IAT 884 – Tangible Computing
Week 1
Basic Electronics

Preparation:

Read *Physical Computing*: Introduction, chapter 1, chapter 2 (p. 11-25 only), and chapter 3.

You can find it online here: http://proquest.safaribooksonline.com.proxy.lib.sfu.ca/159200346X

In Class Exercise

For this workshop you will be building some basic circuits. You will also draw a schematic diagram representing each one.

You do not need to solder these circuits, however if you feel confident and wish to try using the soldering gun you are welcome to.

Material (Provided in your kits)

Bread Board
9 Volt Battery
1 x Battery Connector
1 x LED
1 x Switch
1x 1k Ohm Resistor
1x 390 Ohm Resistor
1 x Photo Resistor/ Flex Sensor/ Other Sensor
Wire: Solid Core

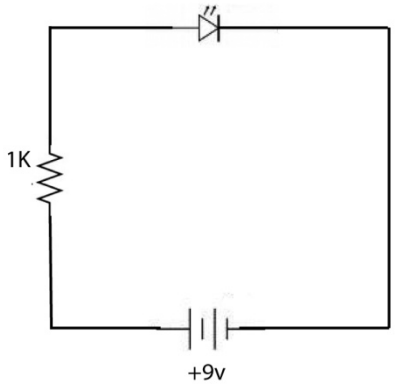
Tasks:

1. Build circuits to accomplish each of the following tasks:
   - Light an LED
   - Use a switch to control the state of an LED
   - Dim an LED by incorporating it into a voltage divider circuit. (See attached worksheet how to build this). *

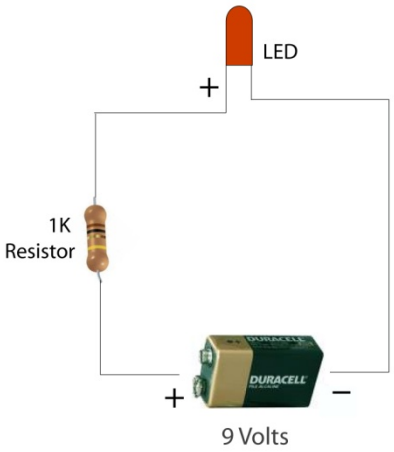
2. Draw a schematic diagram representing each circuit

* Definition of Voltage Divider: P. 95 in Physical Computing

Basic Circuits



Basic LED Circuit



LEDs require a resistor to keep them from burning out immediately. To determine the value of this resistor you use the following formula.

The resistor value R is given by:

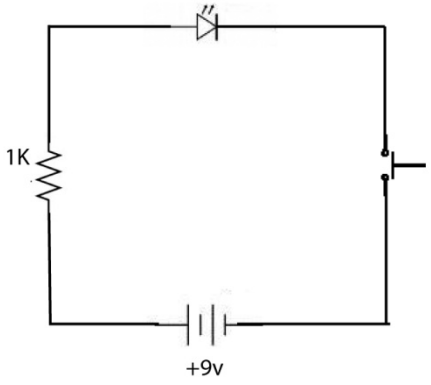
$R = (V_S - V_L) / I$

V_S = supply voltage (9 Volts in this case)
V_L = LED voltage (~ 2V for Red LEDs)
I = LED current (~ 20mA). Your circuit must provide more current than your components require.

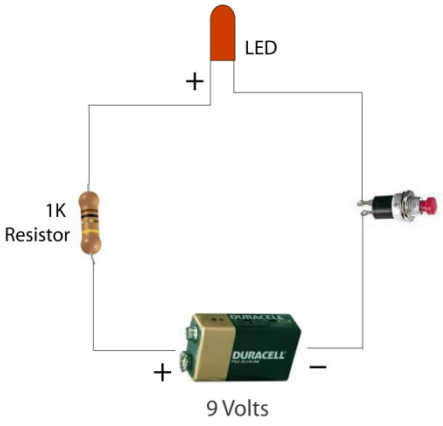
So, if we plug our values into the equation we get:

R = (9V - 2V) / 0.02A = 350Ω,

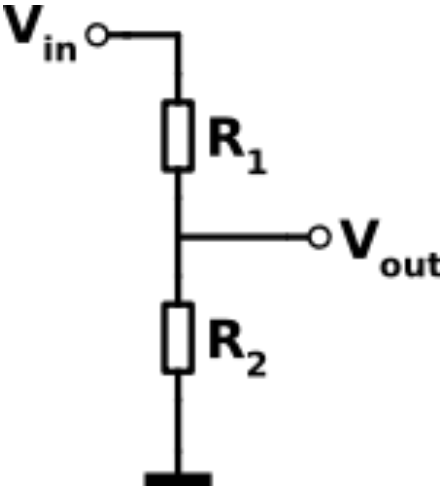
Anything greater than this value is suitable, the higher the value of the resistor, the dimmer the LED will glow. You could choose a 390Ω resistor, but we will use a 1KΩ resistor.



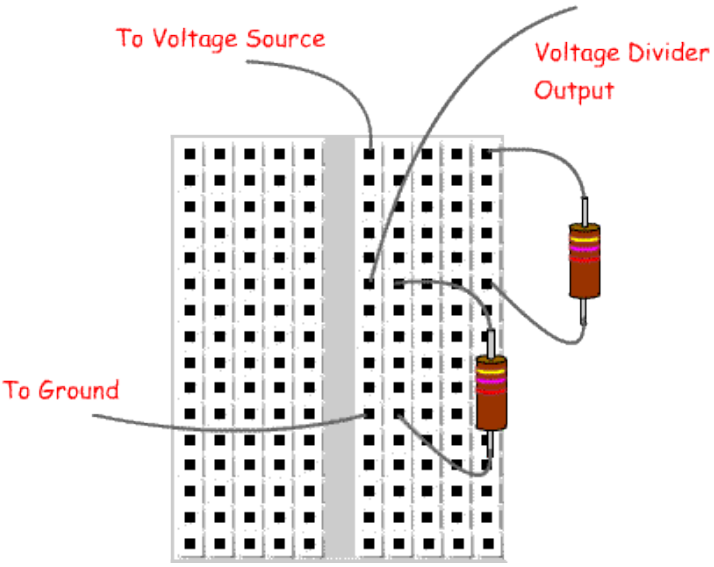
LED Circuit with Switch



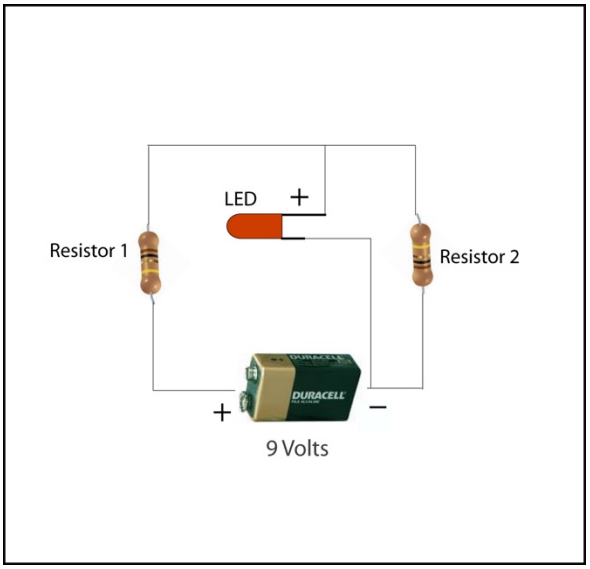
Voltage Divider Circuits



Voltage Divider Schematic



Voltage Divider Circuit on a breadboard



Voltage Divider Circuit with an LED

STANDARD SCHEMATIC SYMBOLS

The symbols below are standard in radio, TV and electronics diagrams. Popular components are represented. An industry-wide attempt is being made to standardize schematic diagrams. All current diagrams will be enough like these to easily identify the components. Note the two methods used to indicate a wire connection and a crossover. Both are in common use, but the curved wire crossover and dotted connection is preferred.

The symbol for a ground point may indicate an actual connection to the metal chassis, or a connection to a common lead, usually the B– voltage point. All ground points may usually be assumed to be connected together electrically.