

Micro SD Card not detected

The Pads G3 and G4 of the uSD connector are pretty hard to solder. I made the footprint of the PCB exactly as per the manufacturers spec but as this is generally a production wave soldered part I really should have made these pads longer so they protrude beyond the body of the connector so soldering would be easier.. Another lesson learned.

The points in question are shown arrowed in Picture `B'. To resolder these will need a couple of parts, R4 and possibly D5) removed to try to access them to resolder. This is difficult unless you have a very sharp iron and a magnifying lens.

Which Pad (G3 or G4) needs resoldering? This can be checked by probing the switch arms (see photo below), The Top Arm is for G3 (should be Gnd) and the Bottom one is for G4 (should go to D5 & D6 – See Picture `A'), resolder the one that doesn't get continuity.

A work around, providing you do not need the Detect of the uSD card present is to permanently wire D5 and D6 to Gnd, Nearby Gnd locations can be seen in Picture `A'. This will not cause any problems except if you try to access the uSD card and it is not present (an error will occur).

Another problem I came across recently is the connector itself had a `dicky' switch (see the photo below of a good switch), I chased my tail trying to solder and resolder Pads G3 and G4 only to find that the switch was malfunctioning, if this is the case just bent the two arms on the contact to make sure they meet properly when a uSD card is inserted.



