

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [\[Arduino\] The worst coding forums hands down!](#)

datguy.dev - August 7, 2019, 6:48 pm

Greetings,

I've been around various related forums in my ~20 years coding. I've read and checked out some forums that are to be avoided because they can be a bit harsh. But nothing I have come across, coding related or not, 4chan, 8chan None have anything on the abomination that is the Arduino forums!

The way I'd could only best describe the Arduino forums is it's a giant cesspool of socially absent users that accumulate smugness and fart unprecedented counter productivity. That is all they do ... And that isn't my opinion. It's fact. I have been using Arduinos since I was 17. The Arduino forums are the first result when you need help. Yet, I have never found a solution on them. Other forums might call you bad names or whatever. But using the Arduino forums is purely a waste your valuable time which is the biggest insult I can think of? I haven't ever been banned from a forum in my life. But I intentionally banned my own account from these forums as a reminder to my future self!

For a taste:

(Aug 4, 2019 10:25 AM)DashHax\ Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I'm building my project which uses 5 ultrasonic sensors and 5 vibration motors running on Arduino UNO clone. And as everyone knows, the ultrasonic sensors are connected to the digital pins in the UNO, where 5 sensors requiring 2 pins each, hence 10 pins usage, which leaves me no options but to use the analog pin as output. No problem so far, since I can use the analog pin to control a transistor to control the vibration motors.

But what I'm trying to achieve is the ability to change the vibrations of the motors through PWM. How can I output PWM signal to the transistors from the analog pins, since I've run out of digital pins?

Thank you very much.

PS: Buying another board is not an options for me, nor buying ANY other components, as I don't have instant access to electronic shops here in Malaysia.

(Aug 4, 2019 10:25 AM)Paul__B Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) As everyone has pointed out, you seem to be rather muddle-headed about your allocation of pins.

In addition, is there a reason why all five "ping" sensors cannot share the same "ping" pin? The only obvious disadvantage is that they all draw current at the same time.

There might be some concern about picking up pings from adjacent sensors but does that actually matter? In any case, you could probably divide them into two groups so that opposite sides were pinged together and the risk of spurious echoes is negligible.

Nearly every response contains a complete absence of a solution specific to the application. When they're not flaunting big words or big brains, they fallback to questioning and pushing directions which are not related to the application. Which is a damn shame when you consider new comers. I'm experienced with Arduinos and will not touch those forums with a 10ft pole.

SteezyLeff - August 7, 2019, 8:14 pm

Yikes. I'm interested in getting into Arduino, low-level programming and such. Good to know, as I haven't checked out the forums yet.

CynicalCheshire - August 7, 2019, 8:42 pm

I played with Arduino a few years back and it was fun but I ended up using a Raspberry Pi. I'm interested in picking up an Arduino again but after your experience It seems forums won't be of best help. Maybe we can get Omniscient to open up an Arduino Section, if one doesn't already exist.

datguy.dev - August 7, 2019, 8:54 pm

(Aug 7, 2019 08:42 PM)CynicalCheshire Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I played with Arduino a few years back and it was fun but I ended up using a Raspberry Pi. I'm interested in picking up an Arduino again but after your experience It seems forums won't be of best help. Maybe we can get Omniscient to open up an Arduino Section, if one doesn't already exist.

Most questions are C++ related. Well, unless it is hardware specific to the Arduino or say if a project will work. Most talk can be had in the [embedded](#) section here on HF. But get into it! It all depends on your budget to what you use. Though "Arduinos" are not the top dog anymore tbh. I still buy them. But it's a bit like why people use Raspberry Pis - popularity & support. STM32 boards can be had at \$2 that are more powerful than any Arduino, even the clones, at their price points.

selfloding - August 7, 2019, 10:12 pm

There was a post about this on Reddit around a year ago, yeah, it still looks bad in my opinion, but to be fair a lot of people want to be spoon fed answers.

CynicalCheshire - August 8, 2019, 7:25 pm

(Aug 7, 2019 08:54 PM)datguy.dev Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Most questions are C++ related. Well, unless it is hardware specific to the Arduino or say if a project will work. Most talk can be had in the [embedded](#) section here on HF. But get into it! It all depends on your budget to what you use. Though "Arduinos" are not the top dog anymore tbh. I still buy them. But it's a bit like why people use Raspberry Pis - popularity & support. STM32 boards can be had at \$2 that are more powerful than any Arduino, even the clones, at their price points.

Thanks for the heads up. I'll take a look at STM32 boards. Always nice to get cheap hardware. I'm not doing anything urgent just playing around with ideas so semi-disposable boards are a plus lol.

datguy.dev - August 8, 2019, 8:34 pm

(Aug 8, 2019 07:25 PM)CynicalCheshire Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Thanks for the heads up. I'll take a look at STM32 boards. Always nice to get cheap hardware. I'm not doing anything urgent just playing around with ideas so semi-disposable boards are a plus lol.

Then another type of dev boards you might be interested in are the ESP8266 (wifi only) and ESP32 (wifi and bluetooth). They're \$3-5 each. The wireless comms gives you built in means for making your own IoT devices easily. You can also do something of a webserver and do some interesting things with data from there. Combine the ESP32 with a relay module and you have a "smart switch." Combine the ESP32 with a multiplexer and you can make your own Nanoleaf display for a few dollar compared to the \$200 it costs retail.

You may program them just like any Arduino. But they can also be programmed via LUA & MicroPython. That is not as easy as using the Arduino IDE, but cool nonetheless.

Owl - August 10, 2019, 7:48 am

(Aug 7, 2019 06:48 PM)datguy.dev Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) accumulate smugness and fart unprecedented counter productivity

(Aug 7, 2019 06:48 PM)datguy.dev Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) flaunting big words

And how is this thread any different

Onireves - August 10, 2019, 8:07 am

That's so true, I don't think I ever found the solution to the problems I have with my projects in Arduino Forums Imao.

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Started using ESP32 last year, and I'm in love with it.

In my opinion it's the best micro-controller of the year.

Tensy 4.0 seems promising, but doesn't have built in BLE and WiFi built in.

datguy.dev - August 10, 2019, 9:22 am

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Tensy 4.0 seems promising, but doesn't have built in BLE and WiFi built in.

Or an SD card. I have a bunch of Teensy LCs I have yet to use for something... But pair it with an ESP32 to act as a driver for a display and do serial comms between them maybe?

(Aug 10, 2019 07:48 AM)Owl Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) And how is this thread any different

Was that a rhetorical question? If not, this is only one thread. From your point of view, this thread would be hundreds of thousands thread on the Arduino forums. ? But I don't think this thread is counter productive. There really isn't a solution for those forums at this point. Although, I've wasted a lot of time and effort on them. Maybe this thread will prevent others from doing the same. If you think myself or this thread is smug, I don't really care. It's a fact we're all smug to some point just given the rating system's here on HF.

CynicalCheshire - August 20, 2019, 8:13 pm

(Aug 8, 2019 08:34 PM)datguy.dev Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Then another type of dev boards you might be interested in are the ESP8266 (wifi only) and ESP32 (wifi and bluetooth). They're \$3-5 each. The wireless comms gives you built in means for making your own IoT devices easily. You can also do something of a webserver and do some interesting things with data from there. Combine the ESP32 with a relay module and you have a "smart switch." Combine the ESP32 with a multiplexer and you can make your own Nanoleaf display for a few dollar compared to the \$200 it costs retail.

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I really like python so thanks for the recommendations. I don't use bluetooth as much but like wifi and nfc a lot so cheap comm boards are always fun lol.

