

Re: salvaging VCR IR

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From: Richard (*spudnuty_at_lycos.com*)

Date: 08/03/04

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(Michael Black) wrote:

>
> >For simple on/off, your better off just extracting the IR module, and
> >then adding some simple circuitry. Even for more complicated functions,
> >it's likely easier to build up the rest of the circuit than try to
> >extract it all from a vcr.
>
> Speaking of which, anyone know of any PC controlled IR kits/packages/circuits
> that can learn?
>
> I have a Philips DVD recorder with hard drive that records shows to hard
> drive or DVD. I also have a satellite decoder box. I can set up the DVD
> recorder to record a show every week for 30 minutes at a set time, but the
> problem is – how to change the satellite decoder box to the correct channel.
>
> I'm looking for some way of having my notebook learn the remote control codes
> for the decoder box, then transmit IR just before the show & change channels
> to the correct show. If there was a product or kit or schematic/software to
> do this I'd be interested. I presume it would be a pretty simple IR tx/rx
> module with an RS-232 interface to plug into my notebook, and some software
> for learning, and some way to control the transmitting from a 3rd party
> program (which I would write myself as part of a larger program to skim the
> show info from a website).
>
> Dave

Hi,

Actually I've done this and it is easier to just to salvage the module itself as long as you have a remote on the same carrier frequency.

Also Mouser for one sells just the module. I used an IR LED and a couple of 555s to control a motor.

Although if you have the service manual you might be able to find the pinouts for the microprocessor and be be able to do it. My local distributor has all the Service manuals for Sony. I've got one for a Sony CCD and it does have the schematic.

Dave et al,

This website:

<http://www.epanorama.net/links/irremote.html>

and especially:

<http://fly.cc.fer.hr/~mozgic/UIR/>

talks about a RS-232 controller also protocols and codes for different remotes.

Also Elm,

<http://www.elmelectronics.com/>

sells a chip which you can use with Sony codes (they say universals use Sony as default) to control 3 devices.

and a Control L to RS232 Interpreter

So if your VCR uses Control L you might use this.

I've never dealt with them but would be interested.

Richard