

Re: Opinions on Oscilloscopes

Source: <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.equipment/2005-09/msg00155.html>

- *From:* "tekamn" <and7@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 29 Sep 2005 23:54:38 -0700
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RR wrote:

> "Jim Yanik" <jyanik@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
> news:Xns96E0BE03CB84Djyanikkuanet@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
>> Scope input is rated *DC plus peak AC*.
>> At least that is how Tektronix specs their scopes.
>> Why are you going to put 250VAC into the TRIGGER input? The scope usually
>> has an internal trigger pickoff AFTER the attenuator, to keep trigger
>> signals small but useable. External trigger is used when you have a clean
>> reference signal to use, like H or V drive from a video generator when
>> looking at composite video, eliminates the need for a sync separator..
>
> Down the track (lots of learning to do), I'm interested in creating and/or
> working with alternative power sources (solar to battery then inverted to
> mains power).
>
> I know I'll probably buy a lot of the equipment for doing this, but it
> always helps if you understand the circuit, especially when it stops
> working.
>
> So, if the input is 12VDC and the output is 240VAC, I suspect I'm going to
> need to put a scope on both sides at some stage.
>
> I'm just thinking ahead, and maybe I'll never need to look at mains through
> the scope.
>
> And even if I do, I may have bought a much better scope by then. Besides,
> my research indicates that differential probes are specifically designed for
> looking at high voltages (hence putting that question in my OP).
>
> thx,
> RR

If you think about the 12V DC/240V AC setup, then go this way for a solution: 2 ch scope with HV isolator (e.g. Tektronix A69xx or something like this, Jim please help my memory and give the right description).

Re: Opinions on Oscilloscopes

You will not go wrong with a Tektronix, but besides all "patience" that was recommended in buying: A good working well kept Tektronix is all time more expensive than a worn out one that (might) need maintenance.

Keep this in mind when you compare a price offer, and don't simply go for a low price — your mileage may vary.

hth,
Andreas

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• *References:*

