

Pocket Money Kit of the Month – Mar 2019**No 6 – 12V supply from 15V/16V AC**

Many of the Pocket Money Projects and commercial modules, are designed to work from a 12V DC supply.

However, a number of loco controllers provide an auxiliary 15V AC (or sometimes 16V AC) output, which is not compatible.

To save purchasing a separate 12V DC supply, you can use this kit.

This little module converts the 15V AC into a constant regulated 12V DC output.

The image shows that it uses only four components.

The white wires connect to your loco controller's auxiliary AC output and the red and black wires are +12V and 0v respectively.

It can be used as shown in the image for most purposes. The circuit can handle a maximum output current of 1.5A, although if you want to run such high current modules you ought to fit a heat sink to the 7812 regulator to prevent it overheating.

The circuit does not use fuses or cutouts, but the 7812 has built-in overload protection.

The 7812 has an internal voltage loss of 2.5V, so needs a minimum of 14.5V DC input to ensure a smooth regulated output.

The kit is available at all West of Scotland activities (for 90p) or can be purchased from the national MERG website as PMP6.

