

Features

10 DVD Players: How Good Are They For HiFi Audio?

Dedicated audio CD players are now relatively expensive so what are the compromises in using a cheap DVD player instead? – by Mauro Grassi

18 Agilent DS05054A 4GS/s 500MHz Digital Scope

Looking for a high-end digital scope? This new model from Agilent really has the goods – by Mauro Grassi

Projects To Build

26 Oscar: Electronic Noughts & Crosses Game

The first Oscar used 70 telephone relays & was as big as a fridge. The 2007 version uses a PIC micro and fits in a zippy box! – by Brian Healy

32 PICProbe: A Versatile Logic Probe

This PIC-based logic probe fits inside a pen case and works down to 2.7V. Build it as your first surface-mount-device project – by Ross Purdy

40 Rolling Code Security System; Pt.1

Versatile IR unit is ideal for keyless entry and features an alarm system, two door-strike outputs and provision for up to 16 transmitters – by John Clarke

68 Simple Data-Logging Weather Station; Pt.2

Second article has all the details on the mechanical construction, including the tipping rain bucket and the temperature sensor housing – by Glenn Pure

82 AM Loop Antenna & Amplifier

Build it to improve your AM reception and to listen to long-distance AM stations you only dreamed existed – by Branko Justic & Ross Tester

Special Columns

63 Serviceman's Log

Fix it in the carpark! – by the TV Serviceman

92 Circuit Notebook

(1) Bi-Directional Variable Speed Drive With Regenerative Braking; (2) Pea & Thimble Or 3-Card Trick; (3) Emergency Lights Controller; (4) Two Novel LED Flashers; (5) Adjustable Q For Subwoofer Equaliser

98 Vintage Radio

Nazi Germany's Peoples' Radio (Volksempfaenger) – by Rodney Champness