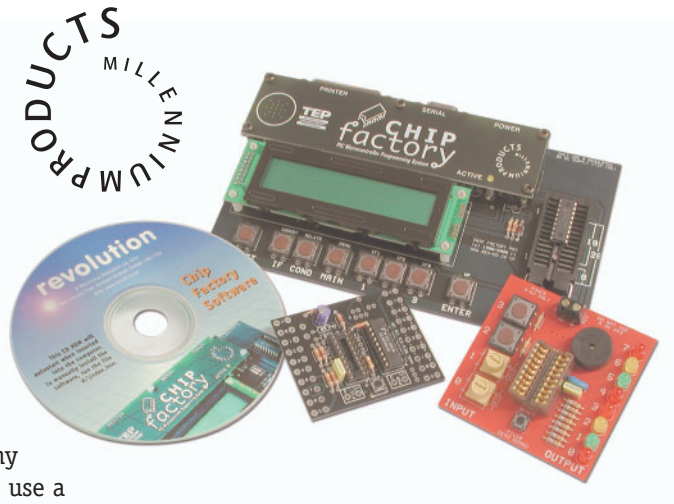


CHIP FACTORY NEWS

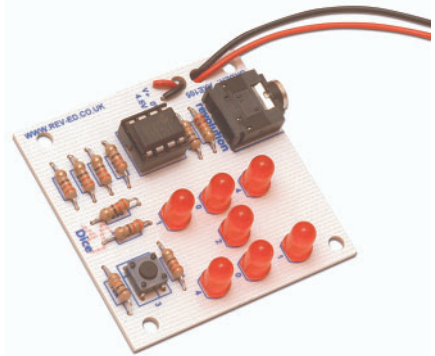
To celebrate the 6th birthday of the award winning Chip Factory, we are pleased to announce our upgraded software to support the new low cost 8 pin PIC12F629 microcontroller, which cost from just 85p each!

This fantastic new PIC enables students to build a complete microcontroller project for less than the previous cost of the microcontroller itself! The microcontroller has 2 inputs and 4 outputs, and is very simple to use in project work due to its small size. This greatly opens the opportunities for whole KS3 groups to undertake a complete 'Systems and Control' project by constructing an electronics circuit and then programming the

microcontroller to go on the circuit. Why use the dated '555 timer' when you can use a modern microcontroller to create much more exciting projects!



To provide additional support for teachers, Revolution have developed 4 complete KS3 projects based upon this new 8 pin microcontroller. The Dice project is pictured here, and full details of the Cyberpet, Alarm and Safety Light projects are also attached. Fully photocopiable comprehensive student notes (over 35 pages of information per project) are available free of charge to support these projects, and class sets of PCBs are available for those without PCB manufacturing facilities. A generic 'project work' board is also available for individual GCSE student projects.



CHIP FACTORY UPGRADE

The new PIC12F629 is supported by both the original (red) Chip Factory and the (black) Chip Factory Pro. However the PIC12F629 has a different programming protocol to the original PIC chips, and so a firmware upgrade may be required. To identify your firmware version look at the LCD screen when power is first applied to the Chip Factory. If it is less than version 6.6 you will need to purchase the low-cost upgrade (part CHI010R for red, CHI010B for black). This will provide you with brand new v7.7 firmware chips to insert into the Chip Factory – a simple 5 minute task.

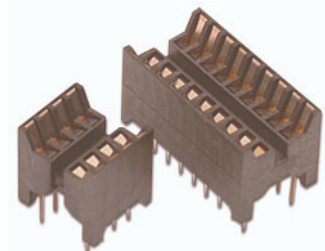
The upgraded software (v7) is free to schools who have purchased the v2 (or greater) site licence. Simply download the upgrade from www.rev-ed.co.uk

The Chip Factory now supports these microcontroller parts:

PIC Chip	Mode	In/Out	Price (approx.)	Firmware Version	Software Version	Notes
PIC16F84A	18	4 inputs 8 outputs	£2.45	1.1	1.0.0	obsolete, use PIC16F627
PIC16F872	28	8 in + 4 ADC 8 outputs	£2.95	3.3	3.0.0	Chip Factory Pro only
PIC16F627	18L	4 in + 2 ADC 8 outputs	£1.85	4.4	4.0.0	low res. analogue
PIC12F629	8	2 inputs 4 outputs	£0.85	6.6	6.0.0	8 pin
PIC16F819	18A	4 in + 2 ADC 8 outputs	£2.45	7.7	7.0.0	high res. analogue

NEW LOW-COST LIF SOCKETS!

By popular request we are pleased to announce we now stock lower cost 18 and 8 pin low-insert-force sockets, with standard IC pin spacing (parts CON032 and CON033)



The Chip Factory is endorsed by the Technology Enhancement Programme