Copy Atari Boot Tapes To Disk

C. Scott Davis
Broomfield, CO

If you're an Atari owner who purchased a disk drive after you bought your initial system, probably one of the first things you did was transfer your program library from cassette to diskette. I know I did. Everything was going along fine until I got to a boot tape. They're the ones you load by powering-up the system while depressing the START key. The game "SHOOT" appearing in the September 1981 issue of **COMPUTE!** is an example.

Not being satisfied with leaving several programs on cassette, I had to find a way to put them on disk. After a little research I developed a program that did the job. Considerable credit goes to Bob Nalbone, who had already developed his own program to read and display data from cassette tapes.

To use the program, simply boot up your system with the BASIC cartridge in place, the disk drive turned on with a DOS disk inserted, and a blank formatted disk handy. Run the program from this article. When finished, you should have a boot disk containing the program from your boot tape. A boot disk is loaded by powering up your disk drive, inserting the disk, and then powering up your computer while depressing the START key.

Here's an explanation of the program:

Lines 180 - 210 read the first four bytes of information from the tape. The number of records and starting address for loading are contained in bytes two, three, and four.

Lines 220 - 370 display system parameters as well as information just obtained from the boot tape. This could be useful if the tape can't be copied because of lack of memory space.

Line 380 calculates the starting address for a work area to be used in transferring data from tape to disk. 500 bytes above the area used by BASIC was selected.

Line 390 calculates the address of the last location required for the work space.

Lines 400 - 480 check to make sure your system has sufficient space to make the transfer. Note that a boot tape may contain as many as 256 records (128 bytes each) requiring a total of 32K of free space. Most tapes should be much smaller.

Lines 490 - 570 place the code for a short machine language routine into reserved memory starting at location 1536 decimal. This routine will read the tape and store the data in the work area previously defined. Machine language is required because BASIC isn't fast enough for more than the first record on the tape. Table 1 shows the assembly language version of this code.

Line 620 opens the cassette for input. The parameter 128 specifies data with short inter-record gaps.

Line 630 calls the routine to read the tape. The work area starting address and the tape length in bytes are passed via the USR function.

Lines 650 - 670 check for an error in the tape reading attempt.

Lines 720 - 740 set up parameters for writing data onto disk. The locations and values used were derived from the *Atari Technical Users Notes.*

Lines 750 - 800 provide a routine to write a single sector of data to disk. See Table 2.

Lines 810 - 870 provide a loop to manipulate several parameters and call the machine routine. The variable START contains the starting address of the next 128 bytes of data to be written.

Line 820 POKEs the low byte of the STARTing address into memory.

Line 830 POKEs the high byte of START into memory.

Line 840 takes care of the disk sector number to be written.

Line 850 calls the USR routine to do the write to disk.

Line 860 increments the starting address for the next write operation.

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Table 1.

Decimal Data	Assembly Code	
104	PLA	Pull the number of USR parameters from the stack
162,16	LDX #$10	Place $10 into the x register for an offset into IOCB #1
169,7	LDA #$07	$07 is control code for character read operation
157,66,3	STA $0342,X	Place that $07 into ICCOM of IOCB #1
104	PLA	Pull the high byte of variable START from the stack
157,69,3	STA $0345,X	Place it into ICBAH of IOCB #1
104	PLA	Pull the low byte of START from the stack
157,68,3	STA $0344,X	Place it into ICBAL of IOCB #1
104	PLA	Pull the high byte of variable FLEN from the stack
157,73,3	STA $0349,X	Place it into ICBLH of IOCB #1
104	PLA	Pull the low byte of FLEN from the stack
157,72,3	STA $0348,X	Place it into ICBLL of IOCB #1
32,86,228	JSR $E453	Jump to CIOV
16,4	BPL $04	Conditional branch forward by 4 if no error
169,1	LDA $01	Put a $01 in A
133,212	STA $D4	Place the 1 in the USR return location
96	RTS	Done

Table 2.

Decimal Data	Assembly Code	
104	PLA	Pull the number of USR parameters from the stack
32,83,228	JSR $E453	Jump to DSKINV to write a sector
96	RTS	Done

```
100 GRAPHICS 0
110 DIM A$(1)
120 PRINT
130 PRINT "PLACE BOOT TAPE IN PLAYER"
140 PRINT "REWIND TAPE - ";
150 PRINT "DEPRESS PLAY BUTTON"
160 PRINT "PRESS RETURN KEY"
170 PRINT
180 OPEN #1,4,0,"C:"
190 GET #1,A:GET #1,NREC
200 GET #1,ADL:GET #1,ADH
210 CLOSE #1
220 PRINT "SYSTEM PARAMETERS:"
230 PRINT
240 BTOP=PEEK(144)+256*PEEK(145)
250 PRINT "BASIC MEMTOP = ";BTOP
260 OTOP=PEEK(741)+256*PEEK(742)
270 PRINT "OS MEMTOP = ";OTOP
280 PRINT "FREE RAM = ";OTOP-BTOP
290 PRINT
300 START=ADL+256*ADH
310 PRINT "YOUR BOOT TAPE NORMALLY"
320 PRINT "LOADS STARTING AT ";START
330 IF NREC=0 THEN NREC=256
340 PRINT "CONTAINS ";NREC;" RECORDS"
    ;
350 FLEN=128*NREC
360 PRINT " = ";FLEN;" BYTES"
370 PRINT
380 START=BTOP+500
390 LAST=START+FLEN
400 IF LAST<OTOP THEN 490
410 PRINT "WORK AREA REQUIRED"
420 PRINT
430 PRINT START," TO ";LAST
440 PRINT
450 PRINT "INSUFFICIENT FREE RAM"
460 PRINT
470 PRINT "SORRY"
480 STOP
490 FOR A=1536 TO 1569
500 READ D
510 POKE A,D
520 NEXT A
530 DATA 104,162,16,169,7,157,66,3
540 DATA 104,157,69,3,104,157,68,3
550 DATA 104,157,73,3,104,157,72,3
560 DATA 32,86,228,16,4,169,1,133,212
570 DATA 96
580 PRINT "REWIND THE TAPE AGAIN"
590 PRINT "DEPRESS PLAY BUTTON"
600 PRINT "PRESS RETURN"
610 PRINT
620 OPEN #1,4,128,"C:"
630 X=USR(1536,START,FLEN)
640 CLOSE #1
650 IF X<>1 THEN 680
660 PRINT "TAPE READ ERROR"
670 STOP
680 PRINT "PUT A FORMATTED DISK IN"
690 PRINT "DRIVE #1 - PRESS RETURN"
700 INPUT A$
710 PRINT
720 POKE 769,1:REM DUNIT=1
730 POKE 770,87:REM WRITE=87
740 POKE 779,0:REM DAUX1=0
750 FOR A=1536 TO 1540
760 READ D
770 POKE A,D
780 NEXT A
790 DATA 104,32,83,228
800 DATA 96
810 FOR SECTOR=1 TO NREC
820 POKE 772,START-256*INT(START/256)
830 POKE 773,INT(START/256)
840 POKE 778,SECTOR
850 X=USR(1536)
860 START=START+128
870 NEXT SECTOR
880 PRINT
890 PRINT "DONE"
900 END
```

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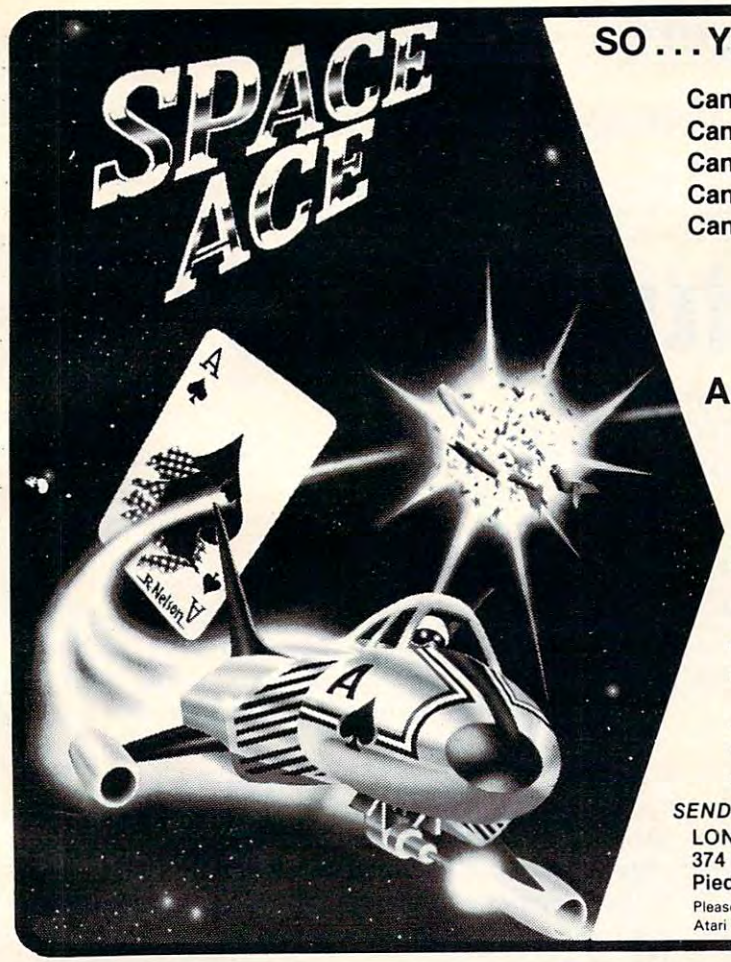

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A routine for Upgrade and 4.0 BASIC (except 4.0, 40-column model) PETs that saves screen images on disk and has other applications.

PET: Picture Files

Elizabeth Deal
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PET knows four types of disk files. It's time we add another, except that it really isn't new – just a program file under a new name. The set of subroutines in the listing shows a way to use a disk as a storage device for screen images. The routine is for Upgrade PET. Conversions to BASIC 4 (80 column) are coded in.

The save/load method described here need not be limited to the screen; it can handle any area of memory. This opens up some interesting possibilities for BASIC, without touching machine code directly.

At present, if you or your children have ever wanted to save a picture from the screen onto a disk file, and bring it back by pressing one shifted key, then this routine is just for you. We use it as an instant subroutine with *Power* (Professional Software), but it can be used without *Power*. The code shows bare-bones essentials. You can customize it for your hardware setup or for different applications.

The Mechanics

The lines that actually do the work are 330-500. The code is a translation into BASIC from the machine language monitor save and load routines, which here function as such. The save command is particularly powerful, in that from within BASIC we can easily save any area of memory.

The subroutine in lines 330-500 needs only this information:

(1) device number (DV)

(2) file name FL$

(3) address of file name; pointer in 68/69 gives address for 218/219

(4) length of file name.

(5) start (S1-S2) and end (S3/S4) addresses for writing.

The picture files are program files, quick and compact. Code conversion is not needed. Characters in reverse, quotes, commas, colons, and other such nasties cause us no problem whatsoever. Loading does not cause a change in BASIC pointers, and, since it does not cause the automatic execution from the first line of text, you don't have to code around that issue.

Disk errors do not cause any problems. The curious necessity of pressing a STOP key in the event of FILE NOT FOUND condition has been eliminated (line 460). The message prints by itself if file does not exist, hence this code is more feasible for use within a program than the semi-direct Power-mode, a necessity for users without *Power*.

I have hard coded device 8 and drive 1. Most of you have interrogation routines on the demo disk; they can make the setup more flexible. The program does ask for a file name and permits you to gracefully get out (type X) before any disk activity takes place. Limit your input to 12 characters, and be careful not to push cursor-down and clear-screen during input. Once again, existing get/input routines are a neater solution.

Cautions

Do not change the business part of the program without first understanding it.

Screen images, if loaded via an ordinary LOAD command by mistake, cause a crash. For that reason, files saved by my routine have a clearly visible "P." (for picture) prefix. This overcomes the only (I think) dangerous feature of the program. If you have a habit of saying "LOAD"P*",8" then this is a good time to plan to stretch the habit to three letters. Of course, one experience guarantees fast learning. This program does not check the end-load address. It is unlikely you have a "P." file starting at the screen and going all the way into the interface chips.

The load command is tricky, in that it normally loads into the same place as where the code came from. This means that, unless you're careful, you may mess up a program in memory if you inadvertently ask for a display of a wrong file. The coding

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in lines 460-500 prevents this from happening. Your variations on this theme may exclude the starting address test in line 490, but be careful what you're doing.

The message end of line 490 is never executed by my program, as the failure to find a program file with a "P." prefix is actually detected in line 460. I keep line 490 for safety, in the event of skipping "P." in line 210 or in versions of the routine or in the event of an existing "P." file that is not a screen file.

For loading via this program you may, of course, use "*" for a file name, as "P.*" will result, bringing in the first picture file.

Do not add the "P." prefix when you are asking to write or read; the routine does it for you and prints it as an input prompt, but you can't change it. The only time "P." in "P.ELEPHANT*" is mandatory is when you want to load the elephant while in the monitor mode (and don't use Power!). Needless to say, "P." must be used when you save screen via the monitor if you plan to read by this code.

Consider the bottom line useless. It is saved, but is used by my routine for asking file name and for floppy error messages. Bottom line seldom is used anyway, so it shouldn't be too painful to forget it. You may change the end address to skip saving that line.

Go easy on the RETURN key after a picture has been displayed, if that picture happens to be a program text or if numbers exist on the left edge. You may or may not want to enter the lines into your program.

Power Mode

The code in lines 110-120 is my hookup to *Power*. Many of you are familiar with Charles Brannon's Keyprint routine, which dumps the screen to printer when a key is pressed. This *Power* hookup works in a similar fashion: pressing a user-designated shifted key dumps the screen image onto a floppy or brings an old image back. The shifted key does not print and, miracle of useful miracles, the cursor stays in place.

Program Mode Suggestions

Don't worry if you don't have *Power*. You can use the routine just about as listed. But it has to be done in a program. You have to arrange for starting and ending the procedure without scrolling the screen. The reason is that, in contrast to *Power*'s instant subroutines, PET's direct "execute" type commands must be typed on the screen, and the cursor hops down. Both events usually mangle the picture.

The simplest thing is to transfer your picture to another area of the PET before saving. Changing top of the PET pointer will protect the picture. You can then save the entire alternate screen area (change the addresses). After loading it by the quick load method, you can transfer the image back, for further work, or whatever.

Swapping the screen prior to input activity into an alternate area is a good idea anyway in very serious uses. You will then not need fancy user-proof input routines, your picture being safe elsewhere.

Some Applications For Picture Files

Many uses are obvious. Your child's masterpiece can be preserved (several times, while working). Graphs and other displays can be saved. Tiny sections of programs can be saved and brought back without disturbing a program in memory. You can save an annotated history of your floppy on the floppy. You can debug programs which are heavily screen oriented, by being able to quickly overlay and compare various outputs you've previously saved as picture files. Fixing the pointer chain can be a building block for a BASIC disk append routine. And more.

Non-Upgrade PETs

The table shows the system addresses used in the code so that if anything goes wrong you can track it down. Most addresses are identical in Upgrade and 4.0 BASIC. Addresses of two ROM routines differ. Provided that they function in the same way (the Micromon code seems to tell me they do), 4.0 users should experience no difficulty.

Upgrade	BASIC #4	Meaning
SC = 32768	same	screen
68/69	same	last used variable (FL$)
212	same	device
209	same	length of file name
218/219	same	address of file name
136/137	same	temp. storage/rnd #
157	same	load flag = 0
251/252	same	save start address
201/202	same	save end address
LR = 62242	62294	load routine $F356
SR = 63140	63203	save routine $F6E3

Additionally, 80-column PETs have a 2000-byte screen. This is reflected in the screen end address correction in line 300, as well as in longer strings of blanks. Be careful of three-way concatenation if memory is getting short.

References

1. *CBM User Manual* (Upgrade) Monitor listing.
2. Butterfield, BASIC4 Memory map and ROM routines, **COMPUTE!**, November/December 1980, #7.
3. Butterfield, Upgrade Memory map, **COMPUTE!**, November/December 1979, #1.
4. Micromon code where one gets load subroutine address.

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5. Butterfield disk utilities where one gets instructions about disk.
6. Collins, "Host Equipment Test," *The Microcomputer Magazine* (Commodore-PA), also in the *Transactor* (Commodore-Canada).

```
110 REM"W 170:WRITE PIC TO FLOPPY
120 REM"R 180:READ TO SCREEN
130 STOP
170 LF=0:GOTO190:REM W (ON DEVICE 8
180 LF=1         :REM R    DRIVE 1)
190 DV=8:DR$="1":FL$=""
200 IFLF=0THENFL$="@"
210 FL$=FL$+DR$+":P."
220 GOSUB270:GOSUB550
230 E1=1:GOSUB630:IFE1GOTO250
240 FL$=FL$+I$:GOSUB330
250 PRINTH$;:RETURN
260 REM---SOME SYS CONSTANTS------
270 GOSUB520:IFTP=0THENSTOP
280 SC=32768:LR=62242:SR=63140
290 S1=0:S2=128:S3=232:S4=131
295 IFTP=2THENLR=62294:SR=63203
300 IFTP=3THENLR=62294:SR=63203:S3=208:S4=135
310 FF=20:RETURN
320 REM---READ/WRITE FILE---------
330 CLOSE15:OPEN15,DV,15
340 IFLFTHENGOSUB460:IFE1THENRETURN
350 POKE212,DV:POKE209,LEN(FL$)
360 POKE136,PEEK(68):POKE137,PEEK(69)
370 AD=PEEK(136)+256*PEEK(137)+1
380 AD=PEEK(AD)+256*PEEK(AD+1)
390 POKE218,AD-256*INT(AD/256):POKE219,AD/256
400 IFLFTHENPOKE157,0:SYS(LR):GOSUB430:CLOSE15
    :RETURN
410 POKE251,S1:POKE252,S2:POKE201,S3:POKE202,S
    4:SYS(SR)
420 REM---FLOPPY STATUS-----------
430 INPUT#15,E1,E$,E2,E3:IFE1=0THENPRINTH$M1$;
    :RETURN
440 PRINTH$BL$H$" *"E1;E$,E2;E3;:CLOSE15:RETUR
    N
450 REM---LEGAL TO LOAD?----------
460 CLOSEFF:OPENFF,DV,3,FL$+",P":GOSUB430:IFE1
    THENRETURN
470 GET#FF,I$:LA=ASC(I$+CHR$(0))
480 GET#FF,I$:CLOSEFF:LA=LA+256*ASC(I$)
490 IFLA<>SCTHENPRINTH$M2$;:E1=1
500 RETURN
510 REM---J.COLLINS TYPE TEST-----
520 A=PEEK(57345):TP=0:IFATHENTP=1:IFAAND1THEN
    TP=3:IFAAND4THENTP=2
530 RETURN:ORIG=0,UPGR=1,4/40=2,4/80=3
540 REM---MESSAGES----------------
550 H$="{HOME}{24 DOWN}":REM[HOME,24DOWN]
560 BL$="
      ":REM[39BLANKS]
570 IFTP=3THENBL$=BL$+BL$+CHR$(32)
580 BL$=BL$+CHR$(20)+" ":M1$=" OK"
590 M2$=" * ??"
600 PRINTH$BL$;:REM CLEAR BOTTOM LINE
610 RETURN
620 REM---CONFIRM,ASK FILE NAME---
630 LL$="WRITE ":IFLFTHENLL$="READ "
640 PRINTH$"{REV}    X/FILE NAME{OFF} "LL$FL$;
    :GOSUB680
650 IFASC(I$)=88THENPRINTH$M1$;:RETURN
660 E1=0:RETURN
670 REM---INPUT------------------
680 CLOSEFF:OPENFF,0:INPUT#FF,I$:CLOSEFF:RETUR
    N
690 REM------------------------.
```

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Building on an intriguing video display technique ("Marquee," February 1982, p. 135), this program makes it easy to add horizontal scrolling which is independent of BASIC. Line 20 can accept a string either from the keyboard or a DATA statement READ. The rest is automatic and, because this routine uses interrupts, it is "transparent" to other things BASIC is doing at the time. It works as printed for Upgrade and 4.0 BASIC PET/CBM's. If you have an 80-column screen, change the 40 in line 864 to an 80. Change the speed by changing the five in line 864.

Calling Routine For Marquee

Kenneth Finn
Bedford, NY

"Marquee," by Mark Bernstein (**COMPUTE!**, February 1982, #21), is an exciting program that gives the capability to make the top line of the screen into a billboard with strings moving from right to left across it.

Since the program is in machine language, it requires a special set-up to use from BASIC. The way the program was originally written, you load the Accumulator and X register of the 6502 with the address of the string you want printed before calling the routine. In his article he coded such a string for demonstration. However, when you are writing a BASIC program, setting up such a string is not so easy.

The following routine can be used in any BASIC program to make Marquee work simply and easily for you. The trick is that locations 68 and 69 contain an address for the location of the last referenced string in the BASIC program. Thus, we must make our BASIC program reference the correct string, then tack on a chr$(0) to it as an end marker, and then indirectly get its address. The following program does this for you in the form of a subroutine.

```
 10 INPUT /ENTER STRING/;A$
 20 LET A$=A$+CHR$(0) : GOSUB100
 30 REM
 40 GOTO 10
 50 END
 60 REM
 70 REM
100 REM MARQUE CALLING SUBROUTINE
103 REM
105 IF PEEK(145)<>46 THEN 105
110 POKE1009,PEEK((PEEK(68)+2+PEEK(69)*256):
    REM HI BYTE
120 POKE1011,PEEK((PEEK(68)+1+PEEK(69)*256):
    REM LO BYTE
130 SYS1008:RETURN
140 REM
150 REM
```

The above routine makes using Marquee from BASIC simple and makes the routine even more valuable.

```
10 GOSUB800
20 INPUT A$:A$=A$+CHR$(0): REM OR READ A
    $ (FROM A DATA STATEMENT IN PROGRAM)
30 POKE1009,PEEK(PEEK(68)+PEEK(69)*256+2
    ):REM HIGH BYTE
40 POKE1011,PEEK(PEEK(68)+PEEK(69)*256+1
    ):REM LOW BYTE
50 SYS1008
60 END
800 REM MARQUEE MACHINE LANGUAGE
810 FOR ADRES=864TO1015:READ DATTA: POKE
     ADRES,DATTA:NEXT ADRES
820 RETURN
864 DATA 40,0,5,85,228,7
870 DATA 5,40,160,1,185,0
876 DATA128,153,255,127,200,204
882 DATA96,3,208,244,32,161
888 DATA3,205,97,3,240,15
894 DATA192,255,240,11,200,140
900 DATA101,3,172,96,3,153
906 DATA255,127,96,172,96,3
912 DATA169,32,153,255,127,238
918 DATA103,3,173,103,3,205
924 DATA96,3,176,48,96,172
930 DATA101,3,177,0,41,191
936 DATA96,141,0,0,142,1
942 DATA0,169,0,141,103,3
948 DATA141,101,3,173,144,0
954 DATA141,99,3,173,145,0
960 DATA141,100,3,120,169,223
966 DATA141,144,0,169,3,141
972 DATA145,0,88,96,120,173
978 DATA99,3,141,144,0,173
984 DATA100,3,141,145,0,88
990 DATA96,206,102,3,16,9
996 DATA32,104,3,173,98,3
1002 DATA141,102,3,108,99,3
1008 DATA162,3,169,248,32,169
1014 DATA3,96
```

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A gentle introduction to PET interfacing with a simple example to let your computer control external devices.

PET Interfacing

Mike Baskerville
Compton, CA

Technological advances in the field of microprocessor interfacing permit the computer to control large amounts of current and voltage. Silicon devices such as the diode, transistors, and thyristors allow the computer to function as a very flexible control mechanism.

The intent of this article is to open the door for users who would like to do something with their PET/CBM other than send electronic mail and dazzle their friends with the PET's computing abilities.

The user port on the PET/CBM is one of the few things that has not changed from the first 4K PET to the current 32K CBM. It is driven by POKEs and read with PEEKs. Machine language programming allows very quick responses, making the port priceless. Those of you not familiar with the user port, pay close attention: you may be in for a pleasant surprise.

The 6522 VIA (Versatile Interface Adaptor) is the IC (integrated circuit) which gives us the user port. It provides a parallel eight-bit bidirectional data port as well as serial in and out for those great sound effects. Bidirectional means that data can be read or written and is an important feature because many hardware applications require monitoring as well as control. The eight-bit parallel port can control eight devices, or a combination of monitoring and control can be obtained without additional decoding or multiplexing.

Data seen on the port in the output mode is a one or a zero in binary. The corresponding measured quantities are +2.4 volts (binary one) or something less than +0.5 volts, which corresponds to the binary zero. Knowing this, and having a little knowledge of semiconductors and digital logic, you can easily control lights, TVs, radios, security systems, tape recorders, or just about anything that can be turned on and off.

Obviously, I can't (in one article) show how to interface to any device, but I will introduce a simple interface and trust that, with a little creativity, many users will adopt their own style and applications.

Like money in the bank, a buffer is a good idea. A buffer adds a margin of safety between you and the computer (we don't want to lose that 6522 VIA). For the purpose of buffering I have used AND gates, NAND gates, and/or hex inverters. In order to maintain compatibility, TTL (Transistor-Transistor Logic) IC's should be utilized. This compatibility assures proper voltage, current, and switching levels for the buffer. At this point, I recommend that anyone seriously interested in interfacing acquire a TTL data book. Many are on the market. *The TTL Data Book* (Texas Instruments) is fine. The 6522 VIA is manufactured by MOS Technology / Commodore Semiconductor Group. Their address is Valley Forge Corp. Center, 950 Rittenhouse Rd., Norristown, PA, (215)666-7950.

Our simple demonstration interface could control a lamp to provide home security or just to show off the versatility of your PET. You will need a NAND gate (SN74LS00), a 5 volt DC power supply, a NPN transistor, a SPST relay, a 10K resistor, and some means of bringing it all together.

The circuit shown in Figure 1 operates as follows: one of the inputs to the NAND gate is grounded, and the other is connected to the output of the user port. When the port goes low (POKE 59471,0), the NAND gate output goes high (which will forward bias the transistor and energize the relay coil). The contacts open and the lamp goes out. The 10K resistor between the base of the transistor and the NAND gate insures that only a small current will forward bias the transistor – insuring long life and saturation of the transistor. To turn the light on (POKE 59471,1), the port goes high, causing the NAND gate to go low; thus the transistor loses its bias and the coil voltage drops to zero. The lamp comes on. With this circuit configuration, and a relay with a one-amp contact rating, you can easily control a 100 watt light bulb.

It is a good idea to test your circuit before making the final connection to the computer. An additional advantage of the buffer (the NAND gate) is that the circuit can be tested by grounding both inputs of the NAND gate. This will simulate a low output from the user port. By removing one of the grounds, the NAND gate output will go low, simulating a high output on the port. A nice feature of TTL is that an open input is interpreted the same as a logic level one.

Driving the circuit can be as simple as pressing a button on the computer. If a triac is used, instead of the relay, the light could be dimmed and brightened as well as turned off and on. The sample program allows a time delay for the circuit.

This particular application of the user port is only one of the unlimited possibilities for your PET/CBM. I hope you have as much fun developing your interfaces as I do mine.

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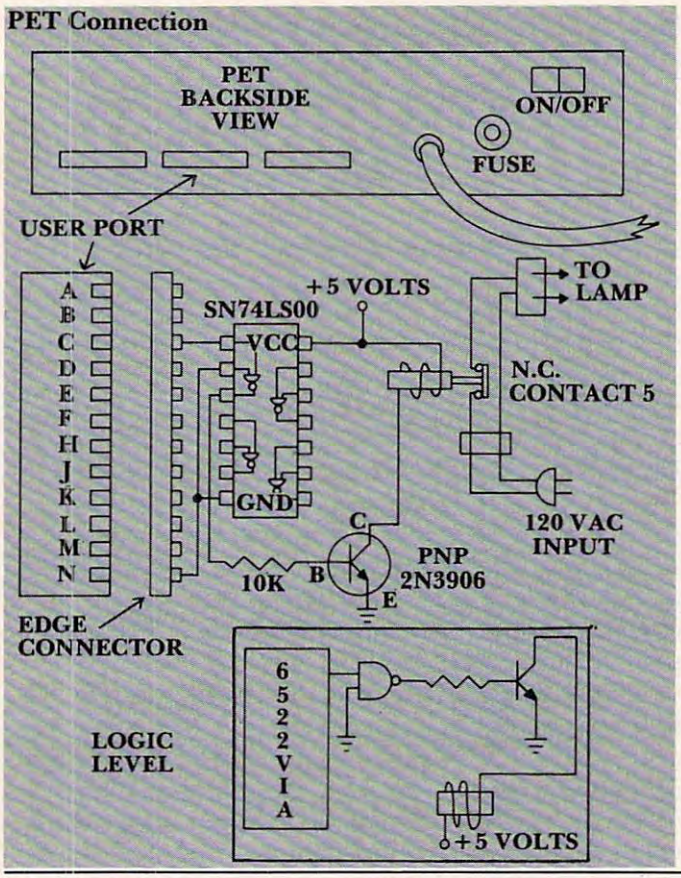


```
100 REM      SAMPLE PROGRAM FOR USER PORT I/O
110 PRINT"{CLEAR}":POKE59468,12
120 POKE59459,1:REM       SETS PA-0 FOR OUTPUT

130 P$="{HOME}{12 DOWN}{17 RIGHT}"
140 T$="{HOME}{03 DOWN}{09 RIGHT}"
150 T1$="{HOME}{21 DOWN}{09 RIGHT}"
160 T3$="COMPUTERIZED LAMP CONTROL"
170 T4$="{10 RIGHT}PRESS"
180 T5$="{02 DOWN}{04 RIGHT}{REV} L {OFF}IGHT ~
    {REV} D {OFF}ARK "
190 L$=" LAMP ON  "
200 L1$="{REV} LAMP ON {OFF}"
210 O$=" LAMP OFF  "
220 O1$="{REV} LAMP OFF {OFF}"
230 PRINTT$;T3$;T1$;T4$;T1$;T5$
240 A$="L":GOTO270
250 REM     THIS ROUTINE SETS PA-0 HIGH OR LOW

260 GET A$
270 IF A$="L" THEN POKE 59471,1:PRINTP$;L$:B$=
    "L"
280 IF A$="D" THEN POKE 59471,0:PRINTP$;O$:B$=
    "O"
290 A=A+1:IFA>30 THEN GOSUB 320
300 GOTO 260
310 REM     FLASHING INDICATOR ROUTINE
320 IF B$="L" AND B1$="S" THEN PRINTP$;L$:A=0:
    B1$="":RETURN
330 IF B$="L" THEN PRINTP$;L1$:A=0:B1$="S":RET
    URN
340 IF B1$="S" THEN PRINTP$;O$:A=0:B1$="":RETU
    RN
350 PRINTP$;O1$:A=0:B1$="S"
360 RETURN
```


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You can customize your Atari BASIC by adding new commands to the language itself. To demonstrate how to do it, the program below adds five DOS commands to BASIC – including a directory command. There are two versions of the same program. Program 1 is a BASIC loader. You type it in normally and it will create a machine language program for you from the information in the DATA statements. Program 2 is a disassembly of the same routine. It shows how the machine language works and is useful to programmers who know machine language or want to learn more about it. It's not necessary, however, to understand Program 2 in order to make good use of Program 1.

The Atari Wedge: Adding Commands To Atari BASIC

Charles Brannon
Editorial Assistant

A letter was published recently in **COMPUTE!**'s "Ask The Readers" column, regretting the need for "this POKE or that POKE" to accomplish various tasks. The required solution is an "expanded command set." An enticing prospect, adding commands to a language, and a seemingly impossible one, too.

Atari BASIC, like most microcomputer BASICs, is "burned" into nonvolatile ROM memory. The machine language routines to list, save, edit, and run your program cannot be altered or "patched" in any way. (However, on a 48K Atari, you can copy the BASIC cartridge to disk as a binary file, modify it with a "machine language monitor," and load it into the top of memory where it will act almost as a ROM cartridge.)

The most common (and easiest to implement) extension of a language is the addition of "immediate mode" commands. These direct commands, which are not usually executed in a program, but from the keyboard, include RUN, SAVE, LIST, NEW, DOS, etc. Thanks to Atari's modular Operating System (OS), we can easily add this type of command.

An Overview Of Atari's Operating System

To understand how the Atari Wedge works, we'll have to delve into the mysterious 10K ROM. If you just want to use the program and aren't concerned about the technical details, feel free to skip ahead. The Operating System (OS) of a computer is responsible for all input and output to and from disk, cassette, printer, and keyboard. It can also perform such chores as memory management and screen display. On many microcomputers, the OS does not exist as a separate entity, but is incorporated into the BASIC interpreter.

The Atari, on the other hand, is the first microcomputer with a general-purpose "plug-in" operating system. This goes hand in hand with the use of program and game cartridges. All programs running on an Atari use a common set of routines, from floating point arithmetic to high-resolution graphics routines such as PLOT, DRAWTO, and FILL.

A Mini-language

So, instead of BASIC providing a marginal operating system (which on many machines is a maze of machine language calls, requiring incompatible register setup and initialization), we have a BASIC cartridge which uses "universal" OS routines. A good OS simulates a mini-language. It provides documented, unchanging (between various revisions), unified subroutines with full parameter passing and error-checking.

Furthermore, a good OS is *extensible*. All the major routines and subroutines are accessed *indirectly*, through pointers. That is why the Atari is so flexible. If you want to change the personality of your computer, just change one of the *vectors* of a given routine to point to your machine language routine. Your program can then pass on control to the default program.

A Flexible Computer

This indirection is visible throughout the Atari. At the low end is color indirection, where you can change the color of anything drawn to another color merely by changing one *color register*. The default character set pointer can be changed to point to a user-designed character set. The system

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interrupt routines and display list interrupts are all fully accessible via a table of pointers. The BREAK key can be masked; the keyboard scan routine can be modified or bypassed; exotic peripherals can be serviced. And *all* input/output devices are user-definable, from the keyboard to the disk drive.

A notable peculiarity of the Atari is that not just the disk drive or printer, but also the TV screen and keyboard, are considered "peripherals." You don't print a character to the screen on the Atari; you send a character or buffer to the Editor device.

Chain Of Command

Through the hierarchy of a subset of the OS, the CIO (Central Input/Output), BASIC politely requests a line of input from screen and keyboard. After BASIC makes this request, control is passed to CIO, which calls the Editor. The Editor lets the user enter a "line" of text (which can be up to three screen lines long). The user can use cursor controls to edit the line or to move the cursor anywhere on the screen to edit another line.

When RETURN is pressed, the line the cursor is on is placed into a buffer (block of memory). Next, CIO gives this information to the calling routine via another buffer. The CIO is designed to be easy to use from machine language. If you think it sounds complicated, imagine performing all these tasks *without* an operating system!

Driving A Wedge

We don't have to modify BASIC at all. We just "wedge" our way into the Editor device, "E:". As intimated, even the "system" devices such as "E:" or "D:", the disk "driver," can be replaced. Usually, however, you don't want to replace a vectored routine; you just want to insert an additional task. In this case, you point the vector to your routine, which performs the little extra task and then calls the main routine. This "bypass" explains the term *wedge*.

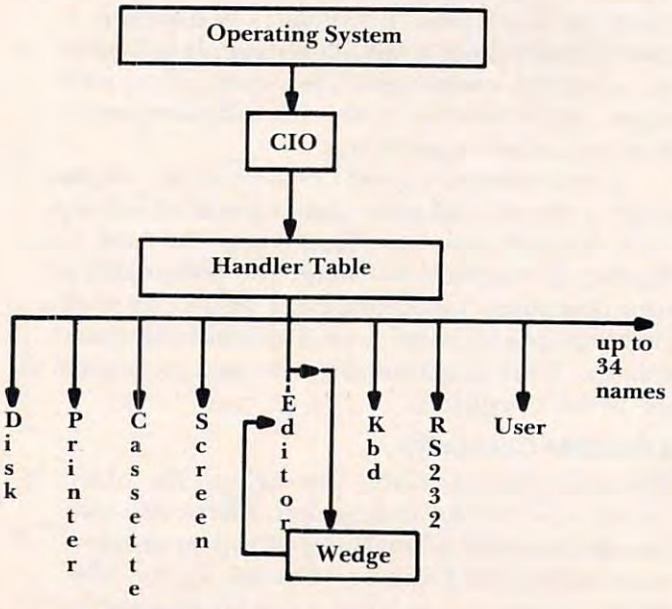

Figure 1. Wedging Into a Vector

The Handler table contains the names of all the devices. If you wanted to, you could change the name of the cassette device (C:) to another character, such as T: (for Tape), by finding the "C" in the table and changing it to a "T". Along with each name, the Handler table includes an address that points to another table of addresses that point to all the functions of that particular device. This is multi-level indirection. There is even a vector that points to a list of vectors!

We want to modify the Editor, so we change the first vector to point to *our* list of vectors. All we really need to do is change one of the vectors in the Editor's list of vectors, the "Get Character" address. Since this list is in ROM, at $E400, we need to copy this 16-byte table to RAM, modify it, and re-point the Handler table to our RAM version of the Editor Handler table.

A Monitor Monarchy

Now that we've got the Operating System calling our routine instead of the Editor in ROM, we've got total control of almost all console input/output. The Get Character routine, instead of calling E:, asks us for an ASCII character, presumably from the screen and keyboard. We comply by calling the default routine in ROM.

This seems rather roundabout, doesn't it? But we reserve the right to monitor all characters returned to the Operating system, and hence, BASIC. We get to examine every line of input before that line is returned to BASIC, where any strange new commands would be scorned with an error message.

So, we just catch the carriage return code and leisurely examine the input buffer, located at $0580. All we have to do is compare it against a table of commands, and, if we find a match, execute the command. If not, we just return the line to CIO (and CIO gives it back to BASIC) on the assumption that it's either a blank line, a BASIC command, or a syntax error. Sounds simple, but such a "parsing" routine is quite a headache to code and understand.

A REMarkable Solution

After we've intercepted and executed the line, how do we prevent a syntax error when we return the line to BASIC? (And since we've "cut in," we have to follow protocol and return *something*.) One solution would be to erase the buffer by filling it with spaces. An easier trick would be to change the first character of the line to a period, e.g., "SCRATCH D:TEMP" would become ".CRATCH D:TEMP". Since BASIC interprets a leading period as an

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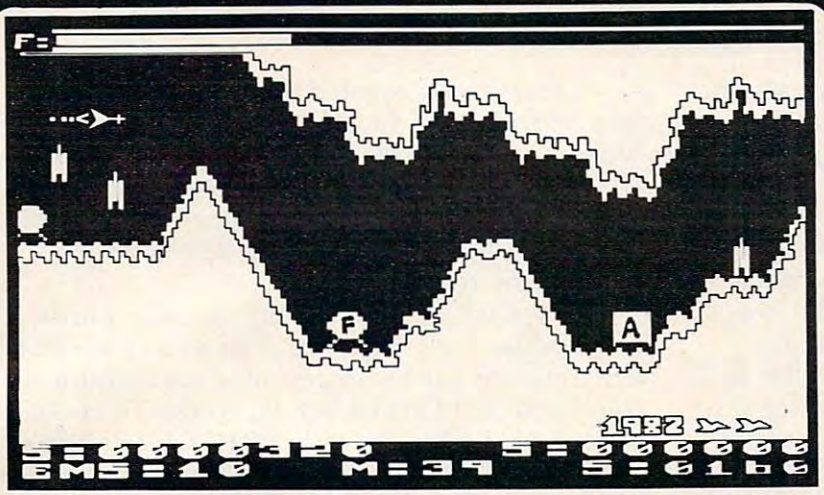

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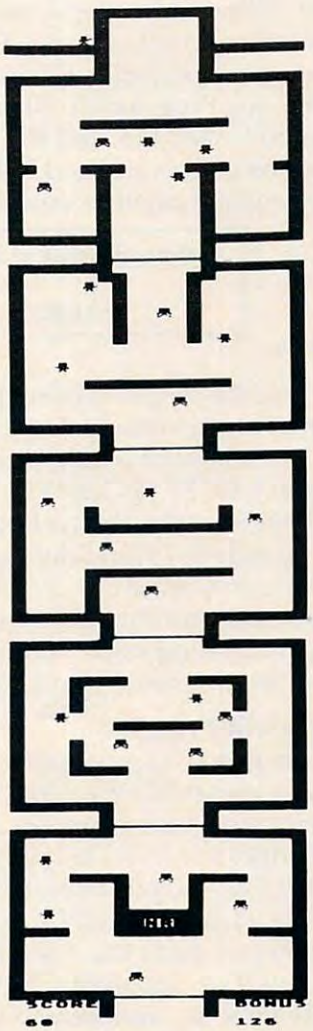

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abbreviation for "REM" (don't ask me why, it's just a lucky fluke), BASIC conveniently ignores the command *and* returns READY (which it wouldn't if we merely blanked out the line).

The parser routine makes it easy for you to add commands. Just place the name of each command, followed by a zero, and the address where you want control to be transferred after the command is recognized, in COMTBL (COMmand TaBLe, see Program 2). The length of the line is found in LENGTH, and the second character after the command is returned in PARMS (since this is where any parameters would be).

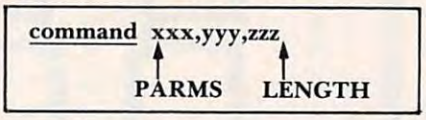

Figure 2.

Note that the length is one character past the end of the string, assuming you number from zero. Your command processor can find the command string in LBUFF ($0580).

Theoretically, this technique can be used to add commands to *any* language environment. You only have to find a way to make the language processor ignore commands when you return the line (such as blanking it out). Of course, the commands themselves are usually language-specific.

Copious Commands

Now the way is open to add a plethora of BASIC utility commands. Of course, these will have to be written in machine language and interfaced with the Wedge. I've included the resident DOS commands LOCK, UNLOCK, RENAME, and SCRATCH, as well as DIR to print the directory.

You can study the assembly listing (Program 2). If you have an assembler, try typing it in and modifying it. It contains a wealth of techniques and information, such as pattern matching, indirect subroutine calls, making a routine "RESET-proof," using CIO for input/output from machine language, long branching, modular programming, calling BASIC's ERROR routine, even "pressing" SYSTEM RESET from within a program.

Using Wedge 1.0

A machine language program can be hard to even enter into the Atari without an assembler. Program 1 will write the machine language to disk in the form of an "AUTORUN.SYS" file. Save this program so you can write copies to any disk. When you boot this disk, the AUTORUN file will automatically load and initialize the Wedge. You can use the Wedge's "console DOS" directly, without waiting for the disk utility package (DUP.SYS) to load in, and without losing any programs in memory.

Commands provided are DIR (lists the directory of drive one), LOCK, UNLOCK, SCRATCH (delete), and RENAME. Remember to include the D: (or D2: for drive two, if you have one) in the filename with all the commands except DIR. With RENAME, use the convention RENAME D:-oldname,newname".

The Wedge is "persistent"; in other words, it re-initializes itself when you press SYSTEM RESET, so it's kind of hard to get rid of it. An additional command, KILL, removes the Wedge. You can bring back the Wedge with: PRINT USR(7936)..

These commands are just a start. Many others are possible: RENUMBER, FIND, AUTO line number, UPDATE (removes unused variables from the variable name table), and more. If you come up with a useful BASIC utility in machine language, send it to **COMPUTE!** to be incorporated into a future version of the Wedge.

Talking Back

We've managed to intercept BASIC at the command level. In future issues, we'll go into how you can tell BASIC what to do from machine language. We'll even try to pursue that elusive aim – actually adding commands to a running program.

Program 1: BASIC Loader

```
100 REM WEDGE BASIC LOADER
110 GRAPHICS 0:? "Insert a DOS 2.0S d
    iskette"
120 ? "with DOS.SYS in drive 1."
130 ? :? "Press RETURN when you have
    done this."
140 IF PEEK(764)<>12 THEN 140
150 POKE 764,255
160 ? :? "Now writing the Wedge AUTOR
    UN.SYS file"
170 TRAP 190
180 OPEN #1,8,0,"D:AUTORUN.SYS":TRAP
    40000:GOTO 200
190 CLOSE #1:? :? "Can't open AUTORUN
    .SYS for write.":END
200 PUT #1,255:PUT #1,255:REM $FFFF H
    EADER
210 PUT #1,0:PUT #1,31:REM $1F00 STAR
    T
220 PUT #1,74:PUT #1,33:REM $214A END
230 FOR I=7936 TO 8522+6:REM INCLUDE
    6-BYTE AUTORUN
240 READ A:TRAP 310:PUT #1,A:TRAP 400
    00
250 CKSUM=CKSUM+A
260 NEXT I
270 IF CKSUM<>60435 THEN ? "{BELL}Bad
     number in DATA statements.":ERR=
    1
280 CLOSE #1
290 IF  NOT ERR THEN ? :? "DATA ok, w
    rite successful."
300 END
310 ? :? "Error-";PEEK(195);" when at
    tempting disk write.":CLOSE #1:EN
    D
320 REM
330 REM Following is the decimal
```

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```
340 REM equivalent of Wedge 1.0
350 REM Must be typed in perfectly
360 REM in order to function.
370 REM
7936 DATA 104,165,12,141,37,31
7942 DATA 165,13,141,38,31,169
7948 DATA 36,133,12,169,31,133
7954 DATA 13,32,43,31,32,92
7960 DATA 31,169,75,141,231,2
7966 DATA 169,33,141,232,2,96
7972 DATA 32,64,21,32,11,31
7978 DATA 96,169,80,141,68,3
7984 DATA 169,31,141,69,3,169
7990 DATA 0,141,73,3,169,12
7996 DATA 141,72,3,169,11,141
8002 DATA 66,3,162,0,32,86
8008 DATA 228,152,48,1,96,76
8014 DATA 55,33,65,116,97,114
8020 DATA 105,32,87,101,100,103
8026 DATA 101,155,160,0,185,26
8032 DATA 3,201,69,240,7,200
8038 DATA 200,192,34,208,243,96
8044 DATA 200,169,165,153,26,3
8050 DATA 200,169,31,153,26,3
8056 DATA 162,0,189,0,228,157
8062 DATA 165,31,232,224,16,208
8068 DATA 245,169,184,141,169,31
8074 DATA 169,31,141,170,31,24
8080 DATA 173,4,228,105,1,141
8086 DATA 186,31,173,5,228,105
8092 DATA 0,141,187,31,169,0
8098 DATA 133,203,96,251,243,51
8104 DATA 246,184,31,163,246,51
8110 DATA 246,60,246,76,228,243
8116 DATA 56,1,1,125,32,32
8122 DATA 62,246,8,201,155,240
8128 DATA 4,230,203,40,96,140
8134 DATA 181,31,142,182,31,165
8140 DATA 203,240,86,169,51,133
8146 DATA 205,169,32,133,206,160
8152 DATA 0,177,205,217,128,5
8158 DATA 208,12,200,177,205,240
8164 DATA 40,196,203,208,240,76
8170 DATA 37,32,201,255,240,53
8176 DATA 160,0,177,205,240,9
8182 DATA 230,205,144,2,230,206
8188 DATA 76,242,31,24,165,205
8194 DATA 105,3,133,205,144,2
8200 DATA 230,206,76,215,31,200
8206 DATA 132,204,177,205,141,183
8212 DATA 31,200,177,205,141,184
8218 DATA 31,108,183,31,160,0
8224 DATA 169,46,153,128,5,169
8230 DATA 0,133,203,169,155,172
8236 DATA 181,31,174,182,31,40
8242 DATA 96,68,73,82,0,125
8248 DATA 32,83,67,82,65,84
8254 DATA 67,72,0,22,33,76
8260 DATA 79,67,75,0,27,33
8266 DATA 85,78,76,79,67,75
8272 DATA 0,32,33,82,69,78
8278 DATA 65,77,69,0,37,33
8284 DATA 75,73,76,76,0,42
8290 DATA 33,255,155,50,54,32
8296 DATA 70,82,69,69,32,83
8302 DATA 69,67,84,79,82,83
8308 DATA 155,155,0,0,68,58
8314 DATA 42,46,42,162,80,169
8320 DATA 12,157,66,3,32,86
8326 DATA 228,162,80,169,3,157
8332 DATA 66,3,169,6,157,74
8338 DATA 3,169,120,157,68,3
8344 DATA 169,32,157,69,3,32
8350 DATA 86,228,152,16,3,76
8356 DATA 55,33,162,80,169,5
8362 DATA 157,66,3,169,100,157
8368 DATA 68,3,141,68,3,169
8374 DATA 32,157,69,3,141,69
8380 DATA 3,169,20,157,72,3
8386 DATA 141,72,3,32,86,228
8392 DATA 152,48,13,169,9,141
8398 DATA 66,3,162,0,32,86
8404 DATA 228,76,166,32,162,80
8410 DATA 169,12,157,66,3,32
8416 DATA 86,228,76,30,32,162
8422 DATA 80,157,66,3,169,0
8428 DATA 157,73,3,164,203,153
8434 DATA 128,5,56,152,229,204
8440 DATA 157,72,3,24,169,128
8446 DATA 101,204,157,68,3,169
8452 DATA 5,105,0,157,69,3
8458 DATA 32,86,228,152,16,3
8464 DATA 76,55,33,76,30,32
8470 DATA 169,33,76,229,32,169
8476 DATA 35,76,229,32,169,36
8482 DATA 76,229,32,169,32,76
8488 DATA 229,32,173,37,31,133
8494 DATA 12,173,38,31,133,13
8500 DATA 76,116,228,72,162,80
8506 DATA 169,12,157,66,3,32
8512 DATA 86,228,104,162,255,154
8518 DATA 133,185,76,64,185
9000 REM DATA FOR AUTORUN ADDRESS
9010 DATA 224,2,225,2,1,31
9020 REM END OF DATA STATEMENTS
```

Program 2: Wedge Disassembly

```
0100 ; The Atari Wedge
0110 ;
0120             *=$1F00
0130 ICCOM    =$0342
0140 ICBADR   =$0344
0150 ICBLEN   =$0348
0160 ICAUX1   =$034A
0170 COPN     =$03
0180 CPTXTR   =$09
0190 CGTXTR   =$05
0200 CPBINR   =$0B
0210 CCLOSE   =$0C
0220 CIO      =$E456
0230 OPDIR    =$06
0240 HATABS   =$031A
0250 LBUFF    =$0580
0260 LENGTH   =$CB
0270 MEMLO    =$02E7
0280 PARMS    =$CC
0290 COM      =$CD
0300 DOSINIT  =$0C
0310 ENTRY    PLA                ;For BA
    SIC initialization
0320 ; Make wedge "RESET-proof"
0330 INIT
0340          LDA DOSINIT        ;Save D
    OS
0350          STA REINIT+1       ;initia
    lization
0360          LDA DOSINIT+1      ;inside
     the REINIT
0370          STA REINIT+2       ;JSR ca
    ll
0380 ;
0390 INIT2    LDA #REINIT&255 ;Replac
    e DOS init
0400          STA DOSINIT        ;with W
    edge
0410          LDA #REINIT/256 ;init
0420          STA DOSINIT+1
0430          JSR MSG ;Print message
0440          JSR ECHANGE        ; hooku
```

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```
    p new E:
0450            LDA #ENDWEDGE&255 ;Bump
     up
0460            STA MEMLO
0470            LDA #ENDWEDGE/256 ;low
    memory pointer
0480            STA MEMLO+1
0490            RTS
0500 ;
0510 REINIT     JSR XXXX          ;XXXX is
     filled in with DOSINIT
0520            JSR INIT2
0530 XXXX       RTS
0540 ;
0550 ; Print "welcome" message
0560 ;
0570 MSG        LDA #WMSG&255     ;Store a
    ddress of
0580            STA ICBADR        ;message
0590            LDA #WMSG/256
0600            STA ICBADR+1
0610            LDA #0            ;Set len
    gth
0620            STA ICBLEN+1
0630            LDA #12
0640            STA ICBLEN
0650            LDA #CPBINR       ;Ignore
    carriage-returns
0660            STA ICCOM
0670            LDX #0            ;File 0,
     the editor
0680            JSR CIO           ;Call CI
    O to print it
0690            TYA
0700            BMI ERR           ;If no e
    rror, return
0710            RTS
0720 ERR        JMP ERROR
0730 ;
0740 WMSG       .BYTE "Atari Wedge",155
0760 ;
0770 ; Following replaces the old E:
0780 ;
0790 ECHANGE    LDY #0            ;Search
    for E:
0800 ELOOP      LDA HATABS,Y      ;in hand
    ler table
0810            CMP #'E
0820            BEQ EFOUND        ;Found e
    nd?
0830            INY               ;no, nex
    t entry
0840            INY
0850            CPY #34           ;end of
    table?
0860            BNE ELOOP
0870            RTS               ;return
0880 ;
0890 ; Store new handler table addres
    s
0900 ;
0910 EFOUND     INY
0920            LDA #WEDGETAB&255
0930            STA HATABS,Y
0940            INY
0950            LDA #WEDGETAB/256
0960            STA HATABS,Y
0970 ; Transfer Editor table to Wedge
    table
0980            LDX #0
0990 XFER       LDA $E400,X
1000            STA WEDGETAB,X
1010            INX
1020            CPX #16
1030            BNE XFER
1040 ; Patch in MYINPUT routine
1050            LDA #MYINPUT-1&255
1060            STA WEDGETAB+4
1070            LDA #MYINPUT-1/256
1080            STA WEDGETAB+5
1090            CLC
1100            LDA $E404         ; Get ch
    aracter address
1110            ADC #1            ; Actual
     address is +1
1120            STA MYINPUT+1     ; Egads!
1130            LDA $E405         ; Self-m
    odifying code!
1140            ADC #0            ;(Accept
     any carry)
1150            STA MYINPUT+2
1160            LDA #0
1170            STA LENGTH        ;Clear l
    ength initially
1180            RTS
1190 ;
1200 ; Wedge handler address table
1210 WEDGETAB   *=*+16
1220 YSAVE      *=*+1             ;Used to
     save Y register
1230 XSAVE      *=*+1             ;Ditto f
    or X
1240 JUMPADR    *=*+2             ;used fo
    r indirect JMP
1250 MYINPUT
1260 ; The $F63E address is actually
    placed here by above code
1270 ; to permit this routine to run
    on the Revision B OS
1280 ; (where it wouldn't be $F63E)
1290            JSR $F63E         ;Get a c
    haracter from E:
1300            PHP
1310            CMP #155          ;End of
    line? (CR)
1320            BEQ ENDLINE       ;Yes, co
    mplete line ready
1330            INC LENGTH
1340            PLP
1350            RTS               ;No, let
     CIO have the character
1360 ENDLINE
1370            STY YSAVE         ;Save Y
    for CIO
1380            STX XSAVE
1390            LDA LENGTH
1400            BEQ RETURN.LINE
1410 LOOKUP
1420            LDA #COMTBL&255 ;Set up
     indirect pointer for
1430            STA COM
1440            LDA #COMTBL/256 ;comman
    d table
1450            STA COM+1
1460 NEXTCOM    LDY #0
1470 COMPLOOP
1480            LDA (COM),Y       ;Compare
     command against line buffer
1490            CMP LBUFF,Y       ;Okay so
     far?
1500            BNE NOTSAME       ;no matc
    h
1510            INY
1520            LDA (COM),Y       ;is next
     character null?
1530            BEQ COMFOUND      ;yes, co
    mmand found
1540            CPY LENGTH        ;exceede
    d limits?
1550            BNE COMPLOOP      ;if not,
```

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```
      continue comparison
1560            JMP RETURN.LINE ;give l
    ine to language
1570 NOTSAME    CMP #255        ;End of
    table?
1580            BEQ RETURN.LINE
1590            LDY #0          ;No, ski
    p over command
1600 FINDEND    LDA (COM),Y
1610            BEQ ENDCOM      ;Hit the
     zero yet?
1620            INC COM         ;No, nex
    t character
1630            BCC NOINC1
1640            INC COM+1
1650 NOINC1     JMP FINDEND     ;continue
     until null byte found
1660 ENDCOM     CLC             ;Add 3 to
     skip over null byte
1670            LDA COM         ;and JMP
    address
1680            ADC #3
1690            STA COM
1700            BCC NOINC2      ;Check fo
    r carry
1710            INC COM+1
1720 NOINC2     JMP NEXTCOM
1730 COMFOUND
1740            INY
1750            STY PARMS       ;Y is ind
    ex into parameters
1760            LDA (COM),Y     ;Load JU
    MPADR with command address
1770            STA JUMPADR
1780            INY
1790            LDA (COM),Y
1800            STA JUMPADR+1
1810            JMP (JUMPADR)   ;Execute
    !
1820 EXIT       LDY #0          ;Command
    s return here
1830            LDA #'.         ;Change
    first character to
1840            STA LBUFF,Y     ;".", or
     REM
1850 ;                          Allows B
    ASIC to ignore line
1860 RETURN.LINE
1870            LDA #0
1880            STA LENGTH
1890            LDA #155        ;Return
    EOL to CIO
1900            LDY YSAVE       ;Restore
     Y
1910            LDX XSAVE       ;and X
1920            PLP             ;and pro
    cessor status
1930            RTS             ;That's
    it
1940 COMTBL
1950 ; Wedge commands and command tab
    le
1960 ; Format is:
1970 ; .BYTE "COMMAND",0
1980 ; .WORD COMMAND.ADDRESS
1990 ; End of table is
2000 ; .BYTE 255
2010            .BYTE "DIR",0
2020            .WORD DIR
2030            .BYTE "SCRATCH",0
2040            .WORD SCRATCH
2050            .BYTE "LOCK",0
2060            .WORD LOCK
2070            .BYTE "UNLOCK",0
2080            .WORD UNLOCK
2090            .BYTE "RENAME",0
2100            .WORD RENAME
2110            .BYTE "KILL",0
2120            .WORD KILL
2130            .BYTE 255
2140 ;
2150 DIRBUF     *=*+20
2160 DIRNAME    .BYTE "D:*.*"
2170 ;
2180 ; Start of commands:
2190 ;
2200 DIR
2210            LDX #$50        ; IOCB#5
2220            LDA #CCLOSE
2230            STA ICCOM,X
2240            JSR CIO  ;CLOSE#5
2250 ; OPEN#5,6,0,"D:*.*"
2260            LDX #$50        ;channel
    #5
2270            LDA #COPN       ;open co
    mmand
2280            STA ICCOM,X
2290            LDA #OPDIR      ;special
     "directory" command
2300            STA ICAUX1,X
2310            LDA #DIRNAME&255 ;filen
    ame (wildcard)
2320            STA ICBADR,X
2330            LDA #DIRNAME/256
2340            STA ICBADR+1,X
2350            JSR CIO         ;set it
    up!
2360            TYA
2370            BPL NOERR1
2380            JMP ERROR
2390 ; Print a line to the Editor
2400 NOERR1
2410 NEXT       LDX #$50        ;#5
2420            LDA #CGTXTR     ;Get a l
    ine
2430            STA ICCOM,X
2440            LDA #DIRBUF&255 ;Put it
     into the buffer
2450            STA ICBADR,X
2460            STA ICBADR
2470            LDA #DIRBUF/256
2480            STA ICBADR+1,X
2490            STA ICBADR+1
2500            LDA #20          ;Maxim
    um length is 20
2510            STA ICBLEN,X     ;(actua
    lly 17)
2520            STA ICBLEN
2530            JSR CIO
2540            TYA             ;Check
    for end of file
2550            BMI ENDIR       ;On err
    or, finished directory
2560 NOERR2     LDA #CPTXTR     ;Put te
    xt record (print a line)
2570            STA ICCOM
2580            LDX #0          ;Channe
    l 0 is open to the Editor
2590            JSR CIO
2600            JMP NEXT        ;Read n
    ext line
2610 ;
2620 ENDIR      LDX #$50        ;CLOSE#
    5
2630            LDA #CCLOSE
2640            STA ICCOM,X
2650            JSR CIO
2660            JMP EXIT
2670 ;End of directory routine
2680 ;
```

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```
2690 ;Following routine is used by lo
     ck
2700 ;unlock, scratch, and rename
2710 ;Filename buffer is in LBUFF
2720 ;e.g. LOCK D:TEMP
2730 ; this      ^   portion is used
2740 ; to tell CIO the filename.
2750 CALLCIO
2760          LDX #$50         ;Use file
      5 (XIO n,#5,etc.)
2770          STA ICCOM,X      ;Store co
     mmand
2780          LDA #0           ;Clear MS
     B
2790          STA ICBLEN+1,X   ;of lengt
     h
2800          LDY LENGTH
2810          STA LBUFF,Y
2820          SEC              ;Get leng
     th
2830          TYA              ;of filen
     ame
2840          SBC PARMS        ;(skip ov
     er command name)
2850          STA ICBLEN,X
2860          CLC
2870          LDA #LBUFF&255   ;PARMS is
      start of parameters,
2880          ADC PARMS        ;the spac
     e in LBUFF
2890          STA ICBADR,X     ;after th
     e command
2900          LDA #LBUFF/256
2910          ADC #0           ;Catch an
     y carry
2920          STA ICBADR+1,X
2930          JSR CIO ; Do the job
2940          TYA
2950          BPL NOERR3
2960          JMP ERROR
2970 NOERR3   JMP EXIT
2980 ;
2990 SCRATCH  LDA #33
3000          JMP CALLCIO
3010 LOCK     LDA #35
3020          JMP CALLCIO
3030 UNLOCK   LDA #36
3040          JMP CALLCIO
3050 RENAME   LDA #32
3060          JMP CALLCIO
3070 ;
3080 ;Remove Wedge
3090 ;
3100 KILL     LDA REINIT+1 ;Restore ol
     d DOS
3110          STA DOSINIT  ;vector
3120          LDA REINIT+2
3130          STA DOSINIT+1
3140          JMP $E474    ;"Press" SY
     STEM RESET
3150 ;
3160 ;
3170 ; End of current wedge
3180 ; (Although more commands can be
      added.)
3190 ; See future issues of COMPUTE!
3200 ;
3210 ERROR    PHA          ;Save error
     code
3220          LDX #$50     ;close file 5
3230          LDA #CCLOSE
3240          STA ICCOM,X
3250          JSR CIO
3260          PLA          ;retrieve er
     ror code
3270          LDX #$FF     ;reset stack
3280          TXS
3290          STA $B9      ;tell BASIC
     the error code
3300          JMP $B940    ;call the ER
     ROR routine
3310 ;                      in the BASI
     C cartridge
3320 ;
3330 ENDWEDGE
3340 ; Autorun
3350 ;
3360          *=$02E0
3370          .WORD INIT
3380 ;
3390          .END
```

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This tutorial article presents several interesting extensions for the XIO(FILL) program on page 54 of the Atari BASIC Reference Manual.

A Fill-In On XIO(FILL)

Gretchen Schabtach
Alexandria, VA

Your Atari readily fills line drawings of figures with color using a special application of the XIO statement. However, the example in the *BASIC Reference Manual* (see page 54) can be expanded upon to demonstrate the strengths and limitations of this application. A critical point about XIO filling is that filling stops when a pixel which has been previously filled with color is encountered. Thus, interesting effects occur when the Atari is commanded to fill overlapping figures with color.

To get the most from the following short programs, begin by running the demonstration program on page 54 of the *BASIC Reference Manual*. Then run Program 1. Program 1 generates three rectangles, randomly positioned, with random proportions, and fills them from top to bottom and left to right with three different colors. Observe what happens when the figures overlap.

Moving line by line, from top to bottom and left to right, the fill stops when a colored pixel is encountered. Thus, when the program generates two overlapping rectangles, filling of the second rectangle stops whenever the first filled rectangle is encountered – and does not resume even if the second rectangle extends to the right beyond the first rectangle.

With a few modifications, Program 1 is not only illuminating with regard to the XIO(FILL) function, but also much more interesting. First, randomly change the colors to be used in filling. Second, generate rectangles continuously. To do this, make the following changes:

```
 20 N=INT(RND(0)*3+1)
160    (i.e., delete)
170 GOTO 20
```

After you've modified the program as specified above, run it and admire the changes. Now, add a little music to your life. This is easily accomplished by adding the following statements:

```
 81 I=INT(RND(0)*256)
 82 SOUND 1,I,10,4
 84 SOUND 2,255-I,10,4
```

Try this, and then delete line 150. This will speed things up a little and make them even more interesting.

Finally, black backgrounds can become tiresome. To randomly change the background color, type in the following:

```
 11 REM : CHANGE BACKGROUND
 12 B=INT(RND(0)*16)
 13 SETCOLOR 4,B,2
166 REM : CHANGE BACKGRD SO GOTO 12
170 GOTO 12
```

Your final program listing should look like that shown in Program 2.

There are further simple and interesting modifications. For example, vary the constants in statements which include random number generators – those containing (RND(0)); or delete +16 in line 10 and provide yourself with a text window in which you can write commentary on what the viewer sees; or change the characteristics of the shapes generated to be filled with color (lines 40 through 80). Your imagination will suggest other possibilities.

Program 1.

```
3 REM : DEMO OF XIO FILLING
5 REM : BY GRETCHEN SCHABTACH
6 REM : AND MERLIN(ATARI 800)
8 REM : SUPPRESS WINDOW IN GR.7
10 GRAPHICS 7+16
15 REM : ESTABLISH 3 FILL COLORS
20 FOR N=1 TO 3 STEP 1
30 COLOR N
35 REM : GENERATE FIGURE TO FILL
40 X1=INT(RND(0)*80)
50 Y1=INT(RND(0)*48)
60 X2=X1+INT(RND(0)*80)
70 Y2=Y1+INT(RND(0)*48)
80 IF X1=X2 OR Y1=Y2 THEN 40
90 PLOT X2,Y2
100 DRAWTO X2,Y1
110 DRAWTO X1,Y1
115 REM : FILL FIGURE
120 POSITION X1,Y2
130 POKE 765,N
140 XIO 18,#6,0,0,"S:"
150 FOR W=1 TO 400:NEXT W
155 REM : CHANGE COLOR FOR NEXT
    FIGURE
160 NEXT N
165 REM :GENERATE NEW FIGURE
170 GOTO 10
```

Program 2.

```
3 REM : DEMO OF XIO FILLING #2
5 REM : BY GRETCHEN SCHABTACH
```

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```
6 REM : AND MERLIN (ATARI 800)
8 REM : SUPPRESS WINDOW IN GR.7
10 GRAPHICS 7+16
11 REM :CHANGE BACKGROUND
12 B=INT(RND(0)*16)
13 SETCOLOR 4,B,2
15 REM : ESTABLISH 3 FILL COLORS
20 N=INT(RND(0)*3+1)
30 COLOR N
35 REM : GENERATE FIGURE TO FILL
40 X1=INT(RND(0)*80)
50 Y1=INT(RND(0)*48)
60 X2=X1+INT(RND(0)*80)
70 Y2=Y1+INT(RND(0)*48)
80 IF X1=X2 OR Y1=Y2 THEN 40
81 I=INT(RND(0)*256)
82 SOUND 1,I,10,4
84 SOUND 2,255-I,10,4
90 PLOT X2,Y2
100 DRAWTO X2,Y1
110 DRAWTO X1,Y1
115 REM : FILL FIGURE
120 POSITION X1,Y2
130 POKE 765,N
140 XIO 18,#6,0,0,"S:"
155 REM : CHANGE COLOR FOR NEXT
    FIGURE
165 REM :GENERATE NEW FIGURE
166 REM :CHANGE BACKGRD SO GOTO 12
170 GOTO 12
```

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VIC Plotting

Matt Urnezis
Garland, TX

We can display a medium resolution graph on the VIC by dividing each standard screen location into four equal subsquares. In this way, the 400 positions used in the program have the potential to represent 1,600 separate data points. The price that is paid to achieve the higher resolution is that data is no longer simply POKEd on the screen. The program first has to PEEK the screen location and combine it with the new data point to be displayed. This new combination is then POKEd back on the screen (see Figure 1).

Besides graphing the data, the program will permit the user to statistically analyze the information by computing the equation for the straight line which best fits the data. Also listed is the coefficient of determination which tells how well the Y values are explained by the X values. This last item is the "standard error" of the estimate. This represents how far away the data points tend to be from the linear regression line. More thorough explanations of the meaning of each analysis can be found in most statistics books.

In determining the statistical results, I have not used any rounding routines. This will let you decide how accurate you want the results to be. Unless you have a specific need, I would suggest adding the following four lines to make the information more readable.

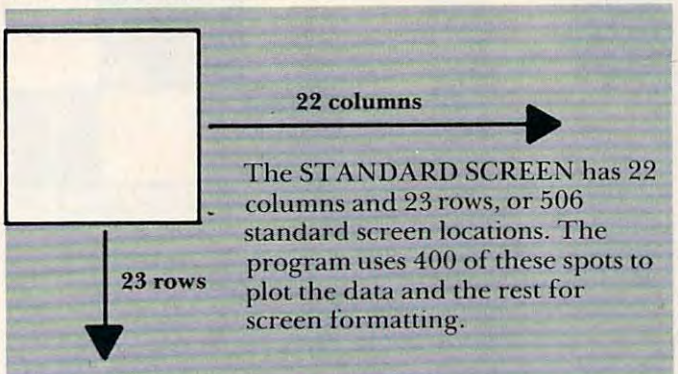

Figure 1A.

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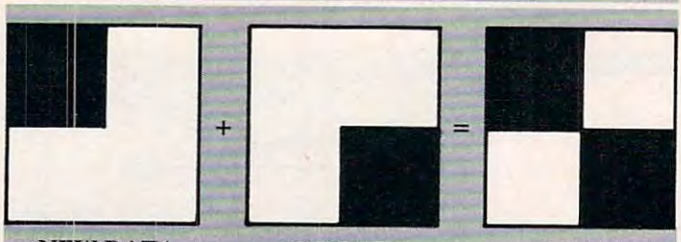
```
515 B=INT(B*1000+.5)/1000
516 C=INT(C*1000+.5)/1000
525 R2=INT(R2*1000+.5)/1000
535 SD=INT(SD*1000+.5)/1000
```

To plot the data, each standard screen location is divided into four subsquares.

Figure 1B.



NEW DATA **OLD DATA** **RESULT**

The program takes each data point and determines which screen location and subsquare should be used. It then PEEKs the screen location to see what data is already present. The program combines this PEEK with the new data and POKEs the result on the screen.

Figure 1C.

```
10 X=4*(PEEK(36866)AND128):S=X+64*
   (PEEK(36869)AND120)+463:C=
   38351+X:POKE36879,8
20 PRINT"{CLEAR}"SPC(197)"{PUR}    ~
   MEDIUM RESOLUTION","{DOWN}
       DATA ANALYSIS"
30 PRINT"{GRN}{DOWN}          BY MATT
   ":FORX=1TO2000:NEXT
40 DIMD%(15,4):FORX=0TO15:FORY=0TO
   4:READD%(X,Y):NEXT Y,X
50 DATA32,108,124,123,126,123,98,2
   55,123,97,124,225,124,255,
   226
60 DATA126,127,226,97,126,108,108,
   225,98,127,225,225,225,254
   ,251
70 DATA255,254,255,255,236,127,127
   ,251,252,127,226,251,226,2
   36,226
80 DATA97,252,236,97,97,98,98,254,
   98,252,251,251,251,160,251
90 DATA236,160,236,236,236,254,254
   ,254,254,160,252,252,160,2
   52,252
100 DATA160,160,160,160,160:PRINT"{
   CLEAR}"SPC(176)
110 INPUT"{BLU}THE X AXIS NAME";X$:
   INPUT"{CYN}{DOWN}THE Y AXI
   S NAME";Y$
120 INPUT"{GRN}{DOWN}HOW MANY X VAL
   UES";A:DIMP(1,A):PRINT"{CL
   CLEAR}"
130 FORX=1TOA:PRINT"{GRN}{02 DOWN}D
   ATA PAIR";X
140 INPUT"{BLU}{DOWN}THE X VALUE";P
   (0,X):INPUT"{CYN}THE Y VAL
   UE";P(1,X):NEXT
150 FORX=0TO1:H(X)=P(X,1):L(X)=P(X,
   1):FORY=1TOA
160 IFH(X)<P(X,Y)THENH(X)=P(X,Y)
170 IFL(X)>P(X,Y)THENL(X)=P(X,Y)
180 NEXTY:IFH(X)=L(X)THENH(X)=L(X)+
   2
190 NEXT:FORX=1TO800:NEXT:PRINT"{CL
   CLEAR}"SPC(181)"{PUR}TYPE ~
   1 WHEN"
200 PRINTSPC(29)"FINISHED",SPC(25)"
   WITH THE GRAPH."
210 FORX=1TO3000:NEXT:PRINT"{CLEAR}
   "SPC(6)"{GRN}DATA POINTS"
220 FORZ=0TO21:POKEC-1-22*Z,4:POKEC
   +22+Z,4:POKEC-22*Z,6:POKEC
   +Z,6:NEXT
230 POKES,109:FORZ=0TO9:POKES-22-44
   *Z,107:POKES+1+2*Z,113:POK
   ES-44-44*Z,93
240 POKES+2*Z+2,64:NEXT:Y=LEN(Y$):X
   =LEN(X$):IFY>20THENY=20:Y$
   =MID$(Y$,1,20)
250 IFX>20THENX=20:X$=MID$(X$,1,20)
260 FORZ=1TOY:R=ASC(MID$(Y$,Z,1))-6
   4:IF R<0THENR=R+64
270 POKES-463+22*Z+22*INT((20-Y)/2)
   ,R:NEXT:FORZ=1TOX:R=ASC(MI
   D$(X$,Z,1))-64
280 IFR<0THENR=R+64
290 POKES+22+Z+INT((20-X)/2),R:NEXT
300 FORB=1TOA:S(0)=0:S(1)=2:FORC=0T
   O1
310 N(C)=(P(C,B)-L(C))*19.99/(H(C)-
   L(C))
320 DN(C)=N(C)-INT(N(C)):IFDN(C)<.5
   THENS(C)=2-C
330 NEXTC:P=S-21+INT(N(0))-22*INT(N
   (1)):V=PEEK(P):FORZ=0TO15
340 IFV=D%(Z,0)THENRL=D%(Z,S(0)+S(1
   )):Z=15
350 NEXTZ:POKEP,RL:POKE36876,225:PO
   KE36878,15:FORX=1TO5
360 NEXTX:POKE36878,0:NEXTB
370 GETA$:IFA$><"1"GOTO370
380 PRINT"{CLEAR}"SPC(135)"CALCULAT
   ING DATA"
390 IFA>2GOTO410
400 PRINT "{CLEAR}"SPC(111)"THE DAT
   A WILL NOT","{DOWN}  GIVE ~
   MEANINGFULL","{DOWN}      ~
   RESULTS":GOTO550
```

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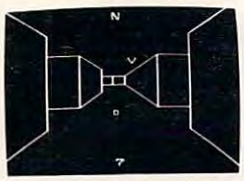

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```
410 FORZ=ØTO1:FORW=1TOA:P1(Z)=P1(Z)
    +P(Z,W):W(Z)=W(Z)+P(Z,W)↑2
    :NEXTW,Z
420 FORW=1TOA:N=P(Ø,W)*P(1,W)+N:NEX
    TW
430 IFW(Ø)-P1(Ø)↑2=ØGOTO4ØØ
440 B=(N-P1(Ø)*P1(1)/A)/(W(Ø)-P1(Ø)
    ↑2/A)
450 C=P1(1)/A-B*P1(Ø)/A
460 SD=(W(1)-C*P1(1)-B*N)/(A-2):IFS
    D<=ØTHENSD=Ø:GOTO48Ø
470 SD=SD↑.5
480 IFW(1)-P1(1)↑2/A=ØTHENR2=Ø:GOTO
    5ØØ
490 R2=(C*P1(1)+B*N-P1(1)↑2/A)/(W(1
    )-P1(1)↑2/A)
500 PRINT"{CLEAR}"SPC(7)"{PUR}Y=X*A
    +B"
510 PRINT"{DOWN}{RED}  Y= {CYN}";Y$
    :PRINT"{RED}  X= {BLU}";X$
520 PRINT"{RED}  A={GRN}";B:PRINT"{
    RED}  B={GRN}";C
530 PRINT"{BLU}{Ø3 DOWN} COEF OF DE
    TERMINATION{GRN}";SPC(4)R2
540 PRINT"{BLU}{Ø3 DOWN} STD ERROR ~
    OF ESTIMATE{GRN}";SPC(4)SD
550 PRINT:END
```

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Telephone, message systems, teletext, newspapers, banks – many areas of modern life are being transformed by telecommunicating computers.

Telecommunications

What Is It?

Michael E. Day
Chief Engineer, Edge Technology
West Linn, OR

Tel·e·com·mu·ni·ca·tion: communication by radio, telephone, telegraph, television, etc.

Telecommunication within the computer industry generally refers to communicating with a computer via a modem. Such communication has been around for awhile, but until the advent of the personal computer there was little need for the average person to use it. With the personal computer becoming ever more popular, this is changing; and knowing about telecommunications is becoming more necessary.

Necessary Uses

Currently, personal computerists use telecommunications mainly for communicating with public access message systems around the country. This has been the "CB radio craze" of the computer industry. The novelty of it is wearing off and other uses for the modem are being considered.

At first consideration, a very simple use of the modem, conversing with a friend, would seem pointless, since talking to your friend over the telephone would be simpler. This is true if the friend is located locally. But if the friend lives far away, there might be large phone bills or else little contact with the friend. You could communicate with the friend by mail, but mail delays the message.

The computer can help by providing a means of communication that keeps down both the communication time and the costs. Not only does the computer send information more quickly than you can talk, but it also gets rid of the casual talk that extends the time.

Businesses have for some time used computers as a means of reducing communications costs. Also, the computer is a vital link which allows the deaf to communicate when they would otherwise not have that ability. In fact, most telephone companies provide the equipment to the deaf free of charge.

Public Uses

Of course, telecommunication is not limited to personal communications; information of many sorts, including almost any form of printed matter, can be transferred via the modem. Such things as letters, contracts, news, and special interest subjects can all be transmitted through the modem. The API and UPI news services have been doing this for many years. The weather services provide information this way as well.

Most of the information provided by the various information dispensers is in fact provided to them through a telecommunications network. Since the information is already in a form that computers can work with, it requires little work or reorganization to provide the information in a form that the average person can use.

...what about the computer? It needs its own type of information flow.

Some information services have sought to reorganize information to make it more readily recoverable. For example, the newspaper industry, spurred by increasing costs and decreasing income, is searching for ways to increase profits by reducing costs while extending and diversifying the types of services they perform.

The news industry is not alone. Telephone companies are exploring this area also, most noticeably by the electronic directory service. They hope to eliminate expensive telephone directories by providing a means to obtain information over the telephone itself. (The biggest problem to date: the terminal needed to access the information costs far more than the directory, even taking into account the cost of directory assistance currently provided by the operator.)

New Systems

The need for a well-defined and up-to-date method of communicating information, both nationally and internationally, has caused European countries to develop a replacement for the TELEX system. This new system, called "teletex," goes beyond TELEX by allowing almost any form of data to be transmitted. (The TELEX system allowed only uppercase letters, numbers, and a few special characters.)

Other telecommunications systems being implemented are the "videotex" and "teletext" (note the additional "t"). Rather than limiting

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themselves to text type data, these systems transmit graphic information in the form of pictures and use existing video transmission systems (TVs). Previously, the major method of graphics transfer was by a special modem and a facsimile machine (FAX for short) which provides a picture copy of the transmitted data. While a FAX machine is much slower in transmitting a page of text, its advantage is that it can send pictures.

All of this information flow is nice for people. But what about the computer? It needs its own type of information flow. The computer runs on programs, which can also be transferred with a modem. However, there are no standards in the business world for such transfers, primarily because there has been no need for them.

In the personal computer world, however, there is such a need. This is due to the large number of individuals owning machines, the variety of these machines, the numerous programs written to run on the machines, and the greater interest in being able to transfer programs. Public computer systems have been set up specifically to provide a centralized base for these programs. The most popular of these are the CPM based systems, referred to as RCPM (Remote CPM).

These systems maintain various programs for computers which run with the CPM operating system. The programs provided are "Public Domain" programs; this means that they are provided to the general public free of charge, for anyone's use. Some retain copyrights on the programs, but this is generally to prevent resale of the "free" program. Others simply do it for the advertisement. (You can use my program, but my name has to stay in it.) Others don't care; they just want to see their program out there.

Some programs by their very nature are "public domain" programs. For example, any program created on government time or equipment is in the public domain, unless it has security restrictions. This is also true of many programs from educational institutions. Finally, some programs have been around for so long that no one knows who the original author was.

Business Uses

Financial institutions are also heavily into telecommunication. They use telecommunication to keep in constant touch with their various branches. This way, there is an instant update in the main computer whenever a transaction occurs. They also use telecommunication to transfer money back and forth, since this reduces transit time, in turn reducing the "float" time in which the money is unusable.

Telecommunication is also what makes automatic teller machines possible. The automatic teller is in constant communication with the bank's central computer, so that your account is immediately updated when you perform a transaction at the machine.

Although the credit card industry also depends upon telecommunication to transfer funds, it has been somewhat lacking at the customer end. Despite efforts to improve the situation, it is still the general rule that if a card needs to be checked, the checking is done manually. Electronic checking of cards would mean less hassle to the customer: checking could be done more quickly, and stolen cards could be identified more readily.

An offshoot of the credit card is the debit card. With a credit card, you are not only paying for the credit card system's operation, but you are also paying for the use of someone else's money. With a debit card, however, you are using your own money, not borrowing it.

Telecommunication could allow you to call a store, browse through its catalog, place your order, and pay for it – all without leaving your living room. Even if you are only comparison shopping, the video catalog could help you narrow your selection by showing who is selling what and for how much. You would save time by not having to wander from store to store.

Other types of purchase not readily possible now could also become available. Deferred payment could become a snap; you could purchase an item with a delayed payment, and if you like it, you could then release the payment. The seller would have greater protection as well, since if you didn't release the funds within a certain time, they could be automatically released.

Telecommunication has many possibilities – not only for increasing the amount of data and knowledge, but also for reducing (or eliminating) the number of tiresome chores now undertaken by people. ©

Using *your* computer in an interesting application? Write it up for other **COMPUTE!** readers to use.

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COMPUTE!'s Listing Conventions

Many of the programs which are listed in **COMPUTE!** use special keys (cursor control keys, color keys, etc.). To make it easy to tell *exactly* what should be typed in when copying a program into the computer, we have established the following listing conventions.

For The Atari

In order to make special characters, inverse video, and cursor characters easy to type in, **COMPUTE!** magazine's Atari listing conventions are used in all the program listings in this magazine.

Please refer to the following tables and explanations if you come across an unusual symbol in a program listing.

Atari Conventions

Characters in inverse video will appear like: INVERSE VIDEO
Enter these characters with the Atari logo key, {人}.

When you see	Type	See	
{CLEAR}	ESC SHIFT <		Clear Screen
{UP}	ESC CTRL -		Cursor Up
{DOWN}	ESC CTRL =		Cursor Down
{LEFT}	ESC CTRL +		Cursor Left
{RIGHT}	ESC CTRL *		Cursor Right
{BACK S}	ESC DELETE		Backspace
{DELETE}	ESC CTRL DELETE		Delete character
{INSERT}	ESC CTRL INSERT		Insert character
{DEL LINE}	ESC SHIFT DELETE		Delete line
{INS LINE}	ESC SHIFT INSERT		Insert line
{TAB}	ESC TAB		TAB key
{CLR TAB}	ESC CTRL TAB		Clear tab
{SET TAB}	ESC SHIFT TAB		Set tab stop
{BELL}	ESC CTRL 2		Ring buzzer
{ESC}	ESC ESC		ESCape key

Graphics characters, such as CTRL-T, the ball character ● will appear as the "normal" letter enclosed in braces, e.g. {T}.

A series of identical control characters, such as 10 spaces, three cursor-lefts, or 20 CTRL-R's, will appear as {10 SPACES}, {3 LEFT}, {20 R}, etc. If the character in braces is in inverse video, that character or characters should be entered with the Atari logo key. For example, {■} means to enter a reverse-field heart with CTRL-comma, {5□} means to enter five inverse-video CTRL-U's.

For PET/CBM/VIC

Generally, any PET/CBM/VIC program listings will contain bracketed words which spell out any special characters: {DOWN} would mean to press the cursor-down key; {3DOWN} would mean to press the cursor-down key three times.

To indicate that a key should be *shifted* (hold down the SHIFT key while pressing the other key), the key would be underlined in our listing. For example, S would mean to type the S key while holding the shift key. This would result in the "heart" graphics symbol appearing on your screen.

Sometimes in a program listing, especially within quoted text when a line runs over into the next line, it is difficult to tell where the first line ends. How many times should you type the SPACE bar? In our convention, when a line breaks in this way, the ~ symbol shows exactly where it broke. For example:

```
100 PRINT "TO START THE GAME  ~
    YOU MAY HIT ANY OF THE KEYS
    ON YOUR KEYBOARD."
```

shows that the program's author intended for you to type two spaces after the word *GAME*.

For The Apple

Programs listed as "Microsoft" are written for the PET/CBM, Apple, OSI, etc. Although the programs are general in nature, you may need to make a few changes for them to run correctly on your Apple. Microsoft BASIC programs written for the PET/CBM sometimes contain special cursor control characters. The following table shows equivalent Apple words. Notice that these Apple commands are *outside* quotations (and even separate from a PRINT statement). PRINT"[RVS]YOU WON" becomes INVERSE: PRINT"YOU WON":NORMAL

[CLEAR[(Clear Screen) HOME

[DOWN] (Cursor down)
Apple II +: Call -922
POKE 37,PEEK(37)+(PEEK(37)<23)

[UP] (Cursor up)
POKE 37,PEEK(37)-(PEEK(37)>0))

[LEFT] (Cursor left) PRINT CHR$(8);

[RIGHT] (Cursor right)
PRINT CHR$(21)

[RVS] (Inverse video on. Turns off automatically after a carriage return. To be safe, turn off inverse video after the print statement with NORMAL unless the PRINT statement ends with a semicolon.)
INVERSE

[OFF] (Inverse video off) NORMAL

Shifted characters can represent either graphics characters or uppercase letters. If within text, just use the non-shifted character, otherwise substitute a space. Some "generalized" programs contain a POKE such as POKE 59468,14. Omit these from the program when typing it in. One final note: you will probably want to insert a question mark or colon within an INPUT prompt. PET/CBM and many other BASICs automatically print a question mark:

```
INPUT "WHAT IS YOUR NAME";N$
   becomes
INPUT "WHAT IS YOUR NAME?";N$
```

All Commodore Machines

Clear Screen	{CLEAR}	Cursor Left	{LEFT}
Home Cursor	{HOME}	Insert Character	{INST}
Cursor Up	{UP}	Delete Character	{DEL}
Cursor Down	{DOWN}	Reverse Field On	{RVS}
Cursor Right	{RIGHT}	Reverse Field Off	{OFF}

VIC Conventions

Set Color To Black	{BLK}	Function Two	{F2}
Set Color To White	{WHT}	Function Three	{F3}
Set Color To Red	{RED}	Function Four	{F4}
Set Color To Cyan	{CYN}	Function Five	{F5}
Set Color To Purple	{PUR}	Function Six	{F6}
Set Color To Green	{GRN}	Function Seven	{F7}
Set Color To Blue	{BLU}	Function Eight	{F8}
Set Color To Yellow	{YEL}	Any Non-implemented Function	{NIM}
Function One	{F1}		

8032/Fat 40 Conventions

Set Window Top	{SET TOP}	Erase To Beginning	{ERASE BEG}
Set Window Bottom	{SET BOT}	Erase To End	{ERASE END}
Scroll Up	{SCR UP}	Toggle Tab	{TGL TAB}
Scroll Down	{SCR DOWN}	Tab	{TAB}
Insert Line	{INST LINE}	Escape Key	{ESC}
Delete Line	{DEL LINE}		

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COMPUTE! Back Issues

Here are some of the applications, tutorials, and games from available back issues of **COMPUTE!**. Each issue contains much, much more than there's space here to list, but here are some highlights:

February 1981: Simulating PRINT USING, Using the Atari as a Terminal for Telecommunications, Attach a Printer to the Atari, Double Density Graphing on C1P, Commodore Disk Systems, PET Crash Prevention, A 25¢ Apple II Clock.

May 1981: Named GOSUB/GOTO in Applesoft, Generating Lower Case Text on Apple II, Copy Atari Screens to the Printer, Disk Directory Printer for Atari, Realtime Clock on Atari, PET BASIC Delete Utility, PET Calculated Bar Graphs, Running 40 Column Programs on a CBM 8032.

June 1981: Computer Using Educators (CUE) on Software Pricing, Apple II Hires Character Generator, Ever- expanding Apple Power, Color Burst for Atari, Mixing Atari Graphics Modes 0 and 8, Relocating PET BASIC Programs, An Assembler In BASIC for PET, QuadraPET: Multitasking?

July 1981: Home Heating and Cooling, Animating Integer BASIC Lores Graphics, The Apple Hires Shape Writer, Adding a Voice Track to Atari Programs, Machine Language Atari Joystick Driver, Four Screen Utilities for the PET, Saving Machine Language Programs on PET Tape Headers, Commodore ROM Systems, The Voracious Butterfly on OSI.

August 1981: Minimize Code and Maximize Speed, Apple Disk Motor Control, A Cassette Tape Monitor for the Apple, Easy Reading of the Atari Joystick, Blockade Game for the Atari, Atari Sound Utility, The CBM "Fat 40," Keyword for PET, CBM/PET Loading, Chaining, and Overlaying.

October 1981: Automatic DATA Statements for CBM and Atari, VIC News, Undeletable Lines on Apple, PET, VIC, Budgeting on the Apple, Switching Cleanly from Text to Graphics on Apple, Atari Cassette Boot-tapes, Atari Variable Name Utility, Atari Program Library, Train your PET to Run VIC Programs, Interface a BSR Remote Control System to PET, A General Purpose BCD to Binary Routine, Converting to Fat-40 PET.

December 1981: Saving Fuel $$ (Multiple Computers: versions for Apple, PET, and Atari), Unscramble Game (multiple computers), Maze Generator (multiple computers), Animating Applesoft Graphics, A Simple Printer Interface for the Apple II, A Simple Atari Wordprocessor, Adding High Speed Vertical Positioning to Atari P/M Graphics, OSI Supercursor, A Look At SuperPET, Supermon for PET/CBM, PET Mine Maze Game.

January 1982: Invest (multiple computers), Developing a Business Algorithm (multiple computers), Apple Addresses, Lowercase with Unmodified Apple, Cryptogram Game for Atari, Superfont: Design Special Character Sets on Atari, PET Repairs for the Amateur, Micromon for PET, Self-modifying Programs in PET BASIC, Tinymon: a VIC Monitor, Vic Color Tips, VIC Memory Map, ZAP: A VIC Game.

February 1982: Insurance Inventory (multiple computers), Musical Transposition (multiple computers), Multitasking Emulator (multiple computers), Disassemble Apple Programs from BASIC, Plotting Polar Graphs on Apple, Atari P/M Graphics Made Easy, Atari PILOT, Put A Rainbow in your Atari, Marquee for PET, PET Disk Disassembler, VIC Paddles and Keyboard, VIC Timekeeping.

March 1982: Word Hunt Game (multiple computers), Infinite Precision Multiply (multiple computers), Atari Concentration Game, VIC Starfight Game, CBM BASIC 4.0 To Upgrade Conversion Kit, Apple Addresses, VIC Maps, EPROM Reliability, Atari Ghost Programming, Atari Machine Language Sort, Random Music Composition on PET, Comment Your Apple II Catalog.

April 1982: Track Down Those Memory Bugs (multiple computers), Shooting Stars Game (multiple computers), Intelligent Input Subroutines (multiple computers), Ultracube for Atari, Customizing Apple's Copy Program, Using PET/CBM In The High School Physics Lab, Grading Exams on a Microcomputer (multiple computers), Atari Mailing List, Renumber VIC Programs The Easy Way, Browsing the VIC Chip, Disk Checkout for PET/CBM.

May 1982: VIC Meteor Maze Game, Atari Disk Drive Speed Check, Modifying Apple's Floating Point BASIC, Fast Sort For PET/CBM, Extra Atari Colors Through Artifacting, Life Insurance Estimator (multiple computers), PET Screen Input, Getting The Most Out Of VIC's 5000 Bytes.

Home and Educational COMPUTING! (Fall 1981 and Summer 1981 – count as one back issue): Exploring The Rainbow Machine, VIC As Super Calculator, Custom Characters, Alternate Screens, Automatic Line Numbers, Using The Joystick (Spacewar Game), Fast Tape Locater, Window, VIC Memory Map.

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The FORTH Page

The words SERT and TRADE allow you to move and mass-move screens around on a disk without fear of accidentally erasing something of value. No matter how you use these commands, no screens are ever overwritten. They simply end up somewhere else.

Disk Management

Michael Riley
Philadelphia

SERT (N1 N2 N3 —)
Deletes the group of screens numbered N1 through N2 and reinserts them between the screens numbered N3 and N3 + 1.

TRADE (N1 N2 N3 —)
Swaps a group of screens numbered N1 through N2 with a group of screens starting at N3. The two groups are assumed to be the same size.

The algorithm for SERT is a bit tricky, but it is an effective solution to a common problem. The problem with most block-move algorithms is that they need a large buffer area to store the block while moving the text that lies between the block and the destination point. Other algorithms move the block one small piece at a time, and the entire text in between must be repositioned once for each move.

The algorithm in SERT does a little more calculating in order to save space and time. SERT picks up the first screen that needs to be moved and calculates its destination position. Next, it picks up a second screen at that position before setting down the first screen. The destination of the second screen is then calculated, and so on.

The following words were used to implement SERT and TRADE and would not normally be used for editing:

(SERT) (N1 N2 N3 —)
Swaps two adjacent groups of screens. The two groups need not be the same size. Screens N1 through N2-1 are swapped with N2 through N3-1.

FX (N1 N2 — N1 N2 or N2 N1)
Two numbers are swapped if N1 is larger. "fix"

PAD-SWAP (N1 —)
Swaps the contents of block # N1 with 1024 bytes at pad.

B-DIST (variable)
The total number of screens to be moved. "big distance"

LIM (variable)
The highest screen to be moved plus one.

CNT (variable)
The number of screens moved. "count"

S-DIST (variable)
The number of screens in the highest numbered group. "small distance"

STRT (variable)
The first screen to be moved. "start"

Program 1.

```
SCR # 122
 0 ( PAD-SWAP B-DST CNT S-DEST STRT )
 1 : PAD-SWAP ( N1 --- / SWAP SCR W/ PAD )
 2    DUP BLOCK PAD 1024 + 1024 CMOVE
 3    PAD SWAP BLOCK 1024 CMOVE UPDATE
 4    PAD 1024 + PAD 1024 CMOVE ;
 5 0 VARIABLE B-DST 0 VARIABLE LIM 0 VARIABLE CNT
 6 0 VARIABLE S-DST 0 VARIABLE STRT
 7 : (SERT) ( N1 N2 N3 --- )
 8    DUP LIM !  SWAP - S-DST !  STRT !
 9    LIM @ STRT @ - B-DST !  0 CNT ! STRT @
10    BEGIN DUP PAD-SWAP
11      BEGIN S-DST @ +  DUP LIM @ < 0=
12       IF B-DST @ - THEN
13       DUP PAD-SWAP 1 CNT +! DUP STRT @ =
14      UNTIL CNT @ B-DST @ <
15    WHILE 1 STRT +! 1+ REPEAT DROP ; -->
```

Program 2.

```
SCR # 123
 0 ( FX SERT TRADE RANGE? ROOM? )
 1 : ROOM? ( / IF ERROR, PRINT 'NO ROOM IN DICT' )
 2    PAD 2048 + FIRST > 14 ?ERROR ;
 3 ( ' FIRST > ' IS INSTALATION DEPENDENT  )
 4 : RANGE? ( N1 --- N1 / LEGAL SCREEN NUMBER? )
 5     1 OVER > OVER 300 ( 4040 PET ) > OR 6 ?ERROR ;
 6 : FX  ( N1 N2 --- N2 N1 [OR] N1 N2 )
 7    OVER OVER > IF SWAP THEN ;
 8 : SERT  ( 1ST LAST DEST --- / REINSERT SCRS AT DEST )
 9    ROOM?  1+ RANGE? SWAP 1+ RANGE? ROT RANGE?
10    FX >R FX R> FX (SERT) ;
11 : TRADE ( 1ST LAST DEST --- / TRADE WITH SCRS AT DEST )
12    ROOM? ROT >R R SWAP - B-DST ! ( LAST )
13    1+  R>  ( LAST+1 1ST )
14    DO  I RANGE?  I B-DST @ - RANGE? ( I I+DST )
15  OVER    PAD-SWAP PAD-SWAP PAD-SWAP   LOOP DROP ;
```

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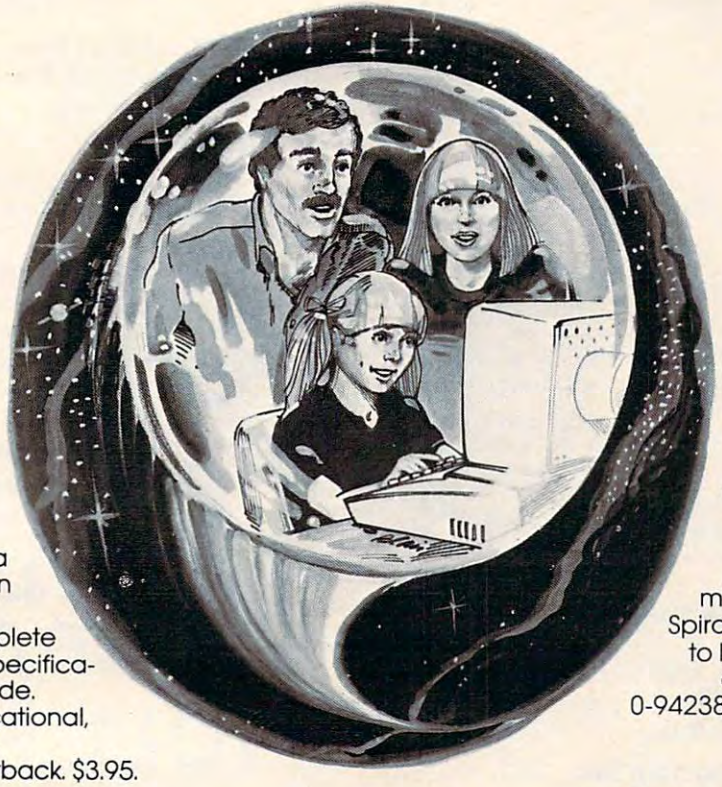

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New Products

Spinnaker Software Corp. Markets Home Learning And Strategy Games For Atari And Apple

Two software design companies, DesignWare and Computer Learning Connection, are finalizing the initial Spinnaker product line, aimed at providing both education and entertainment for children in a home setting.

Working closely with Spinnaker, DesignWare and Computer Learning Connection have prepared four game products which will be published by the new company via retail microcomputer stores throughout the country.

The two Spinnaker learning games authored by DesignWare, a San Francisco-based courseware development company, are designed for children ages four to nine and will foster understanding and enjoyment of the uses of a personal computer. The games attempt to balance amusement and learning and require a minimal amount of text material.

The Spinnaker learning games developed by DesignWare include *Face Maker* and *The Story Machine*. *Face Maker*, intended for children four to eight years of age, provides an animated format to familiarize a child with the graphics capabilities of a computer. By choosing from a varied menu of eyes, ears, noses, mouths, etc., the child composes a face which he can then animate with a series of expressions, including smiling, winking, and wiggling of ears.

The Story Machine provides an opportunity for children ages five to nine to develop and strengthen their sentence and paragraph skills.

Sentences and paragraphs, composed by the child from a substantial list of nouns, verbs, prepositions, and other parts of speech, are animated with full color graphics and sound. *The Story Machine* will also provide keyboard practice and introduce the child to the editing capabilities of the computer.

Computer Learning Connection, located in Cambridge, Massachusetts, is producing the first two entries of a strategy game series for Spinnaker. The Snooper Troops Series will be composed of mystery games in which the player (ages ten to adult) becomes a private detective. In trying to determine which of eight suspects committed the crime, the player strengthens his skills in reasoning and developing hypotheses as he drives around town, questions witnesses, searches houses for clues, and accumulates information via the Snoopnet computer.

Spinnaker's holiday software

www.commodore.ca

The Spinnaker games will be marketed nationally on a major scale by the publishing company. Its marketing efforts will include the design and production of a distinctive array of packaging for the new games, which will provide maximum protection for the discs over a long time period.

The company has also introduced a holiday package. A Christmas Sampler brings to the entire family a variety of holiday classics with full-color graphics and sound. Interspersed with animation, the graphic depictions of *A Christmas Story*, *The Night Before Christmas*, and a selection of Christmas carols are accompanied by screen texts for easy follow-along by younger family members. Christmas music adds a third dimension for holiday gatherings.

This software is available for the Apple II and Atari 800 (48K) or IBM PC (48K) with disk drive. A color monitor is recommended.

Spinnaker Software
26 Brighton St.
Belmont, MA 02178
(617)484-8444

Interfaces For Commodore 64 And VIC

XITEL announces two interfaces, both for the new Commodore 64 and VIC-20.

Its Model CX-6401 interface allows the new Commodore 64 or VIC-20 to use *any* type of standard, commercially available parallel interface printer. The interface connects to the Serial Port/Bus on the computer, *not* the user port, allowing the user port to remain open for use by a modem or RS-232C peripheral device.

Some key features of the CX-6401 are:

– Eliminates handshaking problem of RS-232C cartridge.
– Mode switch to correct ASCII problem.
– No RS-232C cable necessary.
– Allows use of lower cost parallel type printers.
– No external power required.
– Allows use of multiple printers.
– Leaves user port lines available for other use.

The CX-6401 comes with a six foot serial bus cable and connector for direct connection to the Commodore 64 or VIC-20. In addition, the CX-6401 has a one foot parallel cable for connection to the printer. Installation is simple. $89.95.

The new CX-6402 full RS-232C interface, for the new Commodore 64 and VIC-20, allows the use of any type of RS-232C peripherals, such as modems, printers, etc. The interface connects to the computer's user port. The CX-6402 is a complete RS-232C Interface, for *all* RS-232C devices.

Some key features of the CX-6402 are:

– Allows full use of all eight active "handshaking" RS-232C signal lines on the VIC-20 and Commodore 64.
– Full RS-232C logic levels.
– Requires no external RS-232C cable.
– Operates at all VIC-20/ Commodore 64 baud rates.
– Requires no external power.

The CX-6402 comes ready to install. In addition, the CX-6402 comes with a six foot parallel cable for connection to the printer. $59.95.

continued on p. 238

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Owners of Atari 810 disk drives purchased prior to Atari's fast formatting engineering change can now increase the formatting speed of their machines by more than 30%.

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This faster format speed will decrease program loading time and improve the throughput of programs that require frequent disk access.

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Fast-Chip is available from Atari dealers worldwide for $39.95 and carries a one year guarantee. Installation is available from most local dealers for a slight extra fee, or users can send their drive postpaid with payment of $39.95 plus $15 for shipping, handling, and installation to:

Binary Corporation
3237 Woodward Avenue
Berkley, MI 48072

SOFT 8 For Apple II

Legend Industries' new SOFT 8 for the Apple II computer ends the restriction of the Apple to eight slots.

SOFT 8 provides an extra slot on the Apple motherboard. The SOFT 8 card plugs into slot 7 and provides slots 7 and 8. Switching between the slots is software driven (unlike its sister SLOT 8, which is hardware driven) and allows you to switch between one card and another with simple software commands. With SOFT 8 you can PR#8, IN#8 and catalog slot 8 like you would any other slot in the Apple II. You can now put nine cards in your Apple and have them all software accessible.

The disk supplied with the SOFT 8 allows you to modify standard Apple DOS so that it will recognize the added slot.

An example of SOFT 8's use would be to access between a Z-80 card and a 6809 card. However, there are other possibilities.

For more information and

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ComputerTown Test Site: A Call For Proposals

ComputerTown, USA!, a microcomputer literacy project funded by the National Science Foundation, is accepting proposals from individuals and organizations interested in becoming an official test site for the project's Implementation Package.

Proposals will be accepted until December 1, 1982. The new site will be announced January 15, 1983.

Project coordinators are looking for a test site within the United States, east of the Mississippi River. The chosen site will assist the project in testing and evaluating the prototype ComputerTown Implementation Package, which provides resource information and materials for starting a community-based microcomputer literacy project.

ComputerTown representatives will make site visits and assist test site personnel with planning and organizing its activities. There are no provisions for the direct funding of the test site's activities, since that is one of the parameters being tested – how local resources can be used to create a community computer literacy project.

Everyone who submits a proposal will receive a draft copy of the Implementation Package, regardless of which location is chosen as the official test site.

ComputerTown offers teaching, consulting, and information services to a network of over 80 affiliates throughout the United States and overseas. These affiliates exist in public libraries, boys' clubs, children's museums, senior citizens' centers, and other community facilities. The selection of a test site in no way precludes regular support and information services provided by ComputerTown to anyone interested in computer literacy.

For proposal guidelines or further information about ComputerTown services and activities, contact:

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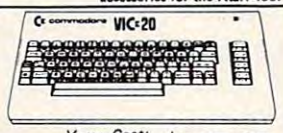

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Disk Commander is a BASIC program that reads the file on your disks automatically when you boot up and allows you to run any program just by typing a number. Since it eliminates the need to type in RUN "D: GAMENAME .001", this program can be especially useful with children and people unfamiliar with DOS. $24.95.

RAM Test is an all machine language memory test. It is capable of testing 48K in four minutes, and it does test the cartridge area of memory. Also, it makes repair easier by pinpointing bad memory locations. $24.95.

BASIC Commander is an all machine language program which occupies 4K of RAM and is co-resident with your BASIC program. The program allows single keys to access DOS functions, BASIC file manipulation commands, and more. Also, the program allows you to renumber all BASIC lines and all references automatically and to delete any range of lines. Extensive error trapping is included. Available on disk only. $34.95.

Mail List, a BASIC and machine language program, has six fields for data entry and permits sorting of those fields at machine language speed. Each data disk holds up to 700 files. The program may be easily modified. $39.95.

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Computer Learning Center

Queue, Inc., of Fairfield, Connecticut, opened (September) its first Computer Learning Center at 161 Kings Highway, Fairfield, Connecticut.

The Learning Center offers computer-assisted tutoring in a variety of academic subjects, including mathematics, English, reading, spelling, vocabulary, grammar, social studies, science, biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, psychology, sociology, history, government, philosophy, French, German, Spanish, Russian, and Italian, for students from kindergarten through college and adult. The computers used are Apple II and III, VIC-20, and TRS-80 Model III; PET and Atari are to be added soon.

The Learning Center also offers specialized courses in SAT and GRE preparation, computer literacy, computer programming, speed reading, typing, word processing, and computer applications in business.

The Queue Computer Learning Center offers teachers free orientation courses on microcomputers in education, a large selection of free literature, and an opportunity to review an order from a large library of educational software.

For computer owners, the Learning Center will have a large selection of game, educational, and business software for review and purchase.

Queue is planning to open additional learning centers and is seeking people, particularly teachers, interested in owning or operating a Computer Learning Center.

For more information, call or write:

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* * * * * * *

Queue has also announced two new, free catalogs of educational software for Apple, PET, TRS-80, and Atari computers. The catalogs are K-9 and high school/college. Each contains several hundred programs from a wide variety of publishers.

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Western New England Software Associates has released three new programs. *Bug Off!* is an arcade-style game that challenges the player to destroy advancing bugs with the bug blaster. It offers high speed action, bonus scoring, music, and high score competition. Price is $8.95.

Concentration is the classic game of memory retention. Two players are pitted against each other in a battle to see who can remember more. It features sound and a colorful playing board. Price is $7.95.

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Atari Bank Select Memory

Mosaic Electronics, Inc., has announced its new memory board, the Mosaic 64K RAM Select for Atari 400.

The board consists of 48K RAM with four banks of 4K RAM addressed above the 48K limit. This insures that the 48K recognized by the OS is continuous, that 52K RAM is always available, and that a ROM cartridge does not affect the availability of the bank select RAM. The 4K RAM banks allow for a larger hard-wired RAM size, and all Atari software and peripherals are compatible.

Suggested retail price is $249.95.

Customer Service
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P.O. Box 708
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Retirement Financing Plan For The Atari

Advanced Financial Planning has just released for sale a software program for the Atari 400/800 computers entitled *Retirement Planning*. A unique financial planning program, it allows users to establish a retirement financing plan which takes into account their personal situation relative to inflation, investment returns, retirement income needs, etc. To do this, the program performs the following functions:

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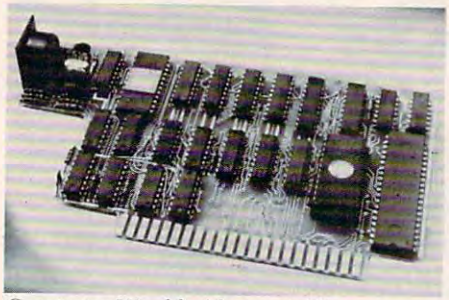

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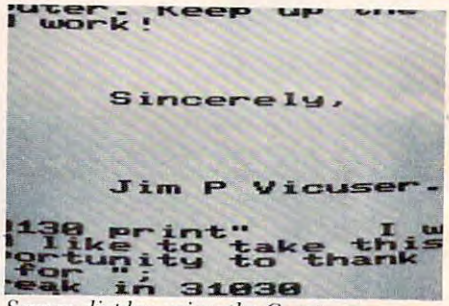

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transmitted from the host computer can be used for terminal control operations such as x-y cursor positioning, screen-clear, etc. Optional XON/XOFF support for both transmission and reception of data avoids data overruns without requiring large buffers. In addition to supporting the ASCII character set, an alternate mode provides APL characters with standard overstrikes.

The software is supplied on a 5¼" diskette and includes implementation and user documentation. The package is distributed on an "as-basis" without maintenance. Available for a one-time fee of $100 (U.S. funds); Ontario residents add 7% provincial sales tax.

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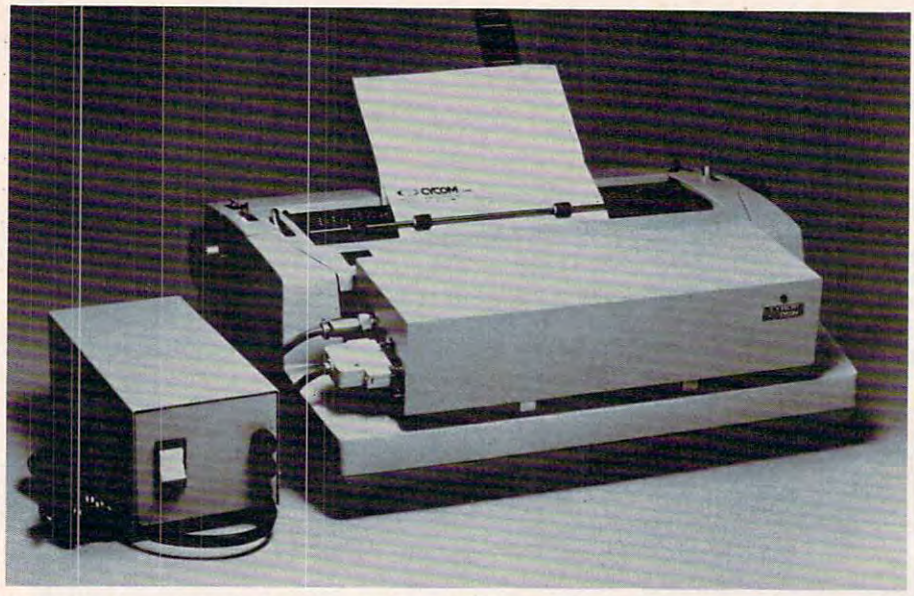

Tyrop II shown installed on top of typewriter's keyboard

Adapter For Electric Typewriters

Hollander Office Products has announced hardware enhancements and a price reduction to the Tyrop, an adapter designed to turn an electric typewriter into a low-cost word processing printer when interfaced with a microcomputer.

Trade-named the Tyrop II, the new adapter has been modified with an external DIP switch to allow easy conversion from serial to parallel interfaces. Also, a new PROM includes a backspacing key for underscoring text. The Tyrop II retails for $695.

The adapter is compatible with IBM Selectric I, II and III, or with other equivalent electric typewriters. The printing speed for typewriters using the Tyrop II is 600 characters per minute.

The Tyrop II is installed on top of the typewriter's keyboard and connects by cable to the microcomputer. A side panel switch at the off-line mode provides self-diagnostic monitoring of all printing and adapter functions.

Hollander Office Products is the exclusive U.S. distributor for the Tyrop II, manufactured by Cycom Corporation, Japan.

Hollander Office Products
41 Dusenberg Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362
(800)235-3524

Stock Market Simulation

Blue Chip Software has announced the release of a program for Apple and IBM computers – *Millionaire.*

Available on a 5 1/4" and 8" disk, *Millionaire* brings the user into the world of Wall Street. Players can manipulate as many as 15 different stocks (such as IBM, Exxon, Bendix, etc.) with a dazzling array of transaction formats. They can buy and sell stocks, put options, call options, buy on margin, borrow against their net worth, etc.

Users familiar with the stock market will quickly recognize the accuracy that author Jim Zuber maintains throughout the game. In fact, players can summon each of the 15 stocks' corporate histories as well as week-by-week industry trends and graphs.

For the player who knows little or nothing about the stock market, playing *Millionaire* will provide a friendly, easily understood atmosphere in which to learn.

Millionaire is available to run on Apple II Plus and III ($79.95); IBM PC, Osborne and other CP/M systems ($99.95).

Blue Chip Software
18653 Ventura Blvd., Suite 215
Tarzana, CA 91356
(213)881-8288

Space Ace For Atari

London Software has announced a new arcade quality action game, Space Ace. Using the full hires graphic potential of the Atari 400/800, Space Ace incorporates attention to detail while providing dynamic action.

A player's ship travels over the entire screen, while constantly scrolling, randomly generated, multicolored asteroids provide continuous challenge. Space bombs pursuing you across the

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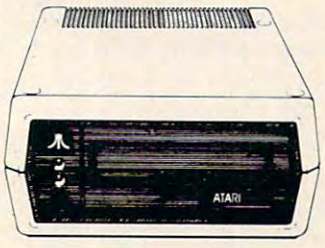

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galaxy and space mines eluding visibility keep players on their toes. The space death vortex, a rotating three-dimensional orb, randomly pursues your ship. If you escape all these dangers, you may still be destroyed by the pulsating atomic core of the Silurian warship, unless, of course, you are a true Space Ace.

Each "bogie" is uniquely designed with its own distinctive audio, and all are true attention grabbers.

Space Ace provides constant action with three levels of play, each automatically increasing through nine sub-levels of difficulty. In addition, a user-selectable time limit option adds a new dimension of strategy to the game. As the clock counts down before him, the player must decide whether to take extra risks to maximize his score or to play it safe and survive.

Space Ace requires 16K, joystick, and is offered on both disk and cassette at $29.95. VISA/MC: include all names and numbers on card. Please add $1.50 postage and handling per order; California residents add an additional $1.95 tax or see your dealer/distributor. For more information or to order, call or write:

London Software
374 Wildwood Avenue
Piedmont, CA 94611
(415)893-1090

Fractions Programs For PET, TRS-80, And Apple

Quality Educational Designs has introduced new versions of *Fractions* for the PET and for the TRS-80 Model III as well as a newly revised version for the Apple.

Fractions, a carefully designed sequence of 24 interactive programs, guides students (fifth grade and up) through the concepts and operations of fractions. For each of 11 topics, a concept development and skill building program is followed by an enrichment exploration program. *Fractions* also includes a concept overview program and a placement or review test program.

The new versions take full advantage of graphics capabilities, and they keep the pedagogical soundness of earlier versions of *Fractions*.

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Quality Educational Designs
P.O. Box 12486
Portland, OR 97212
(503)287-8137

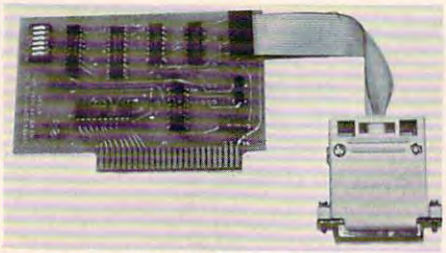
Port Extension And Serial Interface For Apple

Versa Computing has introduced EZ Port-II, a twin-switched zero insertion force (ZIF) socketed extension and cable designed to extend the Apple computer game I/O port. EZ Port-II is a two-socket version of the earlier EZ Port-I. EZ Port-II sells for $34.95.

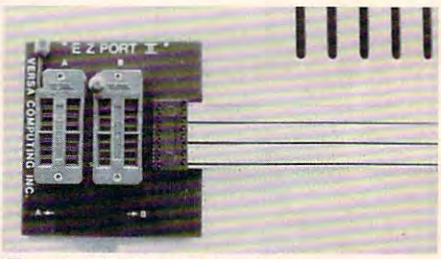
EZ Port-II eliminates the hassle of converting from one I/O device to another (i.e., paddles to joystick to VersaWriter) by extending the I/O games port outside the computer. Changes are convenient, quick, and safe.

Also now available from Versa is a low cost, serial interface for Apple II computers. The Versa serial interface is designed to function only with those features necessary to operate a serial printer. The serial interface operates with the RS 232-C protocol, and other configurations can also be accommodated at installation times. The unit sells for $79.95

The interface operates at switchable baud rates of 300, 600, 1200, 1800, 2400, 4800, 9600 and 19,200. In addition to baud rate, the printer is equipped with switches for automatic line feed, screen display, and line length. The interface package contains a 4.5x2.7" printed circuit board, and a ribbon cable with eight female pins crimped on one end and a 16 pin dip header on the other.



Versa's Serial Interface for Apple



Versa's EZ Port II for Apple

Versa Computing Inc.
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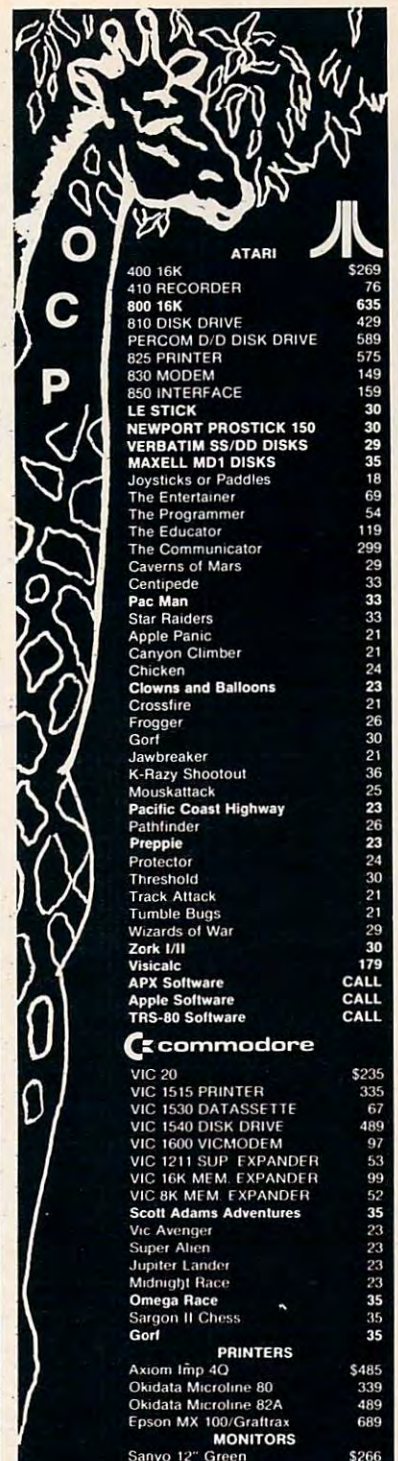

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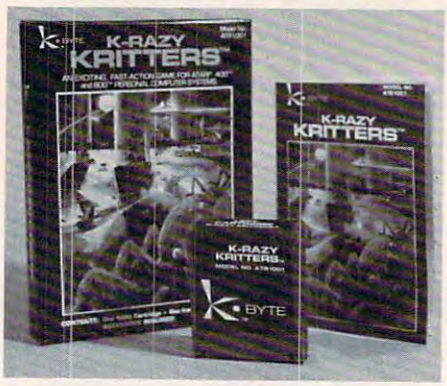

K-Razy Kritters from K-Byte

Atari 400 and 800 personal computers. Each cartridge is tested to assure product reliability and customer satisfaction.

The full-color, creatively designed package is shrink-wrapped for product protection and consumer appeal to entice sales. Each package contains a 12-page, full-color *Instruction Booklet* with graphics and complete rules of the game.

For additional information on K-Razy Kritters (Model No. ATR1001); contact:

K-Byte
1705 Austin
Troy, MI 48084
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Atari's New Research Laboratory

Atari has established in New York City a new research laboratory dedicated to the exploration of microprocessor-based products in electronic publishing and transactional services for home computers.

Headed by Steven T. Mayer, vice president of research and product development, the new lab will be responsible for development of advanced products for Atari, a leading manufacturer of coin-operated and home video games and home computers. The lab will also function as a focus for joint research projects with other subsidiaries of Warner Communications Inc., Atari's parent company. The lab staff includes computer programmers and scientists who will build on Atari's expertise in electronic entertainment and computation.

Atari Incorporated
1265 Borregas Avenue
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Sunnyvale, CA 94086

The black, low profile, all-aluminum cabinet measures 4 x 1½ x 9½ inches. It is simple to install and operate and is compatible with nearly any standard data terminal or personal computer. It is made in the USA.

An Apple version (MFJ-1231) that plugs into the game port comes complete with software. No serial interface board is needed.

MFJ inductive coupled modem

Originate/Answer Modem

MFJ Enterprises, Inc., has introduced the MFJ-1230 Originate/Answer Modem. It looks and is used like an acoustic coupled modem, but it uses an inductive coupling technique for receiving. This gives more reliable data transfer by eliminating errors caused by room noise, vibration, and a host of other acoustic coupling problems.

This Bell 103 compatible modem operates 0 to 300 baud, features half and full duplex operation, and is crystal controlled for very high stability. It provides TTL and CMOS inputs/outputs as well as RS-232 compatibility. This allows easy interfacing to nearly any computer with proper software. Also, input/output ports for a cassette tape recorder let you save your transmitted data and load it back to your computer or retransmit it later.

The MFJ-1230 and MFJ-1231 Inductive Coupled Modem is available from MFJ Enterprises, Inc., for $129.95 and $139.95, respectively, plus $5 each for shipping and handling.

MFJ provides a 30-day money back trial period. If you are not satisfied, you may return it within 30 days for a full refund (less shipping). MFJ also provides a one year limited warranty.

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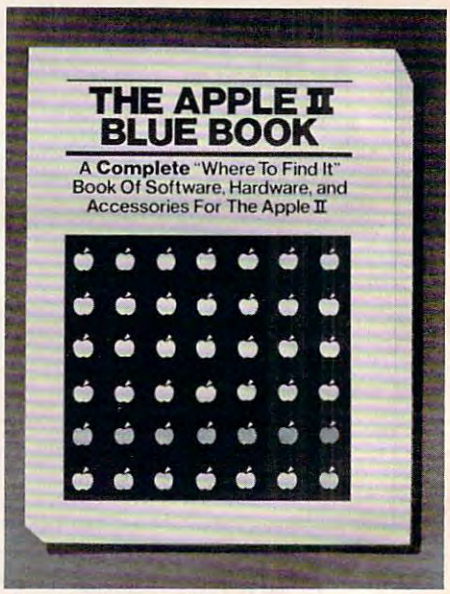

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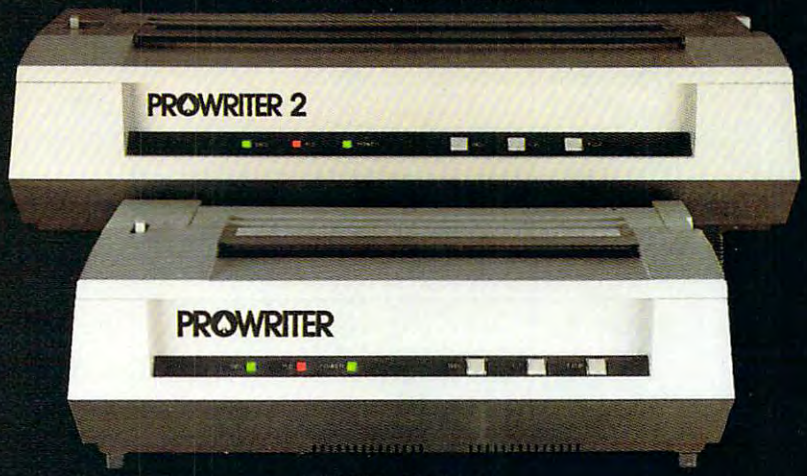
The Prowriters: business printers—and more. The "more" is a dot-matrix process with more dots. It gives you denser, correspondence quality copy (as opposed to business quality copy, which looks like a bad job of spray-painting).
Prowriter: 120 cps. 80 columns dot matrix compressable to 136. 10" carriage. Parallel or serial interface.
Prowriter 2: Same as Prowriter, except 15" carriage allows full 136 columns in normal print mode. Parallel or serial interface.



THE STAR.

The Starwriter F-10. In short (or more precisely, in a sleek 6" high, 30-pound unit), it gives you more of just about everything—except bulk and noise—than any other printer in its price range. It's a 40 cps letter-quality daisy-wheel with a bunch of built-in functions to simplify and speed up word processing. It plugs into almost any micro on the market, serial or parallel.

THE MASTER.

The Printmaster F-10. Does all the same good stuff as the Starwriter except, at 55 cps, the Master does it faster.

Distributed Exclusively by Leading Edge Products, Inc., 225 Turnpike Street, Canton, Massachusetts 02021. Call: toll-free 1-800-343-6833; or in Massachusetts call collect (617) 828-8150. Telex: 951-624.

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WHEN WE ANNOUNCED THE COMMODORE 64 FOR $595, OUR COMPETITORS SAID WE COULDN'T DO IT.

THAT'S BECAUSE THEY COULDN'T DO IT.

The reason is that, unlike our competitors, we make our own IC chips. *Plus* all the parts of the computer they go into.

So Commodore can get more advanced computers to market sooner than anybody else. And we can get them there for a lot less money.

WHAT PRICE POWER?

For your $595,* the Commodore 64™ gives you a built-in user memory of 64K. This is hundreds of dollars less than computers of comparable power.

Lest you think that the Commodore 64 is some stripped-down loss leader, a look at its available peripherals and interfaces will quickly convince you otherwise.

SOFTWARE THAT WORKS HARD.

The supply of software for the Commodore 64 will be extensive. And with the optional plug-in Z80 microprocessor, the Commodore 64 can accommodate the enormous amount of software available in CP/M®.

Add in the number of programs available in BASIC and you'll find that there are virtually no applications, from word processing to spreadsheets, that the Commodore 64 can't handle with the greatest of ease.

PERIPHERALS WITH VISION.

The Commodore 64 interfaces with all the peripherals you could want for total personal computing: disk drives, printers and a telephone modem that's about $100, including a free hour's access to some of the more popular computer information services. Including Commodore's own Information Network for users.

RUN YOUR BUSINESS BY DAY.
SAVE THE EARTH BY NIGHT.

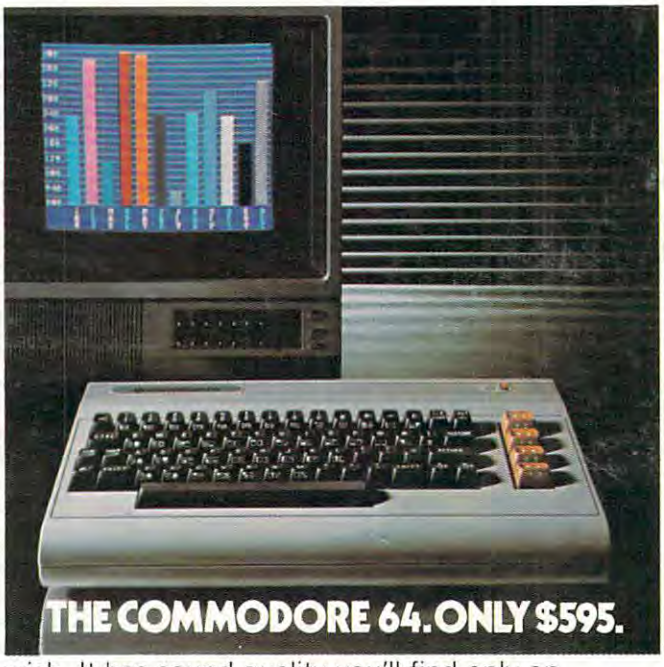
At the end of a business day, the Commodore 64 can go into your briefcase and ride home with you for an evening's fun and games.

Because of its superior video quality (320x200 pixel resolution, 16 available colors and 3D Sprite graphics), the Commodore 64 surpasses the best of the video game machines on the market. Yet, because it's such a powerful computer, it allows you to invent game programs that a game machine will never be able to play; as well as enjoy Commodore's own video game cartridges.

ATTACK, DECAY, SUSTAIN, RELEASE.

If you're a musicologist, you already know what an ADSR (attack, decay, sustain, release) envelope is. If you're not, you can learn this and much more about music with the Commodore 64's music synthesizing features.

It's a full-scale compositional tool. Besides a programmable ADSR envelope generator, it has 3 voices (each with a 9-octave range) and 4 waveforms for truly sophisticated composition and playback—through your home audio system, if you wish. It has sound quality you'll find only on separate, music-only synthesizers. And graphics and storage ability you won't find on any separate synthesizer.



DON'T WAIT.

The predictable effect of advanced technology is that it produces less expensive, more capable products the longer you wait.

If you've been waiting for this to happen to personal computers, your wait is over.

See the Commodore 64 soon at your local Commodore Computer dealer and compare it with the best the competition has to offer.

You can bet that's what the competition will be doing.

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CPT-11

*Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price: July 1, 1982. Disk drives and printers are not included in prices. The 64's price may change without notice.
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