

Keyboard Auto-Repeat Circuit

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This circuit is intended for use with keyboards that do not have a 'repeat' facility. It is not only simple to install, but gives the user the repeat facility on every key on the keyboard.

Basically, the strobe line from the keyboard activates the monostable (IC2); this disables the output of the 555 and prevents its pulses reading the new strobe line. After approximately 3 seconds, the output of IC2 changes state and the signal from the 555 is passed on to the new strobe line. If the key is released before the monostable finished its timing period, only one character will be sent. For a key press of longer than 3 seconds, approximately 10 characters per second will be entered (the frequency being set by 555, used in its astable mode). The circuit is shown for use with a positive-going strobe signal: for a negative-going strobe, simply move the last NAND gate (used as an inverter) to the input strobe line.

Connecting the circuit into your computer requires the removal of the current strobe line from your keyboard and re-routing it through the circuit.

