



MINI TTL BUFFER

User Manual

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS.....	3
DEVICE INTRODUCTION.....	4
DEVICE SPECIFICATION	5
DEVICE OVERVIEW	7
DEVICE BLOCK DIAGRAM	7
DEVICE CONNECTION.....	8
DEVICE SETTINGS.....	9
FAQ	10
WARRANTY	12
DISPOSAL OF YOUR OLD DEVICE	13
CONTACTS.....	14

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Installation should be performed only by a competent person or professional electrician. Make sure that the installation complies with the standards and rules that apply in your country.

- **Do not use the device if it seems to be damaged.**
- **Use the device only as described in this user manual.**
Any other use or use under other operating conditions is improper and may result in personal injury or property damage.
- **No liability will be assumed for damages resulting from improper use.**
Never open the controller and do not attempt repairs yourself.
- **Do not place the device close to heat sources and always ensure enough ventilation.**
- **Do not place the unit on surfaces that are heat sensitive.**

This device has been designed for indoor use only. Do not expose the unit to direct sunlight. Do not allow this device to meet liquids. Electrical shock could result. Also, damage to the device, smoke, and overheating could result from contact with liquids. Clean the device components that are accessible from the outside regularly. The cleaning frequency depends on the operating environment: damp, smoky or particularly dirty environments can cause greater accumulation of dirt on the device components. Clean with a dry soft cloth. Stubborn dirt can be removed with a slightly dampened cloth.

- **Never use solvents or alcohol for cleaning.**
- **Establish all connections when the unit is switched off.**
Use the shortest possible high-quality cables for all connections.
Make sure that cables cannot cause a trip hazard.
- **Never touch the plug contacts with sharp or metal objects.**
- **Ensure that plastic bags, packaging, etc. are disposed of properly and are not within reach of babies and young children. Choking hazard!**
- **Ensure that children do not detach any small parts (e.g. screws, connectors or the like) from the unit. They could swallow the pieces and choke!**
- **Never let children unattended use electrical devices.**

DEVICE INTRODUCTION

When dealing with SPI signal on individually addressable LED strip or pixel installations, sometimes longer cable between pixels is needed. However, some LED pixels have very weak data output drive capability which causes a random flickering or non working pixels after longer cable is applied between pixels. To work around these issues, SPI signal buffer may help you by providing a buffered SPI signal with high output drive capability.

MINI TTL BUFFER is an extremely small universal gadget designed to solve signal integrity issues especially on installations where 12V individually addressable LED strip like WS2815, SK6815, GS8208 are used. However it can be used on almost any 12V SPI pixel installations where signal level is 5V TTL/CMOS. It uses 2 identical buffer channels so it can be used for individually addressable LED strip/pixels with single (Data) or dual (Data & Backup) asynchronous Data Lines, as well with synchronous Data Line (Data & Clock).

Please note, that MINI TTL BUFFER is not solving voltage drop issues.

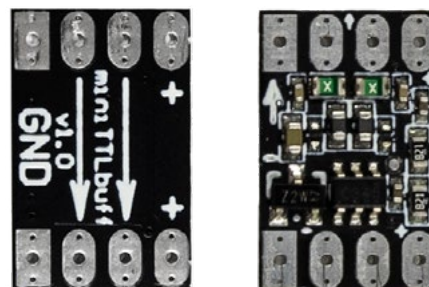
DEVICE SPECIFICATION

MINI TTL BUFFER

Dual channel, uni directional signal buffer designed for 12V addressable (digital) LED strips/pixels

Applications

- General illumination
- Decoration illumination
- Events, lounges, clubs
- Scenography
- Theatre
- Light show
- Special effects
- Showcase



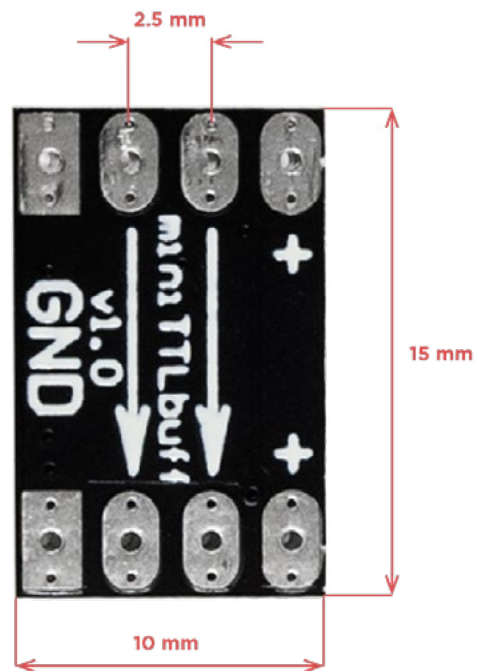
Technical specification

Operating voltage	12V DC
Operating current	0.03A
Rated power	0.36W
Channel count	2
Ports	IN DATA & POWER port + OUT DATA & POWER port
Port pins	GND, DATA1, DATA2, +12V
Maximum pass thru current	2A
Port connection type	Solder pads 1.8x3mm, 2.5mm pitch spacing
Data input type	TTL like level. L range 0-1V, H range 3.5-5V
Data output type	TTL like level, L range 0-0.7V, H range 3.5-5V
Max frequency	800kHz
Input protection	NO
Output protection	NO
Output filter (slew limiting)	YES
Dimension	10 × 15 × 2.5 mm
Operating air temperature	-30°C to 65°C
Storage air temperature	-30°C to 85°C
Relative humidity	5% to 80% non-condensing
Weight	ca. 1g

Default package content

- 10pcs MINI TTL BUFFER

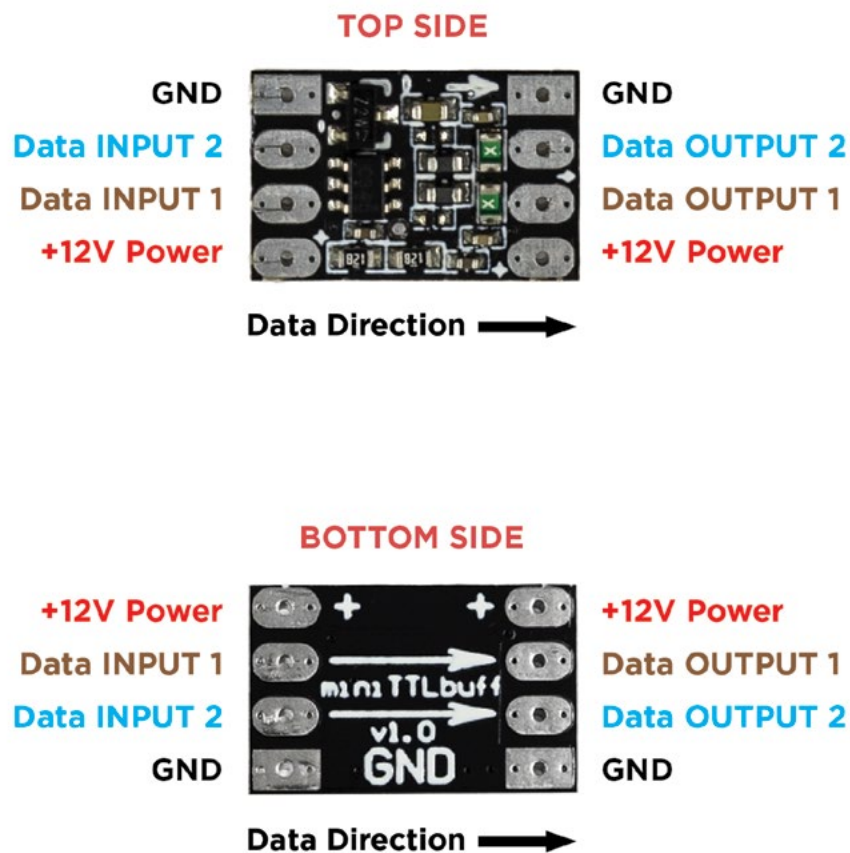
Dimensions



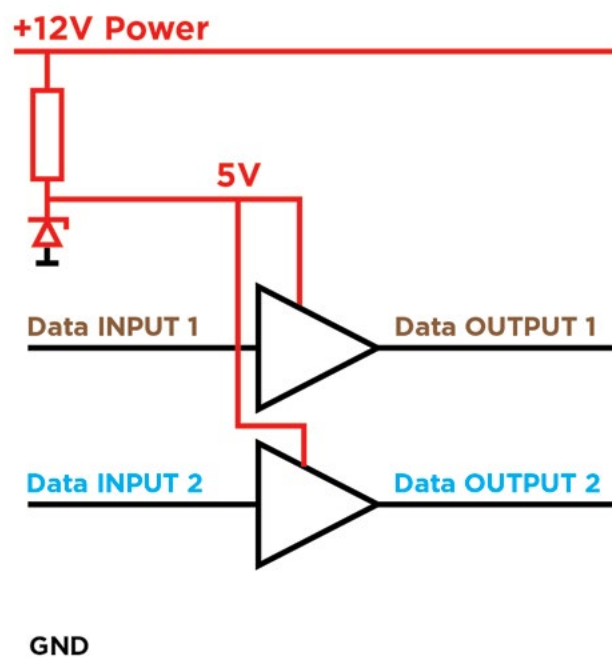
Usage example



DEVICE OVERVIEW



DEVICE BLOCK DIAGRAM



DEVICE CONNECTION

Typical 12V individually addressable LED strip like WS2815, SK6815, GS8208 has weak output drive capability, therefore it makes sense to use MINI TTL BUFFER on output from pixel LED.



PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO CONNECTING THE MINI TTL BUFFER WITH THE CORRECT POLARITY, AS REVERSE POLARITY WILL CAUSE DAMAGE!

FOLLOW THE +12V AND GND MARKINGS ON BOTH THE LED STRIP AND MINI TTL BUFFER — THEY MUST MATCH!

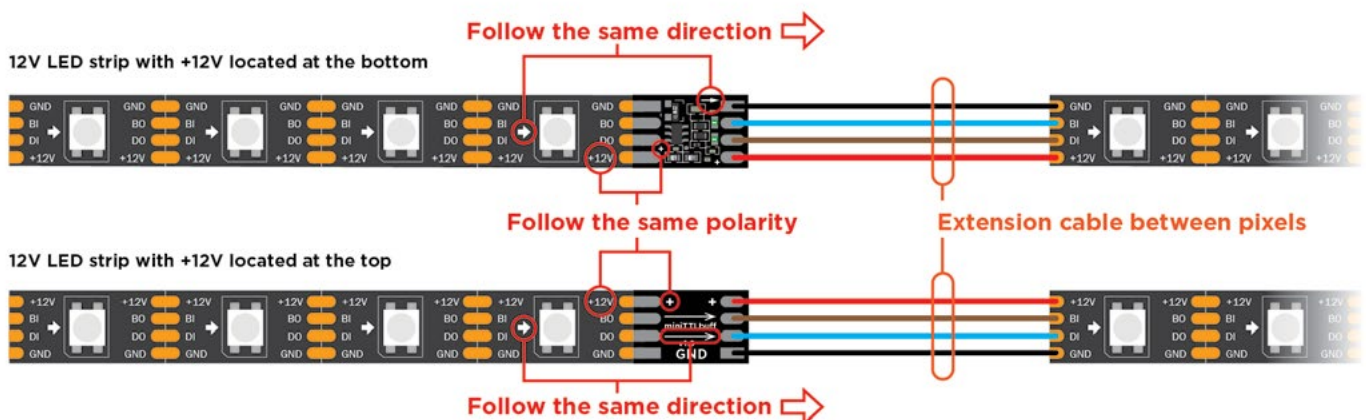
PAY ATTENTION TO CONNECTING MINI TTL BUFFER IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION (FOLLOW SIGNAL ARROW ON LED STRIP)



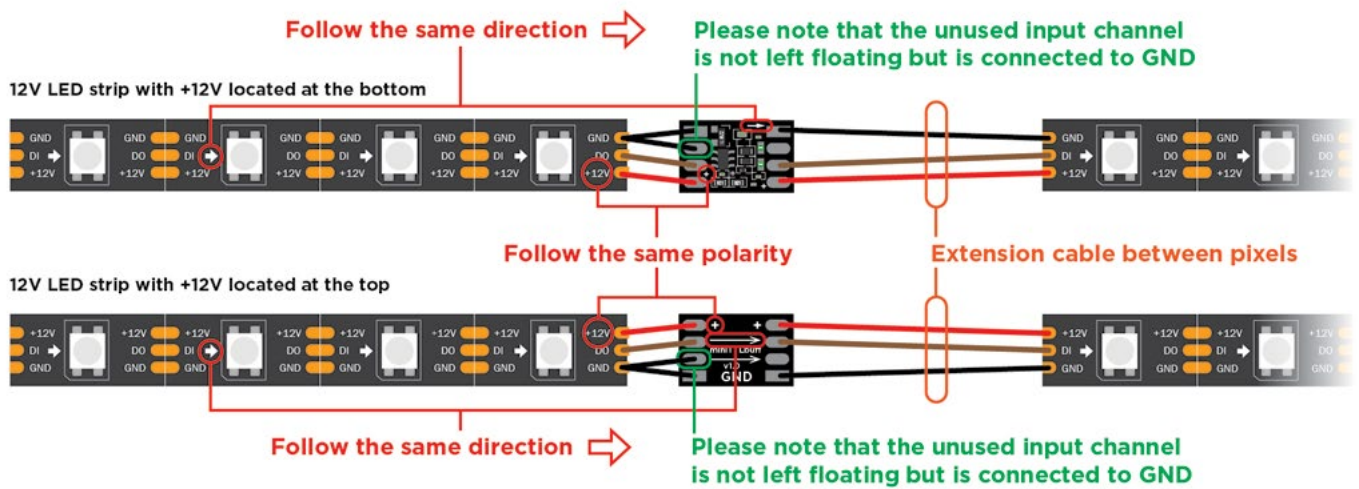
Don't forget to visual check connection before powering your system up.

As MINI TTL BUFFER is bare PCB module, avoid direct touch with electrical conductive objects, like metals. If needed you can insulate MINI TTL BUFFER using insulation tape or heat shrink tube.

Usage example on 12V LED strip with chipset like WS2815, SK6815, GS8208 (with Data & Backup)



Usage example on 12V LED strip with chipset like WS2811 (with single Data line)



DEVICE SETTINGS

MINI TTL BUFFER in Plug and Play device. There is nothing to set or adjust.

WHAT CABLE LENGTH CAN BE USED BETWEEN PIXELS WHEN USING MINI TTL BUFFER?

This is hard to answer question. Typically 5 to 10m works fine. Exact length depends on cable type, pixel chipset type, electro magnetic interference near cable etc.

WHAT IS PREFERRED CABLE TO USE FROM MINI TTL BUFFER TO FAR LED STRIP/PIXELS?

There is no special requirement for cable. However shielded cable may provide better results and minimize radiated/conducted electromagnetic emissions. We recommend to use multi core cable, not single wires. Multi core cables where wires runs parallel one to another has better impedance consistency.

WHAT IF CABLE IS TOO LONG AND MINI TTL BUFFER CAN'T HANDLE IT?

We suggest you to use [THE SYMMETRIZER](#).

CAN I USE 2 OR MORE MINI TTL BUFFERS IN SERIES TO INCREASE CABLE LENGTH ?

Yes you can, but it is not recommended.

CAN I SOLDER MINI TTL BUFFER TO LED STRIP DIRECTLY?

On LED strips with same contact pitch you can and it is convinient way to install MINI TTL BUFFER. On LED strips/pixels with different contact pitch, use short extension cables from pixel output to MINI TTL BUFFER input.

DO I HAVE TO CONNECT POWER FROM MINI TTL BUFFER TO FAR END LED STRIP/PIXELS, IF MY FAR END LED STRIP/PIXELS HAS ITS OWN POWER PROVIDED ALREADY?

No you don't have to, but ALWAYS connect GND! General rule of thumb is to always route GND next to Data line, preferably in one cable.

DOES MINI TTL BUFFER HELP TO SOLVE VOLTAGE DROP ISSUES ?

Absolutely no. MINI TTL BUFFER only buffer data signal and has nothing to do with voltage drop.

MY LED STRIP/PIXELS HAS DIFFERENT SUPPLY VOLTAGE THAN 12V. CAN I USE MINI TTL BUFFER?

No, you can't. MINI TTL BUFFER power input is 12V only. If you need buffer for other voltages, you could use [TTL BUFFER](#).

CAN I USE MINI TTL BUFFER ON INPUT OF FAR END LED STRIP/PIXELS ?

You can, but normally it makes more sense to use MINI TTL BUFFER on output.

CAN I USE MINI TTL BUFFER ON CONSTANT VOLTAGE LED STRIPS? (ALSO CALLED ANALOG, NORMALLY WITH PINS +12V, R, G, B, (W)) ?

Absolutely NO! MINI TTL BUFFER can be used ONLY for buffering SPI data for 12V individually addressable LED strips/pixels with chipset like WS2815, SK6815, GS8208 and similar SPI chipsets.

WARRANTY

This device has been designed and made using high quality components with several quality checks and testings. Therefore we are proud to provide 1 year limited warranty for this device.

This limited warranty is valid for company or person (user) who purchased new device from us, or our authorized dealer/distributor and warranty period starts from date when user receive this device.

Limited warranty cover:

- **material defects**
- **assembly failures**
- **device malfunction**
- **this device only**

Limited warranty DO NOT cover and is void when this device:

- **has been used for different usage as specified in this manual**
- **has been opened without our permission**
- **has been modified or disassembled without our permission**
- **has been operated wrong way. E.g. over-voltage, over-current, exposed to high electromagnetic fields/discharges such as lighting strikes or ESD events with parameters way outside of HBM model**
- **has been stored or used outside of storage/operating temperature and humidity**
- **has been used in aggressive environment, corrosive environment, dusty environment or in environment with increased vibrations**
- **has been in contact with liquids**
- **has been connected wrong way. E.g. Short circuits, reverse polarity etc.**
- **has been mechanically damaged**
- **got unofficial attempts to firmware updates**

Limited warranty DO NOT cover:

- **shipping expenses to handle defective device.**
- **failures or damage of other equipments connected to this device**
- **user expenses caused by defective device**

For limited warranty claim process:

- **user must be able provide sufficient proof of purchase**
- **use email info@ledstripstudio.com with detailed description of device failure**
- **takes less than 30 days to resolve. This period starts from day we physically receive defective device (device return)**

DISPOSAL OF YOUR OLD DEVICE

This device is an electronic device, and can be categorized as hazardous waste in your country. Dispose of this device through an approved waste disposal firm or through your local waste facility. When discarding the device, comply with the rules and regulations that apply in your country. If in doubt, consult your local waste disposal facility.

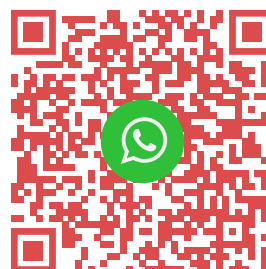
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