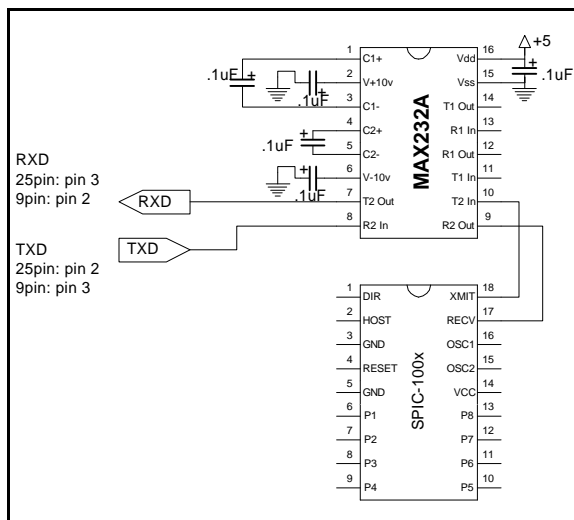


Figure 2

Figure 3 shows the RS-232 connection using a resistor. This method is based on two items:

1. The SPIC contains an internal clamping diode on the RECV pin which limits the voltage to 5v on that pin. Coupled with the 22k resistor, this clips the RS-232 signal to 0v (Mark) and 5v (Space) levels.

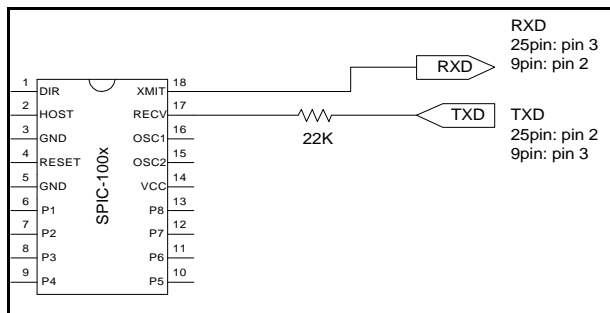


Figure 3

2. While the region of $-3v$ to $3v$ is unspecified in the RS-232 specification, most implementations of RS-232 receivers detect 0v as a Mark, and anything above 3v as a space. **XMIT** does not use a level converter, and instead drives the line high (Space) or low (Mark).

This method is only suitable for the SPIC-1001 and SPIC-1002.

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Figure 4 shows a complete application of two SPICs. In this circuit both SPICs are configured for local control (**REMOTE** is high). One SPIC is configured as a Parallel to Serial converter, while the other is configured as a Serial to Parallel converter. The LEDs reflect the settings of the switches.

The optional pull-up resistors are only needed when using the SPIC-1002.

While the voltage levels used to send data from one SPIC to the other are not meant for long distances, it is trivial to add either RS-232 or RS-485 converters to separate these SPICs by several thousand meters.

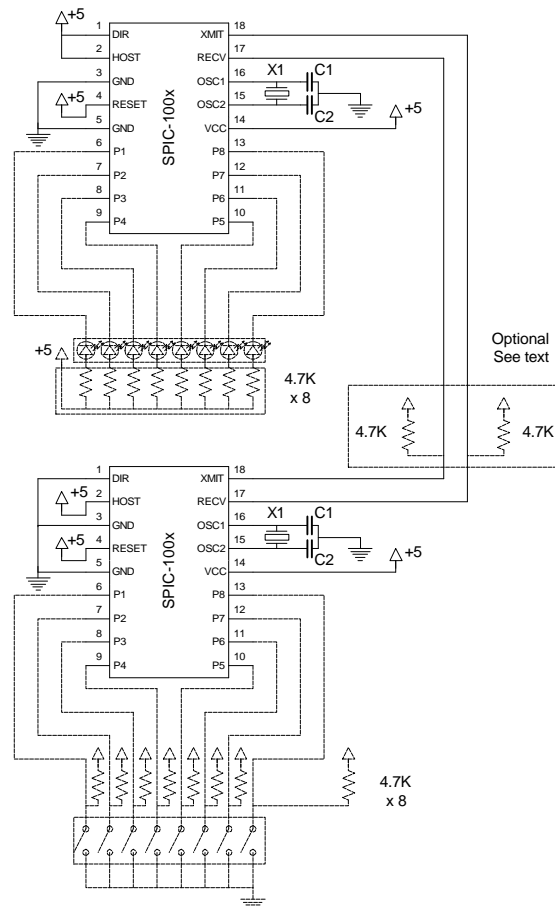


Figure 4

Common Issues

1. Make sure you have a decoupling capacitor across Vcc and Vdd (Gnd).
2. Do not let inputs float: **REMOTE**, **DIR**, **RECV**, **P[1:8]** (when configured as inputs)
3. Do not go over the speed rating of the SPIC.
4. The serial stream output from a SPIC configured as **LOCAL** and Parallel → Serial is very fast. It can cause buffer overflows on some systems, which may cause system hangs and crashes.

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```
; Micro Basics RS-232 Serial<-->Parallel Transceiver
; By: Adam Davis, Spring 2000
; For more information, including an almost complete
; data sheet, please see http://www.ubasics.com/
; This file and the following may change (We reserve
; the right to do that ;-), please check the afore-
; mentioned website for updates periodically.

; Micro Basics and Adam Davis do not provide any
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; for any particular application or use, and to not
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; Micro Basics. This file must be prominently placed.

; 'Item' shall be defined as, but not limited to, any
; device, record, book, electronic communication, or
; any medium or method which could hold this code in
; any form. 'Sold' shall be taken to mean any
; transaction taking place between two or more
; individuals or businesses in which goods, money, or
; other material/information is mutually exchanged.

; My interpretation is simply:
; Don't sell this without giving your customer the
; 1) knowledge of who created it
; 2) ability to make them
; Don't bundle this with any product without this
; entire document included.

; A large portion of this code came from the book
; "Serial PIC'n", Square One, Roger L. Stevens, without
; which this construction would have taken much longer.
; While not required, I'm acknowledging his contribution.
; I heartily recommend this book as an addition to
; every PIC hobbyist's bookshelf.

; Please note that I like my tabs to be 3 spaces. The
; comments (and even code) will appear to be spaced
; 'weirdly' when viewed at the normal tab spacing of 8.

radix    hex

list p=16c54
; #DEFINE InvertRS232      ; Comment this out for true RS232
;   __CONFIG H'000A'      ; Bit 3: Code Protect (0 for on)
;                           ; Bit 2: Watch Dog Timer (1 for on)
;                           ; Bits 1 & 0:
;                           ; 11 = RC osc
;                           ; 10 = HS osc
;                           ; 01 = XT osc
;                           ; 00 = LP osc
;
c        equ    0
```

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```
z      equ    2      ; Carry
dc     equ    1      ; Zero
pd     equ    3      ; Digit Carry
to     equ    4      ; Power Down
;
w      equ    0      ; Working register flag
f      equ    1      ; File register flag
;
;-----
indf   equ    00     ; Indirect file register
tmr0   equ    01     ; Timer
pcl    equ    02     ; Program Counter
status equ    03     ; Status Register
fsr    equ    04     ; Indirect data pointer
porta  equ    05     ; Port A
portb  equ    06     ; Port B
;
;-----
comflg equ    0008   ; Communications flags
dlyctr equ    0009   ; Delay Counter
recreg  equ    000A   ; Receive Register
recuse  equ    000B   ; Receive User Register
rloop  equ    000C   ; Receive Loop Counter
rbit    equ    000D   ; Receive Bit Counter
xmtreg  equ    000E   ; Transmit Register
xmtuse  equ    000F   ; Transmit User Register
xloop  equ    0010   ; Transmit Loop Counter
xbit    equ    0011   ; Transmit Bit Counter
;
useflg  equ    0012   ; User Flags (not used?)
myflag  equ    0013   ; My Flags
trisreg equ    0014   ; Copy of Tris B
lochostr equ    0015 ; Local/Host register
;
;-----
recflg  equ    00     ; Receive Flag
lbflg   equ    01     ; Last Bit Flag
feflg   equ    02     ; Framing Error Flag
ndrflg  equ    03     ; New Data Received Flag
roflg   equ    04     ; Receive Overrun Flag
xmtflg  equ    05     ; Xmitting Flag
xdrflg  equ    06     ; Xmit Data Ready Flag
xcflg   equ    07     ; Xmit Complete Flag

lochospin equ    03     ; Bit for Local/Host Flag
dirpin   equ    02     ; Bit for direction pin

lbi     equ    00     ; Last Byte was Instruction Flag
setup   equ    01     ; Re-Initialize flag
;
outport equ    porta  ; Xmit is Port A:1
outpin  equ    01
inport  equ    porta  ; Receive is Port A:0
inpin   equ    00
;
;-----
org     0x1fff ; Reset Vector for 16C54
goto   start
org     0x00
;
start  clrf    porta

ifdef InvertRS232
    bcf    outport,outpin ; Output marking
else
    bsf    outport,outpin ; Output marking
endif
```

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```
    clrf    portb
    movlw  0xFD
    tris   porta           ; Port A all input except bit 1
    movlw  0xFF           ; Set PORTB as inputs
    movwf  trisreg
    tris   portb
    clrf   comflg         ; Clear all com flags
    bsf    comflg,xcflg   ; Set Xmit Completed Flag (MUST DO!)
    bsf    myflag,setup   ; Make sure we go through setup first thing
    bcf    myflag,lbil    ; Clear Last Bit Instruction flag
    goto   frec           ; Start RECV/XMIT/USER cycle (21/19/12 cycles)
;-----
;    include taskfull.grp
;===== TASKFULL.GRP =====
;-----RECEIVE ROUTINE 21 cycles-----
rdeld   set    rdele      ; Delay rdeld is the same as delay rdele
;
frec    btfss  comflg,recflg ; Currently Receiveing? If yes, skip next
        goto   frec2       ; No. Go see if we have a start bit yet
        decfsz rloop,f     ; Yes. Update loop counter.
                                ; If bit is complete skip next.
        goto   rdelb       ; Bit not complete. Delay and exit.
        btfsc  comflg,lbflg ; Last bit flag set? If no, skip next
        goto   frec3       ; Yes. Go complete byte.
        bsf    status,c    ; No. Read bit (set carry)
#ifdef InvertRS232
        btfsc  inport,inpin ; Is b3 = 1? If yes, skip next
    else
        btfss  inport,inpin ; Is b3 = 1? If yes, skip next
    endif
        bcf    status,c    ; No. Clear Carry.
        rrf    recreg,f    ; Rotate carry to received byte.
        movlw  04          ; Initialize loop counter
        movwf  rloop
        decfsz rbit,f     ; Update rbit counter.
                                ; Skip next if all 8 bits done.
        goto   rdele       ; Not all 8 are done. Delay and exit
        btfss  comflg,ndrflg ; New data received flag clear? If yes, skip next
        bsf    comflg,roflg ; No. Set receive overrun flag.
        bsf    comflg,lbflg ; Set last bit flag
        movf   recreg,w    ; Move received byte to user receive register
        movwf  recuse
        goto   rdelf       ; Delay and exit
;
frec2   ifndef InvertRS232
        btfss  inport,inpin ; Start bit? If yes, skip next.
    else
        btfsc  inport,inpin ; Start bit? If yes, skip next.
    endif
        goto   rdela       ; No. Delay and exit
        bsf    comflg,recflg ; Yes. Set receiving flag
        movlw  08          ; Initialize receive bit counter
        movwf  rbit
        movlw  05          ; Initialize receive loop counter
        movwf  rloop
        goto   rdelc       ; Delay and exit
;
frec3   ifndef InvertRS232
        btfss  inport,inpin ; Stop bit? If no, skip next
    else
        btfsc  inport,inpin ; Stop bit? If no, skip next
    endif
```

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```
        goto    frec4          ; Yes. Skip next instruction.
frec4   bsf     comflg,feflg    ; Set Framing error flag
        bcf     comflg,recflg  ; Clear receiving flag
        bcf     comflg,lbflg   ; Clear last bit flag
        bsf     comflg,ndrflg  ; Set new data received flag
        goto    rdeld         ; Delay and Exit.

rdelb   nop

        ; This is the setup/initialization routine.
        ; It is run inbetween bit readings and between bytes.
        ; It is possible for the operate routine (after xmit routine)
        ; to be run before this setup. If so, and if any setup
        ; changes needed to be made beforehand it could mess
        ; things up. This can only occur when the received stop
        ; bit is less than 3/4 of one bit time.

rdela   btfs   myflag, setup   ; Setup flag? If yes, skip next
        goto    dlysetup      ; Delay and exit
        btfs   porta, lochospin ; Local or host? If local(0), skip next
        goto    host         ; Host(1). Goto host setup
        bcf     myflag, lochospin ; Clear the local/host flag
        movlw  00FD          ; Set the dir pin as input
        tris   porta
        btfs   porta, dirpin   ; Direction in(0) or out(1)? If in, skip next
        goto    localout     ; Out, goto local out setup
        movlw  00FF          ; In. Set portB as inputs.
        tris   portb
        movwf  trisreg       ; Copy tris B settings to trisreg
        bcf     myflag, setup   ; Clear the setup flag
SupE    goto    fxmt ; 2 1    ; Goto transmit routine

host    movlw  00F9          ; Set direction pin as output
        tris   porta
        bcf     porta, dirpin  ; Clear direction pin, signifying input
        movlw  00FF          ; Set portb as inputs (safest route)
        tris   portb
        movwf  trisreg       ; Copy portb tris to trisreg
        bcf     myflag, setup  ; Clear the setup flag
        nop          ; Delay
        goto    fxmt         ; Goto transmit routine

dlysetup ; Various delays used in both the
        nop          ; 12    ; receive and setup routines
        nop          ; 11
        nop          ; 10
rdelc   nop          ; 9
rda2    goto    rdele ; 8 7
rdele   goto    rda3   ; 6 5
rda3    goto    rda4   ; 4 3
rda4    goto    rdelf  ; 2 1

localout
        movlw  0000          ; Set portB as output
        tris   portb
        movwf  trisreg       ; Copy portb tris to trisreg
        bcf     myflag, setup  ; Clear setup flag
        nop          ; Delay (transmit routine next

rdelf

;----TRANSMIT ROUTINE 19 cycles-----
fxmt    btfs   comflg,xmtflg  ; Transmitting? If yes, skip next
        goto    fxmt2       ; No. Go see if we need to be.
```

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```
    decfsz  xloop,f          ; Yes. Update loop counter.
                                ; If bit completed skip next
    goto    xdlyb           ; Bit not completed. Delay and exit
    movlw   04              ; Initialize loop counter
    movwf   xloop
    decfsz  xbit,f          ; Update bit counter.
                                ; Skip next if all bits completed.
    goto    fxmt4           ; Not all bits done. Go send next bit.
    bcf     comflg,xmtflg   ; All bits sent. Clear xmit flag.
    bsf     comflg,xcflg    ; Set xmit complete flag
    goto    xdlyc           ; Delay and exit

;
fxmt2  btfss  comflg,xdrflg ; xmit data ready? If yes, skip next
        goto  xdlya         ; No. Delay and exit.
        bsf   comflg,xmtflg ; Yes. Set xmitting flag.
        movlw 0a           ; Initialize bit counter.
        movwf xbit
        movlw 04           ; Initialize loop counter.
        movwf xloop
        movf  xmtuse,w      ; Move user data to xmit register.
        movwf xmtreg
        bcf   comflg,xdrflg ; Clear xmit data ready flag.
        goto  fxd1         ; Cycle equalizer
fxdl
    ifndef InvertRS232
        bsf   outport,outpin ; Start bit.
    else
        bcf   outport,outpin ; Start bit.
    endif
        nop
        nop
        nop
        nop
        nop
        nop
        nop
        goto  fxmt8         ; Delay and exit.
;
;
fxmt4  bsf     status,c      ; Set Carry
        rrf     xmtreg,f     ; Move data bit to Carry
;
fxmt5
    ifndef InvertRS232
        btfss  status,c      ; Carry (data bit) = 0 ? If yes, skip next
    else
        btfsc  status,c      ; Carry (data bit) = 0 ? If yes, skip next
    endif
        goto   fxmt6         ; No. data bit = 1. Set Pin a:1
        bcf    outport,outpin ; Yes. Data bit =0. Clear port a1
        goto   fxmt7         ; Delay & exit
fxmt6  bsf     outport,outpin ; set port A:1
        nop
        ; Cycle Equalizer
fxmt7  nop
        nop
        nop
        nop
        nop
        nop
        goto   fxmt8         ; Delay & exit
;
;
```

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```
xdlyc  goto    fxd4      ; 6 5 ; Various delays for xmit routine
fxd4   goto    fxd5      ; 4 3
fxd5   nop
      nop
      nop
      nop
      nop
      nop
      goto    fxmt8     ; 2 1

match1 movlw    00FF          ; Set Tris B as inputs
      bsf     porta, dirpin ; Dirpin = high (input)
      goto    main1         ; Go back to main operate routine

nomatch nop
      goto    main2         ; Delay and exit

DoHostOut
      btfss   myflag, lbi    ; Last byte instruction? If yes, skip next
      goto    operF         ; Delay and exit
      btfss   trisreg, 0    ; Tris B as input? If yes, skip next
      goto    operA         ; No. Delay and exit
      btfss   comflg, xcflg ; Yes. Is transmitter ready? If yes, skip next.
      goto    operE         ; No. Delay and exit.
      movf    portb, w      ; Copy Port B to xmtuse
      movwf   xmtuse
      bcf     comflg, xcflg ; Clear Xmit completed flag
      bsf     comflg, xdrflg ; Set Xmit data ready flag
      bcf     myflag, lbi   ; Clear last byte instruction flag
      goto    main2         ; Go back to main operate routine

DoHostIn  btfsc   trisreg,0    ; Is port b set as output? If yes, skip next.
      goto    operA         ; No. Delay and exit
      movf    recuse, w     ; Move byte from receive register to port b
      movwf   portb
      bcf     porta, dirpin ; Yes. Set the direction pin low to show output.
      bcf     myflag, lbi   ; Clear last byte instruction flag.
      nop
      nop
      nop
      goto    main2         ; Go back to main operate routine.

dolocal btfsc   porta, dirpin ; Is the direction pin low? If yes, skip next.
      goto    localin      ; No. Go to input routine.
      movlw   00FF          ; Set port b as input
      tris    portb
      movwf   trisreg      ; Copy port b tris to trisreg
      btfss   comflg, xcflg ; Is the transmitter free? If yes, skip next.
      goto    operC         ; No. Delay and exit
      movf    portb,w      ; Yes. Move port B to xmit register.
      movwf   xmtuse
      bcf     comflg, xcflg ; Clear xmit complete flag
      bsf     comflg, xdrflg ; Set xmit-ready flag
      goto    operD         ; Delay and exit

localin movlw   0000          ; Set port b as outputs
      tris    portb
      movwf   trisreg      ; Copy port b tris to trisreg
      btfss   comflg, ndrflg ; New data received? If yes, skip next.
      goto    operE         ; No. Delay and exit
      movf    recuse, w     ; Copy received data to port b.
      movwf   portb
      bcf     comflg, ndrflg ; Clear the new data received flag.
      goto    operD         ; Delay and exit
```

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```
operF      nop ; Various delay points for the operate routine
           nop
operA      nop
operC      nop
operE      nop
operB      nop
           nop
           nop
operD      nop
           goto    fxmt8

xdlyb      nop ; 20
xdlya      btfss  porta, lochospin ; Skip next if HOST
           goto  dolocal ; Locah/Host pin is low (local control)
           btfss  comflg, ndrflg ; Skip next if there is a character waiting
           goto  DoHostOut ; No character waiting, do nothing.
           btfsc  myflag, lbi ; Skip next if the last character was NOT '1' or '2'
           goto  DoHostIn ; The last character tells me to perform a hosted
function
           movlw  '1' ; Put '1' into W for a comparison test
           xorwf  recuse, w ; If recuse matches '1' then W will be 0.
           btfsc  status, z ; Skip next if W is not zero
           goto  match1 ; W was zero, set up PORTB, etc
           movlw  '2' ; W was not zero, put '2' into W for comparison
           xorwf  recuse, w ; If recuse matches '2' then W will be zero now
           btfss  status, z ; Skip next if W is zero
           goto  nomatch ; W was not zero, no match, we'll exit.
           movlw  0000 ; Set W to 0000, which will go into trisB and make
it output
main1      tris  portb ; Set port b to all output
           movwf  trisreg ; Copy setting to trisreg for directional use later
           bsf    myflag, lbi ; Set the 'Last Byte was Instruction' flag
main2      bcf    comflg, ndrflg ; Reset the receiver
;
fxmt8
;
;-----
;dloop    decfsz  dlyctr,f
;         goto    dloop
;         retlw   0
;-----
;
;-----USER ROUTINE 12 cycles-----
echo      movf    porta, w ; Copy port A to w.
           andlw   0008 ; Mask w so that pin a:3 is left alone, all others
are cleared
           xorwf   lochostr,w ; Test lochostr register against w.
           ; If they are the same, w will be zero
           btfsc   status, z ; Are they the same? If yes, skip next.
           bsf    myflag, setup ; Set setup flag
uda3      goto    frec ;Last line of user

dloop    decfsz  dlyctr,f ;3n+5 (includes call statement and return)
           goto    dloop
           retlw   0
;-----
end
;-----
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