

Re: Help Identifying three IC's

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- *From:* "Chris" <cfoley1064@xxxxxxxxxx>
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Rusty wrote:

Hi All,

Is there a machine which you can plug in a 16 pin IC and it will tell you what it is/number is? I have a circuit board with three 74IS???? ics which have had the numbers sanded off the top and I need to replace them as they are faulty.

Thanks

Tim

Hi, Tim. If you can get them out of the board in one piece, you should be able to do what you want. The device you're looking for is called a digital IC tester. This capability is also built into many of the older EPROM programmers. They were called "Universal" EPROM programmers. Both of these have the ability to safely test an unknown DIP package logic IC to determine if it's 74-series TTL, or 4000- or 4500-series CMOS, and give you the part number. They're pretty reliable, and won't damage the part.

The biggest hangup is that they don't test every conceivable possibility, especially the oddballs or single-manufacturer parts..
N.B.: Look at the docs to determine which parts it can detect.

BK Precision makes a digital IC tester, but it's a little expensive. I'd look around for an old EPROM programmer, or take a look at eBay. You should be able to pick one up for less than \$100.

Good luck
Chris

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