

Finding and Ordering Electronic Parts

By Steve D. Tucker

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Local Stores

Electronics Expeditors

4943 Highway 49 South

Harrisburg, NC 28075

(704) 455-9222

This place has a lot of general items such as resistors, sockets, and connectors. Some of the items are not on display and you should ask if they have it. They will order items for you as well. Call to check if they have the parts in stock.

Slayton Computer and Electronics at Sugar Creek and I-85 service road. 5112 N I-85 Service Rd.

(704) 596-7770; (800) 768-6600

This place is mostly geared to computers but they do carry some parts (sometimes generic). They have bins for surplus parts around the store which may contain parts that may help in your projects however most of these items may only be of interest if you collect parts for other hobbies.

Radio Shack

Radio Shack at one time carried a selection of resistors, which will be helpful to the students who do not calculate or miscalculates the values needed for the assignments. Two nice items they use to have that may be helpful are 1) the assortment pack of resistor values and 2) the breadboard selection. They have solderless breadboards and fiberglass boards with small copper pads for soldering.

Mail Order

Mail order often has some advantages with the number of items to select from as well as quantities discounts. Be careful with minimum quantities and minimum orders. Ordering in groups will reduce the cost of shipping and minimum order fees and helps you get quantity discounts.

Digi-Key (www.digi-key.com) – They will send you a free catalog.

This company has a great selection of parts and fast service. It is best to have a catalog and then order on-line or by phone. To get a catalog, go to the website and click the picture in the middle. A \$5.00 handling charge applies to all orders less than \$25.00.

Newark (www.newark.com) – They will send you a free catalog.

This company has a large selection too, but sometimes they don't always have it in stock. Again the easiest method is to find the part in the catalog and order on-line. Warning the catalog is very large. A \$5.00 handling charge applies to all orders less than \$25.00.

Jameco (www.jameco.com) – They will send you a free catalog.

Jameco sells surplus items. If you have an idea of what you are looking for you can find some really good deals. Sometimes have good solderless breadboard deals. A \$5.00 handling charge applies to all orders less than \$20.00.

Radioshack.com

A lot of the store items are only available by order now. They also have items on-line that they never had in the stores.

Other places to look:

Hosfelt Electronics, Inc. (www.hosfelt.com)

Mouser Electronics (www.mouser.com)

Allied Electronics (www.alliedelec.com)