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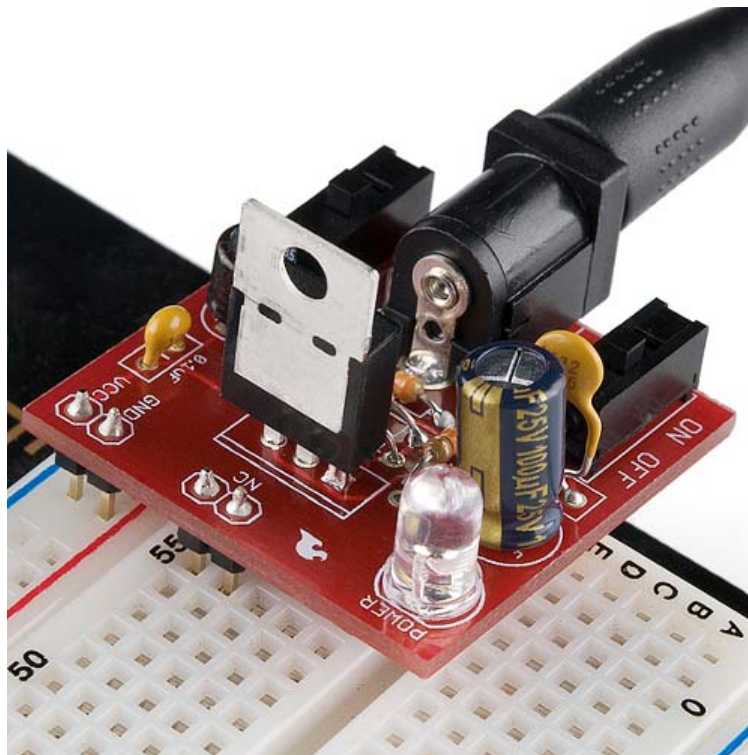
## Breadboard Power Supply Kit 5V/3.3V Quickstart Guide

by JordanDee | June 30, 2011

Skill Level: ★ Beginner

### Overview:

The Breadboard Power Supply Kit allows your breadboard projects to easily access a selectable voltage regulated to either 3.3Volts or 5Volts. It receives its power through a DC wall wart like this one. Any stripped +/- DC supply can also be connected instead of the barrel connector if desired. This guide will help with everything you need to get started with the Breadboard Power Supply.



Breadboard Power Supply Kit 5V/3.3V

### Requirements:

This kit comes as a bag of parts and requires assembly with the use of a soldering iron and requires you to solder all the parts onto the printed circuit board yourself. You will need a few tools to be able to do this. Following is a list of recommended tools and assembly parts:

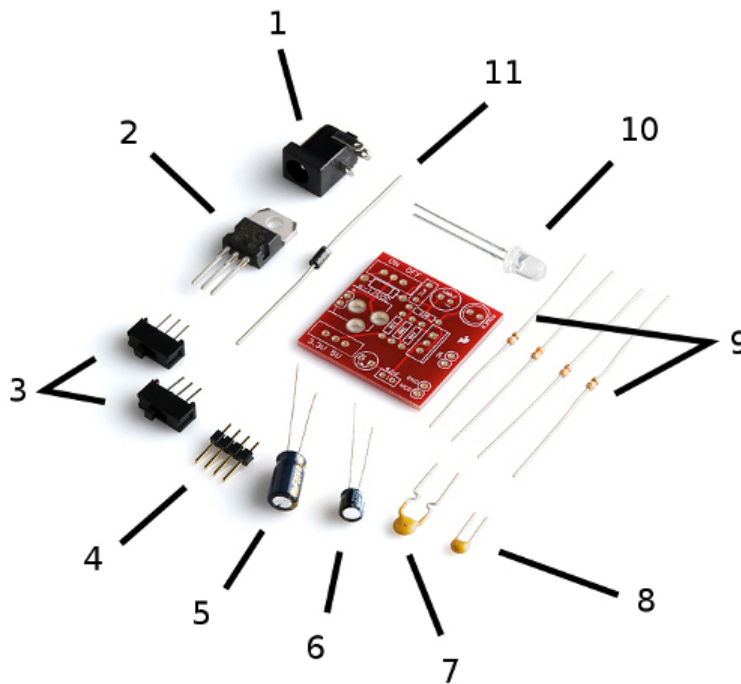
## Tools:

- Soldering Iron
- Solder
- Wire cutters
- Solder wick (optional - in case of mistakes)
- Multimeter (optional - for quick test after assembly)

## The Kit Contains:

1. DC Barrel Connector
2. Voltage Regulator (LM317 1.5A max current)
3. 2pcs SPDT Slide Switch
4. 4pcs 0.1" Header Pins
5. 100uF 25V Capacitor
6. 10uF 25V Capacitor
7. PTC resettable fuse
8. 0.1uF 50V Capacitor
9. Resistors: 330 Ohm 1/6W - Orange, Orange, Brown X2
9. 390 Ohm 1/6W - Orange, White, Brown X1
9. 240 Ohm Resistor 1/6W - Red, Yellow, Brown X1
10. Red Super-bright LED
11. 1N4004 Reverse Protection Diode
12. Bare PCB

Use the links above and the image below to identify any parts you are unfamiliar with. The numbers in the list above correlate with the numbers in both the images below to help you with assembly. Missing any parts? Drop our customer service team an email. We'll get them out to you as soon as possible.



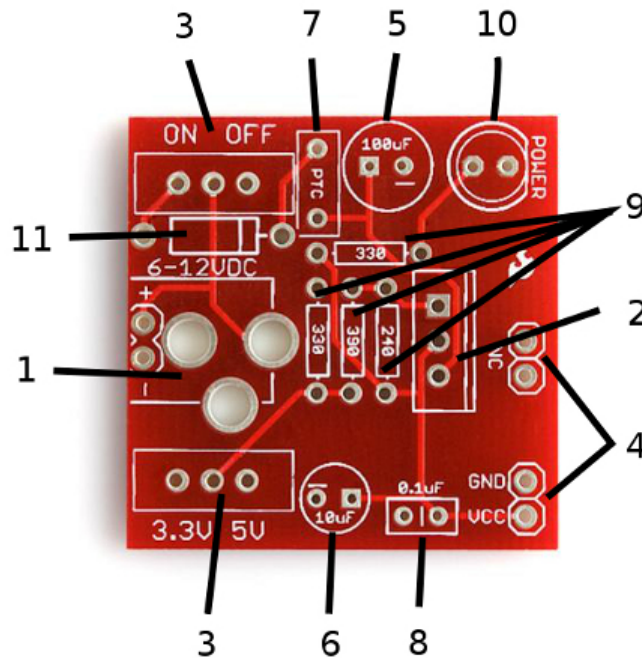
## How to use it:

### Assembly

With some beginning experience in soldering, assembly should be rather straightforward. If this is your first time soldering, we recommend taking a look at our soldering tutorials.

All the parts are to be soldered to the top of the board (the side with the silkscreen writing) with the exception of the headers. The .1" headers are mounted on the bottom of the PCB for simple insertion into a breadboard. We will assemble the kit in the order listed above. However, take note that the parts can technically be soldered in any

order, and often times, the easiest method is to start with the smaller components on the top (resistors, diode, small caps, etc.), then moving on to the larger components (voltage regulator, barrel jack, etc.) For this board though, it's not a huge concern because there is enough working room regardless of the order you choose. The whole process is estimated to take 30 minutes but varies based on your soldering skill level. Here is a photo of the PCB for reference:



Keep in mind the numbers of each part in the part list above matches the two images labeled with numbers as well as the instructions below. This should allow you to easily figure out what item needs to be soldered where.

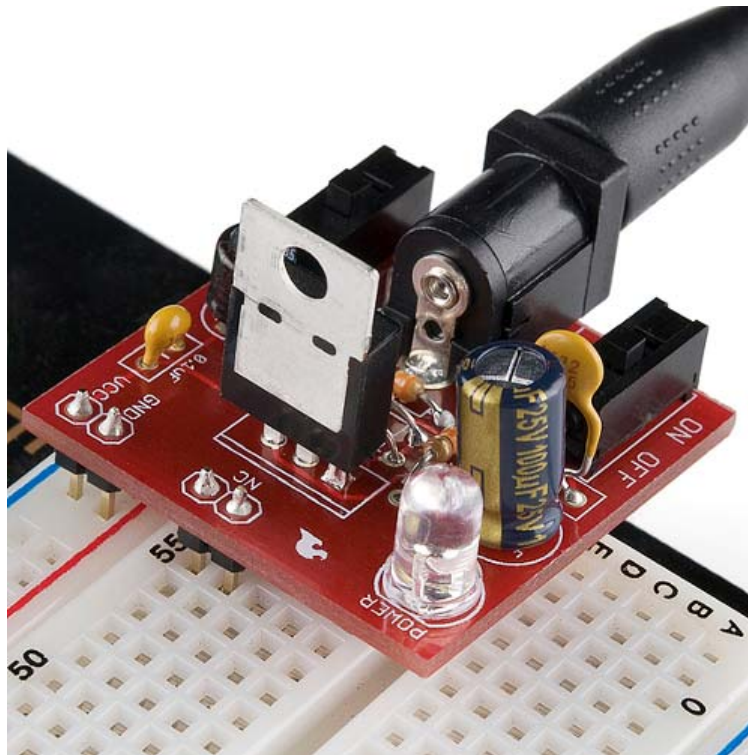
1. Place the DC barrel jack so that its 3 pins line up with those on the board.
2. Align the voltage regulator's back metal plate with the side of the silk screen that has the extra white strip. It's the right side in the picture of the PCB above.
3. Solder in a switch into both positions, orientation does not matter as long as all 3 pins are soldered in.
4. Break the header into two pieces of two pins. Place the shorter side of each header into the holes from the bottom side of the board. Reference the very first photo of this tutorial if you are confused. Solder the header in to imitate that photo. You want the long side of the pins facing downward so they can be plugged into a breadboard.
5. Place the large 100uF capacitor into its slot. Careful, as it is polarized, meaning it will only work if it's placed in the right direction. Align the minus sign of the capacitor with the minus sign on the silkscreen.
6. Place the slightly smaller 10uF capacitor into its slot. Just as we did in the last step, make sure it's in the right direction by matching the minus signs.
7. Put the PTC resettable fuse into its slot. Orientation does not matter.
8. Place the .1uF capacitor in its slot. Since this is a ceramic capacitor, orientation does not matter.
9. There are four spots for resistors on the printed circuit board. You can see that each one is labeled with a number. Those numbers are 330, 390, and 240. These numbers refer to the amount of resistance of each resistor measured in Ohms. The resistors are color coded and the colored stripes represent different numbers. Place the two resistors coded 'orange orange brown' into the slots marked '330'. Place the resistor marked with 'orange white brown' into the slot marked '390'. Last, place the resistor marked with 'red yellow brown' into the slot marked '240'. Orientation doesn't matter with resistors. For more on color coding, refer to this wiki.
10. Place the LED in its slot. Orientation does matter. Match the side with the flat edge and shorter leg, with the silkscreen side that also has the flat edge.
11. Place the diode into its slot. Orientation does matter. Match the stripe on one end of the diode with the same stripe on the silkscreen of the PCB.

Use wire cutters to snip any extra leads and if you accidentally soldered something into the wrong place, use solder wick to get rid of the solder, replace the component, and solder again. If you've never done something like that before, it's worth it to check out our soldering tutorials beforehand.

## How To Use It:

After it's all soldered, it's time to plug it into the breadboard. Line up the the VCC and GND header pins with the power rails on the breadboard. The other two header pins should fit into the breadboard as well as shown in the first photo. These two extra pins are only there for physical support and don't have any electrical connection on the PCB. Reference the photograph below if needed.

All that's left is connecting the wall wart to the barrel jack, selecting which voltage you want via one of the switches and using the other switch to turn it on. The red LED should light up. Careful, it's bright. Double check each voltage setting with a multimeter to make sure the proper voltage is being applied to the breadboard (3.3V or 5V depending on the switch settings).



## Conclusion:

Well, now that you have the *power*, it's time to build some circuits! Always feel free to share your projects with us! If you run into any trouble along the way, feel free to contact SparkFun Technical Support at [techsupport@sparkfun.com](mailto:techsupport@sparkfun.com).