

8051 Memory Organization

Internal ROM

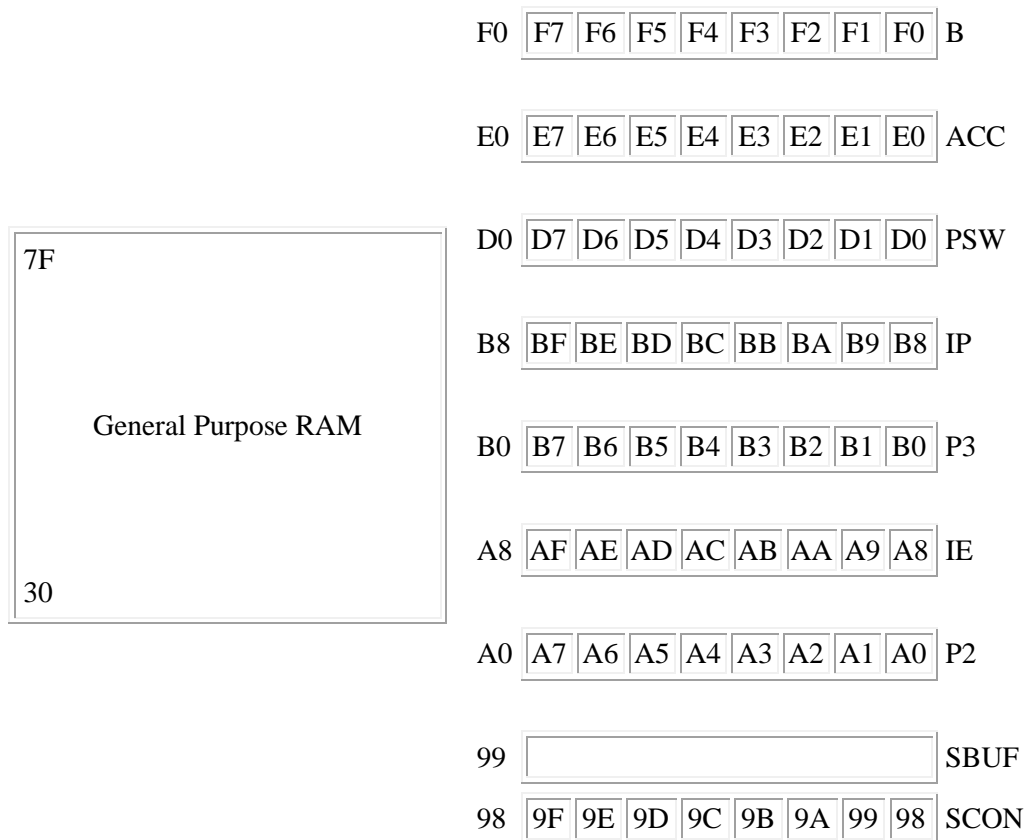
The 8051 has 4K (4096 locations) of on-chip ROM. This is used for storing the system program. $2^{12} = 4096$, therefore the internal ROM address bus is 12 bits wide and internal ROM locations go from 000H to FFFH.

Internal RAM

There are 256 bytes of internal RAM on the 8051. $2^8 = 256$, therefore the internal RAM address bus is 8 bits wide and internal RAM locations go from 00H to FFH.

The first 128 locations (00H to 7FH) of internal RAM are used by the programmer for storing data while the second 128 locations (80H to FFH) are the Special Function Registers (SFRs) which we will deal with later.

The diagram below is a summary of the 8051 on-chip RAM.



2F	7F	7E	7D	7C	7B	7A	79	78
2E	77	76	75	74	73	72	71	70
2D	6F	6E	6D	6C	6B	6A	69	68
2C	67	66	65	64	63	62	61	60
2B	5F	5E	5D	5C	5B	5A	59	58
2A	57	56	55	54	53	52	51	50
28	4F	4E	4D	4C	4B	4A	49	48
28	47	46	45	44	43	42	41	40
27	3F	3E	3D	3C	3B	3A	39	38
26	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30
25	2F	2E	2D	2C	2B	2A	29	28
24	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20
23	1F	1E	1D	1C	1B	1A	19	18
22	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10
21	0F	0E	0D	0C	0B	0A	09	08
20	07	06	05	04	03	02	01	00
1F	Register Bank 3							
18								
17	Register Bank 2							
10								
0F	Register Bank 1							
08								
07	Default Register Bank (Bank 0)							
00								

RAM

90	97	96	95	94	93	92	91	90	P1
8D									TH1
8C									TH0
8B									TL1
8A									TL0
89									TMOD
88	8F	8E	8D	8C	8B	8A	89	88	TCON
87									PCON
83									DPH
82									DPL
81									SP
80	87	86	85	84	83	82	81	80	P0

SPECIAL FUNCTION REGISTERS

Register Banks

There are four register banks from 00H to 1FH. On power-up, registers R0 to R7 are located at 00H to 07H. However, this can be changed so that the register set points to any of the other three banks (if you change to Bank 2, for example, R0 to R7 is now located at 10H to 17H).

Bit-addressable Locations

The 8051 contains 210 bit-addressable locations of which 128 are at locations 20H to 2FH while the rest are in the SFRs. Each of the 128 bits from 20H to 2FH have a unique number (address) attached to them, as shown in the table above. The 8051 instruction set allows you to set or reset any single bit in this section of RAM.

With the general purpose RAM from 30H to 7FH and the register banks from 00H to 1FH, you may only read or write a full byte (8 bits) at these locations. However, with bit-addressable RAM (20H to 2FH) you can read or write any single bit in this region by using the unique address for that bit. We will later see that this is a very powerful feature.

Special Function Registers (SFRs)

Locations 80H to FFH contain the special function registers. As you can see from the diagram above, not all locations are used by the 8051 (eleven locations are blank). These extra locations are used by other family members (8052, etc.) for the extra features these microcontrollers possess.

Also note that not all SFRs are bit-addressable. Those that are have a unique address for each bit.

We will deal with each of the SFRs as we progress through the course, but for the moment you should take note of the accumulator (ACC) at address E0H and the four port registers at addresses 80H for P0, 90h for P1, A0 for P2 and B0 for P3.