

Re: Atmel AVR development tools

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The AVR debug core is unreliable, jtag or non-jtag. SPI programming is much more reliable. Also, avoid bootloaders.

I keep hoping it's something I'm doing. That's fixable, I just need to know what to do/not do .

Interesting comment re bootloaders, why do you say that?
I just wrote another one, the first was for the M128 and this one for the M168. I am the paranoid sort that does readback verify, sets the lock bits, etc.

One place where I HAVE seen odd behaviour in the chip, is with the default low power crystal oscillator. The low power "vittoz" mode osc can cause cycle skipping in some parts of the chip with the sorts of wierd errors you'd expect from that. VERY nasty as it usually works just fine. That's the CKOPT fuse in the M128. Just make sure you never use one without programming that fuse. The factory default is to enable the low power osc..

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