

sci.electronics.basics: When is high not high.

## When is high not high.

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I have my inventory of stuff I got on that ebay auction so I decided to build something and see if it would work. I think I learned something, but I'm not sure exactly what and was hoping some one could tell me. I took my MH7442, a 10 LED bar thing-a-majig, a set of dip switches and a resistor. Wired it up to display the LED 0 through 9, based on the Binary input from the dip switch. At first it didn't work. After some experimenting, I found what I thought was a high going into th BCD input of the MH7442 was not what it wanted. I had the switch set up so a low was the absence of a voltage source, what it really wanted, was that a high was the absence of a ground connection. My question is, is there some way I could have known this? Is there something in the data sheet that would tell me that?

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Chris W

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"They that can give up essential liberty

to obtain a little temporary safety

deserve neither liberty nor safety."

-- Benjamin Franklin, 1759 Historical Review of Pennsylvania