

Microbridge serial interface isn't compatible with LCD BackPack

I really loved the Microbridge article in the May 2017 issue. I know that SILICON CHIP is not the originator of this project however I do have a bit of an issue. The pinouts for the serial connectors are different between the Microbridge and both the original BackPack and the BackPack V2.

The connections on the Microbridge are +3.3V, +5V, RX, TX, GND while the BackPack uses +5V, TX, RX, GND. If I am to use both, they would require different connectors for the USB to TTL adaptor. I know that the Microbridge can be plugged into the BackPack for programming, but if the BackPack is installed into a box, like I have, then there is not enough room to plug in a Microbridge.

Mike Flor,

Wyangah, NSW.

Comment: unfortunately, we didn't notice that difference in pinouts. If we had, we could have modified the Microbridge circuit and PCB prior to publication, to make it plug-in compatible with the BackPack projects. Sorry!

Solution to losing the mouse

In a recent article about the Philips 43-inch 4K monitor in the March 2017 issue, the reviewer mentioned the difficulty of locating the mouse cursor. Windows has the ability to change cursor behaviour under Mouse Properties→Pointer Options tab→Visibility. I have mine set to Pointer trails Long. It helps heaps as soon as you start moving the mouse.

Warren Hudson,

via email.