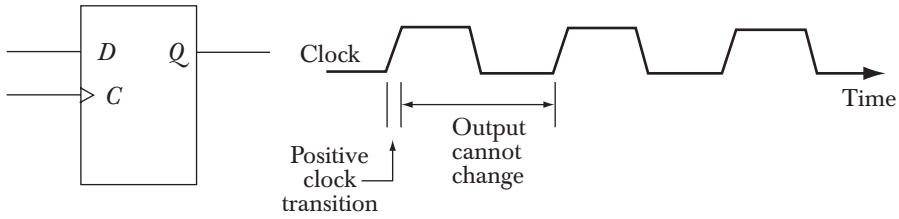
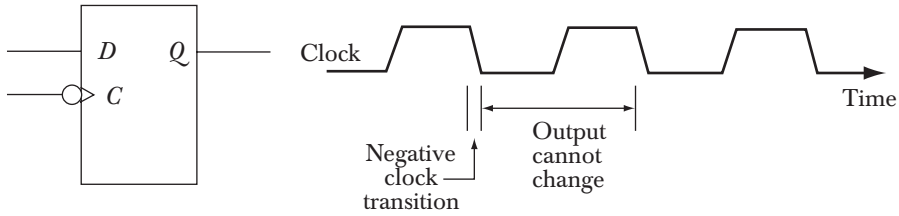


(a) Positive-edge-triggered *D* flip-flop



(b) Negative-edge-triggered *D* flip-flop

Figure 1-23 Edge-triggered flip-flop.

during the l-to-0 transition of the clock signal. The trend is away from the use of master-slave flip-flops and toward edge-triggered flip-flops.

Flip-flops available in integrated circuit packages will sometimes provide special input terminals for setting or clearing the flip-flop asynchronously. These inputs are usually called "preset" and "clear." They affect the flip-flop on a negative level of the input signal without the need of a clock pulse. These inputs are useful for bringing the flip-flops to an initial state prior to its clocked operation.

Excitation Tables

The characteristic tables of flip-flops specify the next state when the inputs and the present state are known. During the design of sequential circuits we usually know the required transition from present state to next state and wish to find the flip-flop input conditions that will cause the required transition. For this reason we need a table that lists the required input combinations for a given change of state. Such a table is called a flip-flop excitation table.

Table 1-3 lists the excitation tables for the four types of flip-flops. Each table consists of two columns, $Q(t)$ and $Q(t + 1)$, and a column for each input to show how the required transition is achieved. There are four possible transitions from present state $Q(t)$ to next state $Q(t + 1)$. The required input conditions for each of these transitions are derived from the information available in the characteristic tables. The symbol $\times$ in the tables represents a don't-care condition; that is, it does not matter whether the input to the flip-flop is 0 or 1.