001 PROTOTYPING BOARD FOR COMPUTER EXTENSIONS

This printed circuit board is ideal for building and testing experimental extension circuits for a wide range of computers. The double-sided, but not through-plated, board has contact fingers that enable it to be accepted in commonly used slot connectors for extension circuits in many types of computer, including those in the MSX and IBM PC series. In addition, the board holds 3 general-purpose buffer chips which can be wired to requirement to ensure correct and safe interfacing between the computer and the extension circuit being developed. Supply tracks are provided in the buffer and prototyping area on the board for ease of wiring. When required, a number of contact fingers can be cut off to suit a particular slot width, or to prevent the board being fitted the wrong way around in the slot. Also, the contact fingers are relatively long so that a section of this PCB area can be cut off for use as an adaptor together with a purchased slot connector. It is also possible to fit a slot connector at right angles at either side of the PCB as shown by the printed markers.

The pin connections of the Type 74HCT245 octal transceiver, and the Type 74HCT541 octal three-state line buffer are given here for reference. These chips are suggested for use as databus and addressbus buffers respectively, because they have inputs and outputs arranged at opposite sides of the 20-way DIL enclosure. The user is, however, left completely free to choose his own bus buffers in accordance with the interfacing requirements. Remember to ground unused inputs on HCT chips!