

LCD's

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.basics/2006-01/msg01427.html>

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 - *Date:* Mon, 30 Jan 2006 03:38:31 -0600
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I brought some LCD's. One was a package(contained some circuits and stuff) and the other was simply the display itself with no electronics(at .2\$ a piece I thought it couldn't hurt to buy a couple).

Anyways, I have no idea how they work and I took 1 of each and decided to tear them apart.

The one with no circuitry has 2 glass planes with a backing on them that is silvered and some other semi-transparent mask. I tore the layers apart just to see whats going on but I couldn't really tell. On the glass though I can see what appears to be wires(and the only thing that looks like one could attach something to it)... on another piece I decided to take a 9V and "hook" it up to the wires and I can generate lines across the display... but strange thing is that sometimes it does it when I just press on the wires or something(not sure whats going on here... maybe static electricity?)

On the one with the circuitry I tore it apart too and basicaly looks the same except where the wires are it has a long rubber like wire... I did the same thing with the batter and I could make lines(but not much else).

Two questions I have is how does the LCD actually work... say, do I apply a voltage across two wires and it makes a pixel light up or what? do each wire have a function(like is there a ground and hot and the rest are controls or what)?

Also, on the layers what actually is the liquid part? is it inbetween the two glass plates or was it the stuff I ripped off the back? (I'd guess these are some type of polarization things or something and the liquide is inbetween the two glass plates since)

Oh, is there a way to buy those plastic wire things so I could use the LCD's that don't have them(I could try and make my own pcb boards to connect with them?)... ofcourse I'd have to know what those wires do though.

Thanks,
AD

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