

# LM1937 WHITE LED STEP-UP CONVERTER

## FEATURES

- Inherently Matched LED Current
- High Efficiency: 84% Typical
- Drives Up to Four LEDs from a 3.2V Supply
- Drives Up to Six LEDs from a 5V Supply
- 36V Rugged Bipolar Switch
- Fast 1.2MHz Switching Frequency
- Uses Tiny 1mm Tall Inductors
- Requires Only 0.22µF Output Capacitor

## DESCRIPTION

The LM1937 is a step-up DC/DC converter specifically designed to drive white LEDs with a constant current. The device can drive two, three or four LEDs in series from a Li-Ion cell. Series connection of the LEDs provides identical LED currents resulting in uniform brightness and eliminating the need for ballast resistors. The output capacitor can be as small as 0.22µF, saving space versus alternative solutions. A low 95mV feedback voltage minimizes power loss for better efficiency.

## APPLICATIONS

- Cellular Phones
- PDAs, Handheld Computers
- Digital Cameras
- MP3 Players
- GPS Receivers

## TYPICAL APPLICATION

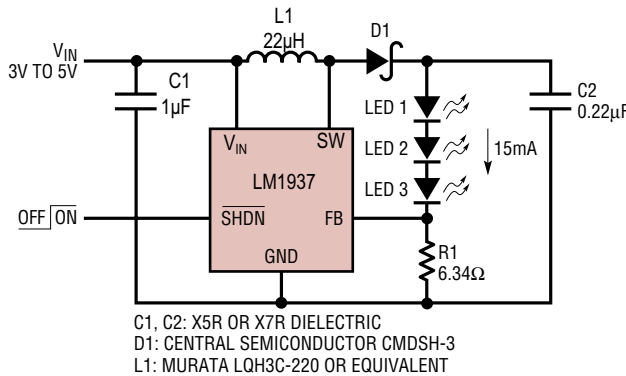
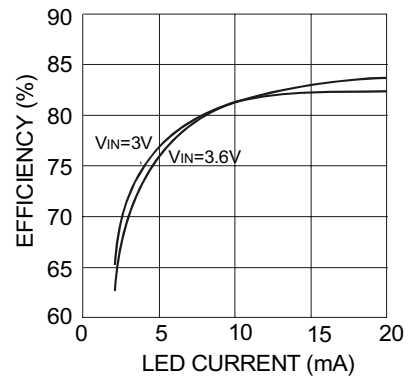
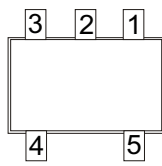


Figure 1. Li-Ion Powered Driver for Three White LEDs

## Conversion Efficiency



## PIN FUNCTIONS TOP VIEW



SOT-23-5L

## ORDER PART NUMBER

LM1937CM5



PIN	PIN NAME	PIN DESCRIPTION
1	SW	Switch Pin. (Minimize trace area at this pin to reduce EMI.)
2	GND	Ground Pin. Connect directly to local ground plane.
3	FB	Feedback Pin. Reference voltage is 95 mV. (Calculate resistor value according to the formula: $R_{FB} = 95 \text{ mV} / I_{LED}$ .)
4	SHDN	Shutdown Pin. (Connect to 1.5 V or higher to enable device; 0.4 V or less to disable device.)
5	V <sub>IN</sub>	Input Supply Pin. (Must be locally bypassed.)

**ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS (Note 1)**

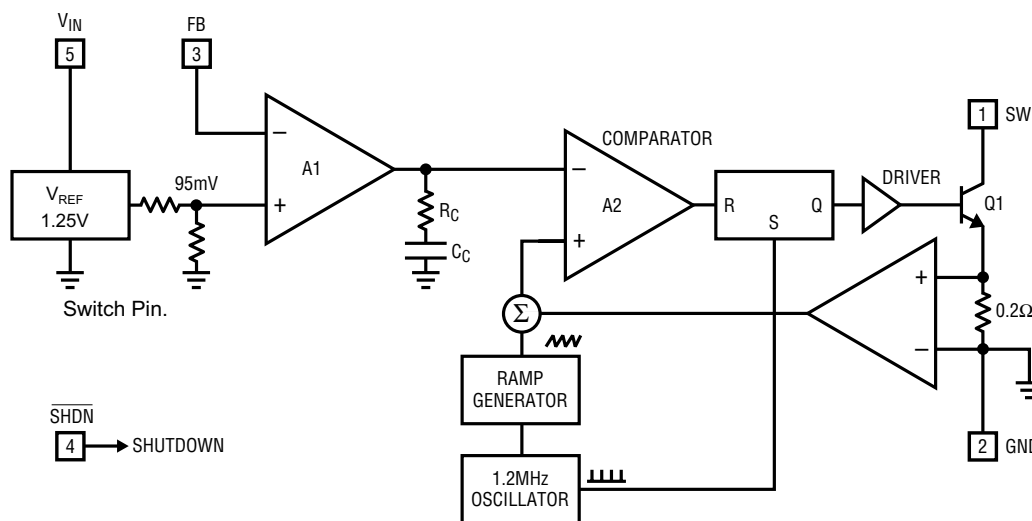
Input Voltage ( $V_{IN}$ )	10V	Operating Temperature Range	0°C to 70°C
SW Voltage	36V	Maximum Junction Temperature	125°C
FB Voltage	10V	Storage Temperature Range	-65°C to 150°C
SHDN Voltage	10V	Lead Temperature (Soldering, 10 sec)	300°C

**Note 1:** Absolute Maximum Ratings are those values beyond which the life of the device may be impaired.

**ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS**  $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $V_{IN} = 3\text{V}$ ,  $V_{SHDN} = 3\text{V}$ , unless otherwise noted.

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN.	TYP.	MAX.	UNIT
Minimum Operating Voltage		2.5			V
Maximum Operating Voltage				10	V
Feedback Voltage	$I_{SW} = 100\text{mA}$ , Duty Cycle = 66%	86	95	104	mV
FB Pin Bias Current		10	45	100	nA
Supply Current	$\overline{\text{SHDN}} = 0\text{V}$		1.9 0.1	2.5 1.0	mA $\mu\text{A}$
Switching Frequency		0.8	1.2	1.6	MHz
Maximum Duty Cycle		85	90		%
Switch Current Limit			320		mA
Switch $V_{CESAT}$	$I_{SW} = 250\text{mA}$		350		mV
Switch Leakage Current	$V_{SW} = 5\text{V}$		0.01	5	$\mu\text{A}$
SHDN Voltage High		1.5			V
SHDN Voltage Low				0.4	V
SHDN Pin Bias Current			65		$\mu\text{A}$

**Figure 2. BLOCK DIAGRAM LM1937**



**OPERATION**

The LM1937 uses a constant frequency, current mode control scheme to provide excellent line and load regulation. Operation can be best understood by referring to the block diagram in Figure 2. At the start of each oscillator cycle, the SR latch is set, which turns on the power switch Q1. A voltage proportional to the switch current is added to a stabilizing ramp and the resulting sum is fed into the positive terminal of the PWM comparator A2. When this voltage exceeds the level at the negative input of A2, the SR latch is reset turning off the power switch. The level at the negative input of A2 is set by the error amplifier A1, and is simply an amplified version of the difference between the feedback voltage and the reference voltage of 95mV. In this manner, the error amplifier sets the correct peak current level to keep the output in regulation. If the error amplifier's output increases, more current is delivered to the output; if it decreases, less current is delivered.

**Minimum Output Current**

The LM1937 can regulate three series LEDs connected at low output currents, down to approximately 4mA from a 4.2V supply, without pulse skipping, using the same external components as specified for 15mA operation. As current is further reduced, the device will begin skipping pulses. This will result in some low frequency ripple, although the LED current remains regulated on an average basis down to zero.

**APPLICATIONS INFORMATION**

**Inductor Selection**

A 22mH inductor is recommended for most LM1937 applications. Although small size and high efficiency are major concerns, the inductor should have low core losses at 1.2MHz and low DCR (copper wire resistance). Some inductors in this category with small size are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Recommended Inductors

PART NUMBER	DCR (Ω)	CURRENT RATING (mA)	MANUFACTURER
LQH3C220	0.71	250	Murata
ELJPC220KF	4.0	160	Panasonic
CDRH3D16-220	0.53	350	Sumida
LB2012B220M	1.7	75	Taiyo Yuden
LEM2520-220	5.5	125	Taiyo Yuden

**Capacitor Selection**

The small size of ceramic capacitors makes them ideal for LM1937 applications. X5R and X7R types are recommended because they retain their capacitance over wider voltage and temperature ranges than other types such as Y5V or Z5U. A 1μF input capacitor and a 0.22μF output capacitor are sufficient for most LM1937 applications. Recommended Ceramic Capacitor Manufacturers: Taiyo Yuden, AVX, Murata, Kemet.

**Diode Selection**

Schottky diodes, with their low forward voltage drop and fast reverse recovery, are the ideal choices for LM1937 applications. The forward voltage drop of a Schottky diode represents the conduction losses in the diode, while the diode capacitance (C<sub>T</sub> or C<sub>D</sub>) represents the switching losses. For diode selection, both forward voltage drop and diode capacitance need to be considered. Schottky diodes with higher current ratings usually have lower forward voltage drop and larger diode capacitance, which can cause significant switching losses at the 1.2MHz switching frequency of the LM1937. A Schottky diode rated at 100mA to 200mA is sufficient for most LM1937 applications. Some recommended Schottky diodes are listed in Table 2.

Table 2. Recommended Schottky Diodes

PART NUMBER	FORWARD CURRENT (mA)	VOLTAGE DROP (V)	DIODE CAPACITANCE (pF)	MANUFACTURER
CMDSH-3	100	0.58 at 100mA	7.0 at 10V	Central
CMDSH2-3	100	0.49 at 200mA	15 at 10V	Central
BAT54	200	0.53 at 100mA	10 at 25V	Zetex

**LED Current Control**

The LED current is controlled by the feedback resistor (R1 in Figure 1). The feedback reference is 95mV. The LED current is  $95mV/R1$ . In order to have accurate LED current, precision resistors are preferred (1% is recommended). The formula and table 3 for R1 selection are shown below.  $R1 = 95mV/I_{LED}$

Table 3. R1 Resistor Value Selection

$I_{LED}$ (mA)	R1(Ω)
5	19.1
10	9.53
12	7.87
15	6.34
20	4.75

**Open-Circuit Protection**

In the cases of output open circuit, when the LEDs are disconnected from the circuit or the LEDs fail, the feedback voltage will be zero. The LM1937 will then switch at a high duty cycle resulting in a high output voltage, which may cause the SW pin voltage to exceed its maximum 36V rating. A zener diode can be used at the output to limit the voltage on the SW pin (Figure 3). The zener voltage should be larger than the maximum forward voltage of the LED string. The current rating of the zener should be larger than 0.1mA.

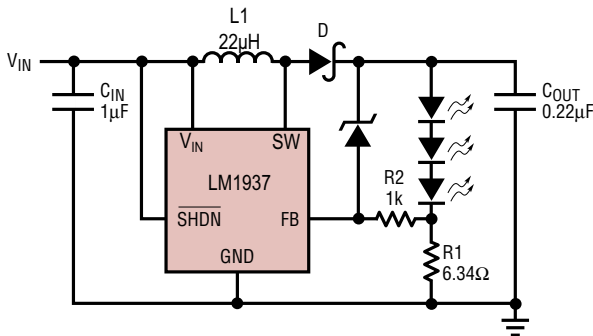


Figure 3. LED Driver with Open-Circuit Protection

**Dimming Control**

There are some different types of dimming control circuits:

1. Using a PWM Signal to  $\overline{SHDN}$  Pin

With the PWM signal applied to the  $\overline{SHDN}$  pin, the LM1937 is turned on or off by the PWM signal. The LEDs operate at either zero or full current. The average LED current increases proportionally with the duty cycle of the PWM signal. A 0% duty cycle will turn off the LM1937 and corresponds to zero LED current. A 100% duty cycle corresponds to full current. The typical frequency range of the PWM signal is 1kHz to 10kHz. The magnitude of the PWM signal should be higher than the minimum SHDN voltage high.

2. Using a DC Voltage

For some applications, the preferred method of brightness control is a variable DC voltage to adjust the LED current. The dimming control using a DC voltage is shown in Figure 4. As the DC voltage increases, the voltage drop on R2 increases and the voltage drop on R1 decreases. Thus, the LED current decreases. The selection of R2 and R3 will make the current from the variable DC source much smaller than the LED current and much larger than the FB pin bias current. For  $V_{DC}$  range from 0V to 2V, the selection of resistors in Figure 4 gives dimming control of LED current from 0mA to 15mA.

3. Using a Filtered PWM Signal

The filtered PWM signal can be considered as an adjustable DC voltage. It can be used to replace the variable DC voltage source in dimming control. The circuit is shown in Figure 5.

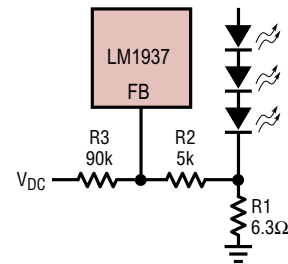


Figure 4. Dimming Control Using a DC Voltage

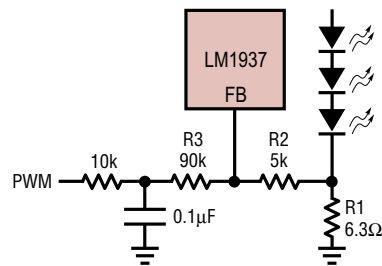
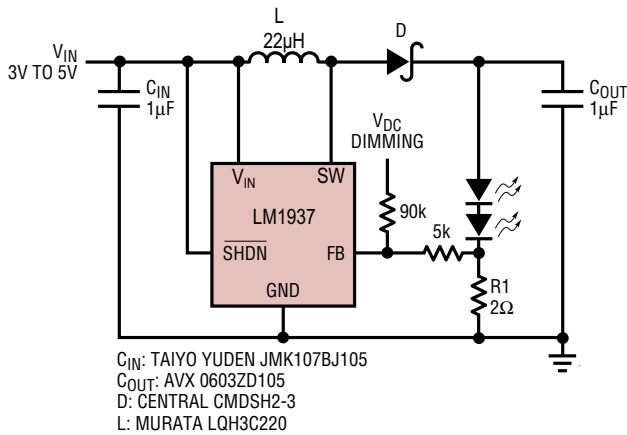
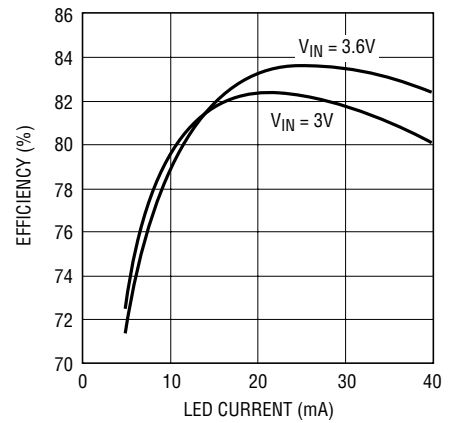


Figure 5. Dimming Control Using a Filtered PWM Signal

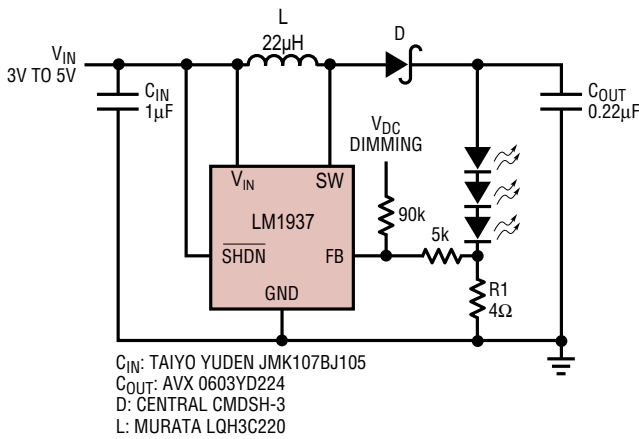
TYPICAL APPLICATIONS



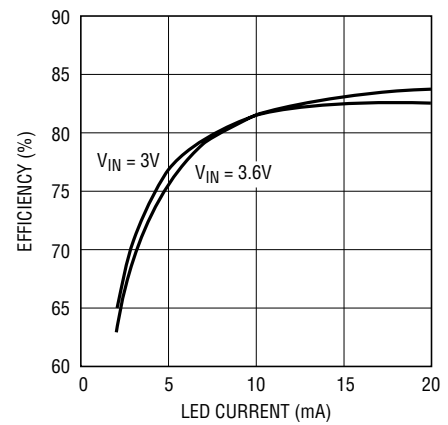
Li-Ion to Two White LEDs



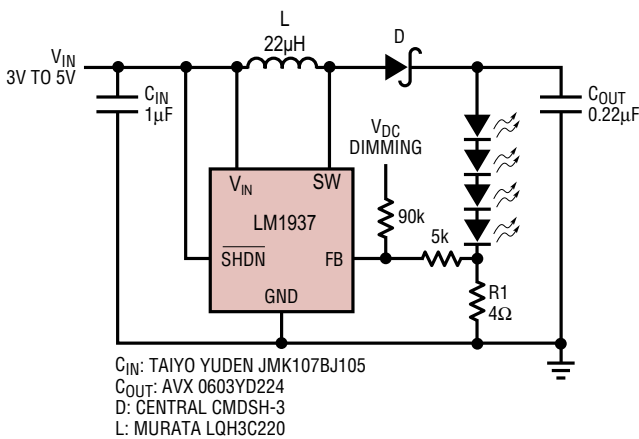
Two LED Efficiency



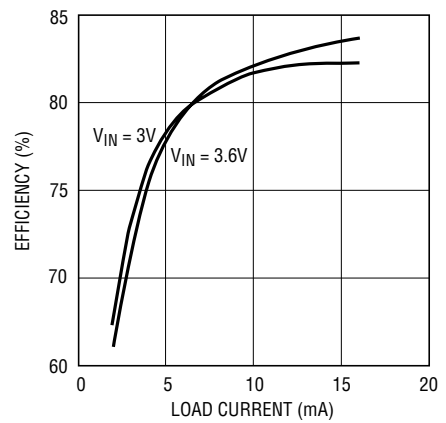
Li-Ion to Three White LEDs



Three LED Efficiency

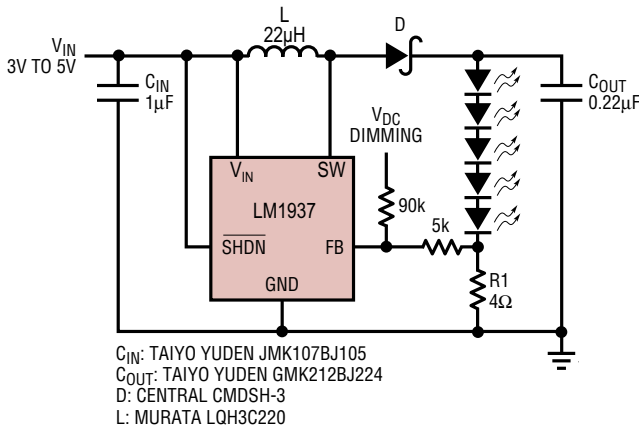


Li-Ion to Four White LEDs

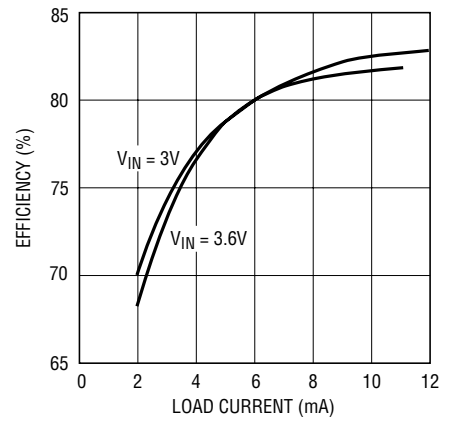


Four LED Efficiency

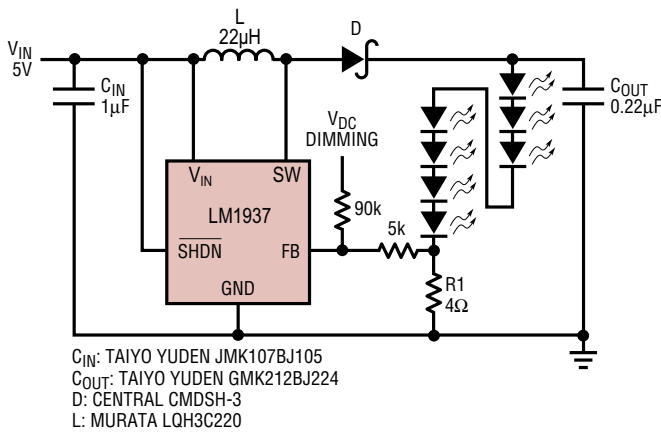
TYPICAL APPLICATIONS



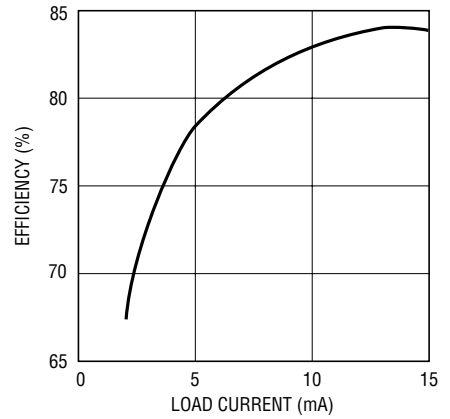
Li-Ion to Five White LEDs



Five LED Efficiency



5V to Seven White LEDs



Seven LED Efficiency

PACKAGE

SOT-23-5L

