Arduino Altimeter Details

To build our altimeter we followed the directions on this page: <http://www.instructables.com/id/The-Ultimate-Altimeter-A-compact-Arduino-altimeter/>

However, the bubble display is hard to get, I only got mine 4 months after I ordered it. We tried using a seven segment display, but that hasn’t worked out for us so far. The code for the altimeter is also missing on the page the instructions link to; instead I used code provided from one of the commenters and other code libraries I found floating around on the internet. We also couldn’t get our battery to power our altimeter, but the problem with that may be that the battery isn’t charged; we’ve yet to get the equipment to charge it.

The instructions say that the cost of the altimeter is around $30, and that would be true if you don’t account for shipping. The real cost is about $50-60. At this price, if you’re looking for a cheap altimeter you’re better off getting a store bought one. The one we ended up using in our ½ scale rocket is called the perfectflite stratologger and it costs $58. Here’s a link to it: <https://www.apogeerockets.com/Electronics_Payloads/Altimeters/PerfectFlite_StratoLogger_Altimeter>

I would only recommend building an altimeter if you want a fun project to do, and not if you want to seriously use it for rocketry. Homemade altimeters add another error point for possible things to go wrong in rocketry, and it’s questionable how accurate they actually are. However, if you still want to try the project out I’ll post the code on the page for you.