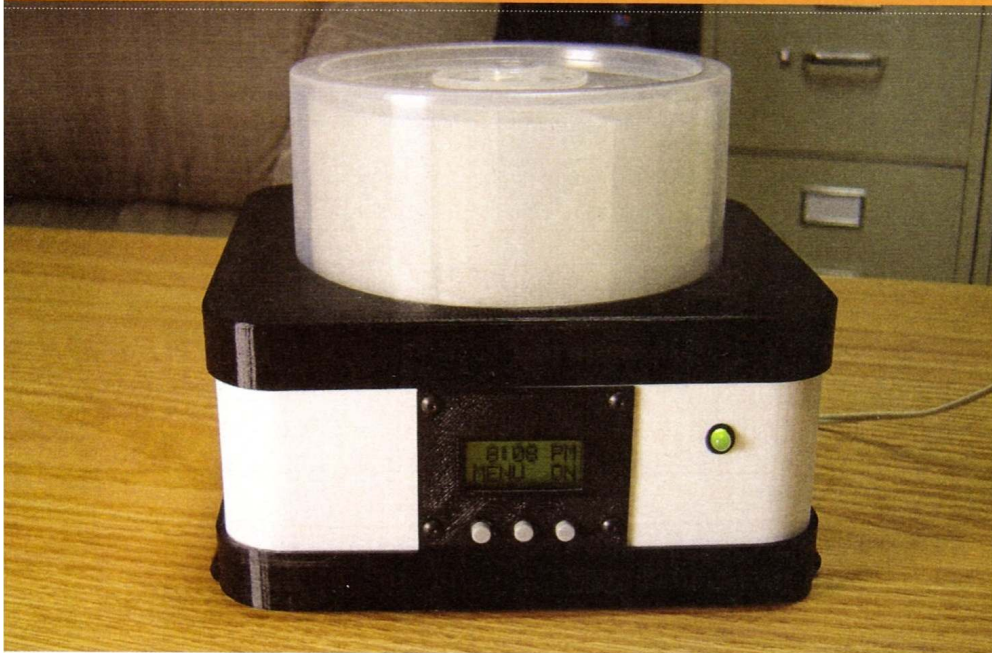


GADGET FREAK

The Gadget Freak® Files Case # 285



Obey Your Cat's Demands and Build an Automated Food Dispenser

CAT OWNERS KNOW that few things make their pets happier than getting their food on time. But sometimes those times aren't always the most convenient (for humans at least). You can't leave a bowl full of food (if you want to still be able to lift your cat anyway). So it needs to be dealt out in small portions.

Gadget Freak contributor Kerry Erendson combined some engineering know-how with some skilled 3D printing to create an automated cat feeder for his cat, Squishy — who prefers to be fed precisely at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. every day.

The goal was to be able to set the unit to vend dry cat food at programmable times throughout the day. To allow this, there is an LCD on the front panel with three “soft

switches,” i.e. switches whose functions are defined by software. These buttons take on the functions labeled above them on the bottom line of the display.

The main screen's top line shows current time. The bottom line labels the left button “MENU” and the right button “ON/OFF.” Pushing the right button on this screen toggles the label between ON and OFF. The bipolar LED to the right of the display is green when the unit is ON and unlit when the unit is OFF. This ON/OFF status determines whether the unit will “vend” when it reaches a programmed vend time. The LED allows you to check its status from across the room without looking at the LCD. The LED turns red if an error is detected. **DN**

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MEOW (TRANSLATION: FEED ME!)

Part Description	Allied Part #
Battery	70196821
Diode, S1BB	70438453
INDUCTOR-0603	70065459
New Haven Disp NHD-0208AZ-RN-YBW-33V	70518050
TC54VN4502ECB-SOT23	70046939
7805V-TO220S-1	70099955

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```
function(n)
occurrences(a, ",")
$("#mode_single").addClass
$("#fin").parent().parent
$(".genhov").addClass("an
setTimeout(function({
$("#fin").parent().parent
$(".genhov").removeClass("
}, 450);
$("#loader").toggleClass("
$("#fin").select();
set
$(".genhov").parent().parent().removeClass("animated2");
$("#loader").toggleClass("visible");
$("#fin").select();
lect();
```

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KAREN LIGHTMAN

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