

Re: Need help to extend capabilities of a simple proximity circuit

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Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.basics/2008-04/msg00952.html>

- *From:* "dBc" <not_necessary@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 27 Apr 2008 19:50:39 GMT
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Greetings Chris..

Regarding:

"I am attempting to build a device that will allow my dog to turn on an outside tap to allow him to drink straight out of the hose. This way he always has fresh water whenever he needs it. "

I fully realize that this may be a learning endeavor/exercise. And you're just wanting to see if you can develop something out of ordinary items around the house. But DO be aware that you're probably re-inventing the wheel here, there's a few veterinarians that got the idea some time ago:

Consider..

Inside or out:

<http://www.americas-pet-store.com/details/prodid/1317.html>

<http://www.smarthome.com/6101.html>

<http://www.amazon.com/Lentek-PF01G-Electronic-Drinking-Fountain/dp/B00006JHRF>

<http://www.nextag.com/dog-drinking-fountain/search-html>

<http://www.petronic.com/fountain.htm>

<http://www.arcatapet.com/item.cfm?cat=11050>

Go to, www.google.com

Search on, automatic pet drinking fountain

Click on Google Search

Notice that the commercially manufactured units have custom plastic moldings/housings, hoses and overall designs to make them easy to use and place. Just something to consider..

Cheers,

Mr. Mentor

Re: Need help to extend capabilities of a simple proximity circuit

"axrock" <chris.sefton@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:2c1e95f4-5659-4188-a918-1c31fbda9a6e@xx

| Hi,

| I am a total rookie when working with circuits, but I have
built a kit
| set transonic proximity sensor. I'll explain my use at the end.

| Essentially what it does is turn on an LED when an object gets
near to
| the sensors. I have extended the kit with another kit to add
relay
| functionality. So when an object nears the sensor it switches
the
| relay. All this is a simple kit set circuit that runs on 12V.

| My only problem with it, is the sensors a very touchy, when it
senses
| an odd shaped object (like a human or dog etc) the relay
switches
| madly on, off, on, off until the object is really close (EG: 2
Inches
| etc).

| I am wanting to add a delay to the circuit, so that when the
relay
| switches it stays on for at least 3 or 5 seconds. In other
words, when
| the sensor begins to detect the presence of an object rather
than the
| relay going nuts, it will actually stay on for at least 3 or 5
seconds
| etc. When it is due to turn off again it will likely receive
another
| erratic pulse from the sensors due to the odd object near by.
Hope
| that makes sense.

| What this is designed for:
| Just in case you are curious.
| I am attempting to build a device that will allow my dog to
turn on an
| outside tap to allow him to drink straight out of the hose.
This way
| he always has fresh water whenever he needs it. So far I have a
| washing machine solenoid which switches on a home made pressure
mat.
| This does not work that well though. Hence, using a proximity
sensor.
| My dog just needs to walk up to the water outlet and the water
turns

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| on. It works at the moment, but switches on and off very fast
| as he
| gets within the distance I want. I need to set a timer of sorts
| (possibly a 555) to keep the relay on rather than switch it off
| immediately. This way it should keep the water flow steady for
| the
| drink, and will turn off within 3 or 5 seconds of the dog
| moving away.

|
| Really appreciate any help.
| Really just need some help to add a small delay timer between
| the
| sensor circuit and the relay circuit.

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| Thanks,
| Chris
|

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