

## Re: Anotehr Basic Q. re: a circuit

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.basics/2008-08/msg00111.html>

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- *From:* Tim Wescott <[tim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:tim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 05 Aug 2008 12:17:10 -0700
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Kris Krieger wrote:

"Phil Allison" <[philallison@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:philallison@xxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in  
[news:6fnev2Fcg4atU1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:6fnev2Fcg4atU1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx):

"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](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/S8Q5N9QFHTAIOK7/>  
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

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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 "