

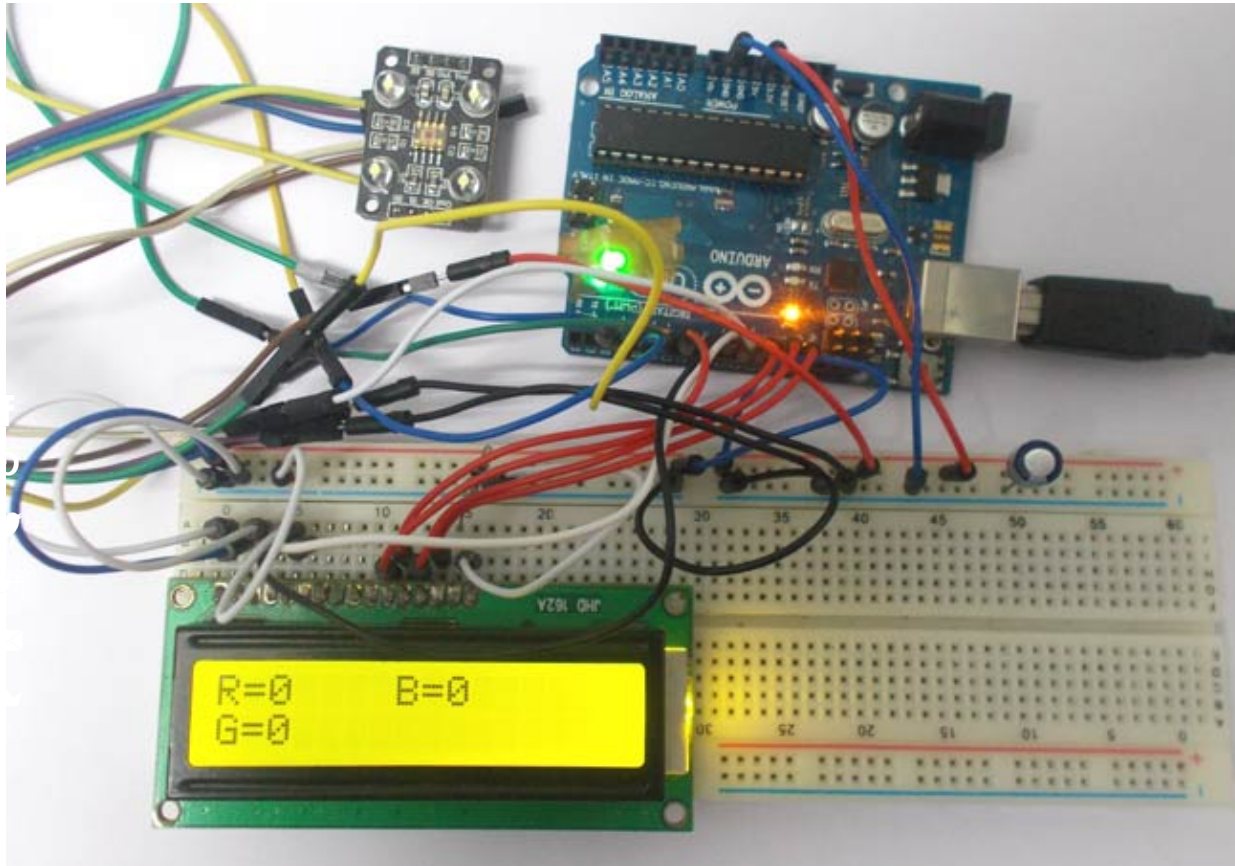
A purple banner for the HP Official eStore. On the left is a circular seal with '100% Original' at the top, 'HP Official eStore' in the center, and '100% Support' at the bottom. To the right of the seal, the text 'Amazing Exclusive Offers on HP Consumer Laptops.' is displayed in white. Below this text is a 'Shop now' button and a phone icon followed by the number '1800-108-4747'. On the right side of the banner is an image of an HP Pavilion x360 14-CD0055TX Laptop, which is a convertible laptop shown in tablet mode. The screen of the laptop displays a woman with curly hair sitting on a couch and using a tablet. Above the laptop, the text 'HP Pavilion x360 14-CD0055TX Laptop' is written. Below the laptop, it says 'Powered by Intel® Core™ i7 Processor'. In the bottom left corner of the banner, there is a small text '\*T&C apply.'.

ARDUINO ([HTTPS://CIRCUITDIGEST.COM/ARDUINO-PROJECTS](https://circuitdigest.com/arduino-projects))

## Color Detector using Arduino Uno (/microcontroller-projects/arduino-color-sensor-tcs3200)

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Color Detector using Arduino

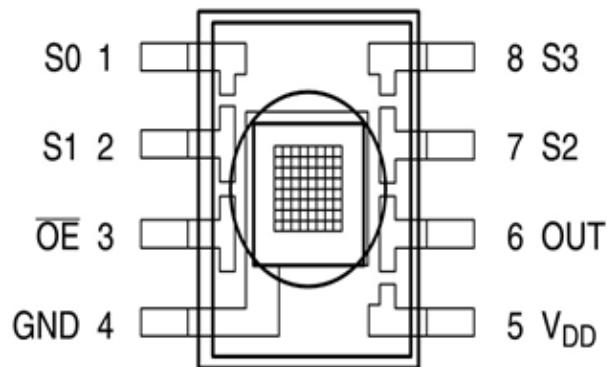
In this project we are going to **interface TCS3200 color sensor with Arduino UNO**. TCS3200 is a color sensor which can detect any number of colors with right programming. TCS3200 contains RGB (Red Green Blue) arrays. As shown in figure on microscopic level one can see the square boxes inside the eye on sensor. These square boxes are arrays of RGB matrix. Each of these boxes contain Three sensors, One is for sensing RED light intensity, One is for sensing GREEN light intensity and the last in for sensing BLUE light intensity.

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Each of sensor arrays in these three arrays are selected separately depending on requirement. Hence it is known as **programmable sensor**. The module can be featured to sense the particular color and to leave the others. It contains filters for that selection purpose. There is forth mode that is no filter mode. With no filter mode the sensor detects white light.

## Components Required

**Hardware:** ARDUINO UNO, power supply (5v), LED, JHD\_162ALCD (16\*2LCD), TCS3200 color sensor.

**Software:** ARDUINO IDE (ARDUINO nightly).

## Circuit Diagram and Working Explanation

In 16x2 LCD there are 16 pins over all if there is a back light, if there is no back light there will be 14 pins. One can power or leave the back light pins. Now in the 14 pins there are 8 data pins (7-14 or D0-D7), 2 power supply pins (1&2 or VSS&VDD or GND&+5v), 3<sup>rd</sup> pin for contrast control (VEE-controls how thick the characters should be shown), and 3 control pins (RS&RW&E)

In the circuit, you can observe I have only took two control pins. The contrast bit and READ/WRITE are not often used so they can be shorted to ground. This puts LCD in highest contrast and read mode. We just need to control ENABLE and RS pins to send characters and data accordingly. [Also check: LCD interfacing with Arduino Uno (<http://circuitdigest.com/microcontroller-projects/arduino-lcd-interfacing-tutorial>)]

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OPE

The connections which are done for LCD are given below:

PIN1 or VSS to ground

PIN2 or VDD or VCC to +5v power

PIN3 or VEE to ground (gives maximum contrast best for a beginner)

PIN4 or RS (Register Selection) to PIN8 of ARDUINO UNO

PIN5 or RW (Read/Write) to ground (puts LCD in read mode eases the communication for user)

PIN6 or E (Enable) to PIN9 of ARDUINO UNO

PIN11 or D4 to PIN7 of ARDUINO UNO

PIN12 or D5 to PIN11 of ARDUINO UNO

PIN13 or D6 to PIN12 of ARDUINO UNO

PIN14 or D7 to PIN13 of ARDUINO UNO

The connections which are done for color sensor are given below:

VDD to +5V to set cookies. For more information, read our [cookie policy](https://circuitdigest.com/cookie-policy) (<https://circuitdigest.com/cookie-policy>), and [privacy policy](http://circuitdigest.com/privacy-policy) (<http://circuitdigest.com/privacy-policy>).

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GND to GROUND

OE (output Enable) to GND

S0 to UNO pin 2

S1 to UNO pin 3

S2 to UNO pin 4

S3 to UNO pin 5

OUT to UNO pin 10

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## Coding Programs

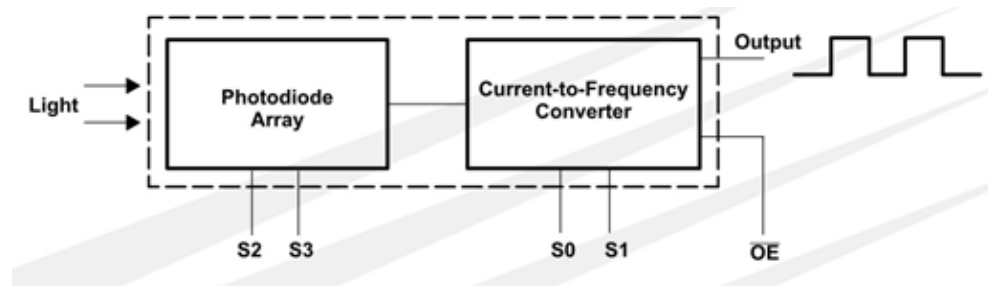
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Say we need to sense the RED color intensity we need to set both pins to LOW. Once that is done the sensor detects the intensity and sends the value to the control system inside the module.

S2	S3	Photodiode Type
L	L	Red
L	H	Blue
H	L	Clear (no filter)
H	H	Green

The control system inside the module is shown in figure. The light intensity measured by array is sent to current to frequency converter. What it does is, it puts out a square wave whose frequency is in relation to current sent by ARRAY.



So we have a system which sends out a square wave whose frequency depends on light intensity of color which is selected by S2 and S3.

The signal frequency sent by module can be modulated depending on use. We can change the output signal frequency bandwidth.

S0	S1	Output Frequency Scaling ( $f_0$ )
L	L	Power Down
L	H	2%
H	L	20%
H	H	100%

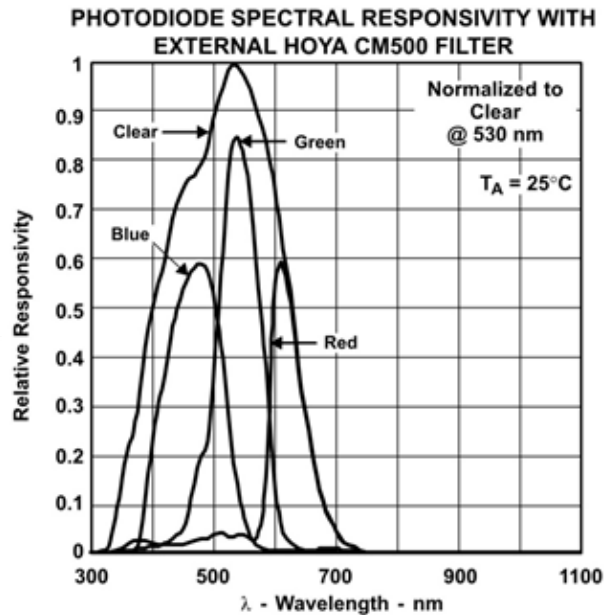
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The frequency scaling is done by two bits S0 and S1. For convenience we are going to limit the frequency scaling to 20%. This is done by setting S0 to high and S1 to LOW. This feature comes in handy when we are using the module on system with low clock.

The Array sensitivity to color is shown in below figure.



Although different colors have different sensitivity, for a normal use it won't make much difference.

The UNO here send signal to module to detect colors and the data received by the module is shown in the 16\*2 LCD connected to it.

The UNO detects three color intensities separately and shows them on LCD.

The Uno can detect the signal pulse duration by which we can get the frequency of square wave sent by module. With the frequency at hand we can match it with color on sensor.

```
1. Int frequency = pulseIn(10, LOW);
```

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As by above condition the UNO reads pulse duration on 10<sup>th</sup> pin of UNO and stores its value in "frequency" integer.

We are going to do this for all three colors for **color recognition**. All three color intensities are shown by frequencies on 16x2 LCD.

## Code

```
int OutPut= 10;//naming pin10 of uno as output
unsigned int frequency = 0;

#include <LiquidCrystal.h>

// initialize the library with the numbers of the interface pins
LiquidCrystal lcd(8, 9, 7, 11, 12, 13);//RS,EN,D4,D5,D6,D7

void setup()
{
    // set up the LCD's number of columns and rows
    lcd.begin(16, 2);
```

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```
pinMode(3, OUTPUT);//PINS 2, 3,4,5 as OUTPUT

pinMode(4, OUTPUT);

pinMode(5, OUTPUT);

pinMode(10, INPUT);//PIN 10 as input


digitalWrite(2,HIGH);

digitalWrite(3,LOW);//setting frequency selection to 20%

}

void loop()

{

  lcd.print("R=");//printing name

  digitalWrite(4,LOW);

  digitalWrite(5,LOW);//setting for RED color sensor

  frequency = pulseIn(OutPut, LOW);//reading frequency

  lcd.print(frequency);//printing RED color frequency

  lcd.print(" ");

  lcd.setCursor(7, 0);//moving courser to position 7

  delay(500);


  lcd.print("B="); // printing name

  digitalWrite(4,LOW);

  digitalWrite(5,HIGH);// setting for BLUE color sensor

  frequency = pulseIn(OutPut, LOW);// reading frequency

  lcd.print(frequency);// printing BLUE color frequency

  lcd.print("\n");

  lcd.print("V=");
```

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```
lcd.setCursor(0, 1);  
  
delay(500);  
  
lcd.print("G="); // printing name  
digitalWrite(4, HIGH);  
digitalWrite(5, HIGH); // setting for GREEN color sensor  
frequency = pulseIn(OutPut, LOW); // reading frequency  
lcd.print(frequency); // printing GREEN color frequency  
lcd.print(" ");  
lcd.setCursor(0, 0);  
delay(500);  
}
```

## Video

### Color Detector using Arduino



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## TAGS

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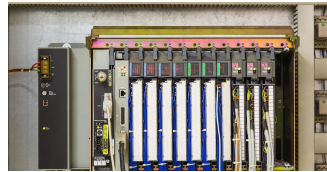
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COLOR SENSOR (/TAGS/COLOR-SENSOR)

TCS230 (/TAGS/TCS230)

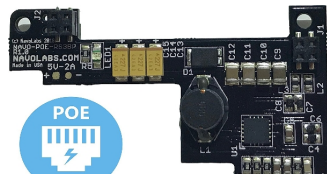
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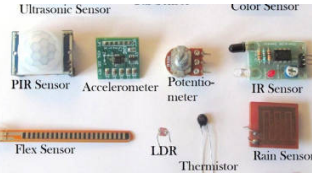
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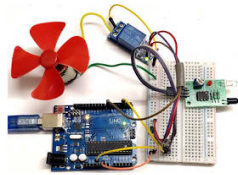
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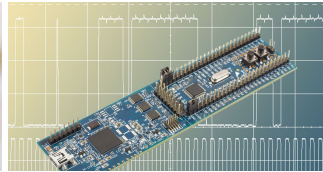
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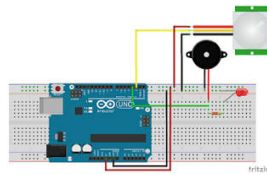
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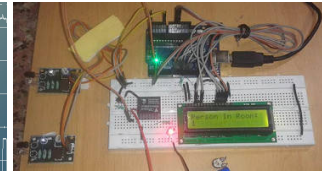
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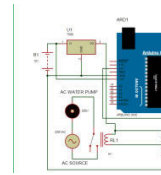
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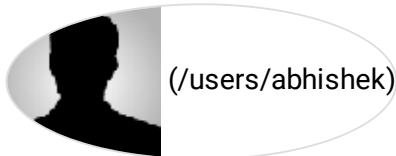
Digital Code Lock using Arduino (<https://circuitdigest.com/microcontroller-projects/digital-code-lock-using-arduino>)

**COMMENTS****Dany**

Nov 23, 2015

How many colors it can detect? Is it possible to you in for measuring skin color? Thank you for replay.

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**Abhishek (/users/abhishek)**

Nov 28, 2015

Yes, it can detect any color and gives you RGB values of that color. You can convert those RGB values into color,

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**Dany**

Dec 09, 2015

Please Do you have more photos of this project? thanks

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**Yaakub**

Dec 19, 2015

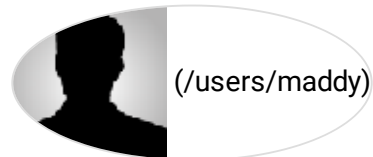
Hi,

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I need to understand better how you derive the "Output Frequency Scaling"; for example how you set 2% on S0 = H, S1 = L and the rest.

Please advise.

Thanks and best regards,

**Maddy (/users/maddy)**

Jan 01, 2016

This is defined in Color sensor TCS3200 datasheet.

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**Jeys**

Feb 03, 2016

What is the range of this sensor? I mean the maximum sensing distance

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**M DILIP RAJA**

Feb 03, 2016  
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The sensor cannot measure higher distances, the maximum distance is 3cm. With the increment in distance the accuracy gets decreased.

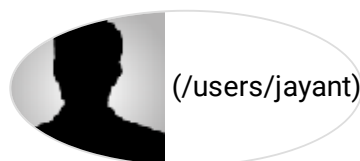


**Yusuf**

Feb 04, 2016

Do that arduino have any specification ?

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**Jayant (/users/jayant)**

Feb 06, 2016

Its Arduino UNO board.

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**Pen**

Feb 23, 2016

Will this code work for other models of colour sensor? I use the Adafruit TCS34725 and I'm constructing a colour sensor module

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with an LCD screen.



**Jan**

Apr 15, 2016

what is the function of capacitor in this project?

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**DILIP RAJA**

Apr 16, 2016

Capacitor is connected across the power supply to filter the noise from the power supply unit.

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**Jan**

Apr 17, 2016

Thank you very much!:)

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**mac**

May 14, 2016

What version of arduino is used in this project and please send me the complete tutorial.

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**Isaiah**

Jun 15, 2016

Using this project idea can one then convert the colours to sound. If possible what can I add?.

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**Shraddha**

Jul 06, 2016

My color sensor is giving electrical intensity as the output. How can I convert these values into RGB values of that specific color

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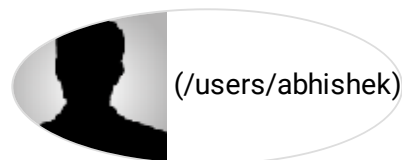
Abhishek (/users/abhishek)

Jul 09, 2016

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(/users/abhishek)

which sensor are you using?

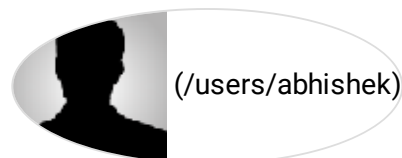
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**Dionet**

Jul 07, 2016

hi, with which tools can i detected all the colors? not just the RGB, and i cant understand the code to modify

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(/users/abhishek)

**Abhishek (/users/abhishek)**

Aug 13, 2016

You can detect any color with this project. Every color is made up of RGB colors, so this circuit gives you

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values of RGB for every color you scan.

**Viswajith**

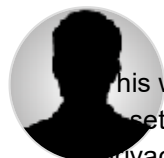
Jul 10, 2016

I have just started to build

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Give a tutorial how to build this..

Thank u..

**Birinder**

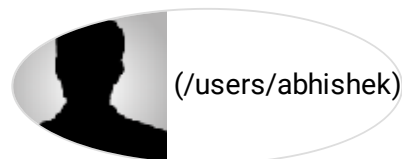
Jul 13, 2016

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**Abhishek (/users/abhishek)**

Aug 13, 2016

Thats a good idea! yes we can do that, but I suggest you to use NeoPixel LED to display the colors.

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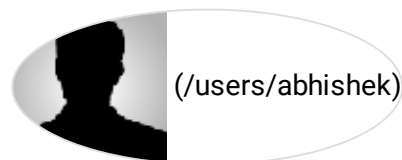


**irmawan**

Jul 25, 2016

sory sir , how if i want showing the RGB values not the frequency , ,

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**Abhishek (/users/abhishek)**

Aug 13, 2016

Yes, they are RGB values.

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**Shashi**

Aug 06, 2016

I just bought a TCS 3200 and there is a S0..S4 pins on one end, and on the other end

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5V,

GND

LED

OUT

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pins - but I dont see a OE pin on my board !  
 I suspect that the LED pin is the OE ? Is this about right ?  
 Shashi



**Mark Jvann Inson**

Sep 26, 2016

Can this sensor be used in detecting the color of the liquid inside a test tube???

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**Maddy (/users/maddy)**

Oct 07, 2016

Yes, it should detect the color of liquid.

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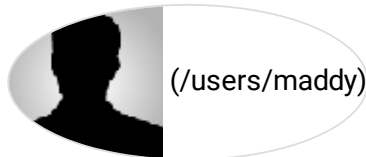


**pol**

Oct 04, 2016

What do you mean by that being a programmable sensor? Do we have to set the sensor when detecting a specific color?

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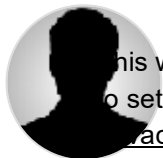


**Maddy (/users/maddy)**

Oct 27, 2016

Yes you can program it to only sense the particular color and leave the others and acts like a filter.

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**pius**

Oct 14, 2016

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Sory.

Can you send to me full tutorial iniordel to lean it more.plz



**Tellus**

Oct 17, 2016

Hi guys, doing a project but I need a very small color sensor. Every sensor I seen so far is quite big, any idea where I can found the

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smallest version?



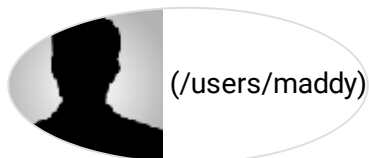
**Tootzskie**

Oct 23, 2016

Hi can you show how much/cost you used for this project. (kindly list down for each item)

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Thanks!



**Maddy (/users/maddy)**

Oct 27, 2016

It will cost you around 50\$.

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**larry**

Nov 08, 2016

pls can u give a full project report on this project?

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**miyo**

Nov 15, 2016

with you experience unconsistence result RGB in lcd display?

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**Dave P.**

Jan 20, 2017

The code line,

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```
pulseIn(OutPut, LOW); //reading frequency
```

Is "pulseIn()" a function from a library that needs to be brought into the Arduino IDE, or is it an intrinsic in the C# language set supported natively?

Thanks for your example and code, this is great.

**Dave P.**

Jan 20, 2017

I looked on stackoverflow.com which has a lot of great arduino info, and believe I have confirmed that indeed PulseIn() is part of the

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C# implementation.

**Anas Masood Quddusi**

Feb 10, 2017

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Hi, this tutorial was extremely helpful and I cannot thank you enough.

I want to take it a step further. Can we add a RGB LED somewhere and ask it to generate the same color as the one detected by the sensor?

So in short, Color X--> Sensor --> Arduino --> RGB LED --> Color X.



**Atheeth**

Feb 17, 2017

Can it detect only three colours, if no pls tell the modifications to do so that we can detect more than 3 colours.

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**elh**

Mar 04, 2017

it can detect more than 3 colors. if u have specific color to detect, just set the value into program

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**Deepak**

Mar 18, 2017

Hello Dilip,

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I have made this project. However, I find that all three values (R,G and B) are very close to each other, irrespective of what colour object is held up in front of the sensor. For example, without any object, I get R=188, B=183 & G= 190. Then when I bring a red object close to the sensor, it shows R=610, B=605 and G=620. With a blue object, I get R =676, B=670 and G = 690. Same is the case with a green object.

Can you tell me what I am doing wrong?

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**Saurabh Sharma**

Mar 29, 2017

It shows a greater value for green even when you put red color in front of the sensor. Why does this happen?

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**Ivan**

Mar 31, 2017

I'm experiencing the same as Saurabh and Deepak

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**Sushil**

Apr 25, 2017

How can i Make this circuit to detect the fluorescence color

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**Gajender**

Mar 16, 2018

my lcd shows boxes only it does not display output

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**Soma**

Apr 22, 2018

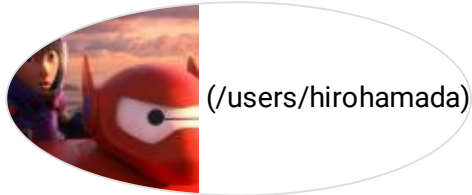
Hi !, Thanks for this. here, when we measure visually red colour thing, lcd shows higher 'G' value than 'R' value & so on .How to

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To avoid this problem 2. It is a problem of tcs3200 sensor, what is the suitable sensor?  
 Thanks. Soma.  
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**Hiro\_Hamada (/users/hirohamada)**

Apr 24, 2018

T should not happen like that try using a new sensor

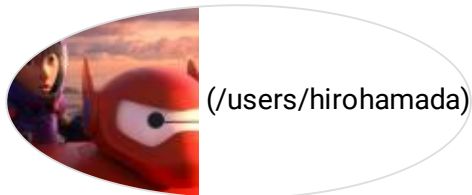
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**R.Navya**

Jul 30, 2018

i need a sensor that detects only green color . What would be the best one to be used?

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**Hiro\_Hamada (/users/hirohamada)**

Aug 01, 2018

Yes this sensor can detect green color also

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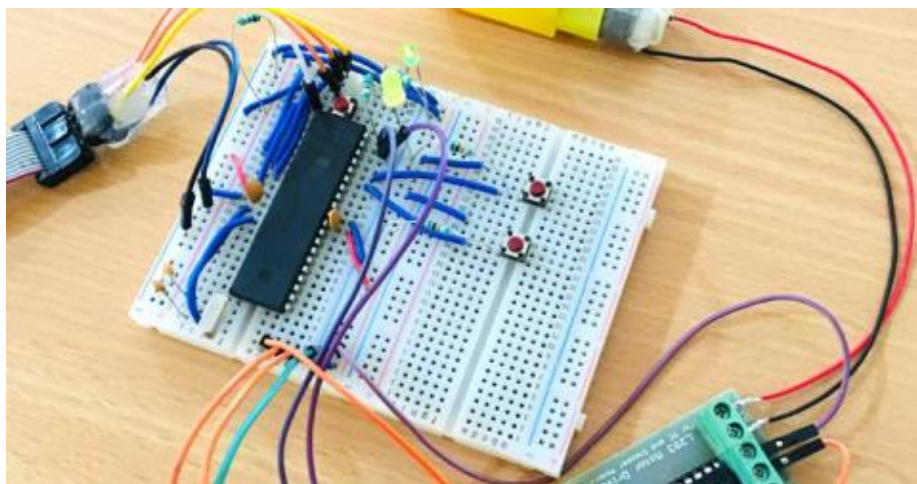
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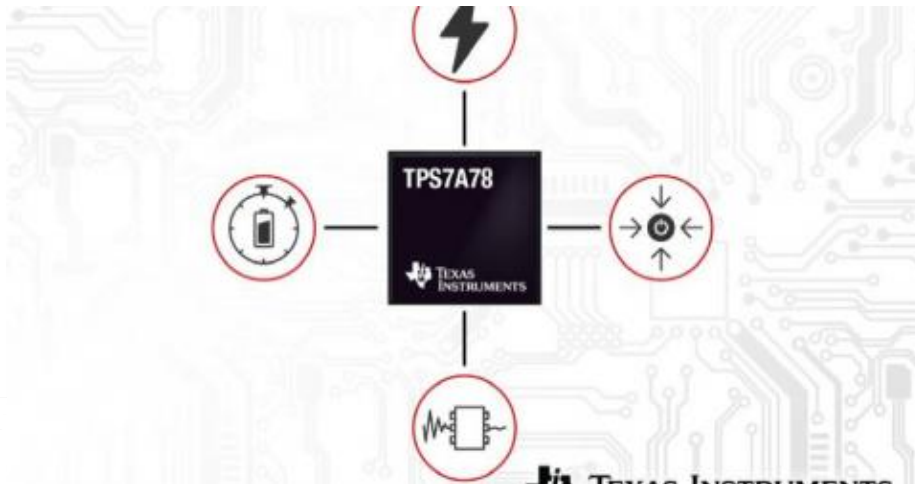
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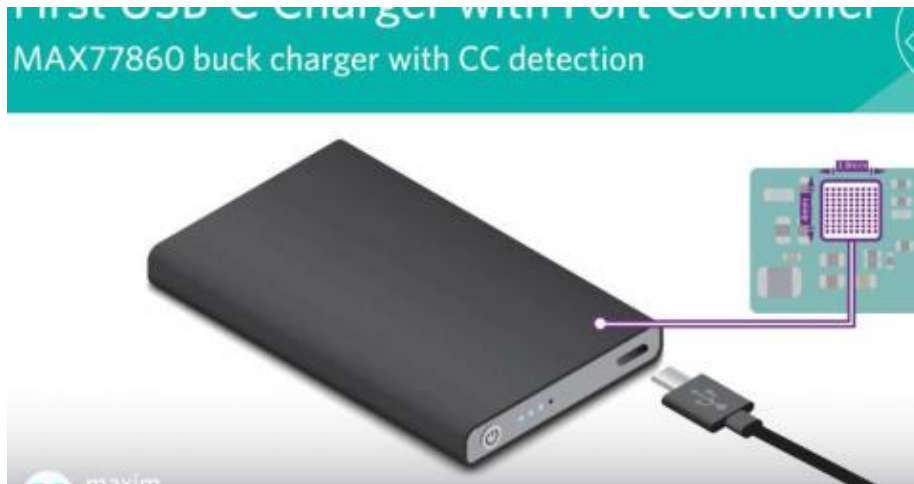




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 (/users/saj) saj (/users/saj)


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Replies: 1

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