

Fairy Light Flasher

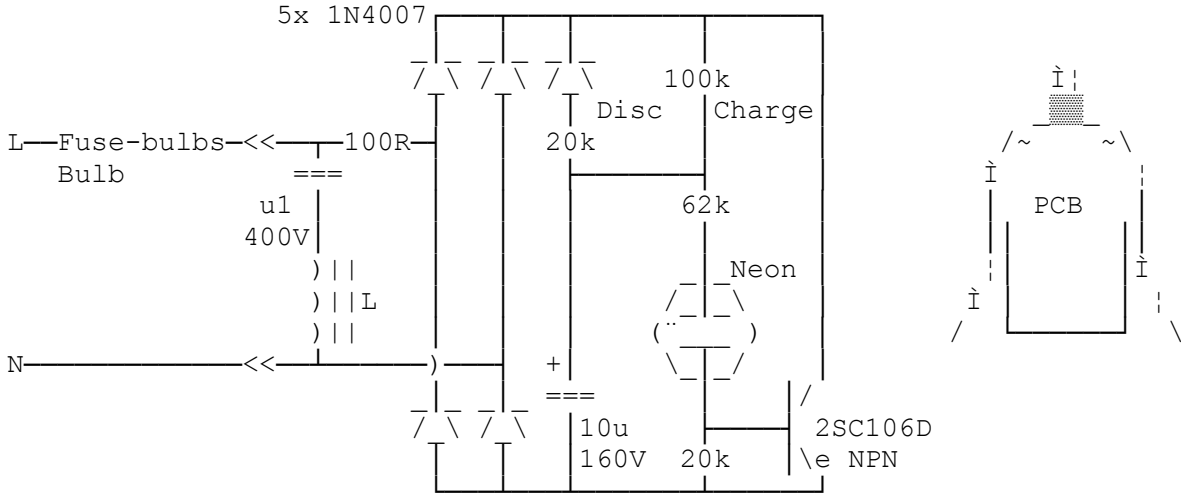
By G8MNY

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(8 Bit ASCII graphics use code page 437 or 850, Terminal Font)

This is a simple design used to flash a low power mains Christmas tree fairy light set. The unit is in the shape of a bell & plugs in instead of a lamp.

CIRCUIT



HOW IT WORKS

This basically a neon & capacitor timebase aided by the transistor. To work on AC mains there is a bridge rectifier & also 2 mains filter components.

On powering the lamps are off & the 10uF charges up via the 100k (off time). When it has reached the neon striking voltage (85V) current flows through the neon to the transistor base. The transistor conducts & shorts out the flasher supply making the lamps some on. The transistor stays on until the neon goes out @ about 70V from the 10uF. The on time is determined by the discharge through the 62k+neon, & also diode & 20k route. The other 20k ensured the transistor is kept properly off when the neon is out.

See my TECH bul on "Christmas Mains Light Chains"

Why don't U send an interesting bul?

73 De John, G8MNY @ GB7CIP