



power-failure alarm

Ever come home and find all your digital clocks reading "eights" leaving you wondering how long the juice was off? Well this inexpensive circuit can give you a good idea. All you have to do is connect it to any outlet.

When the power fails, an alarm will sound and from one to four LEDs will light, depending on how long the outage lasts.

You can select the time required for each LED to light by carefully choosing the values of each $R \cdot C$ pair. The values given here are for 1 second, 10 seconds, 100 seconds, and 500 seconds. The tone of the alarm is determined by $R_1 C_1$.

Current drain is quite low when the alarm is off. A single 9-volt battery should last a year.

After a power failure has occurred, you can reset the alarm by momentarily depressing the pushbutton "reset" switch.