

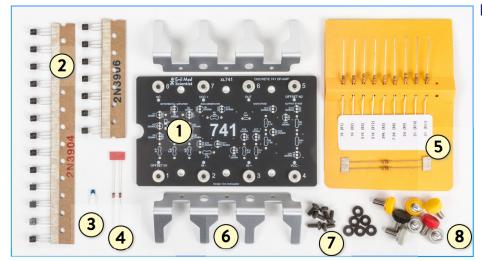


xL741 Discrete Operational Amplifier

Re-create one of the most classic, popular, and all-around useful chips of all time.

v 2.0

Kit Assembly Instructions



Kit Contents:

1. Circuit board with threaded inserts

· 2N3904 (13 pcs.) **2.** Transistors:

· 2N3906 (7 pcs.)

3. Capacitor: 33 pF Ceramic

4. Diodes: BAT85 (2 pcs.)

5. Resistors: • 4.7 k (2 pcs.)

• 9 others in resistor wallet

6. Aluminum "IC Legs" stand (two halves)

7. Mounting screws & spacers for "IC Legs" stand (6 pcs. each)

8. Thumbscrews with color-coded caps:

· Gray, Yellow (3 each)

· Red, Black (1 each)



Required Tools and Materials (not included with kit):

A. Soldering iron

Recommended: 25-50 W pencil type, e.g., Weller WLC100

B. Solder

Recommended: Rosin-core solder, 0.020 - 0.035" diameter

C. Small "flush" wire clippers

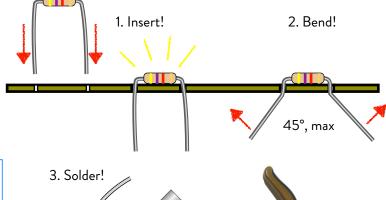
Recommended: Sears Craftsman #45660 diagonal cutting pliers

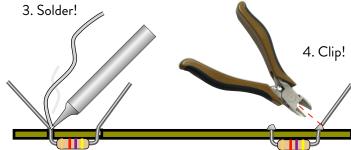
D. Phillips head screwdriver, "#2" size

Basics: How to Solder Components to a Circuit Board

- **0.** For resistors or diodes only, pre-bend the leads as shown
- 1. Insert a component at its given location. Push it down gently, as far as it will go.

- · Resistors should go down flush to the board.
- Other components may not quite sit flush.
- 2. Gently bend its leads out, up to 45°, to hold it in place while you solder.
- 3. One at a time, from the back side, solder the leads of the component to the circuit board.
 - i. The tip of your iron needs to be shiny (tinned) for soldering to work well. If it isn't, melt some fresh solder against it and quickly swipe it clean against a wet sponge.
 - ii. Place the solder against the joint that you wish to connect.
 - iii. Touch the iron to the solder and joint for about one second. Count it out: "one thousand one."
 - iv. The solder should melt to the joint and leave a shiny wet-looking joint. If not, let it cool and try again.
- 4. From the bottom side, clip the excess leads, close to the board. (But, not so close that you're clipping the board itself.)





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Assembly Step 1: Add the Resistors and the Capacitor

- 1. Identify the two "loose" 4.7 k resistors (color code: yellow, violet, red, gold)
- 2. Install the first 4.7 k resistor at location **R4**. Pre-bend its leads, insert it (either orientation), solder, and clip as described earlier (in "How to Solder Components to the Circuit Board").
- **3.** Install the other 4.7 k resistor, in the same way, at location **R7**.
- 4. Install the other 9 resistors, in the locations given by the table:
- 5. Install the 33 pF capacitor at location C1. Solder and clip its two leads.

Value	Color Code	Location(s)
1kΩ	brown, black, red, gold	R1,R2
51 kΩ	green, brown, orange, gold	R3,R12
$39 \mathrm{k}\Omega$	orange, white, orange, gold	R5
$7.5~\mathrm{k}\Omega$	violet, green, red, gold	R8
24 Ω	red, yellow, black, gold	R9
51 Ω	green, brown, black, gold	R10,R11

33 pF Capacitor

BAT85 diode

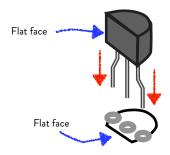
Assembly Step 2: Add the Diodes

 Identify the two BAT85 diodes. These are copper-colored glass beads, each with a black stripe on one end. Install them at locations D1 and D2.
 Orientation matters! Match the end with the stripe to the stripe on the circuit board. Aside: These diodes do not appear in the original 741 schematic. They are added to match more closely the properties of the original transistors on the die. The circuit will work without them (e.g., with wires instead) but is limited to a differential input voltage (difference between pins 2 and 3) in the range of ±11 V.

Assembly Step 3: Add the Transistors

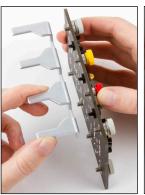
- 1. Identify the strip of thirteen 2N3904 transistors, and gently remove them from the tape.
- **2.** Install the first 2N3904 transistor at location **Q1**. Transistor orientation is **very important**. Match the *flat face* of the transistor to the *flat face* of the drawing on the circuit board.
 - Double check! Installing a transistor backwards is the most common assembly error.)

 Push the transistor in gently, as far as it will go, and then solder and clip its leads.
- 3. Install the remaining 2N3904 transistors at Q2, Q5-7, Q10-11, Q14-18, and Q22.
- 4. Install the 2N3906 transistors (with equal care) at locations Q3-4, Q8-9, Q12-13, and Q20.



Assembly Step 4: Terminal Posts and Stand

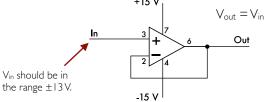
- 1. Thread in the eight thumbscrew terminal posts by hand: Gray at pins 1, 5, and 8. Yellow at 2, 3, and 6. Black at 4, and Red at 7.
- 2. Install the first half of the "IC Legs" stand:
- i. Hold the circuit board up on its side as shown. From the top side, slip a black screw through each of the three holes between the thumbscrews. Then from the bottom, slip one black plastic spacer over each of those screws.
- **ii.** Move the first half of the anodized aluminum "IC Legs" stand into position and guide its three pilot holes onto the three black screws. Begin engaging the screws to trap the spacers in place.
- $\it iii.$ Alternating amongst the three, tighten the three screws until just firm; do not over-tighten.
- **3.** Repeat the steps to install the other half of the stand. Once you have finished both sides, you may wish to momentarily loosen the screws slightly to straighten the stand with respect to the circuit board.





Testing and using your new 741 Op-Amp

- The x_L741 Op-Amp can be used as a direct substitute for a μ a741 op-amp IC in most circuits. See the x_L741 v2.0 datasheet for detailed electrical specifications and much more information.
- Suggested simple test circuit: Voltage follower, or "analog buffer"



• You can find additional resources about this kit and about the 741 op-amp on our documentation wiki. Please visit: wiki.evilmadscientist.com/741



You can connect to the 741 through bare wire, alligator clips, or spade or ring lugs, using the terminal posts. You can also directly solder wires to the small pins next to each terminal post, if you're careful to clip the wires such that they don't touch the aluminum legs.



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