

USBSID-Pico PCB revision v1.3

manual

Author: LouD - generated on 2025-05-28

Table of Contents

PCB top overview	2
RaspberryPi Pico placement orientation	3
Optional Pico placements	3
Optional header placement	3
SID placement orientation	3
1. Socket SID type / voltage selection jumper	4
2. SID filter selection jumpers	4
3. Digiboost	5
4. 6581 pulldown resistor	5
5. Audio pins	5
6. Address line & audio switch pins	5
7. GPIO pins	6
8. Audio circuit	6
9. Audio switch	6
PCB bottom overview	7
Disclaimer	7
License	7
Software License ~ GNUv2	7
Hardware License ~ Creative Commons	8

PCB top overview

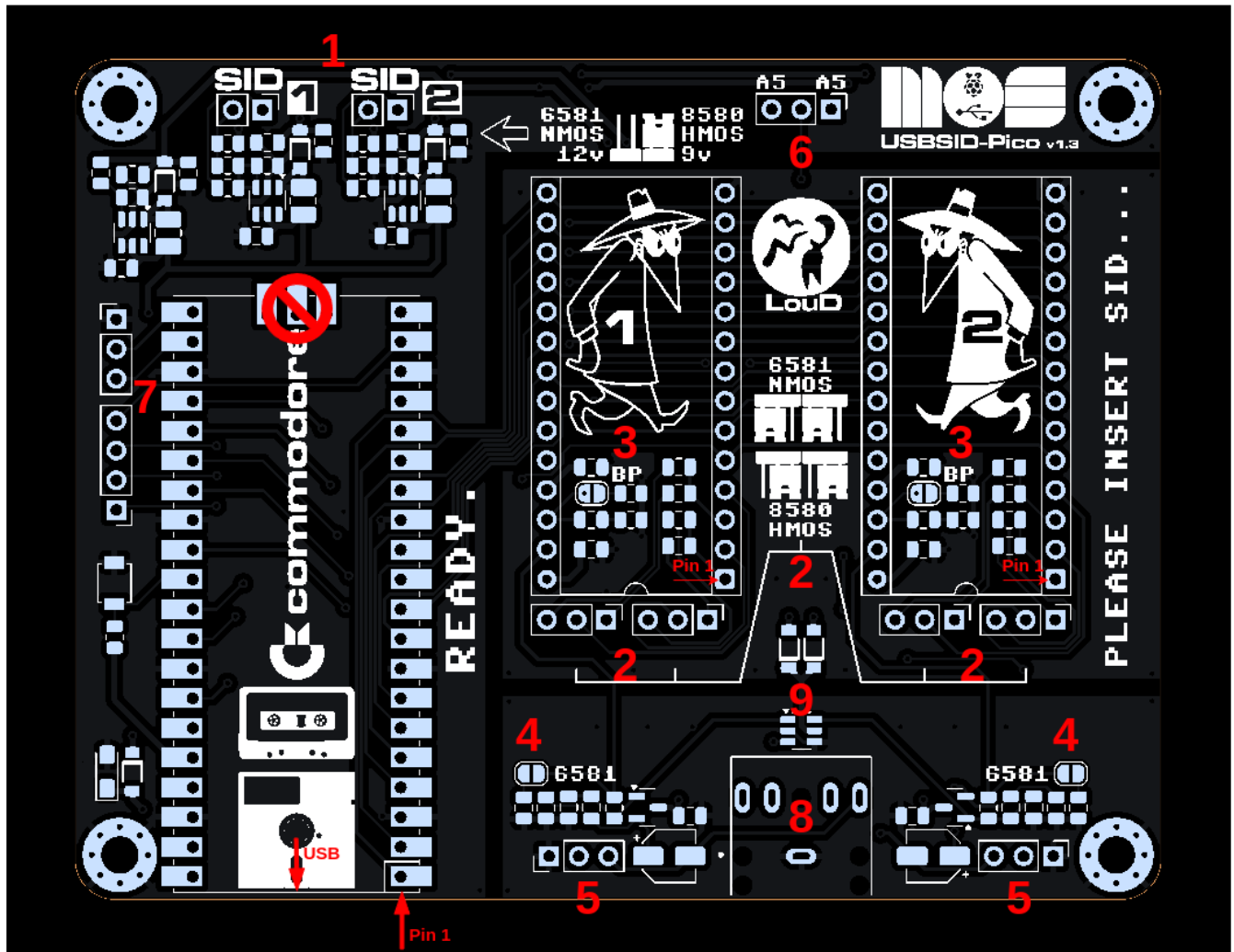


Figure 1. PCB top overview

RaspberryPi Pico placement orientation

In the PCB overview image at the top of this document there are 2 markings that designate toward what direction the Pico boards needs to be placed.

The **USB** marking and arrow point in the direction towards where the Pico USB port needs to be.

The **Pin 1** marking and arrow points towards where pin 1 of the Pico board needs to be.

Optional Pico placements

The USBID-Pico v1.3 PCB has the option for you to solder your Pico directly to the PCB using the Pico's castelated edges.

This creates more space and can be useful if you want to use a SID clone like FPGASID in socket 1.



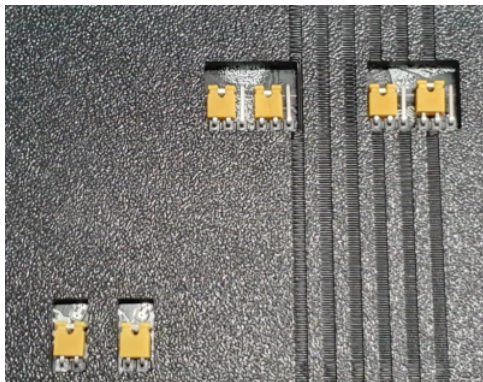
The Pico debug pins are not connected and not used, you do not have to solder these pins.

Optional header placement

If you would like to use a (semi)closed case like the spotUP case but want to keep access to the filter and power jumpers,

it's possible to solder the jumper headers on the bottom side of the PCB for easy access.

There is a bottom case STL available that has special openings for this like in the photo below.



SID placement orientation

In the PCB overview image at the top of this document each SID socket has **Pin 1** marked with text and an arrow.

Please use your full attention when placing your SID chips on the board so they in the correct orientation.

*Incorrect placement orientation will result in frying your precious SID chip unicorn and creating a nice keychain! **I am not responsible for your broken SID chips!***

1. Socket SID type / voltage selection jumper



Voltage control per SID/socket.

SID1 is for socket 1 (left) and **SID2** is for socket 2 (right)

- No jumper cap (open) = for **6581** SID only!! (**12 volts**)
- Jumper cap (closed) = for **8580** SID (**9 volts**)

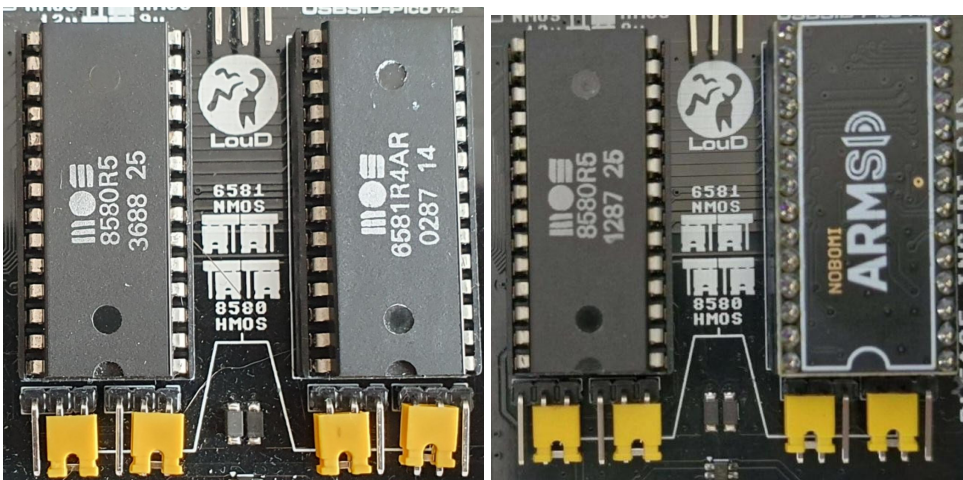
Please be careful and choose the correct voltage setting!



Note:

Most clone SID chips do not use the higher voltage pin. Please check with the SID clone manufacturer (manual) if you are not sure!

2. SID filter selection jumpers



Each socket has 2 jumpers that need to be in the same position.

These 2 jumpers control which filter capacitors are active for that socket.

The 2 left jumpers are for **SID1/socket1** and the 2 right jumpers are for **SID2/socket2**

- 2 jumpers left (closed) = **MOS6581** filters (**470pF**)
- 2 jumpers right (closed) = **MOS8580** filters (**22nF**)

Accidentally mixing these jumpers should not do any harm but might make audio sound worse.

Note:

Most clone SID chips do not use the filter capacitors. Please check with the SID clone manufacturer (manual) if you are not sure!

Each set of jumpers respectively controls the capacitance for **CAPA** and **CAPB** for that SID.

3. Digiboost



Inside each SID socket there is a solderpad marked **BP**. This provides an optional bypass by directly pulling SID Pin 26 **EXT IN** to **GND** with a 330k resistor.

This bypass is also known as **digi-boost** for **8580** SID chips.

Note:

The digiboost resistor value is fixed.

4. **6581** pulldown resistor



For each audio circuit there is a solder pad marked **6581**.

This is an extra pull down resistor required when using a **MOS6581** SID as per Commodore64 schematic.

Note:

*Your **6581** SID will work without this solderpad but audio quality may vary.*

5. Audio pins



Each socket has an optional header with 3 pins.

The pinout is from left to right **GND, IN, OUT**

(markings are on the bottom of the PCB)



Each socket has a solder pad marked **EXT IN** on the bottom of the PCB.

Close this to connect the **IN** pin of the audio header to the SID chip **EXT IN** pin.

IMPORTANT:

There is no audio filter circuit connected to the EXT IN pin, you have to provide the audio in filter yourself!

I take no responsibility if you break your SID chip by using this pin!

6. Address line & audio switch pins



Optional header for connecting the **A5** address line to Clone SID chips.

There are 2 **A5** pins, one for each socket that are both connected to the same GPIO pin.

The pinout is from left to right **A5, SW, A5**

(markings are on the bottom of the PCB)

The **SW** pin is an optional pin for adding a switch to control the mono / audio switch manually.

7. GPIO pins

Optional header for UART pins and unused GPIO for future use.

(markings are on the bottom of the PCB)

8. Audio circuit



Each socket has its own audio circuit with a voltage follower audio filter.

This is also used in the Commodore64 and on the SID Blaster.

9. Audio switch

Last but not least, the digital audio switch IC. Switching from mono (both SID chips play over left and right) to Stereo (SID1 over the left channel and SID2 over the right channel) and back is handled by the firmware through settings or automatically by supported players.

PCB bottom overview

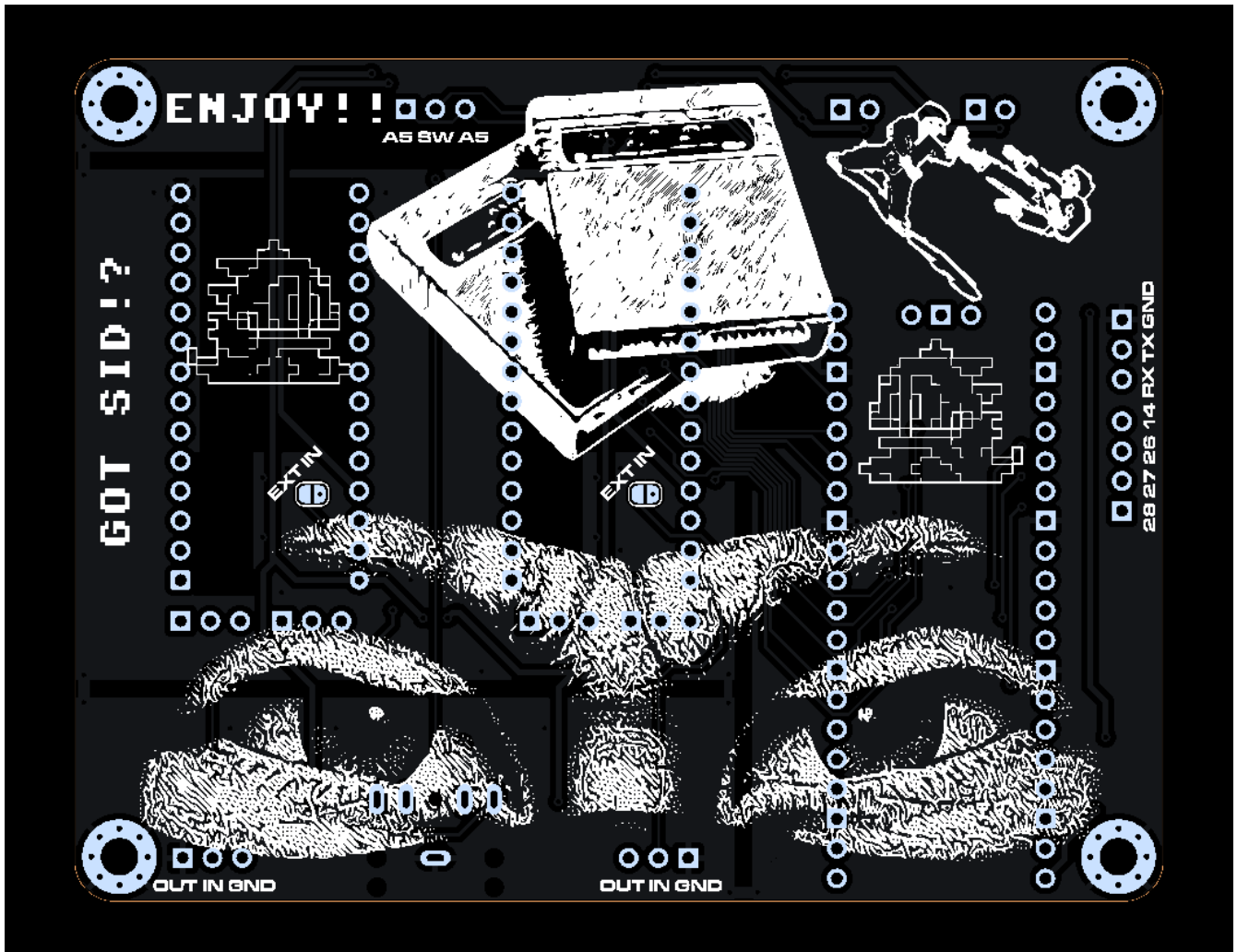


Figure 2. PCB bottom overview

Disclaimer

I do this stuff in my free time for my enjoyment. Since I like to share my joy in creating this with everyone I try my best to provide a working PCB and Firmware. I am in no way an electronics engineer and can give **no guarantees** that this stuff does not break or damage your hardware, computer, phone, or whatever you try to hook it up to. Be sure to take great care when inserting any real MOS SID chips into the board. While everything has been tested with real chips, this is in no way a guarantee that nothing could go wrong. Use of this board and firmware at your own risk! I am in no way responsible for your damaged hardware. That being said, have fun!

License

Software License ~ GNUv2

All code written by me in this repository is licensed under the terms of the GNU General Public License as published by the Free Software Foundation, version 2. Any code in this repository that is

not written by me automatically falls under the licensing conditions by the authors of said code as mentioned in the source code header. For for more information about this license please read the LICENSE document in the root of the USBSID-Pico repository.

Hardware License ~ Creative Commons

USBSID-Pico PCB by LouD is licensed under
Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International
[cc][by][nc][nd]

Author: LouD - generated on 2025-05-28