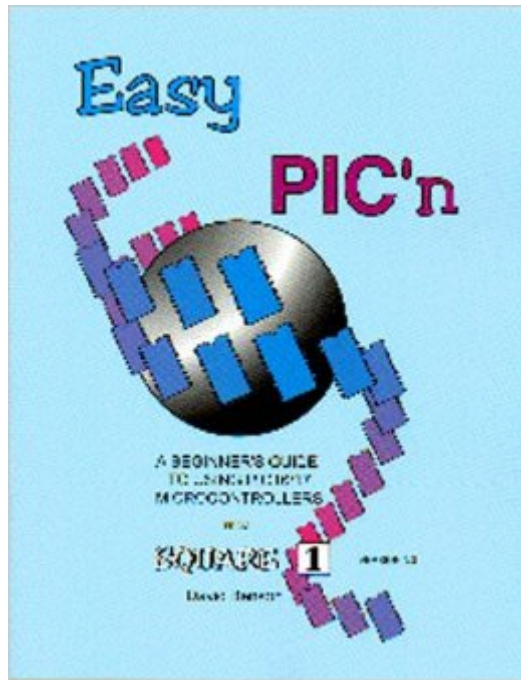# Easy Pic'N: A Beginners Guide To Using Pic16/17 Microcontrollers From Square 1

Synopsis

"Easy PIC'n" is intended to ease the beginner toward understanding and application of the PIC line of microcontrollers from Microchip Technology, Inc. The approach is hands-on with many examples, all of which may be demonstrated using a very simple demo board (a project) described at the beginning of the book. The reader is shown step-by-step how to write code. Examples of assembly language programs range from a simple one to turn on LED's to more complex ones for timing and for event-counting. Writing programs is covered in-depth and the use of flow charts as an aid to visualizing what a program does is emphasized. The reader's code is used to exercise the demo board giving tangible results. "Easy PIC'n" provides a crawl, walk, run approach to learning about PIC microcontrollers.

Book Information

Paperback: 150 pages

Publisher: Square 1 Electronics; 3.1 edition (June 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0965416208

ISBN-13: 978-0965416207

Product Dimensions: 10.9 x 8.4 x 0.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (27 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This book does not waste your time and money trying to teach you binary arithmetic, the basics of programming or electronic circuit analysis. You should have some knowledge of these subjects before you start working with microcontrollers and if you don't there is plenty of material on the web to get you up to speed. You dont need to pay money to have this included in the book.As a PIC beginner, I feel overwhelmed by the number of options and choices. It's easy enough to understand that some PICs have more memory or more I/O pins or A/D converters etc, but you also have to get a grip on ICSP (In Circuit Serial Programming), ICSD (In Circuit Serial Debugging), why these

features might be important and which PICs support them. Then there's the difference between the C which require UV erasure & F chips which can be reprogrammed by raising MCLR to a specified voltage yata yata ..... If you wrap your head around that, you still have to pick your way through a forest of hardware programming devices and the various software options that support them. I found the Microchip website more confusing than helpful when trying to get an overview of all these options and how they fit together. The good news in all this is that the PICs are all closely related and once you learn one, the others are easy and once you have run one piece of programming software the others are no longer mysterious.This book bypasses all that. He uses just the 16f84 with Microchip's free MPLAB programming software. Compared to other intro books, this book is rather dense. He gets right down to explaining the 16F84 architecture and writing the code. This is not a book you can just flip through, the author expects you to read it carefully and work through the code yourself.

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