

Theory 14

Microprocessors & Microcontrollers

A **microprocessor** is a rather versatile electronic integrated circuit that has a fixed set of instructions that allow it to do several things:

- It contains a Central Processing Unit (CPU) that performs basic mathematical computations (add, subtract, multiply, divide).
- It has the capability of interacting with a Basic Input Output System (BIOS) that starts a computer up by communicating with all the other functions within the computer. In particular, it can load and prepare for use the Operating System (OS) of the computer. In the PC world, the best known OS is Microsoft Windows, while in the Apple world the OS is the proprietary Apple Snow Leopard (OS-X).
- It can access external memory that stores the data used by the computer.
- It can access peripherals through the BIOS such as keyboards, printers, pointing devices (mice, trackballs, and tablets), sound devices, disk and CD players/recorders, input/output ports such as serial (RS-232) ports, universal serial bus (USB) ports, wireless ports, and all the other external hardware devices that a computer can have.

The history of the microprocessor starts in 1971 when the Nippon Calculating Company asked Intel to design a 4-chip set for their new adding machine. Intel responded that they would prefer to put all the functions that NCC wanted on a single chip, which they called a microprocessor. Thus was born the Intel 4004, which was a 4-bit device that operated at the blinding speed of 100 kHz. and contained 2,300 transistors. The 4004 could only provide two functions: addition and subtraction, but it did them at a speed that nobody had ever seen before.

The following year, Intel introduced the 8008, an 8 bit chip that processed 8 times faster than the 4004 and contained 3500 transistors. Two years later came the 8080, also an 8 bit machine with a 2 MHz. clock speed and 4500 transistors. Four years later (1978) produced the 8086, also an 8 bit machine, 3 times faster than the 8080 and 29,000 transistors.

From this data and extrapolating, Gordon Moore postulated that the number of transistors that could be placed on a microprocessor chip would double every two years and a comparable device would be half the price after 2 years. Moore's law has been uncannily accurate for nearly 40 years. In 2019, the AMD Ryzen 64 bit microprocessor runs at 4.7 GHz. with 3.9 BILLION transistors.

Date	Name	Developer	Clock	Process	Transistors (millions)	Cores per die / Dies per module	threads per core
2010	POWER7	IBM	3–4.14 GHz	45 nm	1200	4, 6, 8 / 1, 4	4
2010	Itanium "Tukwila"	Intel	2 GHz	65 nm	2000	2, 4 / 1	2
2010	Opteron "Magny-cours"	AMD	1.7–2.4 GHz	45 nm	1810	4, 6 / 2	1
2010	Xeon "Nehalem-EX"	Intel	1.73–2.66 GHz	45 nm	2300	4, 6, 8 / 1	2
2010	z196	IBM	3.8–5.2 GHz	45 nm	1400	4 / 1, 6	1
2010	SPARC T3	Sun	1.6 GHz	45 nm	2000	16 / 1	8
2010	SPARC64 VII+	Fujitsu	2.66–3.0 GHz	45 nm	?	4 / 1	2
2010	Intel "Westmere"	Intel	1.86–3.33 GHz	32 nm	1170	4–6 / 1	2

Date	Name	Developer	Clock	Process	Transistors (millions)	Cores per die / Dies per module	threads per core
2011	Intel "Sandy Bridge"	Intel	1.6–3.4 GHz	32 nm	995 ^[53]	2, 4 / 1	(1,) 2
2011	AMD Llano	AMD	1.0–1.6 GHz	40 nm	380 ^[54]	1, 2 / 1	1
2011	Xeon E7	Intel	1.73–2.67 GHz	32 nm	2600	4, 6, 8, 10 / 1	1–2
2011	Power ISA BGQ	IBM	1.6 GHz	45 nm	1470	18 / 1	4
2011	SPARC64 VIIIfx	Fujitsu	2.0 GHz	45 nm	760	8 / 1	2
2011	FX "Bulldozer" Interlagos	AMD	3.1–3.6 GHz	32 nm	1200 ^[55]	4–8 / 2	1
2011	SPARC T4	Oracle	2.8–3 GHz	40 nm	855	8 / 1	8
2012	SPARC64 IXfx	Fujitsu	1.848 GHz	40 nm	1870	16 / 1	2
2012	zEC12	IBM	5.5 GHz	32 nm	2750	6 / 6	1
2012	POWER7+	IBM	3.1–5.3 GHz	32 nm	2100	8 / 1, 2	4
2012	Itanium "Poulson"	Intel	1.73–2.53 GHz	32 nm	3100	8 / 1	2

Date	Name	Developer	Clock	Process	Transistors (millions)	Cores per die / Dies per module	threads per core
2013	Intel "Haswell"	Intel	1.9–4.4 GHz	22 nm	1400	4 / 1	2
2013	SPARC64 X	Fujitsu	2.8–3 GHz	28 nm	2950	16 / 1	2
2013	SPARC T5	Oracle	3.6 GHz	28 nm	1500	16 / 1	8
2014	POWER8	IBM	2.5–5 GHz	22 nm	4200	6, 12 / 1, 2	8
2015	z13	IBM	5 GHz	22 nm	3990	8 / 1	2
2015	A8-7670K	AMD	3.6 GHz	28 nm	2410	4 / 1	1
2017	Ryzen	AMD	3.2–4.1 GHz	14 nm	4800	8, 16, 32 / 1, 2, 4	2
2017	z14	IBM	5.2 GHz	14 nm	6100	10 / 1	2
2017	POWER9	IBM	4 GHz	14 nm	8000	12, 24 / 1	4, 8
2017	SPARC M8 ^[56]	Oracle	5 GHz	20 nm	~10,000 ^[57]	32	8
2019	Ryzen 2	AMD	2-4.7 GHz	7 nm	3900	6, 8, 12, 16, 24, 32, 64 / 1, 2, 4	

A **microcontroller** on the other hand is a specialized integrated circuit that contains all the peripheral devices described above (bios, memory, operating system, CPU, input/output ports) all on a single chip. Microcontrollers are generally dedicated to a specific task as opposed to a microprocessor that can be adapted to many different tasks. You would use a microprocessor in a personal computer; you would use a microcontroller to run a smart microwave oven.

There are several microcontroller manufacturers in the market today, but perhaps the best known is the Microchip Corporation with their venerable PIC line of microprocessors. Microchip started business in 1989 with a relatively unsophisticated 8-bit microcontroller operating at 20 MHz. What REALLY kicked Microchip off was the invention of what is called RISC (Reduced Instruction Set Code) that made programming the chips relatively simple and fast. That and keeping pricing WAY down was Microchip's secret weapon. While a fairly sophisticated microprocessor might run \$150 or so, a fairly sophisticated PIC can be had in the range of \$1 - \$3

In PARTICULAR, the PIC 16F688 (\$1.35 in small quantities) is going to be of some SIGNIFICANT use to us.

List of available PIC microcontrollers

PIC10F202	PIC12F629	PIC16C58B	PIC16C74A	PIC16F1519	PIC16F1709
PIC10F206	PIC12F635	PIC16C620	PIC16C74B	PIC16F1526	PIC16F1713
PIC10F222	PIC12F675	PIC16C620A	PIC16C76	PIC16F1527	PIC16F1716
PIC10F320	PIC12F683	PIC16C621	PIC16C765	PIC16F15313	PIC16F1717
PIC10F322	PIC12F752	PIC16C621A	PIC16C77	PIC16F15323	PIC16F1718
PIC10LF320	PIC12HV609	PIC16C622	PIC16C770	PIC16F15324	PIC16F1719
PIC10LF322	PIC12HV615	PIC16C622A	PIC16C771	PIC16F15325	PIC16F1764
PIC12C508	PIC12HV752	PIC16C62A	PIC16C773	PIC16F15344	PIC16F1765
PIC12C508A	PIC12LF1501	PIC16C62B	PIC16C774	PIC16F15345	PIC16F1768
PIC12C509	PIC12LF1552	PIC16C63	PIC16C781	PIC16F15354	PIC16F1769
PIC12C509A	PIC12LF1571	PIC16C63A	PIC16C782	PIC16F15355	PIC16F1773
PIC12C671	PIC12LF1572	PIC16C642	PIC16C923	PIC16F15356	PIC16F1776
PIC12C672	PIC12LF1612	PIC16C64A	PIC16C924	PIC16F15375	PIC16F1777
PIC12CE518	PIC12LF1822	PIC16C65A	PIC16C925	PIC16F15376	PIC16F1778
PIC12CE519	PIC12LF1840	PIC16C65B	PIC16C926	PIC16F15385	PIC16F1779
PIC12CE673	PIC16C432	PIC16C66	PIC16CE623	PIC16F15386	PIC16F1782
PIC12CE674	PIC16C433	PIC16C662	PIC16CE624	PIC16F1574	PIC16F1783
PIC12F1501	PIC16C505	PIC16C67	PIC16CE625	PIC16F1575	PIC16F1784
PIC12F1571	PIC16C54	PIC16C71	PIC16F1454	PIC16F1578	PIC16F1786
PIC12F1572	PIC16C54A	PIC16C710	PIC16F1455	PIC16F1579	PIC16F1787
PIC12F1612	PIC16C54C	PIC16C711	PIC16F1459	PIC16F1613	PIC16F1788
PIC12F1822	PIC16C55	PIC16C712	PIC16F1503	PIC16F1614	PIC16F1789
PIC12F1840	PIC16C554	PIC16C715	PIC16F1507	PIC16F1615	PIC16F1823
PIC12F508	PIC16C557	PIC16C716	PIC16F1508	PIC16F1618	PIC16F1824
PIC12F509	PIC16C558	PIC16C717	PIC16F1509	PIC16F1619	PIC16F1825
PIC12F510	PIC16C55A	PIC16C72	PIC16F1512	PIC16F1703	PIC16F1826
PIC12F519	PIC16C56	PIC16C72A	PIC16F1513	PIC16F1704	PIC16F1827
PIC12F609	PIC16C56A	PIC16C73A	PIC16F1516	PIC16F1705	PIC16F1828
PIC12F615	PIC16C57	PIC16C73B	PIC16F1517	PIC16F1707	PIC16F1829
PIC12F617	PIC16C57C	PIC16C745	PIC16F1518	PIC16F1708	PIC16F18313

PIC16F18323	PIC16F506	PIC16F724	PIC16F884	PIC16LF15345	PIC16LF1776
PIC16F18324	PIC16F526	PIC16F726	PIC16F886	PIC16LF15354	PIC16LF1777
PIC16F18325	PIC16F54	PIC16F727	PIC16F887	PIC16LF15355	PIC16LF1778
PIC16F18326	PIC16F57	PIC16F73	PIC16F913	PIC16LF15356	PIC16LF1779
PIC16F18344	PIC16F59	PIC16F737	PIC16F914	PIC16LF15375	PIC16LF1782
PIC16F18345	PIC16F610	PIC16F74	PIC16F916	PIC16LF15376	PIC16LF1783
PIC16F18346	PIC16F616	PIC16F747	PIC16F917	PIC16LF15385	PIC16LF1784
PIC16F1847	PIC16F627	PIC16F753	PIC16F946	PIC16LF15386	PIC16LF1786
PIC16F18854	PIC16F627A	PIC16F76	PIC16HV540	PIC16LF1574	PIC16LF1787
PIC16F18855	PIC16F628	PIC16F767	PIC16HV610	PIC16LF1575	PIC16LF1788
PIC16F18856	PIC16F628A	PIC16F77	PIC16HV616	PIC16LF1578	PIC16LF1789
PIC16F18857	PIC16F630	PIC16F777	PIC16HV753	PIC16LF1579	PIC16LF1823
PIC16F18875	PIC16F631	PIC16F785	PIC16HV785	PIC16LF1613	PIC16LF1824
PIC16F18876	PIC16F636	PIC16F818	PIC16LF1454	PIC16LF1614	PIC16LF1825
PIC16F18877	PIC16F639	PIC16F819	PIC16LF1455	PIC16LF1615	PIC16LF1826
PIC16F19155	PIC16F648A	PIC16F83	PIC16LF1459	PIC16LF1618	PIC16LF1827
PIC16F19156	PIC16F676	PIC16F84	PIC16LF1503	PIC16LF1619	PIC16LF1828
PIC16F19175	PIC16F677	PIC16F84A	PIC16LF1507	PIC16LF1703	PIC16LF1829
PIC16F19176	PIC16F684	PIC16F87	PIC16LF1508	PIC16LF1704	PIC16LF18313
PIC16F19185	PIC16F685	PIC16F870	PIC16LF1509	PIC16LF1705	PIC16LF18323
PIC16F19186	PIC16F687	PIC16F871	PIC16LF1512	PIC16LF1707	PIC16LF18324
PIC16F19195	PIC16F688	PIC16F872	PIC16LF1513	PIC16LF1708	PIC16LF18325
PIC16F19196	PIC16F689	PIC16F873	PIC16LF1516	PIC16LF1709	PIC16LF18326
PIC16F19197	PIC16F690	PIC16F873A	PIC16LF1517	PIC16LF1713	PIC16LF18344
PIC16F1933	PIC16F707	PIC16F874	PIC16LF1518	PIC16LF1716	PIC16LF18345
PIC16F1934	PIC16F716	PIC16F874A	PIC16LF1519	PIC16LF1717	PIC16LF18346
PIC16F1936	PIC16F72	PIC16F876	PIC16LF1526	PIC16LF1718	PIC16LF1847
PIC16F1937	PIC16F720	PIC16F876A	PIC16LF1527	PIC16LF1719	PIC16LF18854
PIC16F1938	PIC16F721	PIC16F877	PIC16LF15313	PIC16LF1764	PIC16LF18855
PIC16F1939	PIC16F722	PIC16F877A	PIC16LF15323	PIC16LF1765	PIC16LF18856
PIC16F1946	PIC16F722A	PIC16F88	PIC16LF15324	PIC16LF1768	PIC16LF18857
PIC16F1947	PIC16F723	PIC16F882	PIC16LF15325	PIC16LF1769	PIC16LF18875
PIC16F505	PIC16F723A	PIC16F883	PIC16LF15344	PIC16LF1773	PIC16LF18876

PIC16LF18877	PIC17C42A	PIC18F2420	PIC18F25K22	PIC18F442	PIC18F45K42
PIC16LF1902	PIC17C43	PIC18F2423	PIC18F25K40	PIC18F4420	PIC18F45K50
PIC16LF1903	PIC17C44	PIC18F2431	PIC18F25K42	PIC18F4423	PIC18F45K80
PIC16LF1904	PIC17C752	PIC18F2439	PIC18F25K50	PIC18F4431	PIC18F4610
PIC16LF1906	PIC17C756	PIC18F2450	PIC18F25K80	PIC18F4439	PIC18F4620
PIC16LF1907	PIC17C756A	PIC18F2455	PIC18F25K83	PIC18F4450	PIC18F4680
PIC16LF19155	PIC17C762	PIC18F2458	PIC18F2610	PIC18F4455	PIC18F4682
PIC16LF19156	PIC17C766	PIC18F248	PIC18F2620	PIC18F4458	PIC18F4685
PIC16LF19175	PIC18C242	PIC18F2480	PIC18F2680	PIC18F448	PIC18F46J11
PIC16LF19176	PIC18C252	PIC18F24J10	PIC18F2682	PIC18F4480	PIC18F46J13
PIC16LF19185	PIC18C442	PIC18F24J11	PIC18F2685	PIC18F44J10	PIC18F46J50
PIC16LF19186	PIC18C452	PIC18F24J50	PIC18F26J11	PIC18F44J11	PIC18F46J53
PIC16LF19195	PIC18C601	PIC18F24K20	PIC18F26J13	PIC18F44J50	PIC18F46K20
PIC16LF19196	PIC18C658	PIC18F24K22	PIC18F26J50	PIC18F44K20	PIC18F46K22
PIC16LF19197	PIC18C801	PIC18F24K40	PIC18F26J53	PIC18F44K22	PIC18F46K40
PIC16LF1933	PIC18C858	PIC18F24K42	PIC18F26K20	PIC18F4510	PIC18F46K42
PIC16LF1934	PIC18F1220	PIC18F24K50	PIC18F26K22	PIC18F4515	PIC18F46K80
PIC16LF1936	PIC18F1230	PIC18F2510	PIC18F26K40	PIC18F452	PIC18F47J13
PIC16LF1937	PIC18F1320	PIC18F2515	PIC18F26K42	PIC18F4520	PIC18F47J53
PIC16LF1938	PIC18F1330	PIC18F252	PIC18F26K80	PIC18F4523	PIC18F47K40
PIC16LF1939	PIC18F13K22	PIC18F2520	PIC18F26K83	PIC18F4525	PIC18F47K42
PIC16LF1946	PIC18F13K50	PIC18F2523	PIC18F27J13	PIC18F4539	PIC18F55K42
PIC16LF1947	PIC18F14K22	PIC18F2525	PIC18F27J53	PIC18F4550	PIC18F56K42
PIC16LF707	PIC18F14K50	PIC18F2539	PIC18F27K40	PIC18F4553	PIC18F57K42
PIC16LF720	PIC18F2220	PIC18F2550	PIC18F27K42	PIC18F458	PIC18F6310
PIC16LF721	PIC18F2221	PIC18F2553	PIC18F4220	PIC18F4580	PIC18F6390
PIC16LF722	PIC18F2320	PIC18F258	PIC18F4221	PIC18F4585	PIC18F6393
PIC16LF722A	PIC18F2321	PIC18F2580	PIC18F4320	PIC18F45J10	PIC18F63J11
PIC16LF723	PIC18F2331	PIC18F2585	PIC18F4321	PIC18F45J11	PIC18F63J90
PIC16LF723A	PIC18F23K20	PIC18F25J10	PIC18F4331	PIC18F45J50	PIC18F6410
PIC16LF724	PIC18F23K22	PIC18F25J11	PIC18F43K20	PIC18F45K20	PIC18F6490
PIC16LF726	PIC18F2410	PIC18F25J50	PIC18F43K22	PIC18F45K22	PIC18F6493
PIC16LF727	PIC18F242	PIC18F25K20	PIC18F4410	PIC18F45K40	PIC18F64J11

PIC18F64J90	PIC18F66J93	PIC18F8520	PIC18F86J99	PIC18LF24J50	PIC18LF44J50
PIC18F6520	PIC18F66J94	PIC18F8525	PIC18F86K22	PIC18LF24K22	PIC18LF44K22
PIC18F6525	PIC18F66J99	PIC18F8527	PIC18F86K90	PIC18LF24K40	PIC18LF45J10
PIC18F6527	PIC18F66K22	PIC18F8585	PIC18F8720	PIC18LF24K42	PIC18LF45J11
PIC18F6585	PIC18F66K40	PIC18F85J10	PIC18F8722	PIC18LF24K50	PIC18LF45J50
PIC18F65J10	PIC18F66K80	PIC18F85J11	PIC18F8723	PIC18LF25J10	PIC18LF45K22
PIC18F65J11	PIC18F66K90	PIC18F85J15	PIC18F87J10	PIC18LF25J11	PIC18LF45K40
PIC18F65J15	PIC18F6720	PIC18F85J50	PIC18F87J11	PIC18LF25J50	PIC18LF45K42
PIC18F65J50	PIC18F6722	PIC18F85J90	PIC18F87J50	PIC18LF25K22	PIC18LF45K50
PIC18F65J90	PIC18F6723	PIC18F85J94	PIC18F87J60	PIC18LF25K40	PIC18LF45K80
PIC18F65J94	PIC18F67J10	PIC18F85K22	PIC18F87J72	PIC18LF25K42	PIC18LF46J11
PIC18F65K22	PIC18F67J11	PIC18F85K90	PIC18F87J90	PIC18LF25K50	PIC18LF46J13
PIC18F65K40	PIC18F67J50	PIC18F8620	PIC18F87J93	PIC18LF25K80	PIC18LF46J50
PIC18F65K80	PIC18F67J60	PIC18F8621	PIC18F87J94	PIC18LF25K83	PIC18LF46J53
PIC18F65K90	PIC18F67J90	PIC18F8622	PIC18F87K22	PIC18LF26J11	PIC18LF46K22
PIC18F6620	PIC18F67J93	PIC18F8627	PIC18F87K90	PIC18LF26J13	PIC18LF46K40
PIC18F6621	PIC18F67J94	PIC18F8628	PIC18F95J94	PIC18LF26J50	PIC18LF46K42
PIC18F6622	PIC18F67K22	PIC18F8680	PIC18F96J60	PIC18LF26J53	PIC18LF46K80
PIC18F6627	PIC18F67K40	PIC18F86J10	PIC18F96J65	PIC18LF26K22	PIC18LF47J13
PIC18F6628	PIC18F67K90	PIC18F86J11	PIC18F96J94	PIC18LF26K40	PIC18LF47J53
PIC18F6680	PIC18F8310	PIC18F86J15	PIC18F96J99	PIC18LF26K42	PIC18LF47K40
PIC18F66J10	PIC18F8390	PIC18F86J16	PIC18F97J60	PIC18LF26K80	PIC18LF47K42
PIC18F66J11	PIC18F8393	PIC18F86J50	PIC18F97J94	PIC18LF26K83	PIC18LF55K42
PIC18F66J15	PIC18F83J11	PIC18F86J55	PIC18LF13K22	PIC18LF27J13	PIC18LF56K42
PIC18F66J16	PIC18F83J90	PIC18F86J60	PIC18LF13K50	PIC18LF27J53	PIC18LF57K42
PIC18F66J50	PIC18F8410	PIC18F86J65	PIC18LF14K22	PIC18LF27K40	PIC18LF65K40
PIC18F66J55	PIC18F8490	PIC18F86J72	PIC18LF14K50	PIC18LF27K42	PIC18LF65K80
PIC18F66J60	PIC18F8493	PIC18F86J90	PIC18LF23K22	PIC18LF43K22	PIC18LF66K40
PIC18F66J65	PIC18F84J11	PIC18F86J93	PIC18LF24J10	PIC18LF44J10	PIC18LF66K80
PIC18F66J90	PIC18F84J90	PIC18F86J94	PIC18LF24J11	PIC18LF44J11	PIC18LF67K40