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#### **Introduction to PIC16F877a**

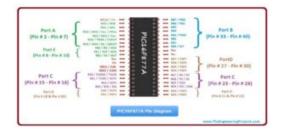
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Hello friends, I hope you all are doing great and having fun with your lives. Today, I am going to give you guys an Introduction to PIC16F877a. It's a most commonly PIC used

Microcontroller because of its operational flexibility, availability and cheapness. You can buy this PIC Microcontroller from almost every online electronic shop and you will get it just for \$2 - \$3.I have got a lot of requests about PIC16F877a from engineering students because this PIC Microcontroller is used in Engineering Projects a lot. So, that's why I have thought to share all details about PIC16F877a. If you are new to PIC Microcontroller then I must suggest you to read this complete post carefully and ask your queries in comments. You should also have a look at this video in which I have given an Introduction to PIC16F877a:







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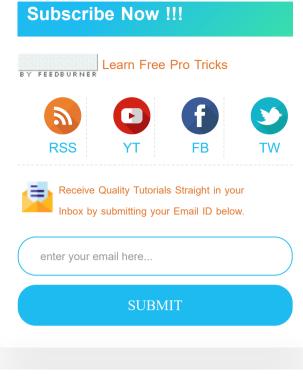


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# **Introduction to PIC16F877a**

- PIC16F877a is a 40-pin PIC Microcontroller and is used mostly in <a href="Embedded Projects"><u>Embedded Projects</u></a> and Applications. Few of its features are as follows:
  - It has five Ports on it starting from Port A to Port E.
  - It has **three Timers** in it, two of which are 8 bit Timers while 1 is 16 Bit.
  - It supports many communication protocols like:
    - Serial Protocol.
    - Parallel Protocol.
    - 12C Protocol.
  - It supports both hardware pin interrupts and timer interrupts.
- Here's the PIC16F877a Pin Diagram, I have mentioned the names of all the Pins and have also given different colors to different Ports.





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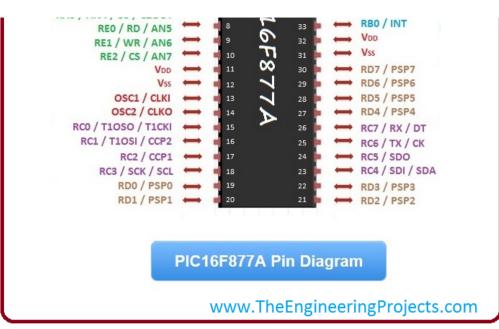






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- The above image gives you the overall idea of PIC16F877a Pins and Ports.
- You should also have a look at <u>Introduction to Atmega328</u>, it's another <u>microcontroller</u>, you should compare them.

# **IMPORTANT NOTE:**



- You can see in the above image that pins of PIC Microcontroller has more than one name, its because each pin of PIC can perform many tasks.
- For example, check Pin # 25, it can be used as a digital Port C Pin # 6 (RC6) and can also be used as a Transmitter (TX) for serial communication.
- So, now its up to you how you wanna use each pin, and we will check most of these pin functions in today's tutorial.
- In the next section, I am gonna explain all of these Pin features one by one.



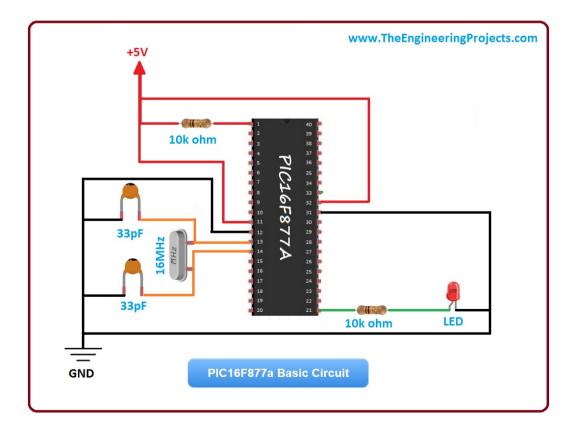




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- Each PIC Microcontroller has a basic circuit and if you won't design the basic circuit then it won't work.
- It's just like providing power to your PIC Microcontroller and it works on +5V level.
- If you want to turn ON fan then what will you do? You will simply provide it power and that's what we are gonna do with PIC but in PIC case we also need to provide the frequency at which it will work.
- So, now we know that we need to design the basic circuit and this basic circuit contains power as well as the frequency at which it will work.
- In order to provide frequency to PIC Microcontroller, we use crystal oscillator and for PIC 16F877a, you can use crystal oscillator of frequency range from **4MHz to 40MHz**.
- So, here's the PIC16F877a Basic Circuit which you need to design:



- I have tried my best to make this PIC16F877a basic circuit as simple as possible.
- The above circuit may seem you a bit complex but it is really not, let me explain it pin by pin:



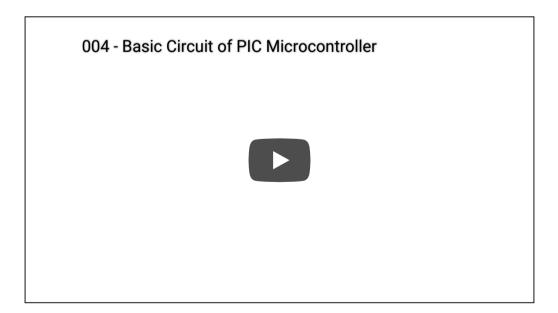


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**Vdd** so we also need to provide it +5V and you can see these lines are in red color in above figure.

- Pin # 12 & Pin # 31: These Pins are Vss, so we have provided GND (Ground) at this pin and its lines are in black color.
- Pin # 13 & 14: These Pins are named as OSC1 (Oscillator 1) and OSC2 (Oscillator 2), now we have to attach our Crystal Oscillator (16MHz) at these pins which I have lined in Orange color. After the Crystal Oscillator, we have 33pF capacitors and then they are grounded.
- We have designed our basic circuit and now our PIC Microcontroller is ready to work but you can also see an LED attached at Pin # 21 and that's because we also need to check whether its running or not so we can turn on or off this LED.
- You should have a look at <u>LED Blinking Project on PIC Microcontroller</u>, in which I have blinked the LED using PIC Microcontroller.
- Here's the video in which I have designed this PIC16F877a basic circuit:



## 2. PIC16F877a Ports

So, now I hope that you got the complete understanding of PIC16F877a Basic Circuit, so now if you have noticed that in



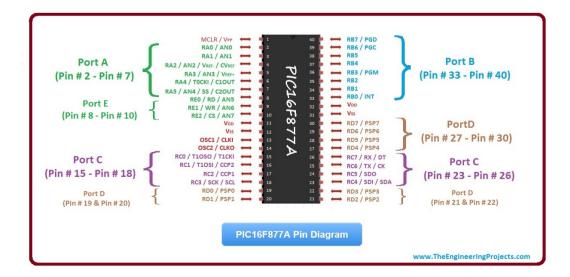


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Microcontroller Ports. First let's have a look at these PIC16F877a Ports.

- PIC16F877a has 5 Ports in total which are:
  - Port A: It has 6 Pins in total starting from Pin # 2 to Pin # 7. Port A Pins are labelled from RA0 to RA5 where RA0 is the label of first Pin of Port A.
  - Port B: It has 8 Pins in total starting from Pin # 33 to Pin # 40. Port B Pins are labelled from RB0 to RB7 where RB0 is the label of first Pin of Port B.
  - Port C: It has 8 Pins in total. It's pins are not aligned together. First four Pins of Port C are located at Pin # 15 Pin # 18, while the last four are located at Pin # 23 Pin # 26.
  - Port D: It has 8 Pins in total. It's pins are also not aligned together. First four Pins of Port D are located at Pin # 19 Pin # 22, while the last four are located at Pin # 27 Pin # 30.
  - Port E: It has 3 Pins in total starting from Pin # 8 to Pin # 10. Port E Pins are labelled from RE0 to RE2 where RE0 is the label of first Pin of Port E.
- All these Ports are labelled in below figure:



You can see all these PIC16F877a Ports in above figure, now let's have a look at how to use them.





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with PIC Microcontroller, now in this case your PIC Pin will be acting as **Input Pin** because it will be inputting value from sensor. Sensor is sending the value and PIC is receiving it.

Now in case you have some DC Motor and you want to move that <a href="DC Motor using PIC Microcontroller">DC Motor using PIC Microcontroller</a>. So, in this case you have to send command from PIC Microcontroller to DC Motor so your PIC Pin is acting as **Output Pin**.



#### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

- Each Port of PIC Microcontroller is associated with two registers, for examples Port D registers are:
  - PortD
  - TRISD
- Both of these registers are of 8 bit because Port D contains 8 Pins.
- TRISD decides whether the Port is output or input and we can also assign values to each pin separately. If we have assigned 0 then it will be OUTPUT and if we have provided 1 then it will be INPUT.
- For example, if I have assigned TRISD = 0x01, then first 7 pins of Port D will be Output but the last pin will be input because 0x01 is actually 00000001 in binary.
- PortD register contain the actual value and this value is actually the





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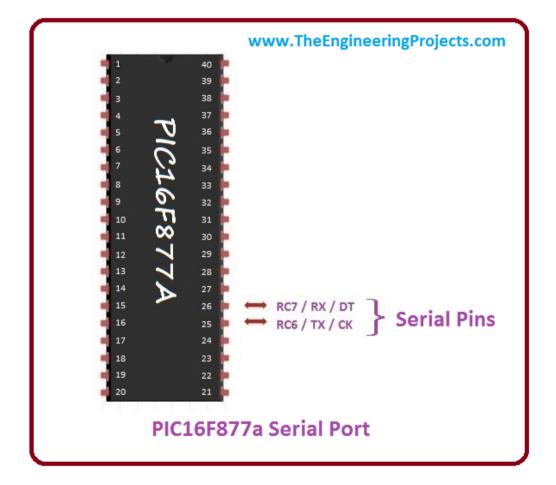


<u>Compiler</u>, which is available online from Microchip Official Site.

- There are also other compilers available and the one I normally use is MikroC Pro For PIC.
- You should have a look at this list of Top 3 PIC C Compilers.
- We write code in PIC Compilers and then compile it. After compilation a hex file is generated which we upload in PIC Microcontroller.

#### 4. PIC16F877a Serial Port

- PIC16F877a has one serial port in it which is used for data communication.
- In below figure, I have mentioned the Serial Pins of PIC16F877a.



- AS you can see in the above figure that:
  - Pin # 25 is acting as TX as well so if you want to do Serial Communication then it will be used for sending the serial data.





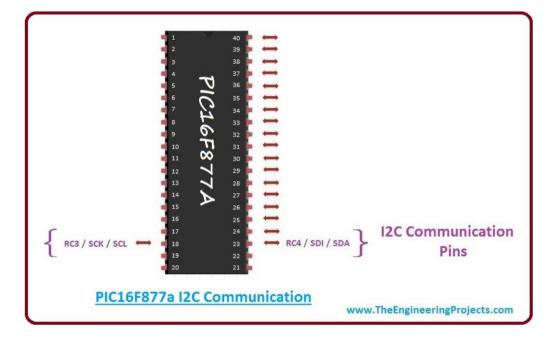
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know much about Serial Port.

#### 5. PIC16F877a I2C Communication

- PIC16F877a also has one I2C Port using which we can easily do the I2C Communication.
- These PIC16F877a I2C Communication Pins are shown in below figure:



- As you can see in above figure, PIC16F877a I2C Communication Pins are:
- Pin # 18: It is acting as SCL which is an abbreviation of Serial Clock Line.
- Pin # 23: It is acting as SDA which is an abbreviation of Serial Data Line.
- Now you can see we have Serial Port and I2C Port in Port C, so we can use Port C as a simple Port but can also do these two communications with its pins, so its totally on the programmer.

### 6. PIC16F877a Interrupts

I hope you all know about interrputs, if not then you should have a look at Interrupts in PIC Microcontroller.





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changed then interrupt will be generated.

- So, PIC16F877a Interrupts can be generated by following 8 ways:
  - 1. External Interrupts.
  - 2. Timer Interrupts (Timer0 / Timer1).
  - 3. Port B State Change.
  - 4. Parallel Slave Port Read/Write.
  - 5. A/D Converter.
  - 6. Serial Receive / Transmit.
  - 7. PWM (CCP1 / CCP2).
  - 8. DEEPROM Write Operation.
- PIC16F877a Interrupts are associated with below 5 registers:
  - INTCON
  - PIE1
  - PIR1
  - PIE2
  - PIR2

So, that was all about *PIC16F877a*, I hope you have enjoyed today's tutorial. I have tried my best to cover all aspects of this PIC Microcontroller and I would suggest you to must read the links which I have provided in each section. These links will also help you more because they are focusing on that particular topic. If you have any problem in this Introduction to PIC16F877a, then you can ask in comments below. Thanks for reading. Take care and have fun !!! :)

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# Syed Zain Nasir

#### @syedzainnasir

I am Syed Zain Nasir, the founder of The Engineering Projects (TEP). I am a programmer since 2009 before that I just search things, make small projects and now I am sharing my knowledge through this platform. I also work as a freelancer and did many projects related to programming and electrical circuitry. My Google Profile+



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#### THIAGO CANOVA says:

May 20, 2018 at 1:09 pm

Thank you for sharing this material on pic 16f877a, I was looking for meterial so some time ago.I was a layman in programming but this tutorial helped me a lot. My name is thiago I'm in Brazil.

thank you.

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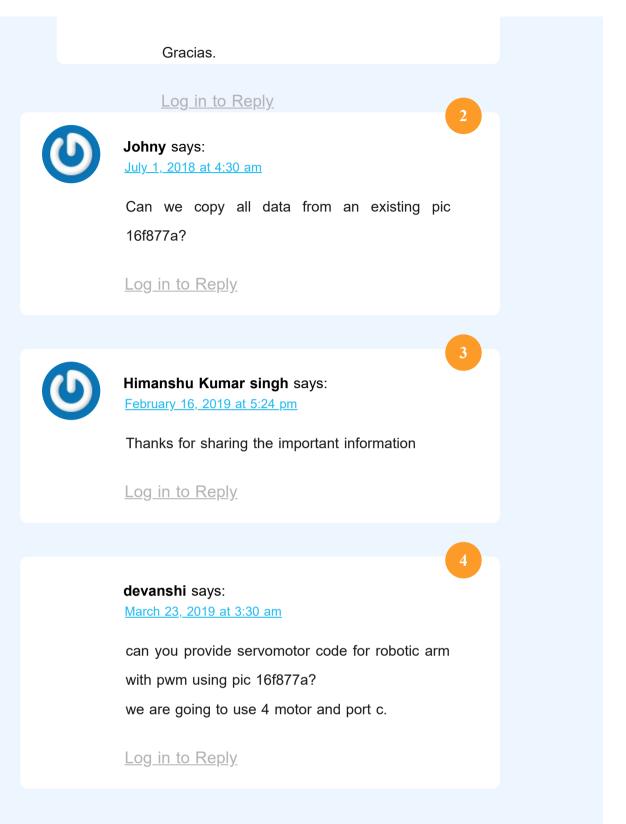


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