Normally, instructions that perform data transfer with internal RAM are used the most. However, auto-incrementation by 1 (or auto-decrementation by 1) of internal HD44780U RAM addresses after each data write can lighten the program load of the MPU. Since the display shift instruction (Table 11) can perform concurrently with display data write, the user can minimize system development time with maximum programming efficiency.

When an instruction is being executed for internal operation, no instruction other than the busy flag/address read instruction can be executed.

Because the busy flag is set to 1 while an instruction is being executed, check it to make sure it is 0 before sending another instruction from the MPU.

Note: Be sure the HD44780U is not in the busy state (BF = 0) before sending an instruction from the MPU to the HD44780U. If an instruction is sent without checking the busy flag, the time between the first instruction and next instruction will take much longer than the instruction time itself. Refer to Table 6 for the list of each instruc-tion execution time.

Table 6 Instructions

	Code											Execution Time (max) (when f_{cp} or f_{osc} is 270 kHz)
Instruction	RS	R/$\overline{W}$	DB7	DB6	DB5	DB4	DB3	DB2	DB1	DB0	Description	
Clear display	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	Clears entire display and sets DDRAM address 0 in address counter.	
Return home	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	—	Sets DDRAM address 0 in address counter. Also returns display from being shifted to original position. DDRAM contents remain unchanged.	1.52 ms
Entry mode set	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	I/D	S	Sets cursor move direction and specifies display shift. These operations are performed during data write and read.	37 µs
Display on/off control	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	D	C	B	Sets entire display (D) on/off, cursor on/off (C), and blinking of cursor position character (B).	37 µs
Cursor or display shift	0	0	0	0	0	1	S/C	R/L	—	—	Moves cursor and shifts display without changing DDRAM contents.	37 µs
Function set	0	0	0	0	1	DL	N	F	—	—	Sets interface data length (DL), number of display lines (N), and character font (F).	37 µs
Set CGRAM address	0	0	0	1	ACG	ACG	ACG	ACG	ACG	ACG	Sets CGRAM address. CGRAM data is sent and received after this setting.	37 µs
Set DDRAM address	0	0	1	ADD	ADD	ADD	ADD	ADD	ADD	ADD	Sets DDRAM address. DDRAM data is sent and received after this setting.	37 µs
Read busy flag & address	0	1	BF	AC	AC	AC	AC	AC	AC	AC	Reads busy flag (BF) indicating internal operation is being performed and reads address counter contents.	0 µs

Table 6 Instructions (cont)

Instruction	Code RS	R/$\overline{W}$	DB7	DB6	DB5	DB4	DB3	DB2	DB1	DB0	Description	Execution Time (max) (when f_{cp} or f_{OSC} is 270 kHz)
Write data to CG or DDRAM	1	0	Write data								Writes data into DDRAM or CGRAM.	37 µs t_{ADD} = 4 µs*
Read data from CG or DDRAM	1	1	Read data								Reads data from DDRAM or CGRAM.	37 µs t_{ADD} = 4 µs*
	I/D = 1: Increment I/D = 0: Decrement S = 1: Accompanies display shift S/C = 1: Display shift S/C = 0: Cursor move R/L = 1: Shift to the right R/L = 0: Shift to the left DL = 1: 8 bits, DL = 0: 4 bits N = 1: 2 lines, N = 0: 1 line F = 1: 5 × 10 dots, F = 0: 5 × 8 dots BF = 1: Internally operating BF = 0: Instructions acceptable										DDRAM: Display data RAM CGRAM: Character generator RAM ACG: CGRAM address ADD: DDRAM address (corresponds to cursor address) AC: Address counter used for both DD and CGRAM addresses	Execution time changes when frequency changes Example: When f_{cp} or f_{OSC} is 250 kHz, $37\ \mu s \times \frac{270}{250} = 40\ \mu s$

Note: — indicates no effect.

* After execution of the CGRAM/DDRAM data write or read instruction, the RAM address counter is incremented or decremented by 1. The RAM address counter is updated after the busy flag turns off. In Figure 10, t_{ADD} is the time elapsed after the busy flag turns off until the address counter is updated.

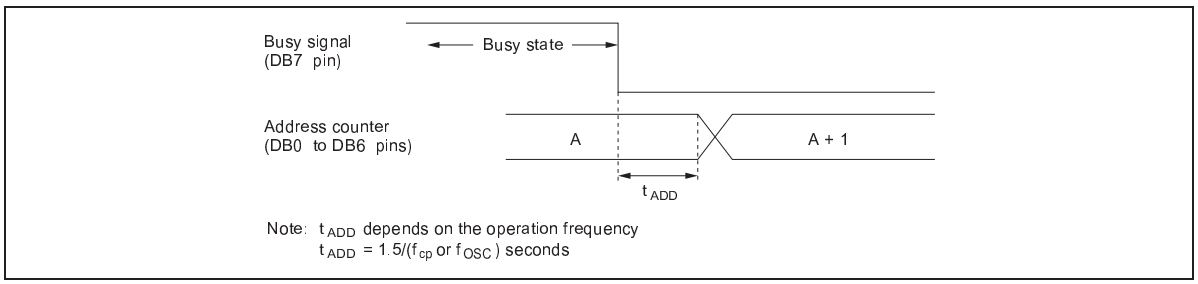

Figure 10 Address Counter Update

Initializing by Instruction

If the power supply conditions for correctly operating the internal reset circuit are not met, initialization by instructions becomes necessary.

Refer to Figures 25 and 26 for the procedures on 8-bit and 4-bit initializations, respectively.

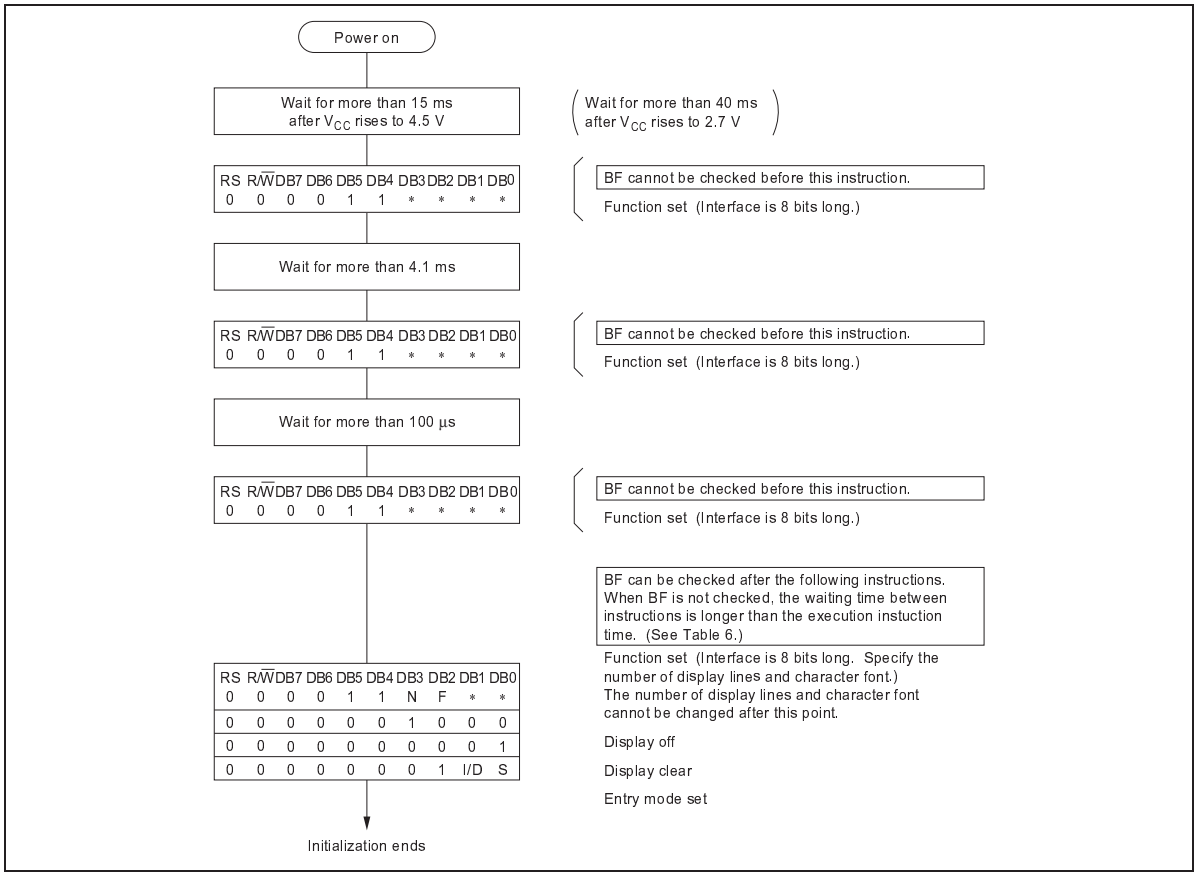

Figure 25 8-Bit Interface

Timing Characteristics

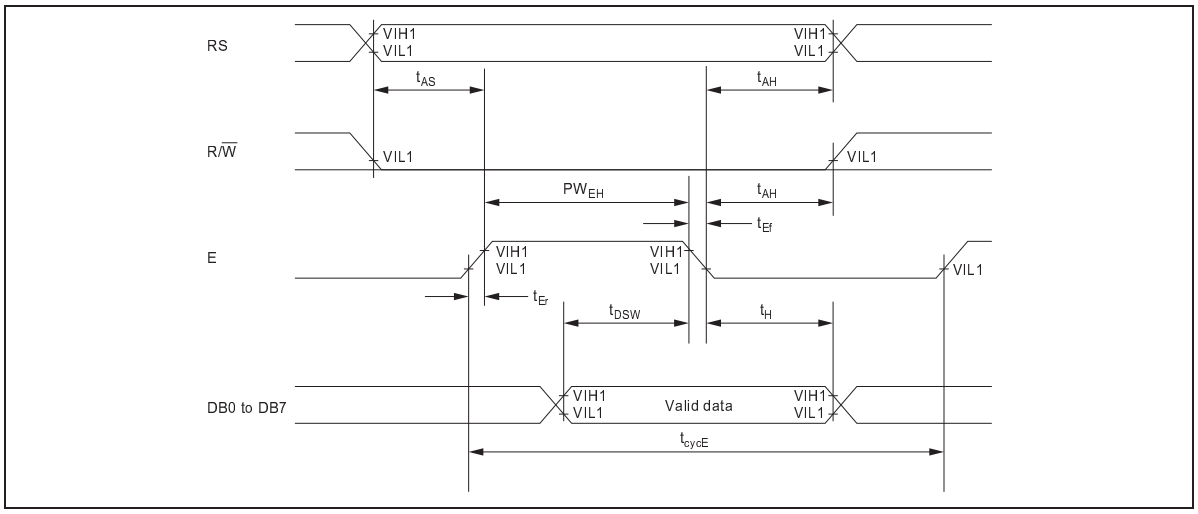

Figure 27 Write Operation

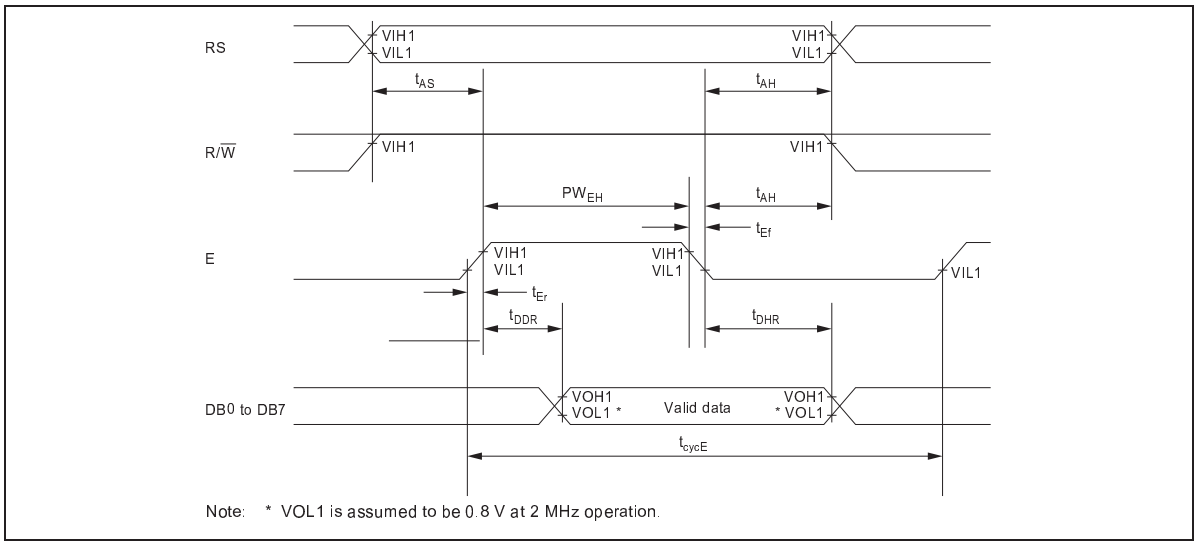

Figure 28 Read Operation