

# mikroICD™

in-circuit debugger

Whether you are a beginner, or a professional, this powerful tool, with intuitive interface and convenient set of commands will enable you to track down bugs quickly. mikroICD™ is one of the fastest, and most reliable debugging tools on the market.

Exploit the full potential of real-time hardware debugging



Start Debugger [F9]



Run/Pause Debugger [F6]



Stop Debugger [Ctrl+F2]



Step into [F7]



Step Over [F8]



Step Out [Ctrl+F8]



Run To Cursor [F4]



Toggle Breakpoint [F5]



Show/Hide Breakpoints [Shift+F4]



Clear breakpoints [Ctrl+Shift+F5]



Jump To Interrupt [F2]

# TO OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS

I want to express my thanks to you for being interested in our products and for having confidence in MikroElektronika.

The primary aim of our company is to design and produce high quality electronic products and to constantly improve the performance thereof in order to better suit your needs.

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'N. Matic', is positioned on the right side of the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'N' and 'M'.

Nebojsa Matic  
General Manager

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# Introduction to mikroCD™

## What is mikroCD™?

**mikroCD™** is a highly effective tool for a Real-Time debugging on hardware level. The mikroCD™ debugger enables you to execute your program on the host microcontroller and view variable values, Special Function Registers (SFR), RAM, CODE and EEPROM memory along with the mikroCD™ code execution on hardware. In order to use **mikroCD™** it is necessary to have the appropriate hardware (**mikroProg™ for PIC®, dsPIC® and PIC32®**) and software (Mikroelektronika compilers for PIC®, dsPIC® or PIC32®).

## Key features



Supported in all Mikroelektronika hardware programmers for PIC®, dsPIC® and PIC32® (**mikroProg™ for PIC®, dsPIC® and PIC32®**)



Supported in all MikroElektronika compilers for **PIC®, dsPIC®** and **PIC32®** (**mikroC™, mikroBasic™** and **mikroPascal™**)



Real time step by step debugging  
Can monitor **SFR, RAM, CODE** and **EEPROM** memory

# Hardware and software

## mikroProg™ programmer

**mikroICD™** is included with on-board programmers on mikroElektronika development systems and on **mikroProg™ for PIC®, dsPIC® and PIC32®** stand alone programmer. Microcontroller on target device is connected with programmer via PGC, PGD and MCLR pins. These pins are used for programming purposes and cannot be used as I/O while mikroICD™ is in use. Before using mikroICD™ it is necessary to **program** target microcontroller with a debug-enabled version of your output HEX file.



## Compilers

All MikroElektronika compilers (**mikroC™**, **mikroBasic™** and **mikroPascal™**) for **PIC®, dsPIC®** and **PIC32®** natively support **mikroICD™**. Specialized **mikroICD™ DLL** module allows compilers to exploit the full potential of fast hardware debugging. Along with compilers, make sure to install the appropriate programmer drivers and **mikroProg Suite™ for PIC®** programming software.

# 1. Starting compiler

After the appropriate software and hardware is installed and attached to your PC it's time to start the chosen compiler.



**mikroC PRO  
for PIC icon**

In this manual we will use **mikroC PRO for PIC** compiler. All other compilers (mikroBasic™ and mikroPascal™ for PIC®, dsPIC® and PIC32®) have the same IDE so using **mikroICD™** is the same for all.

After the compiler is started write a new project or open the existing one.

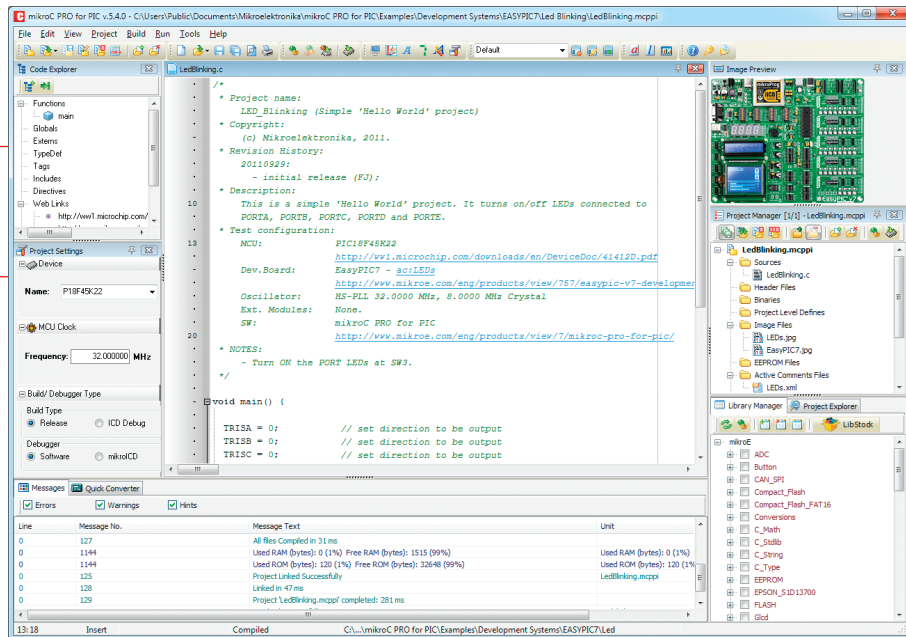


Figure 1-1: mikroC PRO for PIC window

## 2. Preparing mikroCD™

In order to use mikroCD™, you have to program your microcontroller with debug-enabled .HEX file of your project. This is done in two simple steps:

### Step 1 - Enable mikroCD™

Under **Project Settings - Build /Debugger Type**, select **ICD Debug** and **mikroCD™** options.

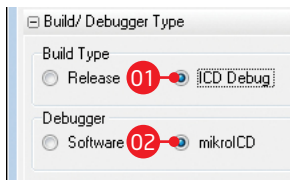



Figure 2-1: Build/Debugger Type options

- 01 Select **ICD Debug** option to create debug output HEX file.
- 02 Select **mikroCD™ option** to enable usage of mikroCD™ debugger for debugging

### Step 2 - Build your project

Next step is to build your project and to program it to MCU memory. To do that click on **Build > Build + Program [Ctrl+F11]** option or click on  icon in the build toolbar. Compiler will automatically build the program and start mikroProg Suite™ for PIC® software which will program the code into microcontroller.

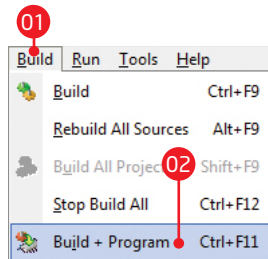


Figure 2-2: Build menu

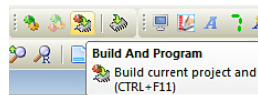



Figure 2-3: Build toolbar

- 01 Activate **Build** Menu
- 02 From drop down menu select **Build + Program** option or press **[Ctrl+F11]** on your keyboard

# 3. Start mikroCD™ debugging

To start **mikroCD™** debugging open the **Run** menu and click the **Start Debugger** [F9] option or  icon from Run toolbar.

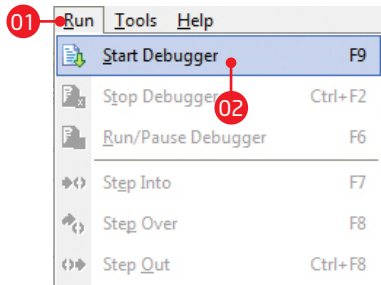


Figure 3-1: Run menu

- 01 Click the **Run** option
- 02 From drop down menu select **Start Debugger** option or press [F9] on keyboard

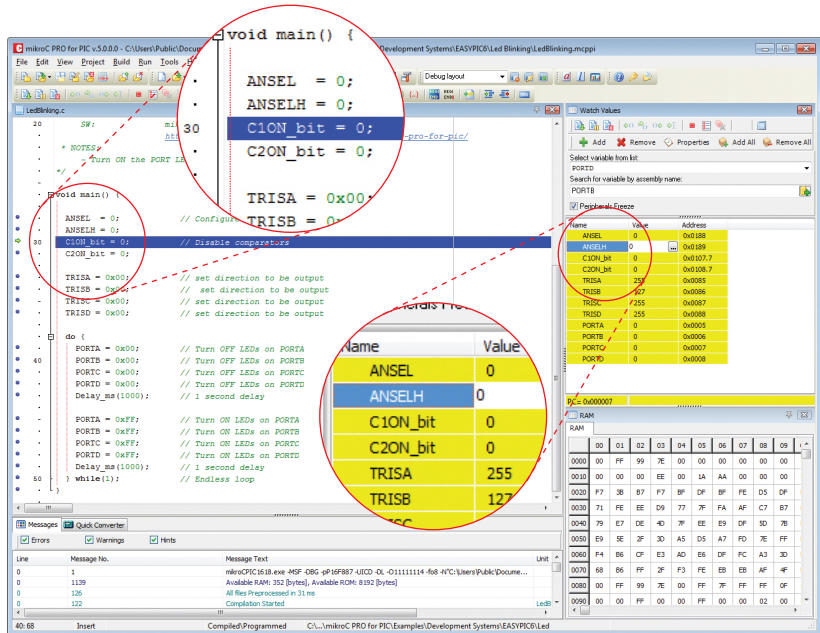


Figure 3-2: mikroC window during debugging

**note**


Make sure to **enable power supply** on your device



When **mikroICD™** debugging is started a program line which will be next executed is highlighted with a blue strip.

```
void main() {  
    ANSEL = 0; // Configure AN pins as  
    ANSELH = 0;  
    30 C1ON_bit = 0; // Disable comparators  
    C2ON_bit = 0;  
    TRISA = 0x00; // set direction to be c
```

Figure 3-3: Execution line is highlighted

Next step is to select values which will be monitored. Click on **View -> Debug Windows -> Watch Window [Shift+F5]** or click the  icon to open **Watch Values** window.

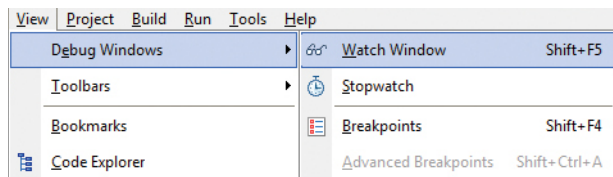


Figure 3-4: Open watch values window

Within **Watch Values** window you can set which registers or variables are going to be monitored.

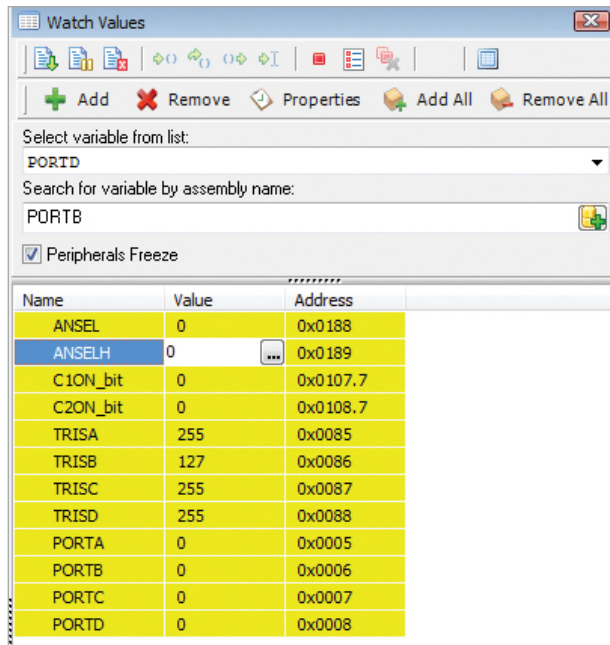


Figure 3-5: Watch values window

## 4. Watch Window

### What are the Watch Variables?

Each special function register (SFR), and user defined variables which are not removed by the optimizer, can be monitored in **Watch Window** during the debugging process. With execution of each program line, values of selected variables are automatically updated. Watch Window also provides the information about the **memory address** and the full **assembly name** of each variable.

### Types of variables

Purple colored variables are special **function registers and sbit variables** from the definition file of the selected microcontroller. Black colored variables represent **user defined variables**, or variables used internally by compiler libraries.

### Adding Watch Variables

Adding variable for monitoring can be done in two simple ways: by selecting the variable from the drop down list, or by searching for the desired variable using the search box.

### Step 1 - Select variable

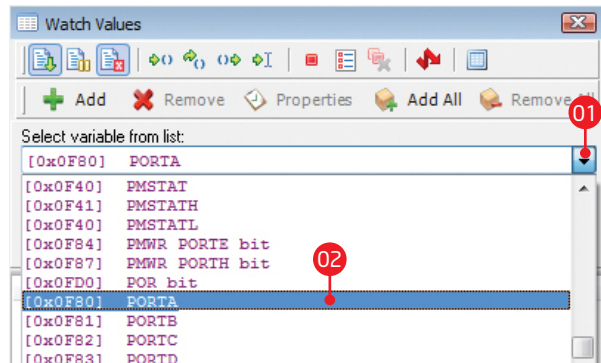


Figure 4-1: Select variable for monitoring

- 01 Click to show drop down menu.
- 02 Select desired variable for monitoring

## Step 2 - Add variable

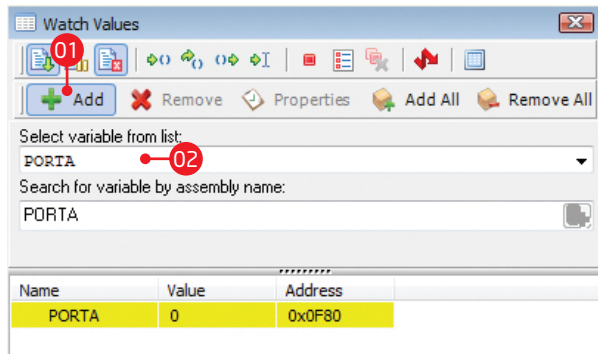


Figure 4-2: Add variable for monitoring

- 01 Click the **Add** button and selected variable will be added to list
- 02 List with selected variables

Instead of selecting variable from list you can type in variable assembly name in the search box.

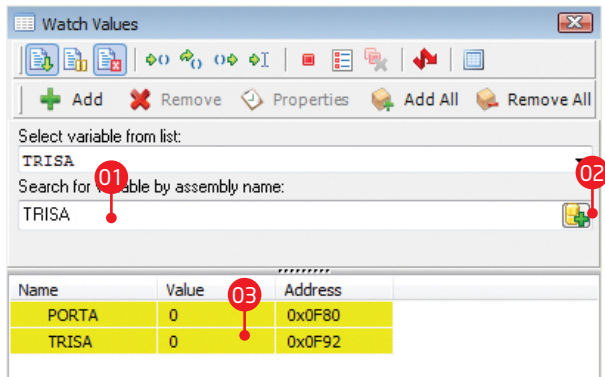


Figure 4-3: Search for variable

- 01 Type in variable assembly name
- 02 Click on add variable button
- 03 Variable is added to list

# 5. Debugger toolbar

To simplify debugging compiler IDE contains toolbar with icons that allow single click access to **mikroICD™** commands.




Figure 5-1: Debugger toolbar



## Debug commands





The first three icons on the toolbar are used for starting/stopping debugger:

-  Start debugger [F9]
-  Run/Pause Debugger [F6]
-  Stop Debugger [Ctrl + F2]

## Execution commands







Next set of icons enables you to execute program in real time:












-  Step Into [F7]
-  Step Over [F8]
-  Step Out [Ctrl + F8]
-  Run To Cursor [F4]

## Managing breakpoints



Last set of icons is related to breakpoints and interrupt option:

-  Toggle Breakpoint [F5]
-  Show/Hide breakpoints [Shift+F4]
-  Clears breakpoints [Shift+Ctrl+F5]
-  Jump to interrupt [F2]



<b>Toolbar Icon</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Shortcut</b>	<b>Description</b>
	Start Debugger	<b>[F9]</b>	Starts Debugger.
	Run/Pause Debugger	<b>[F6]</b>	Run/Pause Debugger.
	Stop Debugger	<b>[Ctrl + F2]</b>	Stops Debugger.
	Step Into	<b>[F7]</b>	Executes the current program line, then halts. If the executed program line calls another routine, the debugger steps into the routine and halts after executing the first instruction within it.
	Step Over	<b>[F8]</b>	Executes the current program line, then halts. If the executed program line calls another routine, the debugger will not step into it. The whole routine will be executed and the debugger halts at the first instruction following the call.
	Step Out	<b>[Ctrl + F8]</b>	Executes all remaining program lines within the subroutine. The debugger halts immediately upon exiting the subroutine.
	Run To Cursor	<b>[F4]</b>	Executes the program until reaching the cursor position.
	Toggle Breakpoint	<b>[F5]</b>	Toggle breakpoints option sets new breakpoints or removes those already set at the current cursor position.
	Show/Hide breakpoints	<b>[Shift+F4]</b>	Shows/Hides window with all breakpoints
	Clears breakpoints	<b>[Shift+Ctrl+F5]</b>	Deletes selected breakpoints
	Jump to interrupt	<b>[F2]</b>	Opens window with available interrupts (doesn't work in mikroLCD™ mode)

# 6. Real-Time debugging

Real-Time debugging enables execution of program in three different ways:


## Step by Step

```
60 | unsigned int half_address;
    | .
    | .
62 | TFT_Init(320, 240);
    | TFT_Fill_Screen(CL_AQUA);
    | .
    | // Disable other peripheral
    | TRISD0_bit = 0;
    | LATD0_bit = 1;
    | TRISB4_bit = 0;
    | LATB4_bit = 1;
70 | .
    | .
    | PLLEN_bit = 1;
    | Delay_ms(150);
```

To execute program one line at the time you can use **Step Into**  [F7] and **Step Over**  [F8] options


## Execute remaining lines

```
void main() {
    ANSEL = 0;
    ANSELH = 0;
30 | C1ON_bit = 0;
    C2ON_bit = 0;
    .
    .
    TRISA = 0x00;
34 | TRISB = 0x00;
    TRISC = 0x00;
```

Execution of all remaining program lines is available via **Step Out**  [Ctrl+F8] option. Debugging will stop when all lines in subroutine are executed.

## Execute to cursor

```
void main() {
    ANSEL = 0;
    ANSELH = 0;
30 | C1ON_bit = 0;
    C2ON_bit = 0;
    .
    .
    TRISA = 0x00;
34 | TRISB = 0x00;
    TRISC = 0x00;|
```

In order to execute program starting from the current line to one where cursor is placed, use option **Run to Cursor**  [F4]. Program will start execution at the current line (blue strip) and it will stop at line where cursor is placed.

# 7. Using Breakpoints

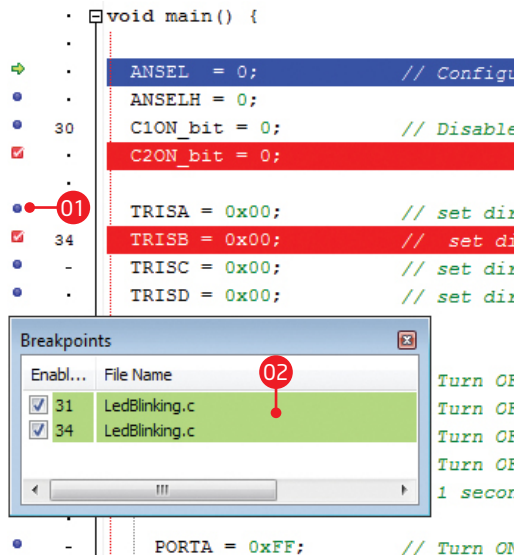




Figure 7-1: Breakpoint selection

- 01 Click on a blue dot to place a breakpoint
- 02 Lines 31 and 34 are enabled as breakpoints

The **mikroICD™** enables each program line to be marked with a **breakpoint**. The breakpoint is an intentional stopping or pausing place in the program used for the purpose of debugging.

**Breakpoints** are placed in the program by clicking the blue dots to the left of the program line or by pressing  icon **[F5]**. By selecting the **Run** command  icon **[F6]**, the microcontroller will execute the program from the current location (highlighted in blue) until it reaches a breakpoint (highlighted in red). The debugger halts after reaching the breakpoint.

## Hardware and software breakpoints

There are two kinds of breakpoints - hardware and software breakpoints. The only visible difference between them is in the speed of program execution before it reaches the specified program line.

**Hardware breakpoints** are placed within the microcontroller chip and provide considerably faster program execution. The total number of software breakpoints goes up to 16, while the number of hardware breakpoints is much smaller. For example, PIC16® microcontrollers have only one, whereas PIC18® microcontrollers have up to 3 hardware breakpoints. When all hardware breakpoints are used, then remaining breakpoints in the program will be used as **software breakpoints**.

## 8. Advanced Breakpoints Option

The **mikroICD™** provides the means for using the **Advanced Breakpoints option** with PIC18®, PIC24® and dsPIC® microcontrollers. To enable it, check the Advanced Breakpoints check box within the Watch Values window. To configure the Advanced Breakpoints option it is necessary to start up mikroICD™ [F9] and select the **View > Debug Windows > Advanced Breakpoints** option or to use the keyboard shortcut [Ctrl+Shift+A].

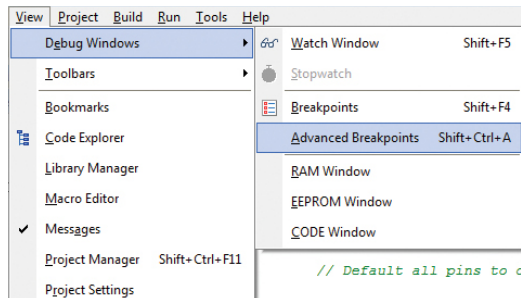


Figure 8-1: Advanced breakpoints menu

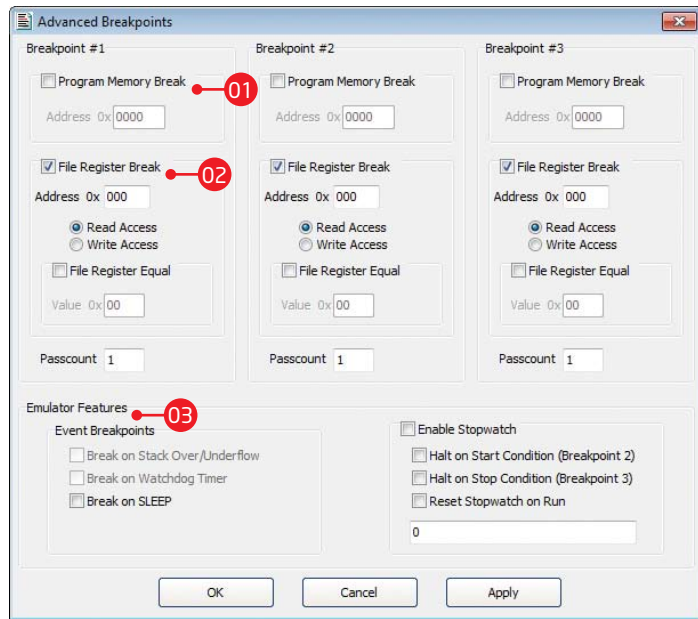


Figure 8-2: Advanced breakpoints window



- 01 The **Program Memory Break** option is used for placing breakpoints at specified addresses in the program memory. The value entered in the Address field must be in the HEX format.
- 02 The **File Register Break** option is used for stopping code execution when read/write access to the specified data memory location occurs. If the **Read Access** option is selected, the **File Register Equal** option can be used for setting the appropriate value in the **Value** field. The program execution will be stopped when the value read from the specified data memory location matches the value written in the Value field. All the values entered in the Value field must be in the HEX format.
- 03 **Emulator Features** enables the usage of **Event Breakpoints** and **Stopwatch**.

### Event Breakpoints

**Break on Stack Overflow/Underflow :**  
not implemented.

**Break on Watchdog Timer :**  
not implemented.

**Break on SLEEP :** break on SLEEP instruction. SLEEP instruction will not be executed. If you choose to continue the mikroCD debugging [F6] then the program execution will start from the first instruction following the SLEEP instruction.

### Enable Stopwatch


To use the Stopwatch define **Breakpoint#2** and **Breakpoint#3** as a Start and Stop conditions and check the Enable Stopwatch checkbox.

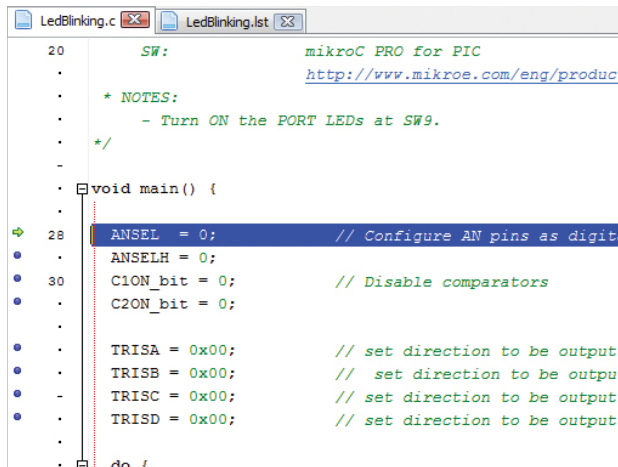
**Halt on Start Condition (Breakpoint#2) :** when checked, the program execution will stop on Breakpoint#2. Otherwise, Breakpoint#2 will be used only to start the Stopwatch.

**Halt on Stop Condition (Breakpoint#3) :** when checked, the program execution will stop on Breakpoint#3. Otherwise, Breakpoint#3 will be used only to stop the Stopwatch.

**Reset Stopwatch on Run :** when checked, the Stopwatch will be cleared before continuing program execution and the next counting will start from zero. Otherwise, the next counting will start from the previous Stopwatch value.


## 9. Disassembly view

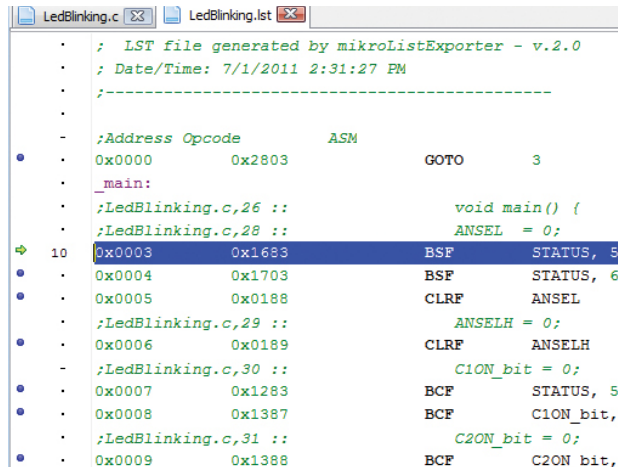
During the process of compiling, each program line written in a high-level programming language is replaced with one or more assembly instructions. To display program in the assembly language, select the **View > Listing** option or click  icon in toolbar. In this case,



```
LedBlinking.c x LedBlinking.lst x
20      SW:          mikroC PRO for PIC
      .            http://www.mikroe.com/eng/produ
      .
      * NOTES:
      .   - Turn ON the PORT LEDs at SW9.
      .
      */
      .
      void main() {
      .
      .
      . 28 ANSEL = 0;      // Configure AN pins as digit
      .
      . ANSELH = 0;
      .
      . 30 C1ON_bit = 0;      // Disable comparators
      .
      . C2ON_bit = 0;
      .
      .
      . TRISA = 0x00;      // set direction to be output
      .
      . TRISB = 0x00;      // set direction to be output
      .
      . TRISC = 0x00;      // set direction to be output
      .
      . TRISD = 0x00;      // set direction to be output
      .
      .
      . do {
```

Figure 9-1: High-level programming language

the process of simulating and debugging is performed in the same way as if the program is written in a high-level programming language. To toggle between high-level language and assembly language press **[Alt+D]** on your keyboard or click on  icon.

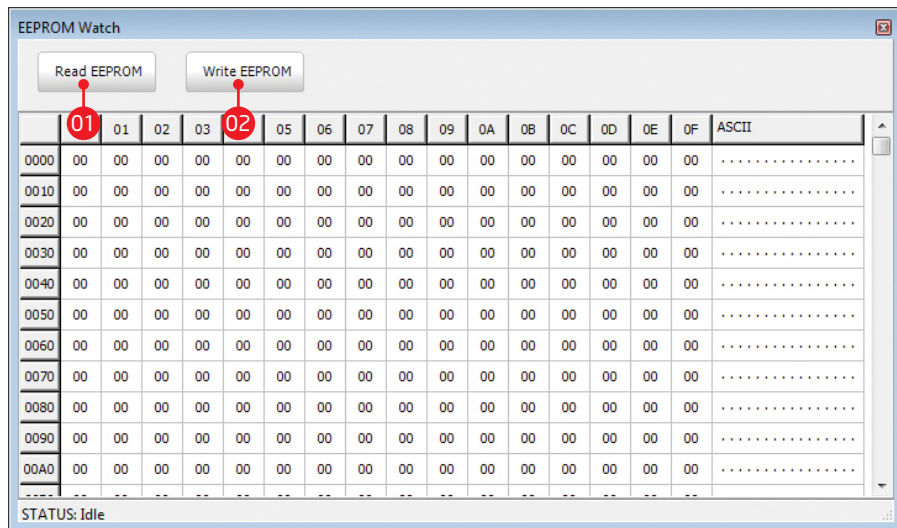


```
LedBlinking.c x LedBlinking.lst x
      . ; LST file generated by mikroListExporter - v.2.0
      . ; Date/Time: 7/1/2011 2:31:27 PM
      .
      . -----
      .
      . ;Address Opcode          ASM
      . 0x0000 0x2803          GOTO    3
      .
      . _main:
      .
      . ;LedBlinking.c,26 ::          void main() {
      . ;LedBlinking.c,28 ::          ANSEL = 0;
      .
      . 10 0x0003 0x1683          BSF     STATUS, 5
      . 0x0004 0x1703          BSF     STATUS, 6
      . 0x0005 0x0188          CLRF   ANSEL
      .
      . ;LedBlinking.c,29 ::          ANSELH = 0;
      . 0x0006 0x0189          CLRF   ANSELH
      .
      . ;LedBlinking.c,30 ::          C1ON_bit = 0;
      . 0x0007 0x1283          BCF   STATUS, 5
      . 0x0008 0x1387          BCF   C1ON_bit,
      .
      . ;LedBlinking.c,31 ::          C2ON_bit = 0;
      . 0x0009 0x1388          BCF   C2ON_bit,
```

Figure 9-2: Assembly language

# 10. EEPROM Watch window

You can start **EEPROM Watch window** using **View > Debug Windows > EEPROM Window** option. It shows the values currently stored in the MCU internal EEPROM memory.



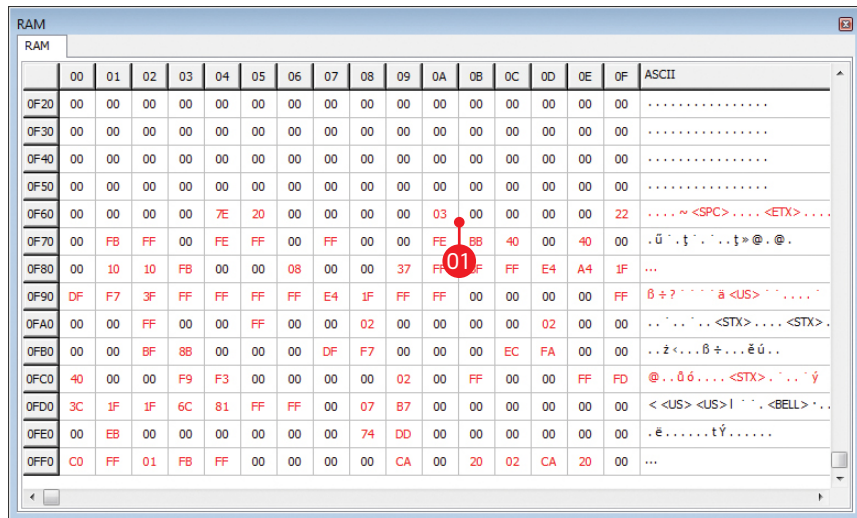
**01** Click the **Read EEPROM** button to read the contents of microcontroller EEPROM memory which will be shown in the EEPROM Watch window.

**02** Click the **Write EEPROM** button to program the data from the EEPROM Watch window into the internal EEPROM memory of the microcontroller.

Figure 10-1: EEPROM watch window

# 11. RAM window

The **mikroCD™** allows you to view the contents of the microcontroller's RAM memory using the **RAM window**. You can activate it by clicking the **View > Debug Windows > RAM Window** option.



RAM	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	0D	0E	0F	ASCII
0F20	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
0F30	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
0F40	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
0F50	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
0F60	00	00	00	00	7E	20	00	00	00	00	03	00	00	00	00	22	...~<SPC>...<ETX>...
0F70	00	FB	FF	00	FE	FF	00	FF	00	00	FE	BB	40	00	40	00	..ũ.ł'.t'.t»@.@.
0F80	00	10	10	FB	00	00	08	00	00	37	FF	FF	FF	E4	A4	1F	...
0F90	DF	F7	3F	FF	FF	FF	E4	1F	FF	FF	00	00	00	00	FF	FF	β+?''''ä<US>''''''
0FA0	00	00	FF	00	00	FF	00	00	02	00	00	00	00	02	00	00	..''''<STX>...<STX>.
0FB0	00	00	BF	8B	00	00	00	DF	F7	00	00	00	EC	FA	00	00	..z<...β+...ěú..
0FC0	40	00	00	F9	F3	00	00	00	00	02	00	FF	00	00	FF	FD	@..ôô...<STX>..''''ý
0FD0	3C	1F	1F	6C	81	FF	FF	00	07	B7	00	00	00	00	00	00	<<<US><US> ''''<BELL>..
0FE0	00	EB	00	00	00	00	00	00	74	DD	00	00	00	00	00	00	..ë...tý.....
0FF0	C0	FF	01	FB	FF	00	00	00	00	CA	00	20	02	CA	20	00	...

Figure 11-2: RAM window

Unlike the Watch Window option, all memory locations are displayed in a table. The content of each RAM location is displayed in the hexadecimal format and may be changed at any time during the operation of the microcontroller. Changed values are directly written in to the microcontroller by pressing Enter key.

**01** In the table cell you can type in value in hexadecimal format. To write typed value into the MCU RAM memory press Enter key on your keyboard.

# 12. CODE Watch window

The **CODE Watch window** will appear by selecting the **View > Debug Windows > CODE Window** option. It shows the values currently stored in the MCU internal FLASH memory.

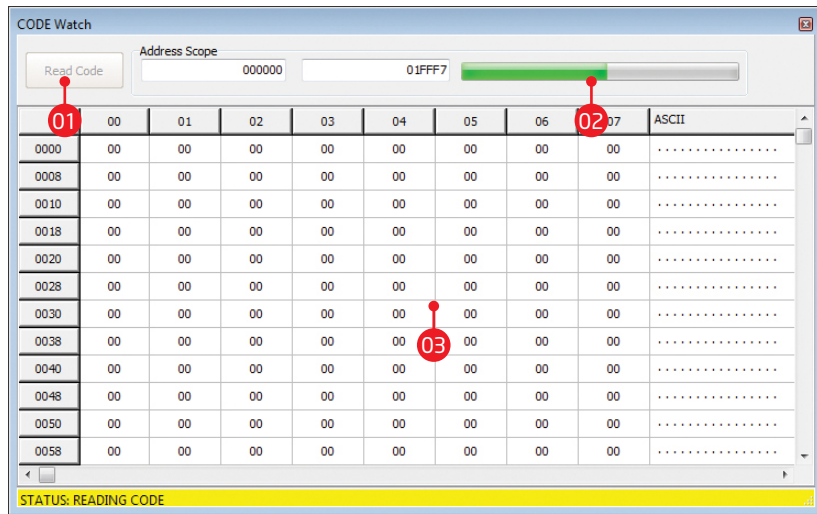


Figure 12-1: CODE Watch

- 01** Click the **Read Code** button to read content of MCU FLASH memory
- 02** **Progress bar** monitors code reading process
- 02** After code reading is finished you can preview it in the table

Notes:

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