

Re: PIC Assembler.

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 - *Date:* Tue, 23 Oct 2007 06:12:28 -0400
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"ian field" <dai.ode@xxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:V_2Ti.20084\\$0z6.19665@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:V_2Ti.20084$0z6.19665@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Does anyone have a link to any tutorials for PIC assembly?

Over the past few months I've been trying many permutations of Google search string, but most of the tutorials I've found assume previous experience at writing assy for microprocessors.

Another problem is most of what I've found is HTML which is untidy to save for later study and many pages lose their image files after being saved to disk (anyone know why that happens?). Any help appreciated.

TIA.

Ian,

Try these. Some are better than others and some have mistakes – but, you'll be able to spot those within a short time.

<http://www.mikroe.com/en/books/picbook/picbook.htm>
http://www.winpicprog.co.uk/pic_tutorial.htm
<http://www.mstracey.btinternet.co.uk/pictutorial/picmain.htm>

Saving these to your hard drive can be done with a right-click and save as. It creates two files, one is the html document and the other is a file folder with the graphics. At least, it does on my Windoz machine.

In a later post, someone also recommended the PIC Elmer 160 tutorial. That is a good one and each of the lessons downloads as a PDF.

Also, if you haven't already, download the datasheet for the PIC you are using (www.microchip.com) and, if a 16F device, download the mid-range user's guide, as well. Lots of necessary information in those documents.

As you have discovered, there are lots of books out there on the subject. It really depends on where you want to go with this and how much money you want to spend. Each book I have purchased has both strong and weak points. On

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thing they all have in common is that none of them had everything I wanted to know and all of them needed to be used with the datasheets and mid-range user's guide for full understanding. The bottom line is that you may want to concentrate on the free stuff for awhile until you figure out if you want to concentrate on robotics, embedded systems, just making LEDs flash, or designing the "next best thing".

Don't worry too much about the flame wars regarding assembly vs. C vs basic vs whatever. Start out where you are comfortable and where you can find the most information that will help you figure out how to get some use out of these microcontrollers. Later, if you feel like it, play with the other programming languages.

Are you using Microchip MPLAB and a development environment/simulator? If not, I recommend downloading it from the Microchip site (it is free). I don't know if it will work with your programmer, but you should be able to use it to build your files, then use the hex code for your programmer.

Finally, you'll find that Microchip will sample chips to hobbyists. Check that out on their site. These are free samples and, at least to U.S. addresses, have been shipped without cost (though I don't imagine that will continue forever). Someone mentioned the 16F88 as an upgrade 16F84A. I agree it is a good one to start with. The internal oscillator saves a couple of I/O pins (and a few parts) and the analog inputs are available if you don't want to stick with just digital. Also, larger memory.

Above all, have fun learning!

Best of luck,
Richard

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