Variable power supply LM317T 1.25 – 30V



Circuit description:

This is a regulated power supply, based around the linear voltage regulator LM317. The supply voltage can be either AC or DC as the diode bridge rectifies the voltage and makes sure that only positive voltage is presented on the + terminal. A 1000uF capacitor is next in line. Its function is to provide a slight filtering to the rectified voltage before it enters the regulator. The circuit comprised of VR1 and R1 makes up a voltage reference for the regulator, which sets the output according to the formula $V_{OUT} = 1.25$ (1 + R2/R1). With the supplied values of VR1 and R1, the voltage can be set from 1.25V to about 30V. The values of VR1 and R1 can be changed if a different range is required. The diodes D1 and D2 protect the regulator from back EMF, eg. from a motor or a relay coil. The capacitors C2, C3 and C4 are all filters for reducing the ripple voltage to a minimum.

A heatsink for the regulator is included and must be used if the current draw is high or the difference between Vin and Vout is greater than approx. 5V. Please note that the regulator's tab is internally connected to Vout and must not be short-circuited!

The input voltage can be either AC or DC and must be at least 2V higher than the desired output voltage.