

How to Remove/Replace the PIC chip in a *Pix*Controller Board

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This document covers in detail how to remove or replace the PIC chip in a *Pix*Controller board. Replacing the PIC chip may be needed for *Pix*Controller board updates and software changes.

About the PIC Chip

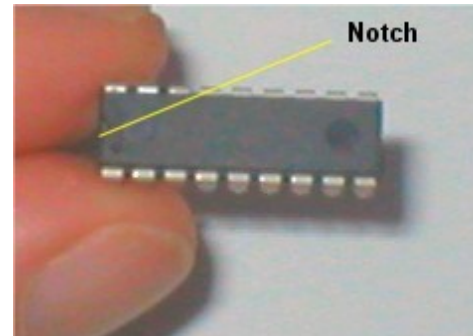
The PIC chip is the heart of your PixController. This is what controls all of the functions of your PixController board.

Replacing the PIC chip is easy if you follow these few easy steps. First you need to locate your PIC chip. It is the only 18-pin chip on the board, and is located in the center of the board.

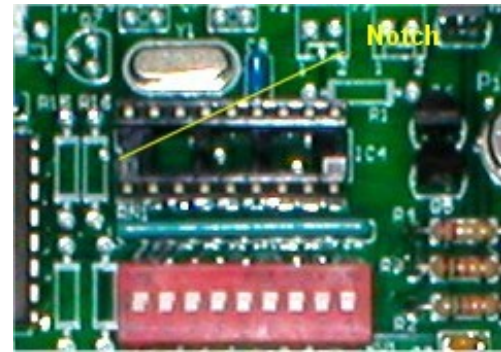
The PIC chip is in a socket so that it can be removed if necessary.

The PIC chip and the PIC chip socket have a notch at the end, which is a placement locator. You must match the notch of the chip up with the notch of the socket when inserting a PIC chip.

Note: If you insert a PIC chip backwards it can result in damage to the PIC chip.



PIC Chip – Location of Notch



PIC Chip Socket – Location of Notch

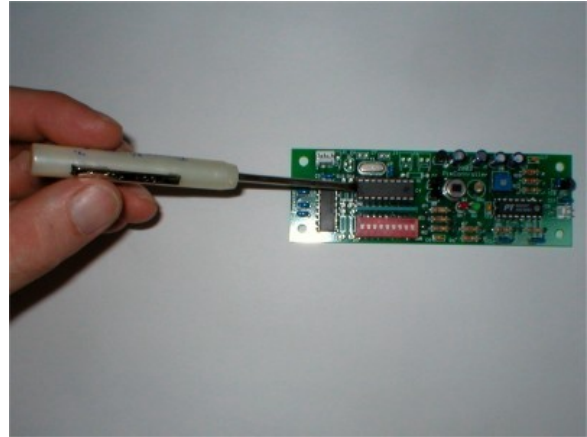
Tools Needed

1. Small flat blade screwdriver or DIP chip puller.

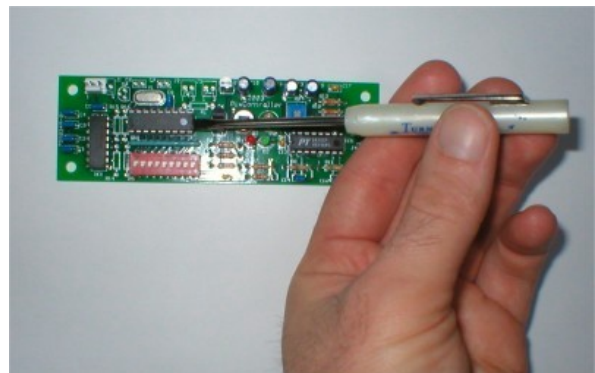
Removing the PIC Chip

If you do not have a DIP chip puller handy use a small flat blade screwdriver to remove the PIC chip. From one side of the PIC chip socket carefully place the head of the screwdriver between the PIC chip and the socket. Carefully lift the one end of the chip out of the socket, but not all the way.

Next go to the other side and carefully lift that end. The chip should now be removed from the socket. Be careful not to bend any pin of the chip when removing it. If you do use a fine set of needle-nose pliers to straighten them out.



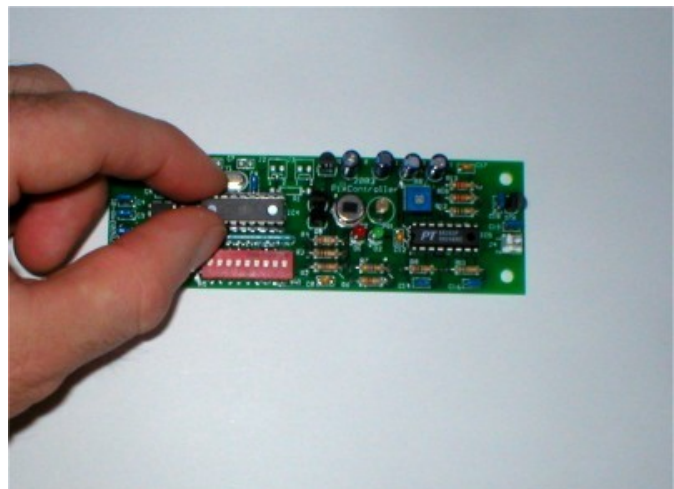
Lift the first side out.



Lift the next side out, then remove the PIC chip.

Replacing the PIC Chip

When replacing your PIC chip simply line up the notches on the PIC chip and the socket and carefully press the PIC chip into the socket.



Inserting the PIC chip.