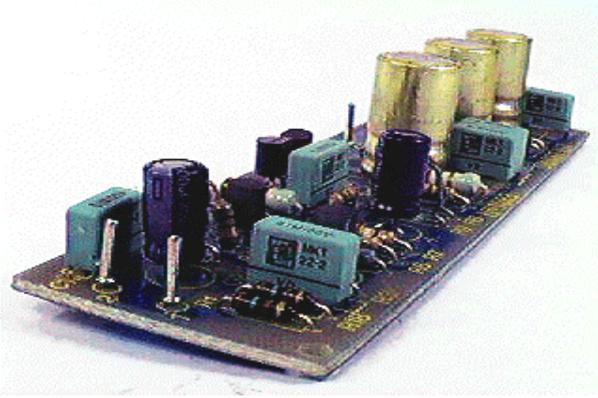


QUASAR KIT No. 1083 - VIDEO SIGNAL AMPLIFIER



General Description

Video cassette recorders are becoming ever so popular and as it was to be expected the market is flooding with accessories that make the use of the VCR easier and enhance its operation. The circuit that we offer to you here is a broad band amplifier which will take the video signals from your VCR and will amplify them sufficiently to drive up to 3 monitors, TV sets (provided that they can accept direct video signals), or other VCR's for recording from one video to up to three others.

It will also make possible to record from one video to two others and at the same time have a monitor connected to check what you are recording. The amplifier is also very useful if the video recorder is far from the monitor.

Technical Specifications - Characteristics

Working voltage: 12V DC

Current: 100 mA

How it Works

The circuit uses five transistors and is a broad band amplifier with a bandwidth of 5 MHz. The signal is applied at points 1 and 2 (ground) and is taken through C1 to the first stage which is a preamplifier and is built around Q1. In the output of Q1 are DC coupled Q2,3 which amplify the signal more, and as they are DC coupled to the preamplifier there is virtually no distortion and the amplification is quite high. Finally the signal from the out put Q3 is fed to the output transistors which are Q4 & Q5. These two transistors are complementary and the signal from their common emitters is taken to the signal distribution R-C network from where it is sent to the various devices which are driven by the circuit.

The circuit needs a 12 VDC power supply and it is much better if it is a stabilised one like

the circuit printed elsewhere in the instructions.

Construction

First of all let us consider a few basics in building electronic circuits on a printed circuit board. The board is made of a thin insulating material clad with a thin layer of conductive copper that is shaped in such a way as to form the necessary conductors between the various components of the circuit. The use of a properly designed printed circuit board is very desirable as it speeds construction up considerably and reduces the possibility of making errors. Quasar Kit boards also come pre-drilled and with the outline of the components and their identification printed on the component side to make construction easier. To protect the board during storage from oxidation and assure it gets to you in perfect condition the copper is tinned during manufacturing and covered with a special varnish that protects it from getting oxidised and also makes soldering easier.

Soldering the components to the board is the only way to build your circuit and from the way you do it depends greatly your success or failure. This work is not very difficult and if you stick to a few rules you should have no problems. The soldering iron that you use must be light and its power should not exceed the 25 Watts. The tip should be fine and must be kept clean at all times. For this purpose come very handy specially made sponges that are kept wet and from time to time you can wipe the hot tip on them to remove all the residues that tend to accumulate on it.

DO NOT file or sandpaper a dirty or worn out tip. If the tip cannot be cleaned, replace it.

There are many different types of solder in the market and you should choose a good quality one that contains the necessary flux in its core, to assure a perfect joint every time.

DO NOT use soldering flux apart from that which is already included in your solder. Too much flux can cause many problems and is one of the main causes of circuit malfunction.

If nevertheless you have to use extra flux, as it is the case when you have to tin copper wires, clean it very thoroughly after you finish your work.

In order to solder a component correctly you should do the following:

- Clean the component leads with a small piece of emery paper.
- Bend them at the correct distance from the component's body and insert the component in its place on the board.
- You may find sometimes a component with heavier gauge leads than usual, that are too thick to enter in the holes of the p.c. board. In this case use a mini drill to enlarge the holes slightly. Do not make the holes too large as this is going to make soldering difficult afterwards.
- Take the hot iron and place its tip on the component lead while holding the end of the solder wire at the point where the lead emerges from the board. The iron tip must touch the lead slightly above the p.c. board.
- When the solder starts to melt and flow, wait till it covers evenly the area around the hole and the flux boils and gets out from underneath the solder. The whole operation should not take more than 5 seconds. Remove the iron and leave the solder to cool naturally without blowing on it or moving the component. If everything was done properly the surface of the joint must have a bright metallic finish and its edges should be smoothly ended on the component lead and the board track. If the solder looks dull, cracked, or has the shape of a blob then you have made a dry joint and you should remove the solder (with a pump, or a solder wick) and redo it.
- Take care not to overheat the tracks as it is very easy to lift them from the board and break them.
- When you are soldering a sensitive component it is good practice to hold the lead from

the component side of the board with a pair of long-nose pliers to divert any heat that could possibly damage the component.

- Make sure that you do not use more solder than it is necessary as you are running the risk of short-circuiting adjacent tracks on the board, especially if they are very close together.
- When you finish your work cut off the excess of the component leads and clean the board thoroughly with a suitable solvent to remove all flux residues that may still remain on it.
- The construction should not present any difficulties if you follow the circuit diagram carefully and place the components in their place as it is outlined on the component side of the p.c. board.

Solder first of all the pins, then the resistors, the capacitors making sure that the electrolytic are connected correctly with respect to their polarity and finally insert the transistors in their places and solder them very carefully as overheating during soldering can destroy them.

When all the components have been soldered make a careful inspection of the circuit and if you are satisfied that there are no mistakes make the following connections:

- Supply voltage at points 3 (+12 VDC) and 4 (-).
- Input signal at points 1 (signal) and 2 (common).
- Outputs 5,6,7 (signal) and 4 (common).

As it is only two of the outputs are connected initially. To enable the third you should also connect the positive leads of C7 and C9 together.

Adjustments

This kit does not need any adjustments, if you follow the building instructions.

Warning

Quasar kits are sold as stand alone training kits. If they are used as part of a larger assembly and any damage is caused, our company bears no responsibility.

While using electrical parts, handle power supply and equipment with great care, following safety standards as described by international specs and regulations.

If it does not work

Check the power supply to make sure there are at least 6 VDC across the circuit, and that the polarity is correct.

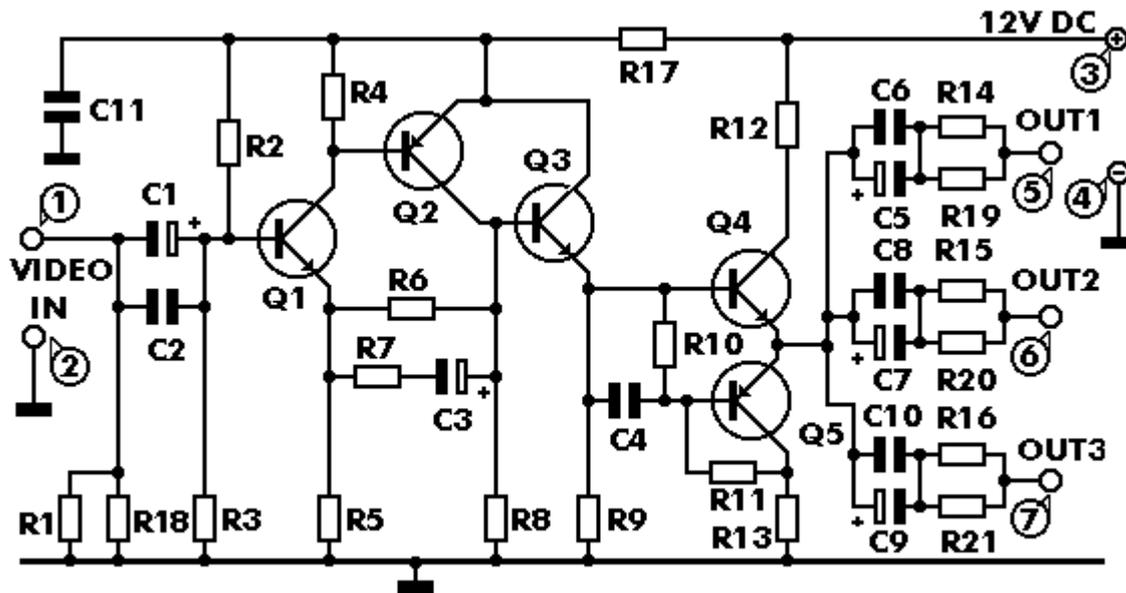
Make sure the transistors are in the right places and the right way round. It is very easy to confuse TR3 with TR1 & TR2 because they have similar cases.

See that the speaker is connected properly to the output.

Check your work for possible dry joints, bridges across adjacent tracks or soldering flux residues that usually cause problems.

If your project still fails to work, please contact us for information on our Get-You-Going service.

Electronic Diagram



Parts List

All components including printed circuit board, assembly instructions including schematics and detailed parts list are supplied when you purchase the kit.

Ordering

For pricing info and online ordering please visit:

<http://www.quasarelectronics.com/1083.htm>

For further info please contact us by e-mail:

[mailto: sales@QuasarElectronics.com](mailto:sales@QuasarElectronics.com)

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