



DIY BUILD INSTRUCTIONS – PLITKA SIPHON A/B (PASSIVE ATTENUATOR)

First off, thank you for your purchase of the PLITKA SIPHON DIY Kit (PCB and Front Panel). If you are a DIY Synth novice, you have selected a great module to strengthen your skills. If you are a veteran (or, as we like to say at Tsyklon Labs - “Hero of Synthesizer DIY”), then this kit will be super fun and you will likely have it assembled in mere minutes.

First, let’s make sure that you have everything on hand before we start building. The tools you will need are as follows:

- Soldering Iron and Solder
- Wire Cutters
- Knurled Nut Tool (Xicon 382-0006) or Small Pliers for tightening 3.5mm knurled nuts
- Screw Driver and 10mm Wrench or Nut Driver for tightening potentiometer nut

You will need the following parts to finish your build:

Qty	Part Description	PCB Component ID	Part Number	Vendor
2	3.5mm Inline Jacks (Thonkiconn Style)	IN_SIGNAL, OUT_SIGNAL	PJ30IM-I2	Various
2	3.5mm Knurled Nuts	IN_SIGNAL, OUT_SIGNAL	3.5mm Knurled Nuts	Various
1	100k to 1M 9mm Pot / Lin or Log	VR_ATTEN	Various	Various
1	Knob appropriate for Potentiometer	VR_ATTEN	Various	Various

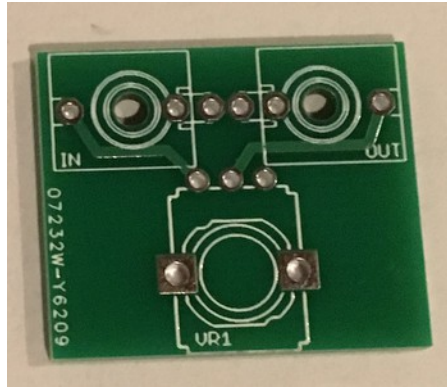
These jacks are available from Thonk, Modular Addict, Synthrotek, and Erthenvar. Most vendors sell the nuts with the jacks, but check to be certain you have all of the parts that you will need.

A quick chat about selecting the right pot for your SIPHON A/B build... First, the suffix on the end of the module name. When discussing the type of “curve”, “law”, or “taper” built into the selected potentiometer value. . The two main types are linear (B, for SIPHON B) and logarithmic (A, for SIPHON A). Rather than re-invent the wheel, here is a good explanation:

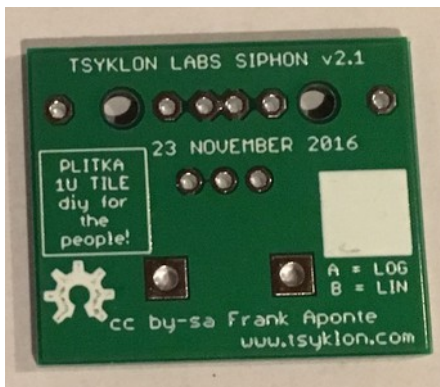
<http://sound.westhost.com/pots.htm>

As far as the value of the pot goes, you can put in whatever you want, but 100k is a good place to start. You can even go as high as 1M. As far as the knob goes, if you want your build to look like the Tsyklon Labs factory builds, take a look at Small Bear Electronics. We use their Synth Pointer #2 knobs - Blue for B/Linear, and Red for A/Log. Now that we have that out of the way, let’s get started!

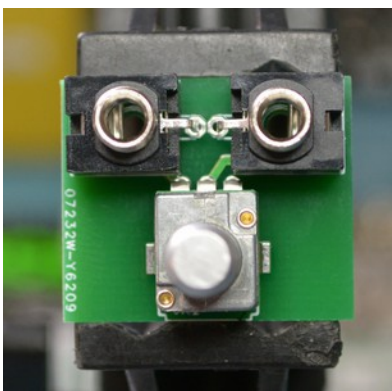
1) First, take a look at the Front Panel and PCB. This is the top/front side of each:



2) And the reverse/back side of both:



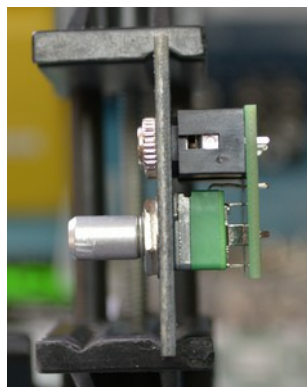
3) Install the PCB mounted pot and the jacks into the front side of the PCB - DO NOT solder the jacks at this time. Note, the ground pin for the jack is the one outside of the molded plastic part of the jack. This is the pin that goes towards the center of the PCB:



4) Once you have the pot jacks seated, install the front panel and then the pot and jack nuts. This will keep everything together while you solder the pins to the PCB. Tighten the nuts until they are snug - no need to go crazy tight on them. If you are using pliers instead of a Knurled Nut Tool, be careful not to scratch the front panel:



5) Once last check/adjustment before soldering - double check that the pot and both jacks are still seated against the PCB. If so, you are good to go. If not, jiggle the pot and jacks (technical term) to make sure that they are seated. You may need to loosen the nuts a little bit to get it right - but do not forget to re-tighten them!



6) Solder the pot and jacks to the PCB. Do not forget to clean up the flux - if that is what you are into. Also, you can mark the PCB to designate if this build is a type A or B SIPHON. A permanent marker works well for this task:



7) Lastly, install the knob on the potentiometer. If the knob has an indicator line, align it with the center of the "Open Source Hardware" gear icon (it is like that on purpose):



8) That's it! Job well done, Udarnik! Enjoy the fruit of your labors - get patching!

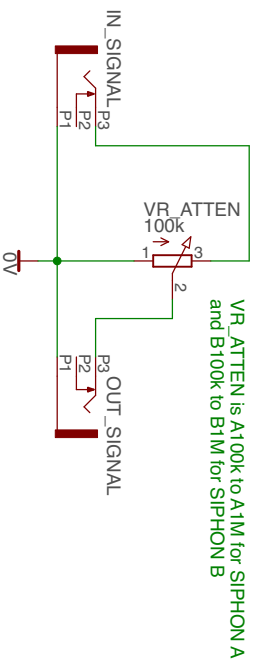
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INTERPRETING COMPONENT DESIGNATIONS FOR TSYKLON LABS MODULES

As much as possible, we have tried to be very consistent with how our components are labeled on our Printed Circuit Boards [PCBs]. Aside from being consistent component to component, PCB to PCB, and module to module within our own products – we have also done as much as possible to be consistent with standard naming conventions used by other module designers. The table below lists component types and their designations. We will use 000 in place of the identification numbers normally used so that you can see what the component number will look like. Most prefixes are one to two characters long, but can occasionally be three characters.

COMPONENT ID	EXAMPLE	COMPONENT TYPE
R	R000	Resistor
C	C000	Capacitor
PB	PB_RESET	Push Button
SW	SW_INVERT	Switch [Toggle]
VR	VR000	Variable Resistor [Potentiometer or Trimmer]
LED	LED000	Light Emitting Diode
D	D000	Diode
Q	Q000	Transistor [BJT, FET, or MOSFET]
IC	IC000	Integrated Circuit
MHDR	MHDR_NBL	Male Header
FHDR	FHDR_NBL	Female Header
FB	FB000	Ferrite Bead
XTAL	CLK_XTAL	Quartz Crystal
REG	IOVREG	Voltage Regulator
PF	PF000	Resettable Poly Fuse
POWER	POWER	Power Header [2x5 or 2x8]
L	L000	Inductor

With regard to the numeric part of the component designation – 100 series numbers are for the PCB closest to the Front Panel. 200 series numbers are the next PCB behind the first, 300 series belong to the PCB behind that. While it would make sense that 400 series component numbers are for the next PCB behind that, in some cases those components are on the PCB for the expander module. Make sense? Great, go forth and build!



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DOCS: <http://tsyklon.com/piltka/>
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