PICAXE Microcontroller Projects for the Evil Genius

Ron Hackett
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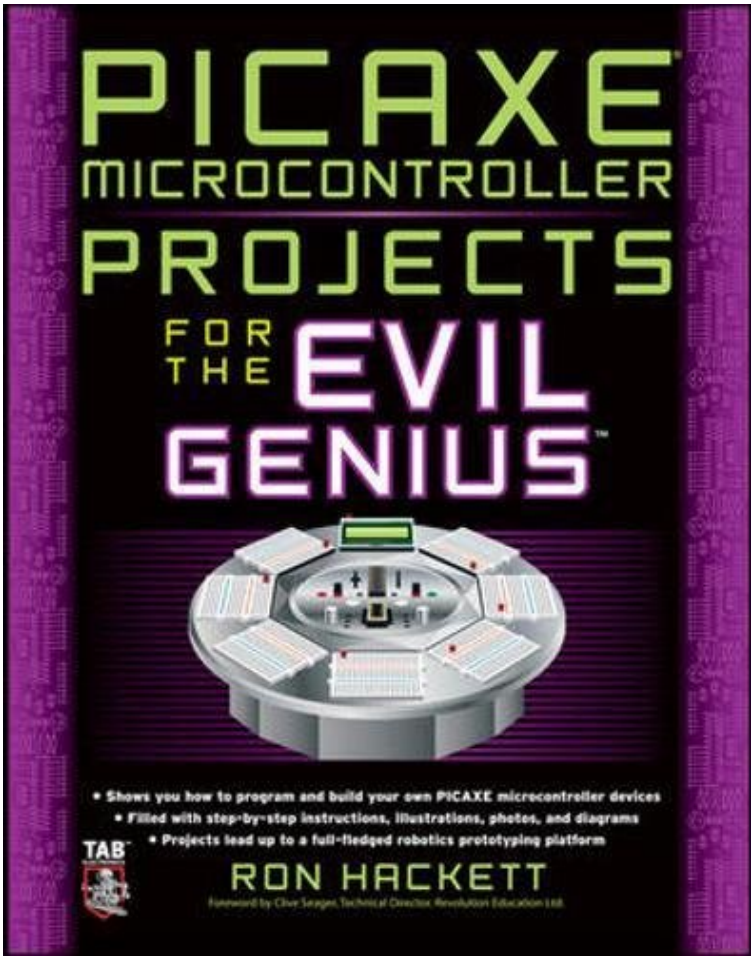

#452597 in Books Ron Hackett Hackett Ron Seager Clive 2010-09-02 2010-09-02Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.80 x .56 x 8.50l, 1.47 #File Name: 0071703268288 pagesPICAXE Microcontroller Projects for the Evil Genius | File size: 72.Mb

Ron Hackett : PICAXE Microcontroller Projects for the Evil Genius before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised PICAXE Microcontroller Projects for the Evil Genius:

17 of 17 people found the following review helpful. Very nice, glad I bought itBy CustomerI'll be honest here. I was purchasing a completely unrelated book, and I needed to spend a few more bucks to get free shipping at . Having just ordered a PICAXE development board and a few PICAXE chips to play with, I did a quick search and found this book. I have already bought and studied "Programming and Customizing the PICAXE Microcontroller" book by David Lincoln (also highly recommend) so I didn't think I needed another PICAXE book. But I bought it anyway.And I'm glad I did.Mr. Hackett did a fine job on this book. It is well written, very illustrative (although the publisher could have lightened a number of the illustrations, many were very dark and you had to squint), and follows a very nice outline.What impresses me the most, besides the thoroughness of the programming information, is the design suggestions that he made. I have, since I was 10 years old (I still have that first breadboard 25 years later), been a

breadboarder. I have built and modified many circuits on breadboards. It is a valuable skill, one that can only come from experience... but it can also get tedious. That's why I really like the development boards that are available. I have been using a PICAXE development board (google AXE091) for a few days and really enjoy it, and highly recommend it. It's also why I REALLY like the Arduino with the associated shields for it. But what impresses me with this book is Mr. Hackett's stripboard techniques. First you breadboard a peripheral (LED display, switch, etc) and then, since it is something you will likely use again and again, you can save time in the future by making a stripboard version that plugs into your breadboard. Very nice. But even that can get tedious after a while... so guess what? When you have developed that particular skill, and want to save time, you can actually purchase professionally etched PC boards from his website to make some of these peripherals.I also really liked his logic probe in a test tube project. I intend to make one myself. It reminds me of our high school electronics class when we all made voltage testers, put them in a glass test tube, filled it with clear epoxy, and then broke the glass off... although Mr. Hackett's design simply encloses the probe in a plastic test tube... nice design.I recently wrote a poor review of "PIC Programming for Beginners" by Mark Spencer and published by the American Radio Relay League. I stated that the book was not for beginners and I suggested that the ARRL publish a three volume set, the first being a book about digital electronics (TTL/CMOS logic, etc, which I find an essential prerequisite to micros... then Volume 2 would be a book about the PICAXE, and Volume 3 would be the book introducing the PIC and assembly code. "PICAXE Microcontroller Projects for the Evil Genius" would be my Volume 2 of this set.Nice work Mr. Hackett!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good book for those starting out on the PICAXEBy BabblefishGood book for those who want to learn more about using the PICAXE line of microcontrollers. The "Evil Genius" in the title is a bit of a misnomer though because there's nothing "evil" in any of the projects, unlike some of the projects in other "Evil Genius" books; think electrical shock devices and things that shoot stuff out.:) All in all a good book for the PICAXE neophyte, though I haven't seen very many (2) books on the subject.Con:The only put-off in this book for me is the constant reference to additional reference material found in past issues of a magazine that has to be bought. Though a lot of this additional material would be very useful information, I think much of it should have been included in the book. The end of the book also leaves one hanging with a seemingly unfinished project. Perhaps a hint to a part two Evil Genius?2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. BACK TO THE AXEBy D. WilsonOK I've spent months studying and hundreds of dollars on pic trainers, chips and books and yes, hundreds of hours reading and I'm back to the axe! Why, they're easy enough to use, reliable and don't require an IQ in excess of 170 to figure out and construct with, and perhaps, integrate into some pretty interesting projects. This book helps you navigate your way through some pretty deep waters in the microcontroller world and get you to the bank safely. That's way more than I can say for many of the books on the subject! If your really serious about this subject matter, the David Lincoln book is excellent as well. I wish there were even more books on this excellent set of chips! The veroboard/stripboard and cutter makes life easier as well. Some pretty decent youtube vids on using the editor/compiler as well. I think this is the way to go for most electronics hobbyists.

WHIP UP SOME FIENDISHLY FUN PICAXE MICROCONTROLLER DEVICES "Ron has worked hard to explain how the PICAXE system operates through simple examples, and I'm sure his easy-to-read style will help many people progress with their PICAXE projects." --From the Foreword by Clive Seager, Revolution Education Ltd. This wickedly inventive guide shows you how to program, build, and debug a variety of PICAXE microcontroller projects. PICAXE Microcontroller Projects for the Evil Genius gets you started with programming and I/O interfacing right away, and then shows you how to develop a master processor circuit. From "Hello, World!" to "Hail, Octavius!" All the projects in Part I can be accomplished using either an M or M2 class PICAXE processor, and Part II adds 20X2-based master processor projects to the mix. Part III culminates in the creation of Octavius--a sophisticated robotics experimentation platform featuring a 40X2 master processor and eight breadboard stations which allow you to develop intelligent peripherals to augment Octavius' functioning. The only limit is your imagination! PICAXE Microcontroller Projects for the Evil Genius: Features step-by-step instructions and helpful photos and illustrations Allows you to customize each project for your purposes Offers all the programs in the book free for download Removes the frustration factor--all required parts are listed, along with sources Build these and other devious devices: Simple mini-stereo jack adapter USBS-PA3 PICAXE programming adapter Power supply Three-state digital logic probe 20X2 master processor circuit TV-R input module 8-bit parallel 16X2 LCD board Serialized 16X2 LCD Serialized 4X4 matrix keypad SPI 4-digit LED display Countdown timer Programmable, multi-function peripheral device and operating system Octavius--advanced robotics experimentation platform L298 dual DC motor controller board Each fun, inexpensive Evil Genius project includes a detailed list of materials, sources for parts, schematics, and lots of clear, well-illustrated instructions for easy assembly. The larger workbook-style layout and convenient two-column format make following the step-by-step instructions a breeze. Make Great Stuff! TAB, an imprint of McGraw-Hill Professional, is a leading publisher of DIY technology books for makers, hackers, and electronics hobbyists.

About the AuthorRon Hackett has more than 30 years' experience in the fields of education and psychology. He has

taught mathematics, psychology, and computer science courses at high school and college levels, and in-service courses for teachers in the use of microcomputers in the classroom setting. Ron has published 20 PICAXE-related articles for Nuts Volts and SERVO magazines. He also designed the "Brain-Alpha" PC board used in the popular SERVO TankBot robot. His website is www.JRHackett.net.