



This is the *SIXTH* lesson in the

# MR CIRCUIT LAB 3.

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**LAB 3: Computer Theory:  
Digital Logic Gates**

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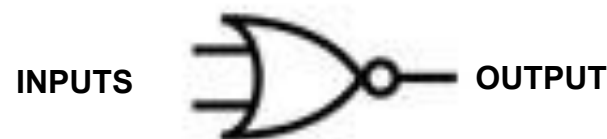
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Basic Electronics  
**LAB 3**  
Digital Logic Gates for  
future Engineers and  
Techs

# Lesson 6

# The 'NOR' Logic Gate



There are 3 pages.  
Start with Page 1 at  
the center of this  
booklet.

Booklet Number 1301-SL6

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MR CIRCUIT ELECTRONICS TRAINING LAB

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## Introduction to Digital Logic Gates “The ‘NOR’ Logic Gate”

The ‘**NOR**’ Logic Gate has two inputs. The ‘NOR’ Gate is a combination of an ‘OR’ Gate followed by a ‘NOT’ Gate. It is the inverted form of an ‘OR’ Gate.

INPUTS



OUTPUT

There are 4 possible combinations on these inputs as shown in the Truth Table below. The output is True if both inputs are False. Otherwise, the output is False. Here are the Truth Tables for the ‘OR’ Gate and the ‘NOR’ Gate so you can compare.

**Truth Table for the ‘OR’ Gate**

Input A	Input B	Output Q
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

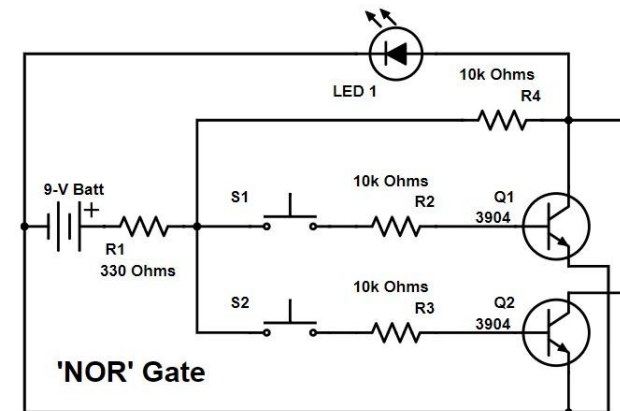
**Truth Table for the ‘NOR’ Gate**

Input A	Input B	Output Q
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	0



**LAB 3: Computer Theory: Digital Logic Gates**

Here is a schematic of an electronic circuit that performs the function of a ‘NOR’ Logic Gate.



**Explanation of the circuit:** This circuit has two transistors. If you forward-bias either one or both of them the LED will not light up indicating a LO on the output.

There are two Normally-Open pushbutton switches in this circuit. Switch S1 controls the voltages on Transistor Q1 and Switch S2 controls the voltages on Transistor Q2. If you press S1, it causes Q1 to be forward-biased and the LED will not light up. If you press S2, it will cause Q2 to be forward-biased and the LED will not light up. If you press both switches at the same time, it forward-biases both transistors and the LED will not light up.

So, as you can see, this circuit acts like an ‘NOR’ Logic Gate, that is, if either or both inputs are True the output will be False. Switch S1 gives a True to Transistor Q1 and Switch S2 gives a True to Transistor Q2. The circuit is wired such that there will be a LO on the output when you press either switch or both switches at the same time.

Now, use the QR Code to watch video Lesson 1. Then, using pages 2 and 3 in this booklet, build a ‘NOR’ Logic Gate circuit.

## Step-by-Step Assembly Guide for “The ‘NOR’ Logic Gate”

**Step 1:** Follow these steps carefully to build the ‘NOR’ Logic Gate.

**Step 2:** Find the Experiment Parts Bags for the Mr Circuit Lab 3

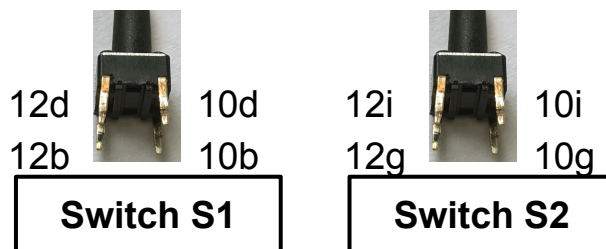
**Step 3:** Take out the following parts needed to build the ‘NOR’ Logic Gate:

- one Solderless Circuit Board
- one 9-Volt Battery Snap
- one LED (Light Emitting Diode)
- one 220 Ohm resistor (Red, Red, Brown, Gold)
- one 330 Ohm resistor (Brown, Black, Red, Gold)
- two 10,000 (10k) Ohm resistors (Brown, Black, Orange, Gold)
- six Jumper Wires
- two NPN Transistors (3904)
- two Normally-Open Pushbutton Switches

**Step 4:** Now, using the Pix of the Assembled Circuit on Page 3, install all the parts on the Solderless Circuit Board in this order.

- \_\_\_ **Install** the NPN transistor Emitter in 7c, Base in 6c, Collector in 5c
- \_\_\_ **Install** the NPN transistor Emitter in 7h, Base in 6h, Collector in 5h
- \_\_\_ **Install** the LED, Anode in 5b, Cathode in 4b
- \_\_\_ **Install** a 220 Ohm resistor in 15e to 5d
- \_\_\_ **Install** a 330 Ohm resistor in 25f to 15a
- \_\_\_ **Install** a 10,000 Ohm resistor in 10a to 6a
- \_\_\_ **Install** a 10,000 Ohm resistor in 10j to 6i
- \_\_\_ **Install** a Jumper Wire in 15c to 12f and another in 15b to 12a
- \_\_\_ **Install** a Jumper Wire in 7f to 7e and another in 5f to 5e
- \_\_\_ **Install** a Jumper Wire in 25b to 7a and another in 25a to 4a
- \_\_\_ **Install** the Battery Snap, Red in 25h, Black in 25d

- \_\_\_ **Install** the two Normally-Open Pushbutton switches with 4 legs. Install the legs as shown here.



**Step 5:** Lightly touch the battery to the Battery Snap (Note: do not connect it, just touch it lightly.) The LEDs should light up. If it does not, then please check your wiring carefully and try again.

**Step 6:** With the battery connected, press Switch S1. Did the LED light turn off? \_\_\_\_

**Step 7:** Press Switch S2, did the LED light turn off? \_\_\_\_

**Step 8:** Now, press both switches at the same time forward-biasing both transistors. Did the LED light turn off? \_\_\_\_ .

**Step 9:** Conclusion: You should have observed that this circuit works like an ‘NOR’ Logic Gate.

When Switch S1 puts a HI on the Base of Q1, the LED turns off indicating a LO on the output. And, when Switch 2 puts a HI on the Base of Q2, the LED turns off. And, when you press both switches at the same time, the transistors are both forward-biased and the LED turns off.

You have now learned how an ‘NOR’ Logic Gate works and how to build one using electronic components. These are the same type of components used in today’s digital circuits.

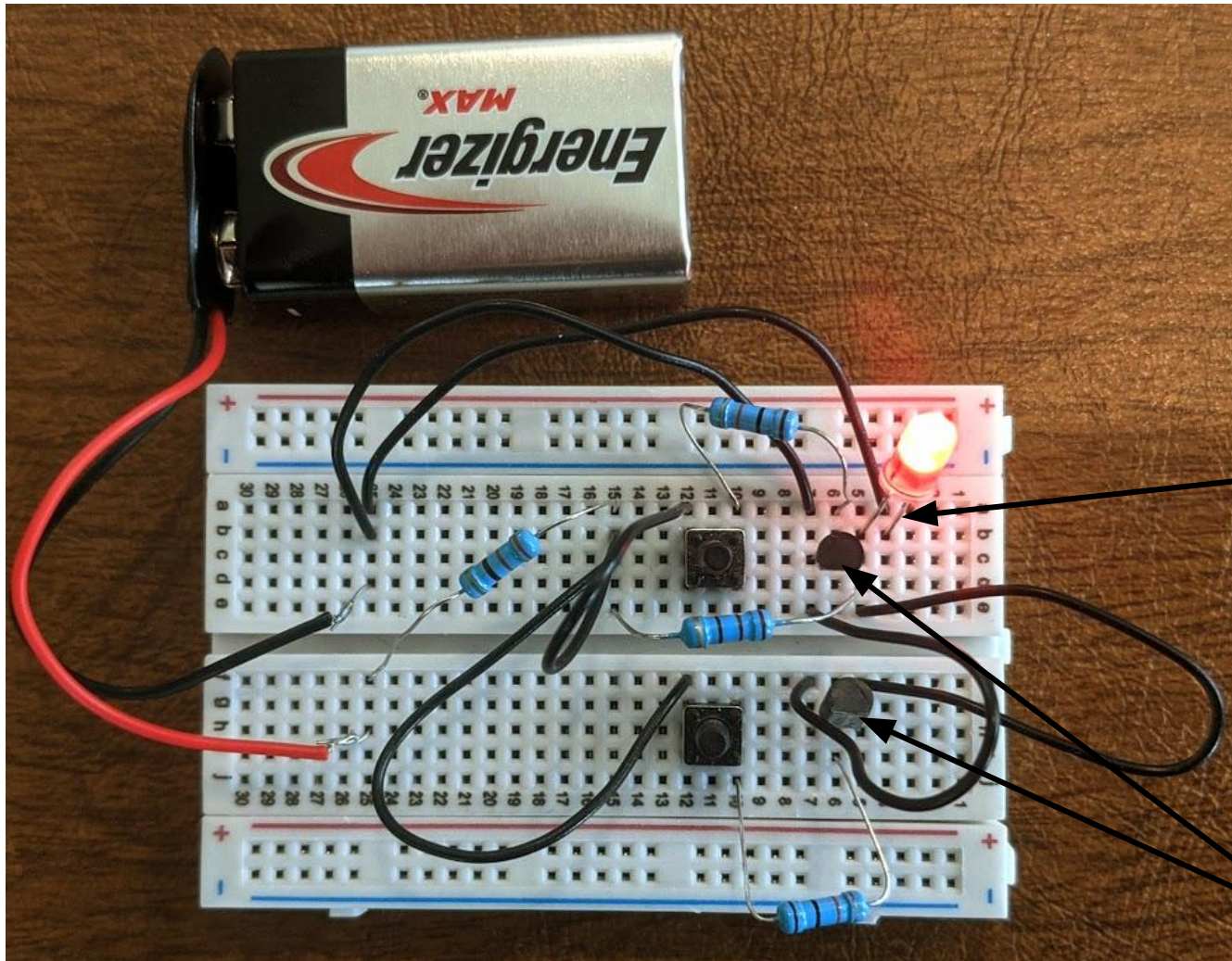
**Step 10:** Now, disassemble the circuit and put all the parts back into the plastic bag and go to the next lesson in this lab.

**LAB 3: Computer Theory:  
Digital Logic Gates**

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## Assembly Pix for Lesson 6 “The ‘NOR’ Logic Gate”

P  
A  
G  
E  
3

S1

S2

Cathode

Q1

Q2

Flat side

EBC

P  
A  
G  
E  
3

### Lesson 3 - The ‘NOR’ Gate



LAB 3: Computer Theory:  
Digital Logic Gates

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