

Re: Anotehr Basic Q. re: a circuit

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.basics/2008-08/msg00110.html>

- *From:* Kris Krieger <me@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 05 Aug 2008 13:51:54 -0500
-

"Phil Allison" <philallison@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in
news:6fnev2Fcg4atU1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx:

"Kris Krieger"

"Phil Allison"

Sorry for another stupid question, but, I'm looking at this
http://www.maxim-ic.com/appnotes.cfm/an_pk/1750
and can't figure out whether I can ignore, or whether I need to add in some modification of something like this
<http://www.instructables.com/id/S8Q5N9OFHTAIQK7/>
where the first diagram says
" PWM Dimming 0 to 3.3HZ f>15KHz
0%=shdn 100%=20mA "

A clue would be appreciated – especially since I don't know whetehr they mean dimming as in a Dimmer Switch on a lamp, or whether they mean something entirely different...

** The CTRL input operates to dim the LEDs with a 0 to 3.3 volts variable DC input, which can be created by filtering a PWM signal as shown or any other way you like – eg with a 3.3 volt supply and a pot.

In the Datasheet for the IC, in the chart describing the Pins, for CTRL, it says:

"Brightness/Shutdown dualmode control input. LED brightness and IC shutdown are controlled by the voltage on CTRL. Voltage between 250mV and 5.5V or (V+ + 2V), whichever is less, adjust the brightness from dim to bright, respectively. To put the IC into shutdown, drive below 100mV or connect to GRND."

So, for a low-voltage light (2 or three 1.2V NiMH batteries, 1500mA to 2500mA), that means it's jsut personal choice rather than mandatory to add in the dimmer?, IOW, I can either add in a dimmer, or just connect the pin to the ground/out terminal?

** Why are YOU crapping on about adding a " dimmer " all the time ??

That IC has a built in dimming function which operates as stated.

Because I'm teaching myself, and I didn't understand that – the diagram showed it connecting to something, and I didn't understand what that "something" is. To me, it looked like some separate IC or circuit because, if it was supposed to just be connected to teh ground, I assume it would have shown the symbol for that, rather than a circle. Now, if sci.electronics.basics is not the place to ask basic questions, please let me know what would be a more appropriate venue for people who are trying to learn on their own and have similarly-basic questions, and I'll be glad go to that NG (or forum) instead.