LCD Screen Interface with ATtiny85

Objective:

Display text or sensor values on a standard LCD (16x2 or 20x4) using the limited I/O pins of an ATtiny85.

Components Required:

- ATtiny85 microcontroller
- LCD screen (e.g., 16x2, HD44780-based)
- Optional: I²C module (PCF8574) or 74HC595 shift register for pin saving
- Pull-up resistors (if using I²C)
- Power supply (5V or 3.3V depending on components)

Connection Methods:

1. Direct (Parallel) Connection

Needs 6–7 I/O pins → not ideal for ATtiny85

2. I²C Adapter (PCF8574)

- Only uses 2 pins (SDA & SCL)
- Great for space-saving and simplifies wiring

3. **74HC595 Shift Register**

- Uses 3 digital pins
- Controls LCD through serial communication

Working Principle:

- ATtiny85 sends commands and data to the LCD either directly or through I²C/shift register.
- The LCD displays characters, numbers, or sensor readings.
- Libraries like TinyWireM, LiquidCrystal_I2C, or ShiftLCD are used depending on connection type.

Use Cases:

- Display sensor values (e.g., temperature, voltage)
- Show messages or system status
- Build compact standalone projects like mini clocks or meters

Note:

I²C and shift register methods are highly recommended with ATtiny85 due to limited I/O availability.