Midi

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Chapter 1

Midi

1.1 Midi Interface For Your Amiga

How To Build a Midi Interface For Your Amiga

By Steve Stevens. Edited by PARASITE.

Parts List for MIDI Interface:

Qty.	Item
5	5 pin 180 degree DIN jack (female)
1	Male DB 25 connector (plugs into serial port)
1	8-pin DIP socket (for 6N138)
1	14-pin DIP socket (for 74LS04)
5	220 Ohm 1/4 watt resistors
1	1k Ohm 1/4 watt resistor
1	180 Ohm 1/4 watt resistor
1	1N914 diode or equivalent
1	75LS04 IC Hex Inverter Buffer
1	Hewlett Packard 6N138 opto-isolator (or Sanyo PC 900 with corresponding pinout changes)
Misc.	wire, a box to put the stuff in, etc.

All in all this project is pretty easy to put together. See seperate assembly picture on this disk.

The schematic should be fairly self-explanatory for anyone with a little electronics experience. I hope it is.

I built the circuit on a small piece of perfboard and mounted it in a black plastic box. The hardest part was drilling the holes for the DIN jacks to mount in. I drilled a pilot hole with a regular drill and then enlarged it with a rotary rasp that attached to my drill motor. It made nice round holes and was fairly quick. The holes need to be 5/8 " in diameter.

This circuit has all the features of any other commercial MIDI

interface available for the Amiga, plus two more out jacks. These extra jacks are made available for those folks with many keyboards (like me) who want to avoid the mysterious and elusive MIDI delay problems. With three OUT jacks you also may not need a separate MIDI-thru box. If you have only one synth that you want to connect you may want to eliminate the other two jacks. Just don't hook them up and they won't be there. Or, if you think you need one more out jack you can hook up one more OUT jack by duplicating the out-jack circuit and connecting it up to the sixth hex-inverter in the 74LS04. I didn't include it because I didn't need it.

The one thing this interface doesn't have is a drum-sync port. I don't have a drum machine so I didn't need one. If there is enough response I will update the circuit with one.

One more thing, a dot at an intersection point is the indication that there is an actual connection. When lines simply cross, there is no connection.

This circuit works fine for me and was easy to build but I will take no responsibility nor will I be held liable for anything weird happening with someone else's computer.

Altogether it cost about $8 in parts and a few hours of time to put together. That's alot less than the $50 one's in the store.

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