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May 1983

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## Typesetting by

Uniprint, 91 Euston Road, London Printed by Spottiswoode Ballantyne Ltd, Essex, England.

Distributed by S\&M Distribution, London. Tel. 01-274 8611.

Commodore Computing International is not in any way connected with Commodore Business Machines UK Ltd. It is published monthly by Nick Hampshire Publications, 167-169 Great Portland Street, London W1.

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## Commodore considers moving to Corby

Encouraged by the fact that Britain accounts for 40 per cent of their home computer sales in the European market, Commodore are considering Corby as a possible site for their European manufacturing and distribution centre. The idea, still in the planning stage, is to transfer production of the VIC-20 and the 64 from Braunschweig, West Germany, leaving that plant to concentrate on business computers.

The new plant, which could create up to 200 jobs, would have an annual capacity of 700,000 units. It would produce machines primarily for the domestic market, with any surplus going to Europe.

Corby has its attractions. The high unemployment rate ensures a ready labour force and since the town lies within a Development Area and an Enterprise Zone, companies qualify for rent-free factories and grants from the Department of Industry.

## Managing markets

Fulgard Markets have collaborated with Wego Computers Ltd of Caterham, Surrey, to produce a microcomputer-based system for managing street markets. The program, designed for use on a Commodore Pet, provides invoicing facilities and an up-to-date breakdown of each trader's ac-count-whether bills have been settled or not, amounts outstanding, and attendance records at the various markets.

Useful information is stored, including stall numbers, positions favoured by traders and details of their merchandise. To help forward planning, the computer provides a printed plan of each market showing gaps still to be filled.

## Obvious step

The markets are difficult to manage, with business expanding and traders travelling to the scuth-east from as far away as Humberside. Fulgard, who run markets in Caterham, Croydon, Lancing and Bognor, felt that computerisation was the obvious step. 'The Wego system has made our business more cost effective and efficient,' said Fulgard's Mr Robin Gardner.

The software is based on a modular approach to programming for the Commodore range which, claim Wego, offers advantages in terms of speed, flexibility and performance. Customers can use their microcomputers instead of investing in costly mainframe equipment.

Once the customer's needs have been defined
and analysed, and the design and specification drawn up, the program can be written in a short time. The Wego approach is flexible; screen layouts and printouts are designed to suit the customer.

Data compression and fast retrieval of data from disk are features of the system.

For more information contact Mr Geoff Duck, Wego Computers Ltd., 22a High Street, Caterham, Surrey. (tel: 0883-49235)

## Portable data collector for the PET

Consider the following specification: the full calculating, display, storage and printing capability of the PET computer in a device which is portable, self-contained and has a power source lasting several months.

Such a system is available from Mektronic Consultants. Called the TERMIPET, it comprises a portable data collection terminal interfaced to the PET. The terminal can store up to 32 K of data which can be input through the keyboard and/or a bar-code scanner. It can be used for stock recording, incomplete records, market and industrial research, shop floor data collection, order recording, data processing and hospital patient records.

Previously usable only with large computer systems, the information from these terminals can now be down-loaded to the PET. The information is collected over a suitable period, say a day or a week. The data collector is then interfaced to the microcomputer. Data transmission takes place at about 4 K per minute and the computer processes the information in the usual way.

## Decoded

Data collection is enhanced by the use of barcodes whereby the information contained in sourcecoded products (e.g. consumer goods on the supermarket shelves) can be decoded and used. Your own bar-codes can be used to specify clients and addresses, items in your catalogues, questions in a market survey etc. The bar-code provides a fast means of entry for such information.

The TERMIPET system, comprising 8 K byte data collector, bar-code scanner, bar-code starter pack, interface card and software, retails for $£ 848.00$.

Further information from Mektronic Consultants, Linden House, 116 Rectory Lane, Prestwich, Manchester M25 5DB (tel 061-798 0803).

## Check that cash

Especially for use on the 4000 and 8000 series is the Electronic Cash Book from Dataview. This is a menu-driven program offering nine main options and suitable for the inexperienced user. The Cash Book records the receipt and payment of money, whether in coins, notes, cheques or postal orders, the type of payment being split up into various codes of which there are 99 on the 8000 series and 60 on the 4000 .

Whichever system it is being used on, the program covers a period of three months with a maximum of 1014 transactions possible on the 8000 and 450 on the 4000 . Once payments are entered the system keeps a complete record including bank reference number, lease number, payee, amount paid to date, amount outstanding and bank charges, all of which can be printed on the screen or via the 8023,8300 and 4022 printers.

The price of $£ 195$ includes a manual and security key.

Area: Accountancy.
Company: Dataview.
Address: Portreeves House, East Bay, Colchester, Essex CO1 2XB.
Tel: 0206-869414/865835.


Eureka Systems (Dormley House, Upton Road, Slough SL1 2AD, tel 0753-37722) have developed an access control system comprising a small tag and a sensor. The tag contains a unique code which can be detected and verified by a sensor up to three metres away. The sensor can be installed out of sight behind a wall or on the ceiling, since the tag works through many materials including brick, steel and leather. It can be kept in the user's bag or pocket. The non-rechargeable battery has a life of about five years.

## Total service package

The Computing Services Association, a trade body representing about 200 companies and organisations, provides services to government, industry, commerce and the media. Operating through councils, committees and interest groups, the CSA offers facilities for processing client data, either with standard packages supplied by the bureau or packages tailor-made for the client.

CSA consultants will help clients to plan, develop and implement computer systems, plus education and training. Systems are designed for vertical marketing, although cross-industry applications such as general accountancy are still popular. There is also a free commercial enquiry service; customers give details of the service required to the CSA and these are then circulated to all the members on a weekly basis.

A code of conduct obliges members to express terms of agreements clearly and fulfil the agreements, to help eliminate confusion arising from terminology, and to provide proper security for client information.

## Area: General services. Company: Computing Services Association. Address: Hanover House, 73/74 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LE. <br> Tel: $\quad$ 01-405 2171/2 and 01-405 3161/2.

## New design desks

Now that Commodore have released the 500 and 700 series, Tirith Ltd have not been slow in updating the Crompton computer desk to accommodate the new machines and their peripherals. The surface area of the worktop now measures $1,170 \times 680$ millimetres. Other improvements have also been made. Instead of having cable clips beneath the desk-top, the cables are installed in a hollowed-out bar on a pivot which runs across the back of the desk.

Also for ease of access, the 13 amp sockets have been positioned on the back frame and the paper feed is provided for by means of a gap between the back of the desk and the cable facility. Six versions of the desk are available, some fitted with a second disk drive shelf and a large or small top extension. Prices range from $£ 180$ to $£ 260$ ex-works, not including VAT. Payment should be with the order or within 30 days.

Area: Worktops.
Company: Tirith Ltd.
Address: Pear Tree House, Woughton-on-the-Green, Milton Keynes MK6 3BE.
TeI: 0908-679528.

## Reducing printer noise

Available from Ventguard is a new range of metal acoustic covers designed to fit most word processors and tractor feed printers. The Universal Type 1 fits onto Commodore, Qume, Diablo and many other printers. It reduces noise from the printer by as much as 90 per cent. To prevent the machine getting too hot, an electric fan is a standard fitting.

The Universal Type 2 and 3 also fit the Qume and Diablo, but they differ in height and depth. Type 3 has a one-piece construction, the base section joining the cover. Both 2 and 3 are for most word processors and printers using the Rutishauser or BDT sheet feed systems. Each cover is fitted with a threecore, 13 amp electric cable and three-pin socket with a standard three-amp fuse.

Area: Equipment.
Company: Ventguard.
Address: Unit 12, High View Avenue, Keyworth, Nottinghamshire NG12 5EL.
Tel: 06077-5856.


Ventguard acoustic cover

## Cleaning printer wheels

Innovative Computer Products offer print wheel cleaner kits with adaptors to suit Qume and Diablo printers. Each kit contains a cleaning pad made of deep-pile fabric and a 118 ml bottle of ICP cleaning fluid. To clean the print wheel a shaft that passes through the lid of the container is used to hold the print wheel and rotate it against the cleaning pad. The kit, priced at $£ 16.40$ (refills $£ 7.90$ each) is available from Action Computer Supplies, who offer a same day dispatch service.

[^0]

Berol floppy disk pen

## Floppy disk pen

To prevent damage to floppy disks, Berol Ltd have introduced the Floppy Disk Pen. The surface of any floppy disk is extremely sensitive to touch. Writing has to be done on the protective sleeve, but even this can damage the disc if you press too hard.

Using the Berol pen, when the writer presses too hard the nib bends away from the surface before the floppy can be damaged. If the nib is damaged it can easily be straightened out. The pen is available in four colours - blue, green, red and black - and costs 45 pence.

Area: Accessories.
Company: Berol Ltd.
Address: Oldmedow Road, King's Lynn, Norfolk PE30 4JR.
Tel: 0553-61221.

## Serving users and dealers

Raben-Christensen are providing a new service for Commodore dealers and customers-a systems analysis and programming package in Silicon Office and standard machine languages. According to lan Hyde, the company's sales manager, users of Silicon Office and similar systems are often inexperienced and encounter problems when they try to set up complex systems.

Raben-Christensen, who are able to offer the service on a national basis, will be charging $£ 120$ a day plus expenses. A package that includes order processing, stock control and sales ledger to trial balance will cost less than $£ 1,000$.

Area: Consultancy.
Company: Raben-Christensen.
Address: Foundry Lane, Horsham,
West Sussex RH13 5TZ.
Tel:
0403-69696.

# Run CP/M ${ }^{*}$ on Commodore with SOFTBOX 



Simply by plugging the Small Systems SOFTBOX into the IEEE-488 port and loading the CP/M disk, your Commodore PET/CBM will run under the world's most popular disk operating system. No internal connections or modifications arequired.

A complete computer system in itself, the SOFTBOX uses the PET or CBM as its terminal while talking to any combination of Commodore and Corvus drives. A single command returns you to PET BASIC. The SOFTBOX utility disk gives you complete software control over your configuration.

## Terminal Emulation

Applications packages designed to work with specific termals (like ADM3A, TV1 912 or Hazeltine 1500) will need no modification for the 80-column CBM, since the SOFTBOX allows your computer to emulate any of these devices.

## Add Corvus Hard Disk

Expand your CP/M file storage capacity with reliable Corvus drives. With the Corvus Mirror Option and a standard video cassette recorder, you have a fast, inexpensive disk backup. When you purchase the SOFTBCX and Corvus from Small Systems, you'll receive everything necessary to convert your Commodore to a hard disk-based CP/M system.

## Features

- CP/M version 2.2 with menu driven system configuration.
- Z80 CPU running at 4 MHz with no wait states.
- 64K RAM
- Operates with any 2000, 3000, 4000 and 8000 series Commodore computer.
- Supports up to 8 Commodore 3040, 4040, or 8050 disk drives.
- Supports up to 4 Corvus hard disks of 6,11 , or 20 MBytes.
- RS232 serial interface with software-definable baud rates for use with a printer, modem or terminal.
- Diskette containing operating system with utilities.
- Comprehensive user manual.

A full range of CP/M languages and applications software on Commodore 8050 or 4040 format is available.
small systems engineering limited
2-4 Canfield Place, London NW6 3BT. Telephone: 3287145 Telex 264538

# Three budget programs for word processing 

David Hornsby

The owner of a Commodore computer has a wide range of good word processor programs to choose from. But since they cost $£ 200$ or more, they are probably beyond the pocket of the average school/amateur/home owner.

This does not mean that word processing is ruled out for these users. There are a number of budget programs available, some of which are very good. The three programs reviewed here cost less than $£ 50$ each, work with either tape or disk and represent good value for money.


#### Abstract

If you own a PET/CBM computer and a printer but can't afford one of the $£ 200$-plus word processor programs, you should consider these three packages, which extend the potential of your computer. Over the last three months I have used all three programs for jobs such as personal letters (and 'undercopies'), duplicating babysitters' lists for my wife, producing a letter to insert into Christmas cards and even preparing this review.


## Pagewriter

This is a 2 K machine code program which you buy as a ROM. It does not provide many facilities but is simple to use and has some excellent points.

First, it provides a moving window on the text so that the limitations of a 40 -column screen are removed. As you type or use the cursor keys, the screen contents appear to move up, down, left or right as if they were a sheet of much larger paper behind the screen. When it comes to print out, what is on the 'electronic paper' is what is printed.

Formatting has to be done manually on the screen; this makes it virtually foolproof although tedious. Insertion and deletion of text are done in much the same way as for a Basic program, but it destroys the formatting of all text following the amendment. A special command mode allows deleted words or lines to be re-inserted elsewhere and if you stick to whole lines then formatting is not destroyed.

## Characters

Two noteworthy features: the ability to embed any number of up to 26 separate user defined characters (such as pound sign, mathematical symbols and graphic shapes) into your text for printing on a CBM matrix printer (this works a treat); and the fact that the text is made to appear to the computer as a

Basic program; it can be saved much faster on tape than a sequential data file. High-speed cassette tape routines such as Arrow will also save Pagewriter text with the usual speed advantages.

A possible problem is that non-Commodore printers will need an interface that converts upper case to lower case and vice versa. My Epson printer has a simple interface, but I have overcome this limitation with a short machine code routine which I run just before print-out. This flips the text on the screen the wrong way round but the printed copy emerges the right way round.

The documentation that comes with the ROM is brief but adequate; I had no trouble working out how to use the program.

I have found Pagewriter to be most useful for producing short reports containing many rows of figures which need aligning, since the manual formatting features are so easy to use and layout may be planned at the keyboard. For other uses I opt for the second or third programs described.

## Papermate Plus

Papermate Plus is written in Basic with some machine code routines to speed up critical operations. An enhanced version of the original Papermate program, it's a clever piece of software that provides so many facilities that I have yet to use all of them.

A professional typist would find typing speed limited by the speed at which the program can input text, but I have found it quite fast enough for an experienced 'five finger and thumb' non-typist.

Formatting is performed at print time by the use of in-text format commands and virtually any type of printer may be used. The keyboard may be redefined to individual requirements and elaborate editing is possible.

However, it is here that Papermate shows signs of weakness; although it can handle complex editing, it is slow and sometimes fiddly to use. Many of the commands are only provided to try to overcome the limitations imposed by the program being written virtually entirely in Basic. If you don't have the fast garbage

[^1]collection of Basic 4 ROMs, you will find that the program hangs for a few seconds from time to time.

Forms and files
There are some advanced features. Form-filling (e.g. linking a mailing list to a standard letter to personalise it) is supported. Text linking is provided to extend the memory capacity of the computer so that long documents may be prepared and printed (useful to an author) and use may be made of relative files.

On the other hand, Papermate is not an easy program to learn or use. I have to refer constantly to the fairly helpful documentation provided to make use of some of the commands. Furthermore, I often find that if I try any fancy layout commands, then what is printed is often not what I expected. Invariably this is my fault, but it can be difficult to see the cause of the error at times.

The rare crash that occurs with the program is not a serious bug but is caused rather by stack overflow. Don't worry about it, as a GOTO900 allows you to continue with nothing lost.

## Wordpower

The father of Wordpower was a Basic program published in Personal Computer World two years ago. That was a successful attempt at a word processor program and I used it for a time. The machine code version now available is a terrific improvement and offers thoroughly professional, low-cost word processing.

It supports any printer and although it has fewer commands than Papermate it is comparatively easy to use and superb for editing. Many users consider the PET screen editor to be among the best yet devised for the microcomputer and Wordpower offers one of the best text editors of any microcomputer-based word processor.

Fast scrolling up or down, line by line or screen by screen is provided. Text is automatically 'wordwrapped' so that a word is never split at the end of a line on the screen but wraps onto the next.

There is little need for repeated reference to the helpful manual since the top four lines of the screen maintain a constant menu of all the commands available in each of the modes of operation.

> Text linking is provided to extend the memory capacity of the computer so that long documents may be prepared and printed.

The cursor may be moved anywhere as normal; inserting and deleting text is a real joy. When deleting, it is virtually impossible to make an error since all text to be deleted is put into reverse field so you can precisely identify what you are about to lose.

Wordpower also maintains a buffer memory which stores deleted text. The copy command allows this text to be inserted elsewhere, if necessary many times since the buffer is not changed until the next use of the delete command. This is a simple idea which is both easy to use and powerful.

## Superior editor

As a bonus to users of the Commodore Assembler, Wordpower will prepare compatible source text and is a superior text editor to the standard Commodore one.

Before printing text onto paper, Wordpower allows a test print onto the screen so that you can check the formatting and paging of the text. This can save you paper and time.

The limitations of Wordpower are merely the lack of some of the advanced facilities of Papermate. Chief of these for me is the ability to link text. This

When deleting, it is virtually impossible to make an error. All text to be deleted is put into reverse field.
may be overcome to some extent by using the screen printing facility which allows really long text to be split at a page boundary and stored separately, then printed in sequence.

Papermate's facilities are superior here, but the 12 or so pages of A4 text that may be stored by Wordpower on a 32 K machine should prove enough for most purposes.

## Conclusion

All three programs are good. Top on my list is Wordpower, but if form-filling is important then you will have to choose Papermate. Pagewriter, being in ROM, is very handy and might appeal to non-disk users because of the speed and ease of its use with tape.

The best advice I can give is to suggest that you look at the table of features and draw your own conclusions. Unfortunately, your local dealer is unlikely to be able to give you a demonstration of any of these programs. Being budget products, they are available only by mail order.

## Comparison of features

|  | PAGEWRITER | PAPERMATE+ | WORDPDWER |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Price | £39 | £45 | £41 |
| Available from | Supersoft | Supersoft | K. Pretorius |
| Supplied as | 2K ROM | tape or disk | tape or disk |
| Language | machine code | BASIC + m/c | machine code |
| BASIC 2/3/4 | yes | yes | yes |
| Max. text (A4) | 3 pages | 9 pages | 12 pages |
| approx. |  | (19K bytes) | (23.5k bytes) |
| Text linking | no | yes | manual only |
| Memory counter | yes | no | yes |
| Printer | Commodore preferred | any | any |
| Frinter commands | only char . -mode | yes but fiddly | yes |
| Printing speed | very fast | fast | very fast |
| Adj. page size | only at turn-on | yes | yes |
| Page numbering | no | yes | yes |
| Double spacing | manually only | yes | yes |
| Margins | no | yes | yes |
| Right justifying | no | yes | yes |
| Tabulation | no | yes | yes |
| Centering | no | yes | yes |
| Keyboard definable | no | yes | no |
| Typing speed | professional | fast amateur | professional |
| Editing | limited | good but fiddly | superb |
| Find with repeat | no | yes | yes |
| Find with change | no | no | yes |
| Move text block | yes | yes | yes |
| Wordwrapping | no | sometimes | yes |
| Printout preview | yes | no | yes |
| Multiple copies | upto 9 only | yes | yes |
| Form letters | no | yes | no |
| Tape use | yes | yes | yes |
| Disk use | yes | yes | yes |
| Disk commands | no | BASIC 4 only | yes |
| Text saved as | BASIC program | seq. file | seq. file |
| Number of commands | low | very high | moderate |
| Ease of use | good | fair | good |
| Known bugs | none | stack overflow | none |

## Choose your own commands

There have been countless programs, on tape or disk, or contained in ROM, that have added commands to the existing PET Basic. Ideally the program you buy should be burnt into ROM and then simply installed in your machine, to avoid the loss of valuable memory space in the computer.

However, even working in this way there is one major fault with all the previously available ROM add-ons. What you pay for is what you get, it doesn't matter if there are five additional commands on the chip that you will never use. You've still paid for them.

To overcome this problem Whitby Computers, of Whitby, North Yorkshire, have come up with a novel idea that deserves to be a success.

## It's your choice

Instead of presenting you with, say, 10 extra commands, you are invited to choose your own set of commands from a list that currently totals 78. Not all of these are Basic commands, some are new functions, but the total remains the same.

How do you go about choosing these commands? In Whitby's literature you are presented with a list of them and a brief summary of what they do. Alongside each one is a figure giving the number of bytes of memory it will occupy-the amount of space, in other words, required to implement that command.

> When you've reached 3,700 you send off your order and back comes a chip with your new commands burnt into it.

You can choose around 3,700 bytes worth. While selecting commands you keep a running check of the total number of bytes you've consumed. When you've reached 3,700 you send off your order and back comes a chip with your new commands burnt into it. All you have to do is fit the chip into your computer.You choose which socket it is to go in, thus allowing you to have two Whitby chips in your machine at the same time, if you wish. Then type the appropriate SYS command to initialise it.

## Capabilities

Careful selection of new instructions and functions should allow you to build up a powerful library to extend the capabilities of your machine. Some of the commands though, I can't see as being particularly useful.

For instance, I would regard 100 bytes to draw a border around your screen as a waste of 100 bytes! Do that yourself in Basic (or machine code) and save that valuable space in the chip for something a bit more useful: say automatic line numbering and disabling the run/stop key without affecting the internal clock.

All the 'standard' additions are available, such as renumbering, block deleting, dump, merge and replacing all occurrences of a given character string with another. By carefully choosing each one, you can easily assemble a collection of commands for handling disk drives, looking after printers or performing various input checks.

Structured Basic, should you require it, is available with the new commands CIF, ELIF, CEND, ELSE: a valuable 220 bytes worth! Of course, if you write your programs in structured Basic they won't run on any other machine without the addition of another Whitby chip.

## Criticisms

Mercifully this will not be one of the longer sections of this review! My main gripe concerns the manual, which is simply a set of photocopied sheets of paper, one per command, stuck together. To save expensive printing costs, the company photocopies the pages for the commands you have chosen and puts them together. Not exactly attractive, but at least it tells you what you need to know.

The command instructions, however, should and could be more detailed than they are at present.

## Conclusion

Available for any Basic 2 or 4 PET (but not Vics and 64s: yet!), this is a useful aid for any programmer. Selectability is its main selling point, and on this alone it should do well. The documentation could be improved, but that is a minor point. Some of the commands are clearly superfluous, and are simply there to make the advert look better, but you don't have to choose them : the end result is up to you.

| Area : | Program development. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Product: | SoftChip. |
| Price : | £45.00. |
| Configuration : Any Basic 2 or 4 PET. |  |
| Company: | Whitby Computers Ltd.. |
| Address: | 8 Chubb Hill Road, Whitby, North |
|  | Yorkshire. |

Tel :

# Hiding PET programs with the list lock routine 

Steven Darnold

Adventures are very popular at my school. Every month or so, I take in a new adventure and give a prize to the first pupil to complete it. Needless to say, the school's three 16 K PETs get used with particular enthusiasm when a new adventure arrives.

It was obvious from the beginning that I would have to do something to hide the program listings from inquisitive eyes. The temptation to get a 'hint' from the listing is just too great. I considered writing the adventures in machine language, but the time required for this would rule out monthly adventures (I would be lucky to write one a year!). I considered buying a BASIC compiler, but the prices are just too high. I considered storing all text as data files, but several pupils would have little difficulty unravelling such files. The only viable alternative was to write a normal BASIC program and then lock the listing.

## The key

The first time I loaded a VIC program into my PET, I was surprised to find that I could not list it. After some fiddling around, I discovered that I could list the program if I moved the start-of-BASIC pointer to $\$ 1001$. However, when I then loaded a normal PET program, I could not list it until I had moved the start-of-BASIC pointer back to $\$ 0401$. This is the key to locking a listing. As long as the start-of-BASIC pointer is not pointing to the program, it cannot be listed.

When I want to lock a program, I start it 57 bytes beyond the normal start-of-BASIC position. This keeps the user from listing it. However, it also keeps the user from running it. In order for a program to run, the start-of-BASIC pointer has to be pointing at it. Therefore, in the normal start-of-BASIC position, I put a machine language routine which resets the pointer. A LIST shows only '100 SYS1037' but a RUN finds the program via the machine language.

## Special routine

While the program is running, the start-of-BASIC pointer points to it. Consequently, if the program stops suddenly, it can be listed. It is essential, therefore, to keep the user from breaking out of the program. The stop key must be disabled and a special input routine used to keep the user from jumping out of the program. Also, the program must be examined to eliminate any conceivable break due to such things as string too long and overflow errors.

Just before the end of the program, the start-ofBASIC pointer must be poked back to its usual position. Otherwise the user will be able to list the program at the end. Moreover, if the user loads a new program, he will not be able to find it unless the pointer is back to normal.

It should be noted that, although the locking procedure erects a tangible barrier, even more potent is the psychological effect. The opening SYS statement gives the impression that the entire program is in machine language. Few users will suspect anything beyond that (particularly since some compiled programs run little faster than normal Basic).

The rest of this article details the locking procedure for a PET with upgrade or 4.0 ROMs. Users of other Commodore computers should be able to adapt the procedure without too much difficulty.

For a program to run, the start-of-Basic pointer must be pointing at it. Therefore, in the normal start-of-Basic position, I put a machine language routine which resets the pointer.

Routine 1 goes in the normal start-of-Basic position. It can be inserted into an existing Basic program by entering a dummy first line, made up of a REM and 50 asterisks. This leaves just enough room for the routine to be typed in from the machine language monitor.
.: 0401 OB 046400 9E 313033
$\therefore 040937000000$ A9 93 8D 6F
. 041102 A9 52 8D 7002 A9 D5
.: 0419 8D 7102 A9 0D 8D 7202
.: 0421 A9 0485 9E 78 AD FF FF
.: 04298591 AD FE FF 691685
.: 04319058 A9 3985286000

0401 OB 04
04036400
0405 9E 31303337
040A 000000
040D A9 93 8D 6F 02 puts CLEAR-SCREEN in keyboard buffer
0412 A9 52 8D 7002 puts R in keyboard buffer 0417 A9 D5 8D 7102 puts shifted-U in keyboard buffer

041C A9 0D 8D $7202 \begin{aligned} & \text { puts RETURN in keyboard } \\ & \text { buffer }\end{aligned}$
0421 A9 04859 E 042578
0426 AD FF FF
04298591
042B AD FE FF
042E 6916
04308590
043258
0433 A9 398528
043760
043800
0439 ?? ??
043b ?? ??
puts 4 in buffer counter disables interrupts fetches value from jump table stores in hardware interrupt vector
fetches value from jump table adds offset (to disable stop key) stores in hardware interrupt vector
clears interrupt disable puts $\$ 39$ in start-of-BASIC pointer
end of machine language marks start of main program link to next program line first line number of main program

## Dealing with a null return on input

One of the drawbacks of the INPUT statement is its inability to handle a null input. If the return key is pressed without inputting any data, the machine will exit from the program. To get the INPUT statement to accept a null string the statement must be structured in such a way that a character will always be automaticall input.

This is done by following the INPUT statement with a string which is terminated by three carriage returns. When run this results in the cursor being placed over the last character of the string, and if the return key only is pressed then this character will be input thus:

100 INPUT "Is the disk inserted Y or N cl cl cl";A\$
110 If $\mathrm{A} \$=$ " N " then GOTO 500
120 GOTO 400
As can be seen from the above example, this method is excellent for inputting default parameters since the user only has to press carriage return in response to the question if the default situation is required.

This routine performs three tasks. First, it sets keyboard buffer values in such a way that a RUN is executed when the routine ends. Second, it disables the stop key by causing the interrupt vector to skip the stop key servicing routine. Third, it changes one byte of the start-of-BASIC pointer from \$01 to \$39, thereby moving the start of BASIC from \$0401 to $\$ 0439$.

Routine 2 goes into the main program as a subroutine. All INPUT statements are replaced by GOSUB 60000. The input is returned as IN\$.

60000 IN $\$=$ " $:$ POKE158,0:POKE167,0 (clear input string and buffer, turn on cursor)
60010 WAIT158,7:GETZ\$:Z = ASC(Z\$):IFZ 95 THEN60010 (get one character, reject if too big)
60020 ZL = LEN(IN\$):IFZL 38THEN60040
(reject character if string too long)
60030 IFZ 31THENIN\$ = IN\$ + Z\$:PRINTZ\$;: GOTO60010 (add character to string if not too small)
60040 IFZ $=13$ ANDZLTHENPOKE167,1:PRINT ${ }^{\prime}$
': RETURN (turn off cursor and exit if RETURN pressed)
60050 IFZ = 20ANDZLTHENIN $\$=$ LEFT $\$$ (IN\$, ZL1):PRINTZ\$; (delete character from string if DEL pressed)
60060 GOTO60010

## Advantages

This routine has many advantages over a normal INPUT and can be used in all sorts of programs. First, it does not drop out of the program when RETURN is pressed alone (line 60040 rejects RETURN if $\mathrm{ZL}=0$ ). Second, it will not accept out-of-range characters (set maximum ASCII value in line 60010, set minimum in line 60030). Third, it rejects all cursor control characters except delete (which only works if there is something in the string to delete). Fourth, it limits the length of the input (set maximum in line60020). The input length must be less than 255 to avoid the possibility of a STRING TOO LONG error.

The third part of the locking procedure is the simplest of all. Everywhere it ends, the main program must end in this way:

POKE 40,1 : END
This returns the start-of-Basic pointer to the normal position. A person then listing the program will find only '100 SYS1037'.

# Choosing the equipment 

Robert Moscrop


#### Abstract

Evaluating computer equipment for a company information system is a complex process. The user must know what he wants and what hardware and software will suit his needs.


Having defined the needs of the company, it is now possible to work out a solution. The maxim contained in the introduction to this series is worth repeating: Caveat emptor. Let it be known that you are in the market and your phone will not stop ringing and you will soon lose the respect of your postman.

Your first step is to produce a statement of requirements, often called a 'bid spec'. The preparation and production of this document is far more important than might at first appear, for not only does it set out the needs of the company, but it sets the standard by which the responses will be judged.

The following may be used as guidelines in drawing up the document for suppliers:

## 1. Statement of objectives

This will be a description of the disciplines (logic) of the procedures to be adopted in business terms, together with the desired output and proposed input, identifying 'musts' against 'wants'.

## 2. Detailed specification

This will comprise a flow chart as discussed in the previous article, which traces the flow of information through the system.

## 3. Quantification

The volumes of data to be handled in terms of input and output. In both cases the minimum/maximum/average volumes should be noted in addition to exceptional 'high' peaks and data conditions.

## 4. Control

The degree of security/control/confidentiality required to be exercised on the data. It is advisable to let your auditor read the document before publication, as he may want to add a few audit trails.

## 5. Development

It should be noted whether this is a 'stand alone' application or whether it is to be expanded into a more sophisticated routine at a later date (see 'Recording systems' in the second article).

[^2]Implied in the foregoing is the fact that the first thing to buy is the software-programs that will meet your needs.

The next step is to determine which potential suppliers will get the spec. The popular microcomputer journals or software directories will reveal many such software houses offering packages in general terms, e.g. 'financial accounts' or more specifically, accounts receivable, etc. To reduce this list, a short introductory questionnaire might be useful, seeking answers to the following points:

1. Do you have a package covering ' $x$ ' application?
2. Date written?
3. What amendments or updates have been made?
4. Is the company the originator? If not, who is?
5. How many have you sold?
6. What facilities are available for maintaining support for the package in the event of new legislation or logic failure? Who will make these facilities available and within what time?

## Revealing

The promptness and quality of the replies to even such a simple questionnaire can be revealing. They will help you to draw up a short-list of suppliers. At the same time, a standard evaluation procedure should be set up. Topics covered should include:

1. Evaluation criteria.
a) Cost/benefits
b) Reliability of the package-past record.
c) The installation package offered, including take-on, training, maintenance and documentation (who pays?).
d) Maintenance and expansion - who pays?
2. Feature analysis mechanism.
3. Product testing.
4. Vendor testing.
5. Support documentation.

Proposals submitted against the bid spec can then be evaluated in a more orderly manner. A points rating of $1-5$ can be given to each topic and allocated against each heading, although this will of necessity be somewhat subjective. The statistical concepts of 'best fit' and S.D. can be applied to the list of submissions in order to short-list a few possibles.

The next step is that of 'proving' the packages. This will involve arranging to have the package demonstrated preferably using your own data,
although this will be more time consuming, hence costly.

In evaluating the demonstrations, the following points may be used as a check list:

1. Timing, processing and response may vary on different machines.
2. Exceptional conditions.
3. Error conditions.
4. Audit control mechanism, security and back-up facilities.
5. Facilities used or missing.
6. User friendly.

This exercise will help you to choose the package best suited to your needs. It should not be assumed that the package can be installed 'as is'; modifications may have to be made, for example, if you wish to amend or produce bespoke programs.

The final step is to choose the hardware on which to run the application. To some extent the alternatives will be restricted by the choice of software. The package supplier will offer guidance, but such advice should not be taken as definitive. Alternatives should be sought.

Again, demonstrations must be arranged, to enable you to compare the products. A similar check-list should be drawn up as for the evaluation of the package, covering the following points:

1. Speed
a) Operational.
b) Response.
2. Upgrading This is the facility for buying and 'latching in' further pieces later. Consider the range of 'add-ons'.
3. Hardware a) Vendor's record.
b) Reliability.
c) Maintenance facilities.
4. Relations between hardware and software vendors.

As in the case of software evaluation, take nothing for granted. Ask why, why, why. Ask for and take up reference accounts. It's your money that is being spent, not theirs.

## In part six

Robert Moscrop considers some of the problems you may encounter while installing and commissioning the new equipment.

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```
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```

```
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```

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# A complete nominal ledger system for accountants 

## Part 4：Print program

The editors of Commodore Computing Interna－ tional have developed a series of computer systems for accountants，for use with the Com－ modore 4000 with disk drive and printer．

The nominal ledger package contains pro－ grams for entry，sort，update，print，amend descriptions and filesort．The first three ap－ peared in the February，March and April issues．

The print program will print reports from the
nominal ledger file．The operator is given the op－ tion of choosing which transaction references are to be printed，or＇ALL＇to print the entire file． For each new nominal code，the description will be obtained from the nominal desc file and printed．

Each selected record will be printed and totals of debits and credits accumulated for printing at the end of the nominal account as well as a grand total at the end of run．

```
5010 ML%="312831303130313130313031"
756 IIM2Fま(16)
10G6 FRINT"M NOMINFL LEIGER FRINT"
1E16 FRINT:FRINT:FRINT
```



```
105 IFOFt="象"THENFRINT"马"; :GOTO1020
10S5 FRINT:FRINT
```








```
11g@ FRINT""ENTER FIRST FHND LAST FCCOUNT HUNEEFS"
```





```
    1132 FRINT"g"
    1185 FORI=1TO1G
```



```
    1142 IFZF+G(I)="*"THEH1150
    1145 HEXTI
    1154 IHPUT"NGEUPPRESS FRINT **WIN"2S%
```





```
    1250 OFEN15,8,15
    126G OFEN3,8,3,"1:PARHMETERS,SEQ,READ"
    120S IFST>GTHENT06G
    1276 IHFUTT#S,IRF: IFST\QTHENGOSUB7060
```




```
    1310 CHFHE={=MIDE(IKक,5,30)
    1320 OLUSES
```



```
    13S1 REMOOPEH LF 3-HOM DESCRIPTIOHS** WOFEH LF 4 - FRT. LIHE # #
```




```
    1340 OPEH2,6,2,"1:NOMINALLEDGER,SEQ, REND": IFSTSQTHENGOSUETEGO
    1350 LFEHS, S, З,"1:NOMINALDESC, SEG, REAI": IFSTVGTHEHGOSUETGUO
    137G OFEN4,4,3
    SOQ OPENE,4,2
    1390 OFENE,4,1
    14EG OFENT,4
    14GS FRINT#S,"":FRIHT#7,""
    146E FRINT:4
```

```
14日T FRINT#?, "HOMINAL LEDGER FRINT"
1408 FRINT#?
```



```
1416 FRINT#F
1411 FRINTH?: "TEAHSADTION REF ";ZRE
1412 FRINTH?
```



```
1415 FORI=1TO1G:FRINT#?, 2Pक(I);" "::NENTI
```




```
1422 FF=F1京+"999999.99- 999999.99-"
1430 FRINTM5,F*
```




```
145 L2す=L2車+" PHiGE "
```



```
1452 L4末=L4萃+"
1470 LO=93:FG=0
2Qug REM
2016 IHFUT#きこIRま
2020 IFLEFT$(IR*,4)="22Z2"THEN45200
2G25 IFSTVGTHENGDGUETGOG
```



```
20%2 IF2Ft=";"THEH2055
```



```
2955 IFZP&(1)="涑"THEN+2050
2036 FORI=1TO1G
2037 IFZF末(I)="束"THEN2010
```



```
20GG NEXTI
2040 G0T02010
CGSG REM
20601 IFFT$="H"THEN2660
2476 FT&="N":INFUT#S,DR*:IFSTVGTHENGOSUB7000
2075 GOT050404
2g60 IFLK&`LEFT&(IR*,3)THEHGOTO4E010
2090 REM
30日6 LC=LC+1 : IFLO`E0THENGOSUEG04Q
3010 NI=VHL(MID*(IR&,17,4)):GOSUF6G60
```



```
B025 IF2S5="'"THEHSOEO
```




```
3060 TIW=TDW+IW:TCV=TCW+DV :GOTO2010
4000 FEN
```




```
5M1日 FEM
```



```
504日 IFIK$LEFT必DR&,3)THEHISOL="":GOTO5070
```




```
5070 1F2S%="'"THEH512g
5080 IFLCSETHEHGOSUE6006
GQSO FRIHT#T:FRIHT#T:FRINT#7,"ACCOUHT NO ";LK&;" - ";DSC&
5100 FRINT#7:FRINT#T,L4事
511日 LC=LC+5
5120 GOTO%006
20日 REN
5220 005|B6200
5z玉 FRINT件:FRINT#T
E24S FRIHT#7:" 串米 GFAND T OTAL **** ",GIV,GCV
5z5日 OLOSE2:CLOSE3:CLOSE4:CLOSE5:CLOSEE:CLOSE7
526日 POKE42, 01日:FOKE43,36:CLR:LORD"G:NOMINAL MEHU",8
```



```
6010 FRINT#, CHFE(19),CHR*(129)
EQ2G LO=3:FG=FG+1
603G FRINTHT,L1*
604日 FRINT#7,L2&;FG
```

```
6045 FRINT外,
6060 FEETURH
620日 REN
626 GIW=GIW+TIV:OCW=GOU+TCW
6240 LO=LC+2:IFLO E0THEHGOSUBGOU0
G.45 IFZS车="''"THEHFETUFH
ESG FRINT非
G263 FRINT#て:" 楼 T O TAL㐘粎 ",TDV,TCU
G270 FETUFH
TODE FEN
```



```
7015 IFA末="6G"THENFEETIIRH
TG2G FRINT"EFFOR NO. ",车:" "; B务
7G3G FRIHT"FHFH 1 ",[韦
```



```
70.5 IF'T|&="'T"THENREETURH
T060 FRINT"FESTART FUN"
7070 ENUI
6000 21寺="000031059090120151181212243273304334"
```



```
8070 23=23-1:21=21+365
8075 IFIHT (23,4)=23,4THEH21=21+1
8076 25=0: IFINT (23,4)=23/4}\mathrm{ THEN25=1
8080 24=%HL(MII*(Z1*,22,3)):IFZ4>31THENVZ4=24+25
6085 IF21=<24THEH22=22-3:GOT08060
8066 21年=STRも(21-24)+",'":Z2事=STR手((22+2)ノ3)+"ノ"
8087 CT支=下IGHTま("以"+RIGHTま(Z1古,LEN(Z1车)-1).3)
```



```
gOS FETURN
G006 FETUFN
FEFII'T'.
```


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# Use your head(ers) 

by M.C. Hart (Leicester Polytechnic)


#### Abstract

Advice on how to get the best out of your Commodore PET tape files.


A Basic program or a screen dump of data is essentially a file of data which a PET needs to feed into its RAM before a program can be run or a screen of data displayed. The question arises: how does the operating system 'know' where to place the data that is loaded from an auxiliary device such as tape or disk?

The answer to this question lies in the headers to the file of data which contain the start and end addresses, the name of the data file and other identification markers to distinguish program files from data files. Once an elementary knowledge of the header structure has been obtained, it is possible to modify addresses so that data may be loaded into locations in RAM which differ from those on the header.

## Three applications

Why should we need to do this? Three applications will be discussed which illustrate the utility of loading data files or programs in this non-standard way:

An Append application. If we wish to tag a subroutine onto the end of a program already held in memory and the sub-routine has been recorded (i.e. saved) as a program in its own right, we will need to specify the start address of the subroutine as the end address of the program already held in memory so that the two may be 'stitched together'.
An Auto-Start application. The letters RUN and carriage return if loaded into the keyboard buffer, together with information on the number of characters in the keyboard buffer, will automatically run on loading with obvious implications for the protection of programs.
A screen dump application. If a diagram, graph or block of data has been generated on the screen, it is possible to store these in a location below S8000 ( 32768 decimal) and then save the data file. If, when the data file is read back the header addresses point to the start and end of the screen RAM then an image can be restored to the screen quickly and easily without the need for complex screen-save routines.
Let us examine a tape header which, we will
assume, will normally be the header of a program tape that loads into tape buffer 1 (i.e. starting at S027A (634 decimal). This is the tape header from a program such as the following Basic one-liner:

$$
10 \text { PRINT "HELLO" }
$$



Addresses in the boxes are in hexadecimal such as can be seen in the Machine Language Monitor (to access type SYS4 and then M 027A-0283). The first of each pair is the low byte and the second is the high byte ( $=256 \times$ value). Hence, in the example above, the start address is 1 (low byte) $+4^{*} 256$ (high byte) which is 1025 decimal (or start of Basic).

Similarly the end address can be computed as $16+\left(4^{*} 256\right)=1040$ decimal. The name can be discerned from the ASCII codes (4E, 41, 4D, 45 hex $=78,65,77,69$ decimal $=$ NAME). This is the reason why the following statement in direct mode will reveal the name of the last loaded program (assuming tape loading into cassette buffer 1):

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { FOR } J=0 \text { TO 15:PRINT CHRS(PEEK(639 + } \\
& \text { J) ;:NEXT J }
\end{aligned}
$$

To examine the header of a tape, it is possible to load the header only before the rest of the program with the statement:

OPEN 1,1,0 (or more simply) OPEN 1
The first parameter is the logical file number, the second the device number (defaults to 1 for cassette 1) and the third the secondary address (defaults to 0 ). Then a call to the monitor followed by M 027A-029A will reveal details of the recently loaded header.

The first of the applications involving headers is an Append program. This is written in Basic but would not be appreciably faster in machine code; the Basic loader for the machine code could conceivably take up more space than the basic program itself. The line numbers are kept low but away from $0-2$ to allow for possible machine code in REM statements in lines 0,1 , etc. and also other documenting REMs and/or GOTO jumps into the second program.

I pick up the telephone and immediately recognise the voice of the editor of Commodore Computing International Magazine.
"Hello there John, anything you wish to tell the world about?"
I groan inwardly. A fresh distraction. But then, if you spend your life trying to come up with something new, you have to accept that without guys like him you will be on the dole.

I glance across the room, seeking inspiration from my two companions-Len, the firmware 'magician', is in a trance, doing one of his 'invisible fingers' routines on his long suffering 8000 , while Richard glowers over his latest crochet of conductive string and TTL.

How's the KITTEN coming along Len?"
"Absolutely magic! A child of two can use it. - High speed serial input and output, using standard BASIC commands. - Self-managing buffers with automatic foreground and background operation. I've sent 'Now is the time for all good men etc,' a hundred times to a printer, collected 2 K of incoming data and played 'Space Invaders' all at the same time. if that's not impressive, what is?"'
"How about character conversion?"
"Anything you like on input or output, so you can knock up an instant terminal with control characters on dedicated keys, or anything else that crosses your mind."
'How are we going to offer it?"
"Whatever the customer wants: an upgrade to a NETKIT I; a ROM replacement for the spare connector of a NETKIT II or, if they haven't got either, we can give them a starter kit for less than a hundred pounds."
'KITTEN and NETKIT together! That's a potent combination, isn't it?
That's right. What more could anybody want? A smart or dumb terminal—background data collection and dumping - compatability with existing software, with all the ROM calls left untouched. No matter how you want a PET to communicate to an RS232 device it's on. More than that it's cheaper than virtually every other alternative and ridiculously simple to use."
"Do you think that it will replace all the other forms of serial interfacing for the PET?",
"In an ideal world it might, but then there will always be the conservatives, who prefer to 'play safe'. Even so, we have the conventional IEEE488/RS 232 story well covered with our TNW series. - For all their age they are still arguably as good as anything else you can buy. - The NETKITs will still remain as the obvious first choice for the sophisticated commercial and industrial user."
"So what do I tell the Editor?"
"God knows! How do you tell anyone that you have come up with the best thing since sliced bread and be sure that he will believe you? All we can hope to do is to get Commodore users to either write or call for information on our range or even ask for our help with their individual interfacing problems-It's fair to say that we can cope with any eventuality now."
"How about offering free trials to introduce the new gear?"
"Why bother, when everything we sell carries a thirty day 'buy-back' guarantee? In a sense every sale, that we make, is on a trial basis."

I ask you: who would be a peripheral manufacturer? You 'burn the midnight oil' for months designing the 'ultimate' device, spend ages, trying to work out how to produce it as cheaply and efficiently as you can. Then it is all wasted, if nobody knows about it. So you have to go through all the nonsense of selling it, rather than getting on with the next 'impossible challenge'.

Remember that, if you get into trouble with interfacing, we are always ready to give you advice. So give us a call. It doesn't matter how long it takes, we will either sort you out ourselves or find a dealer, who can help. Make a note of our telephone number-you never know when you may need us!


THE SMALL COMPUTER SUPPLEMENT TO COMMODORE COMPUTING INTERNATIONAL

## News

## Oxford expands the Petspeed range

Following on from Compiled Integer Basic and Petspeed, Oxford Computer Systems, Hensington Road, Woodstock, Oxford OX7 1JR (Tel: 0993-812700) have introduced the Petspeed 64 compiler which enables programs to run up to 40 times faster.

Petspeed breaks programs down into tiny fragments and reassembles them in simpler form, the resulting programs taking up considerably less memory.

The system disk supplied with the manual cannot itself be used to compile programs. Before Petspeed can be used it is necessary to create two master disks, a Petspeed master and a utilities master. When further Petspeed or utility disks are required, they should be made from the masters and not the system disk which should only be used if the masters become corrupt.

Although Petspeed can handle floating point arithmetic with the same effect as Pet Basic, it can also, unlike the Pet, do much faster integer
arithmetic. This is not uncommon in Basic compilers, but Petspeed goes one step further. It can find for itself all the variables that always contain integers and even those which can sometimes be integer.

Petspeed never does floating point arithmetic when integer arithmetic would be sufficient. This applies not only to variables but to individual array elements.

## Heading for a million and still growing

According to a survey commissioned by Gowling Market Services Ltd of Liverpool, the number of British families who own a computer is just under one million and the figure could double by the end of 1985. The survey of 2,000 households was conducted in January and February 1983 by the British Market Research Bureau.


Directory before compilation


Directory after compilation

Although the birth of the home computer has made computer power available to everybody, the market is still dominated by male buyers, many of whom are teenagers: 45 per cent of home computer users are aged 18 or under. Most of them belong to upper and lower middle class households. The most popular makes include the VIC-20.

The most popular application is the arcade game, although more than 25 per cent of households use them for educational purposes.

Copies of the survey report are available from Gowling Market Services Ltd, Britannia Buildings, Fenwick Street, Liverpool L2 7NA (Tel: 051-236 6036).
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# BUSINESS AND PLEASURE ON THE 64! 

The Commodore 64 is the ideal machine to combine business with pleasure. It has a typewriter keyboard and lots of memory - ideal for word processing or financial planning - plus some rather clever colour and sound chips that are just what you need for realistic arcade action.

BUSICALC is just the program for those who need to juggle with figures. You could use it to plan your household finances or your personal tax - but it's equally capable of handling much larger figures. If you've got a printer you'll be able to produce reports that are good enough to put before the board (or the bank manager) - but a printer isn't necessary, and neither is a disk drive. BUSICALC costs just $£ 39$ plus VAT on tape, or $£ 40.50$ on disk; there are versions at the same prices for the PET and VIC-20 (with 16k expansion).

The best word processor you can buy for the 64 is VIZAWRITE. The first thing you'll like is being able to use it right away - you won't have to re-read the manual ninety-four times to find out how to get started. The next is the wide range of printers you can use from the VIC printer to a Diablo or Qume - plus many others in between (like the Epson). Virtually any parallel printer can be operated off the User Port for the price of a simple cable, and features such as underlining, superscripts, subscriptions, and emphasised printing are easily accessed. Formatting on screen means that you can see the text as it will print before it prints - and this isn't the only resemblance between VIZAWRITE and dedicated word processing stations costing $£ 10,000$ or more. VIZAWRITE costs a mere $£ 69$ plus VAT on disk; a tape-based version should be available very soon.

MIKRO ASSEMBLER plugs into the cartridge port of the 64. As PET and VIC owners are already well aware, MIKRO makes writing machine code programs almost as easy as Basic, because it is a real assembler with LABELS. To help you write your program MIKRO has AUTO, DELETE, and FIND commands; to help you debug it there's a machine code monitor; and you can DISASSEMBLE from Basic or in the monitor! The TABLE commands displays or prints an alphabetically sorted symbol table after assembly - which is really fast (MIKRO will assemble $2 k$ of code in just 20 seconds). If you are writing more than (say) 4 k of code you may have to split your source code into several files, but MIKRO will automatically link these together at assembly time, loading them from tape or disk as appropriate. The MIKRO module costs $£ 50$ plus VAT; it could be the best investment you ever make.

With ARROW installed in your 64 the Commodore cassette unit LOADS AND SAVES PROGRAMS SEVEN TIMES FASTER! Almost as fast as the 1541 disk, in fact. There is however a small difference in price - because ARROW costs just $£ 39$ plus VAT. ARROW has its own load and save commands, so you can still load and save at normal speed if you should want to. ARROW is a tried and tested product that we've been selling on the PET for several years; now 64 owners can also benefit.

Now for the lighter side of our range. TANK ATAK, KAKTUS and MANGROVE are arcade games with colour and sound; a joystick is recommended, but is not esential. They each cost $£ 8$ plus VAT on cassette or $£ 9.50$ on disk. THE HITCH-HIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY is an adventure based (with the kind permission of Douglas Adams and Pan Books) on the characters and scenarios in the popular series. If you divide the price of $£ 12$ plus VAT ( $£ 13.50$ on disk) by the number of hours you'll spend exploring the galaxy the answer will be a very small number indeed!

Supersoft<br>Winchester House, Canning Road,<br>Wealdstone, Harrow,<br>Middlesex, HA3 7SJ, England<br>Telephone: 01-861 1166

# Putting the VP42 through its paces 


#### Abstract

Whether your interest is business, games or education, you'll appreciate this 40 column printer from Alphacom. It's fast, efficient and reasonably priced and the pack includes five useful demo programs.


The VP42 is a 40 column printer produced by Alphacom and aimed at the home computer market. It works with the VIC-20 and the 64 and connects via an interface which is supplied with the printer.

The output rate is 80 characters per second, fast enough for most applications, or at least most I could think of while testing it. Along with the printer and the interface you receive a manual, cassette and a book.

## The manual

This is well presented, covering the features and applications of the printer. It can be understood by the novice as well as the expert and is applicable to both. It describes the printing of upper/lower case and graphic characters, directly or in programs.

One interesting feature is the ability to change the device number from 0 through to 30 . This is achieved by changing the first five switch locations, located under the paper position.

The manual also gives information on the specifications and various tables for users. I spent two hours going through the manual and everything they say the VP42 should do seemed to work.

## Tests itself

The VP42 will carry out a self-test on power-up if you hold down the paper advance key and depress the power key; it prints a series of 8 s and goes on to test all the characters and graphics until the paper advance key is pressed again. It does the test repeatedly; you can easily become mesmerised and waste a lot of paper.

The standard thermographic printing paper comes in roll or fan-fold form.

The cassette has six programs. The first is a menu program for the
five demo programs and while it is good it can be omitted, thus saving the need to rewind and load it.

The first demo program is called Word Processor. I found this difficult to operate and I had to take a listing to discover the functions and possibilities. It could do with a few simple instructions. Otherwise a simple but effective word processor, limited by the amount of RAM available. It allows you to write text, edit it and display on screen or dump to printer; also to read or write to tape and erase text. Both the menu and the Word Processor program are well presented, in colour and graphics.


VP42 printer from Alphacom

The second demo program, called Kaleidoscope, displays on the screen a pattern of the graphics characters and constantly updates them. You can at any time dump the current display to the printer by pressing any key. It's worth studying the listing to see how the program is put together. All the programs are in Basic, helping you to understand how to use the printer.

## Combinations

The third program is called Sketch Pad. Your first option here is to select one of 16 screen and border colour combinations. Then into sketch mode either from the keyboard or using a joystick (you'll need
a multi-directional stick). Draw anything you like, then dump it onto the printer. An enjoyable program and possibly useful. It uses a noise pulse so you can hear what you are doing!

The fourth program, called Record Keeper, will keep records in files on tape of anything you wish to create ideal for domestic use. You can also dump the files onto the printer and edit any file previously saved to tape.

The fifth demo program, Screen Printer, dumps anything currently on the screen to the printer. Although it is short and simple, by studying it closely one can learn a great deal about the printer's uses.

The book, Compute's book for the VIC, is full of listings to type in, including games, educational and business applications. There have been reports of a few bugs in the listings, but I am sure Compute will rectify these.

## Conclusion

The VP42 is restricted to home use, mainly because the printouts are not presentable to customers, being under A4 size. Given that limitation, both the novice and the expert programmer can use this printer for many applications. Even for those who are not interested in programming, the printer is a versatile aid for business, educational and games computing.

Considering what the package contains, the range of uses, and the speed of operation, the printer is relatively inexpensive at $£ 137.99$. At present it is available by mail order only from Dean Electronics Ltd, Glendale Park, Fernbank Road, Ascot, Berkshire (tel 0344-885661 telex 849242).


## Bees, caterpillars and monkey saddles

## Fun Mathematics on your Microcomputer

by Czes Kosniowski (Cambridge University Press, The Edinburgh Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2, Tel. 0223-312393). Price £4.95.

Did you ever want to know how scout bees tell other bees the whereabouts of a new source of food? Or how far a caterpillar will walk along a continually stretching piece of elastic? Or how to plot a 'monkey saddle' on your screen? Czes Kosniowski tells you all this and much more in an interesting, useful book for owners of home and business computers.

The book is not written specifically for any particular microcomputer, but is so constructed that all the programs will, with slight modifications, work on your own computer. Where program commands differ from the norm, instructions are given to convert these to another dialect of Basic. Or if this proves too difficult, programs are rewritten and you are presented with versions for VICs, Sinclairs and so on.

As a result, some of the programs are not as concise as they might be. The author acknowledges this and notes that part of the fun of computer programing is 'doing it for yourself' rather than blindly following someone else's instructions.

The book is visually appealing; program listings and screen illus-
trations are presented in blue, along with the more usual black-on-white program descriptions and accompanying notes. Attractively bound and well presented throughout, it makes you wonder why other publishers cannot produce 200-page books for $£ 4.95$.

## Lucidly explained

Content, as you might gather from the title, is based heavily on mathematics and mathematical theory. However, if your knowledge of the higher reaches of mathematics is limited to pushing buttons on a calculator (or indeed entering programs into a microcomputer) fret not. Where necessary everything is lucidly explained, punctuated with a quaint use of English from time to time.

For example, the index is referred to on the contents page as 'Where it is'. The first chapter is called 'Start here'. Such quirks however, add to the overall charm of the book.

The first chapter delves into

mathematical sequences, geometric, harmonic, converging and diverging series, and more. It also, en route, gives you the answer to the caterpillar on elastic band problem! To round off, there is a stimulating intelligence test.

The chapter on functions, graphs and polar co-ordinates provides the answer to the honey bee problem, as well as many plotting programs. Included in the section on matrices is a useful program for plotting the results of a matrix onto the screen.

The chapter on games offers strategies for the various listings, but even more engrossing is the section called Pretty Pictures. Here we find the monkey saddle, revealed as one of the outputs of a program called Surfaces.

## Conclusion

An absorbing book that should find a place in many a computer owner's library. Good value for money and well presented; with the occasional spelling mistake.

Anyone with more than a passing interest in his or her computer, who wants to make it perform more interesting functions and understand how it performs those functions, will enjoy Mr Kosniowski's work.

## News

## Swapping technology

A technology exchange agreement between Commodore International Ltd and Zilog Inc, an affiliate of the Exxon Corporation, gives Commodore a licence to manufacture Zilog's Z800 16-bit microprocessor and related support circuits for use in Commodore microcomputers. Commodore will supply Zilog with mask sets and manufacturing rights to selected custom circuits.

## Substantial

According to Commodore Chairman Mr Irving Gould, his company will be able to use a substantial portion of Zilog's production facilities to make integrated circuits for exclusive use in Commodore micros. Commodore plan to double their own semi-conductor facilities in the next 12 months.

## Software sellers

This monthly feature is intended as a guide to the best-selling home software - games and educational packs. Each listing reflects sales in the month prior to publication, in this case March.

VIC-20

1) Exterminator
2) Krazy Kong
3) Chopper Raid
4) Quiz Master
5) Sad Faces
6) Motorway
7) Sprint
8) Label
9) Moneybags
10) Mars Mission
(From the Computer Room, 87 High Street, Tonbridge, Kent, tel 0732355962. Mail order.)

VIC-20

1) CalcResult
2) Paperclip
3) Pal 64
4) Power 64
5) Forth 64
6) VIC 64 Rel
7) Grid 64
8) Attack of the Mutant Camels
9) Startrek
10) Diary 64

## CBM 64

1) Word Wizard
2) Quizzer
3) Alien Panic
4) Poster Printer
5) Label Printer
6) Krazy Kong
7) Cavern Run
(From the VIC Centre, 154 Victoria Road, North Acton, London W3, tel. 01-922 9904. Direct/mail order.)

## VIC-20

1) Jumping Jack
2) Starship Escape
3) Bonzo
4) Choplifter
5) Triad
6) Engine Shed
7) Skramble
8) Sargon II Chess
9) Tomb of Drewan
10) Avenger

VIC-20

1) Starbattle
2) Jelly Monsters
3) Voodoo Castle
4) Sargon Chess
5) Space Fortress
6) VIO Panic
7) Bonzo
8) Golf
9) Martian Raider
10) Another VIC in the Wall

## CBM 64

1) Screen Graphics
2) Synthy 64
3) Graphics Editor
4) Adventure Park 1
5) Graverobbers
6) Monopole
7) Introduction to Basic Part 1
8) Gortek and the Microchips
(From Sumlock, Royal London House, 198 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3NE, tel 061-834 4233.)

## CBM 64

1) Mangrove
2) Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy
3) Tank Atak
4) Introduction to Basic Part 1
5) Gortek and the Microchips
(From Chromasonic, 48 Junction Road, Archway, London N19, tel 01-263 9493. Direct/mail order.)

# Test your skill on the Rabbit duck shoot 

QUACKERS<br>For the unexpanded VIC

This was my favourite of the three reviewed here; it has a touch of originality, although the screen looked vaguely familiar.

The game works with the joystick only, so better hop off and get yourself one (it does repeat fire!) if you don't already own one. No instructions are displayed within the game, so you have to look at the multi-coloured screen displaying the title, author and copyright.

When the game starts the screen is vanishing somewhere. To get it back you have to press $\mathrm{f7}$ and then centre it with the joystick. I see no reason why the program should not set up the screen properly for you. You lose shooting time, even if it is only a few seconds.

## Shoot the turtle

You are at the bottom of the screen at the start of the game, shooting passing ducks and rabbits, also firing through obstacles at smiling faces. Once you've shot everything the screen clears and a turtle trots across the screen. When you shoot the turtle it trots back across the screen again, moving progressively faster. On each hit your score increases until you miss and exit up one level.

The colour is passable, and the graphics are very good except for what I presume to be the gun. The


[^3]They may be awkward to handle, these games for the VIC-20, but what they lack in technical quality they make up for with colour and thrills.
sound is suitable for the game but not brilliant.

Rabbit describe this as "interesting software". It certainly is. The game is fast and addictive. It could have been cheaper and the screen should selfcentre, but otherwise no complaints.

Rabbit Software is at 380 Station Road, Middlessex, HA1 2DE.


Myriad

MYRIAD
needs 3K expansion
Upon loading the instructions are displayed, "all four pages" of them, but at least there are some interesting colours to entertain you on the way. The instructions are easy to follow though lengthy.

Again there are six keyboard controls making the contortions necessary to play painful and slow. But you can use your joystick and the space bar as a shield for your spaceship (that's progress for you). As the name suggests, this is another version of Asteroids cum Space Limpers; your mission is to obliterate everything etc.

How about some enterprising people out there replying to Rabbit's offer to "help you earn lots of money" in exchange for "high quality software" and hopefully original. So if you need lots of money, get in touch with Rabbit Software.

I did experience a few loading problems; let's hope that these were due to a defective tape. If not, then Rabbit have been giving away lots of money for inferior software. I was disconcerted to find that the fire button on the joystick and keyboard did not repeat; this makes your zapping very tiring after a while. Could there be a moral? Like, 'War is hard work'. Certainly the fire button is.

The handling of the graphics, colour and sound is very good. These features put the game high on the addictive list. The display, sound and colour score well, but the game needs a repeat fire button.

The price (£9.99) is a little high, but Myriad is worth a look.

## SKRAMBLE

For the unexpanded VIC
Sounds familiar? The instructions on the pack are clear. Once you have loaded the program you are greeted with the instructions, which are clear and precise if a little lengthy. Now you wait for the main program to load .. yawn, ah, here it is.

The control keys are displayed before the game starts. Oh dear, I think I need another hand. Why no option for joystick control?

To be fair to Rabbit, even though this is yet another version of the game, it is fast and responsive. The graphics are excellent when you get a chance to see them! If you're a Zap! Pow! freak you will find this game very addictive.

## Nothing special

Pity about the six keyboard controls and their positioning, they tend to make one give up on the game. The sound and colour are nothing special, pretty much standard for this type of game, but at least they don't get in the way or slow the game down.

Priced at $£ 9.99$, Skramble is expensive when compared with other software in the same price range. I know it's an often uttered gripe, but perhaps the software houses will get the prices right soon.


Skramble

## ARCADIA <br> VIC-20

This is from Imagine in Liverpool, a relatively new software house. Arcadia can be run on the unexpanded or the expanded VIC, which is a nice touch. On loading, the screen fills with strange characters, but Imagine say this is normal. I suspect it's the result of cramming the program in to run on the basic VIC. The instructions come on the cassette cover; be sure to read them well.

The game can be played using either joystick or keyboard. Imagine have programmed the keys so that you have a choice of keys to play.

## Realistic

Not exactly an original game, it's a play on Invaders and Asteroids, but still excellent. The colour is good, red border and black screen, with multicoloured invader ships and player's ship. The graphics are excellent; both the player's ship and the alien ships look realistic, as do the explosions, shots and movements. The sound is above average and the speed of play makes it a 'mean' game.

The player's objective is to survive the alien attacks. You have three ships and get an extra ship for each level of attack you survive. But beware, the aliens not only attack from above but also ram you from the side. You can move from side to side and also up and down the screen with help from your thrusters.

At $£ 5.50$ Arcadia is value for money and very addictive.

# Beware the Gologs and the Evil Sistorian 

MOONS OF JUPITER<br>needs 3 K expansion

This game takes over four minutes to load, but I think you will agree it is worth the wait.

The object of the game is to blast your way through the moons of Jupiter with your destroyers, of which you have five to start. You also have a choice of three skill levels, one being the easiest and three the hardest and most addictive.

There is a choice of key controls or joystick; both are equally effective and manageable. You obtain an extra destroyer each time you clear the screen, but beware of the Gologs. You can't destroy them, although you can run away from them or cause them to collide with a planet.

## Better chance

As you get better at the game you discover that you can go on and on, becoming more engrossed. Two people can play at once, thus giving a better chance of survival and a higher score. I leave it to you to discover how!

For $£ 9.99$ you get instructions to read while the main game loads, excellent graphics, good response, fast action and high score facility. Although this game has been on the market a while and no doubt has many keen fans, it is still worth a mention.

Romik run a competition for the highest score. I wonder if my 126,000 would win anything? If anyone out there has won a prize from Romik I would be interested to hear from you.

## SPACE FORTRESS <br> For the unexpanded VIC

The loading is the same as for Moons of Jupiter. Using the unexpanded VIC does not detract from the use of colour graphics and sound.

You are left stranded in space because of a 'computer malfunction'. You have to do battle with the Evil Sistorian ship, but first you have to get through its defence
forces before it goes into hyperspace and disappears. Not an entirely new idea but it lives up to expectations, except that the player's ship could be faster.

There are four levels; you start at the first level and move up one when you have survived the current level. Because of the speed of the game I did not get very far, in fact only to the second level, so I can't tell what happens after that. The colour and sound are average to good, the graphics excellent. £9.99 from Romik.

SPACE ATTACK<br>for the unexpanded VIC

Another Space Invaders type game, with the same colour, sound, graphics and instruction format as Space Fortress. The object of the game, if you haven't already guessed, is to zap the aliens. You have a choice of three skill levels, level one being fairly easy.

Part of the attraction of this game is that it is very fast and unpredictable; you are never quite sure where the little monsters are going next. There is a choice of keyboard or joystick control. You need to be fairly good to score well as it doesn't give you any chances but simply wipes you out.

My main grumble is that the fire button does not repeat, thus making the game harder. Perhaps this was the intention; if so Romik have created a fast, addictive and tiring game.

## WACKY WAITERS <br> VIC-20

As with Arcadia, Wacky Waiters (also from Imagine) throws up peculiar characters on the screen after loading. The only problem I had was in getting to grips with the game and its most unusual theme.

The player is a waiter in a hotel. When the game starts you are positioned at the bottom of the screen on the left hand side. A customer beckons from the other
side of the screen and you have to go to him and take his order. You travel by lifts, jumping from one lift to the other, falling if you miss the lift.

If you take too long to get the customer's order, you may be fired or lose your tip.

This is how the game keeps the score. You start with a tip of 99p, which decreases with the time taken to fill the order. The game also keeps a Hi-score, as does Arcadia. Once the order has been filled you start again; you have three lives.

## Above average

There are other twists to the game, but l'll let readers discover these for themselves. Wacky Waiters runs on the basic or expanded VIC and costs $£ 5.50$. As with Arcadia, the graphics are realistic, the speed and response above average and you have a choice of keyboard controls.

## POWER BLASTER <br> Unexpanded VIC

The player is on a peace mission to calm down hostile Martians. While the talks are under way the Martians are being cautious and laying mines in case the talks break down. The Player's task is to remove the mines while trying to avoid killing the Martians, as killing them only panics them into laying mines more quickly. Also you have to try to keep out of the Martians' way, otherwise they will wipe you out.

There are nine levels of play, nine being the easiest and one the hardest. I would advise staying on level nine until you are used to the game. The format is a maze and for those of you who are maze freaks, this one is a must.

The keyboard controls are easy to use: $a=$ left, $s=$ fire, $d=$ right, $\mathrm{f} 1=$ up, $\mathrm{f7}=$ down and space bar $=$ hyperspace; or you can use the joystick plus the fire button and forward for hyperspace (you can use hyperspace to escape when the Martians corner you).

The graphics for both the player's ship and the Martians are fantastic, the colour and sound are above average even by Romik's standards and the response to controls is very fast.

## Lower prices

This must be among the best space games for the unexpanded VIC. I would say the best but there are one or two software houses coming close to Romik's standards and retailing at lower prices than Romik. Power Blaster costs $£ 9.99$.

## Notes on the software market

## Games

Man-eating apple monsters in Apple Panic and a thrilling cross-country car race in Motor Mania. The Magnificent Seven package features seven games: Hangman, Battleships, Asteroid Patrol, Wanted, Splash, Spider's Maze and Surround. From Audiogenic, PO Box 88, Reading, Berks. (Tel: 0734-586334).

Hordes of wasps in Kaktus, the aim being to stop them eating the giant cactus, and some malignant microbes in Mangrove. For the 64 or 20 depending on the game chosen. Supersoft, Winchester House, Wealdstone, Harrow, Middlesex (Tel: 01-861 1166).

## Land surveying

A set of 10 programs for the 4000 and 8000, with versions for the 64 and 700 coming soon. All programs in the Microsurvey series are compiled and are intended for use by builders, architects, surveyors and engineers. The 4032 goes with the 4040 or 2031 disk drive and the

8032 accompanies the 8050 disk drive. Both use a 4022 printer. From Construction Measurement Systems Ltd, Hafod, Peatling Magna, Leicester LE8 3UQ (Tel: 053758283).

## Educational

A variety of school administration programs. One of them arranges timetables, another analyses exam results. For 16 K or 32 K PETs depending on program required. Programs usually supplied on cassette. Available from Chris Johnson or Keith Johnson at 120A, Urmston Lane, Stretford, Manchester M32 9BQ.

Education games for pupils aged five to 12 . Designed to improve spelling, broaden vocabulary and teach mathematics. Number Puzzler and Hide and Seek need 16K RAM while Shape Up and Words, Words, Words require 8 K or 16 K RAM. From Applied Systems Knowledge Ltd, London House, 42 Upper Richmond Road West, London SW14 8DD (Tel: 01-876 0102).

## Stock control

The Anagram Stock Controller runs on the Commodore 8096 using a Corvus 20 megabyte hard disk. Multi-user access supports up to eight computers. The system records stock levels, movements and values
as well as producing orders and processing invoices. Anagram, 60A Queen Street, West Sussex RH13 5AD (Tel: 0403-50854/58153).

## Tax and accounting

Microtax is a set of programs which take you step by step through your tax return, advising what to fill in and calculating the total tax liability for the year. For use on the PET 400 series, VIC-20 with 16 K RAM and the Commodore 64. From Microtax Ltd, Barratt House, 4th floor, 7 Chertsey Road, Woking, Surrey GU2 1 5AB (Tel: 04862-29369).

Data-Lex is a time recording and accounting program for solicitors produced by Dataview under the supervision of a Supreme Court solicitor. Links to Wordcraft and Executive. Dataview Ltd, Portreeves House, East Bay, Colchester CO1 2XB (Tel: 0206-869414).


# Plug in to the latest add-ons 

## Memory

The NVR64 is a module measuring 4 in $\times 2$ in $\times 1$ in which contains 64 Kbytes of CMOS static RAM. The NVR64 may be used as two 32K blocks with 16 K PETs, automatically upgraded to 32 K . More information from Greenwich Instruments Ltd, 22 Bardsley Lane, Greenwich, London SE10 9RF (Tel: 01-853 0868).


## Speech

The speech synthesizer designed by Currah Computer Components Ltd can be used on the VIC via the expan-
sion port or through Currah's motherboard. Adman Electronics Ltd have the UK, European and Japanese marketing rights for both products. For more information, contact Thomas E. Bergman and Partners, North House, 17 North Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 8DF (Tel: 0632-323535).

## Business

Producing budgets, reports or statements? Got the 8000 or 64? CalcResult is a spreadsheet program in three-dimensional format with 32 pages per project, graphics and colour facilities. CalcResult costs £94 and is available from Kobra Micro Marketing, Duramark House, Farm Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 1PF (Tel: 04912-2512).

## Word processing

Spellpro and Mailpro are add-ons to Paperclip. Spellpro can be expanded to include up to 80,000 words. Mailpro holds 4000 records on a standard 8050 diskette. Both can be used with Paperclip simultaneously and both are from Kobra Micro Marketing.

## Printing technology

Superwriter II is an 80/132 column dot matrix printer that can be linked


Gallid Superwriter I/
to Commodore machines via the RS232 interface. The printer houses a Centronics interface which accepts 8 bit parallel data as well as IEEE488. Forty and 132 characters per line with 6 or 8 lines to the inch. From Gallid Ltd, 1 Bilton Road, Rugby, Warwickshire (Tel: 078874442).

## Stands

Also from Gallid Ltd is a range of made-to-measure computer trolleys which ensure that the equipment is at the correct operating height for the user. The base comprises five urethane legs on castors. The trolley costs $£ 69.90$ and comes with a five year guarantee.

## Update

## Virgin play the games market

Along with Nick Alexander (left), who successfully launched Thorn EMI's home computer software range in the UK and North America, Richard Branson, chairman of the Virgin Group, has set up a new subsidiary called Virgin Games Ltd to meet UK and international demand for software and video games. Some of these programs run on the 64 and the VIC- 20.

According to Nick Alexander, who will head the subsidiary, the company aims to be innovative. "We want to see the UK take a leading role in computer software as it once did in other entertainment industries like music, films and books." He promises

aggressive marketing at a time when the industry has yet to grow out of the mail order columns into the high street.

All Virgin need now is a supply of
exciting and original games with good graphics. Enthusiasts should send their programs to Virgin Games Ltd, 61-63 Portobello Road, London W1 1.

# COMMODORE COMPUTING <br> <br> BACK NUMBERS 

 <br> <br> BACK NUMBERS}

## OMMPUING

July : Comal: Petspeed reviewed: Butterfield: More on modems and stepper motors : Pet Talker : Another Vic voice : Quarter square plotting: Fourier Analysis part two : machine language auto location.

September Microcomputers in Business: Microfacts 82 reviewed: Cursor Handling Routines : Instrument Synthesis : 8032 control characters : Linking Pets up to a teletype: Getting to grips with Machine Code


November : An interview with Jim Butterfield: More music : high resolution plotting: writing user friendly programs : security chip storage : Getting neater printouts : Animation on the Pet, plus a couple of hints from Butterfield.

January: APL and the SuperPET: Introduction to Microcomputers: String Thing utility: Industrial uses for PETs: Building a Light Pen: Tiny Aid, a programmer's utility for the VIC-2O: Convert Screen Contents to Data Statements: Cross
Reference, a powerful
PET programming aid.

August: Vic educational software: Butterfield on compilers: Glass Teletype machine code listing Dump Mate, a multi linking Pet and/or Vic system: CB2 interface : graphics drawing : Sound Synthesis Input and Output from the User Port : How to use a SYS call with parameters.

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Every issue has much more than what we've detailed above. In each issue you'll find plenty of program listings, in Basic and machine code, for all the Commodore family of machines, as well as in-depth articles, news and reviews. Why not buy now and see what you've been missing?
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# Dual cassette controller 

By M. G. Pickford

This simple circuit will enable a VIC-20 to communicate alternatively to two cassette drives. The VIC can then search and copy from one tape drive to the other. As the files are loaded into the VIC they can be compared with a file already in the VIC and saved, or updated and saved on the other tape drive.

For example, consider a program for storing names and addresses in files on tape. I'll call them A, B, C, D and $E$. The VIC displays a list of the files on tape and the operator chooses one, e.g. C. The VIC then searches the master tape in tape drive 1 and when it finds file $C$ it loads and displays it.

## Could be lost

Now consider the problem of a change of address where the new address is longer than the old. Unless the files have been recorded with a large space in between, the updated file information could be lost on the other files during recording.

With my system the VIC will prompt the operator to rewind the master tape in drive 1 and to load a blank tape into drive 2. The VIC will then load file A and compare it with file C (previously loaded). If it is not the updated file C, it will save file A on drive 2.

The VIC will then be ready to load the next file B and repeat the process as for file A . When the file C is loaded and compared, the updated version is saved instead of the old. The remaining files ( $D$ and $E$ ) would also be loaded and saved as with file A. The operator now has a new tape with all the old files in the same order, but with an updated file C. The old tape can be used as the blank for the next database update.

## Switched

The circuit in Figure 1 consists of a relay driven by a transistor. The transistor is switched from one of the user port terminals and hence so is the relay. There are six wires communicating between the VIC and the tape drive; only three need to be switched from one to the other, the rest being wired to both drives. These are the 9 volt supply to the motor, the "read" wire and the
switch sense wire.
As I could not see the need for both tape drives to be in record mode, the "write" wire only goes to one tape drive.

To change the relay over and hence the tape drives, a poke to the data direction register to select output, then a poke to the output
register, 0 or 1 , will switch the tape over.

I have not gone into construction details because any 3 -pole changeover relay with a 6 to 12 volt coil will suffice. The same goes for the transistor; any N.P.N. (or P.N.P. - remember to reverse the power rails) which is capable of sinking the current of the chosen relay will do. I should point out that the pin marked +9 volts on the user port edge connector is 9 volts AC and has to be rectified and smoothed before it drives the relay (DI and Cl in fig. 1A).


Figure 1 : Circuit diagram of the dual cassette controller


Figure 2: D.C.C. connection diagram

## Interfacing

This system of mass data storage is very slow, but it's cheap and reliable. Considering the software side of the system, it is quite straightforward to change over tape drives, but, for example, if the first file on tape holds the titles of all the
VIC Cassette Orange
don't forget to save your program on a third tape.

I suggest you read Commodore Computing while the VIC is updating the files as it can take a long time.

Figure 3: Circuit diagram
other files on tape, you can add and subtract files without stopping the program.

Should you run out of RAM, you could split the files into smaller files and page them onto the screen. The possibilities are endless, but


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## Interfacing

$z=$ No. of files
$y=$ File selected
$\mathrm{x}=$ Variable

ad and display
index file $N \$(\phi-z)$


Update index subroutine
Select file $\mathbf{N} \$(y)$ from index Search files on drive (1) Load \& display file N\$ (y)


Switch D.C.C. to drive (2)
Save $N \$(y)$


Switch D.C.C. to drive (2) Save N\$(x)


Saved all files. Master tape now in drive (2) Rewind both drives


Figure 4: Flow chart

## At $£ 299$ it's very little. At 64 Kit 's verylarge.



## The 6 fromCommodore.

This is the new Commodore 64 Personal Computer.

It costs £299. Not bad for a brilliant piece of technology with a 64 K memory.

But then, it's a Commodore.
And as one of the world's leading highperformance micro-computer companies, we're not exactly unknown when it comes to outstanding achievements.

The Commodore 64's nearest rival - if that's the word - costs over half as much again.

Here is the specification, a comparison with the Apple II, and a coupon.

The rest is up to you.

1. A total memory capacity of $64 \mathrm{~K} ; 38 \mathrm{~K}$ directly available to BASIC. When not using BASIC a full 54 K is available for machine code programs.
2. Interface adaptors will allow the use of a
complete range of hardware peripherals including disk units, plotter, dot matrix and daisy wheel printers, Prestel communications, networking and much, much more.
3. A complete range of business software including word processing, information handling, financial modelling, accounting and many more specific application packages will be available.
4. Other computer languages such as LOGO, UCSD PASCAL, COMAL and ASSEMBLER are being developed. Existing VIC and 40 column PET BASIC programs can be easily converted.
5. The powerful sound chip gives 3 totally independent voices each with a range of 9 octaves. User control over music envelope, pitch and pulse shapes provides the ability to make your Commodore 64 sound like a variety of musical instruments, solo or in harmony.
6. 62 predefined graphic characters plus

full alpha numerics with upper and lower case letters, all available directly from the keyboard and displayable in normal or reverse video in any of 16 colours.
7. 40 column by 25 lines colour display. In high resolution graphics mode, a bit mapped screen gives $320 \times 200$ individually addressable pixels.
8. The dedicated video chip allows the use of high resolution multi-coloured "Sprites" (moveable object blocks). Sprites can be moved pixel by pixel, independently of anything else on the screen.
9. Sprites can also be set up in 8 "layers" giving full 3 dimensional effects with, if required, automatic collision detection between sprites and any other screen object.
10. Machine bus port will accept ROM cartridges for many applications, including
business, educational, home and leisure software.
11. A second processor option using the Z80 gives the Commodore 64 the ability to support CP/M. ${ }^{\circledR}$

HOW COMMODORE PIPS APPLE.

| FEATURES COM | COMMODORE | APPLE II+ |
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| Base Price | £299* | £499* |
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| Upper \& lower case letters | etters YES | NO** |
| Function keys | YES | NO |
| Maximum 5¼" floppy disk capacity per drive AUDIO FEATURES | $\begin{array}{ll} y & 170 \mathrm{~K} . \mathrm{B} . \text { to } \\ \text { lrive } & 1 \mathrm{M} . B \end{array}$ | 143 K.B. |
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| Music Synthesizer | YES | NO |
| Hi-Fi Output VIDEO OUTPUT | YES | NO |
| Monitor Output | YES | YES |
| T.V. Output | YES | EXTRA |
| INPUT/OUTPUT FEATURES |  |  |
| Cassette Port | YES | YES |
| Intelligent Peripherals | l YES | YES |
| Serial Peripheral Bus | YES | NO |
| ADDITIONAL SOFTWARE FEATURES |  |  |
| CP/M ${ }^{\circledR}$ Option (over 1000 packages) | ) YES | YES |
| External ROM cartridge slot | YES | NO |

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# The 64 jug and skiffle band 

## Conducted by Jim Butterfield

Somewhere up in the hills of Commodore county, there's a jug band and skiffle group that gathers from time to time. I'd like to introduce you to the players, and show you how to program your 64 to hear them play.

This is a basic band playing basic music, so you can write your program in Basic. Later, you may want to change instruments and add to the group's repertoire. With the 64 sound chip, it's not hard to do.

We're going to be the bandleader, so we must set up the instruments and choose the type of play. Here we go:

100 print "MUSIC (By Jim Butterfield)"

Now let's locate the musicians:

$$
\begin{array}{rl}
110 & \mid 1=54272: I 2=54279: \\
\mid 3 & =54286 \\
120 \mathrm{~h} 1 & =11+1: \mathrm{h} 2=12+1: \\
\mathrm{h} 3 & =13+1 \\
130 & v 1=11+4: \mathrm{v} 2=12+4: \\
v 3 & =13+4
\end{array}
$$

Each musician stands in a "spot" marked by a number. As band director, we'll call up the music for each one by signalling each player's spot, using his "address". The L's and H's will be used to name the pitch of the notes; the $V$ locations are used for the other stuff.

140 poke 54296, 15


#### Abstract

Meet Bearcat Zeke, Old Man Mose, Fiddlin' Fran and Snaredrum Sammy. Playing the harmonisqueeze, the gut bucket and the hanging jug, they'll bring the sounds of good ole Tennessee into your living room.


This tells the listeners to turn up their hearing aids, so they can hear the group playing. The highest volume we can set is 15 and that's the one we pick,

150 poke v1+1, 9: poke v1+2, 0
Player 1 is young Billy; he plays the hanging jugs. When he hits a jug with his corncob drumstick it will sound right away and come out with a good clunking sound (that's the 9, for fast sound attack and fulsome decay). But he can't strum the jug or hold the sound, so that note will fade away soon after he plays (that's the 0 , for no sound sustain or release).

160 poke v $2+1,36$ :poke $\mathrm{v} 2+2$,
Player 2 is Bearcat Zeke, who plays the harmonisqueeze. When Zeke puffs into his instrument, it takes a moment for the sound to build up (we pick 36, for a medium speed attack and moderate decay). Once he

winds up the note, he can hold it for quite a while (we set 36 for medium sustain and release).

170 poke $v 3+1,18$ : poke $v 3+2$, 250
Old Man Mose is in slot number 3; he plays a traditional gut bucket. When he strums the cord, he gets a fast, full sound (we'll pick 18 for fast attack and medium decay). Once the cord is in motion, it holds the sound for a while before it fades away (250 for a full slow sound decline).

$$
180 \mathrm{t}=\mathrm{ti}
$$

Let's check our digital watches so we can get the band playing in time.

200 poke $v 1,16$ :poke $v 2,32$ : poke v3, 16
Here's where we give each instrument its individual sound. Billy and Old Man Mose have instruments that produce a clear, soft sound. For them, we pick a "triangle" waveform, code 16. Zeke's contraption makes a sharper, snarly sound; we give it an edge with the "sawtooth", code 32.

We're doing something else important here. By using even numbers, we're telling the boys: hands off the instruments. Billy, take your corncob away from the jugs; Zeke, don't blow into that thing; and Old Man Mose, hands off the string. Later, we'll tell them to "hit it" with an odd number to the same location.

It's time to play some music. Let's read the notes.

210 read s : if $\mathrm{s}=0$ goto 290
First, let's get the timing. If the note timing is zero, we must be finished, because we can't play that fast.

220 read $x 1, y 1, x 2, y 2, x 3, y 3$
Let's get the notes. Each note is broken into two pieces; that's the way we feed it to the band. If the note is zero, we have nothing to play this time around.

230 if $x 1$ then poke $h 1, x 1$ :poke 11, y 1 :poke v1, 17
240 if $x 2$ then poke $\mathrm{h} 2, \mathrm{x} 2$ : poke 12, y2: poke v2, 33
250 if $x 3$ then poke h3, $x 3$ :poke 13, y3: poke v3, 17

The original version of this article appeared in the Canadian journal, The Transactor. Thanks to them for permission to reprint. Thanks also to Karl Hildon, who helped develop the programs.

If a player has something to play（his note is not zero）we＇ll put his note into the proper slot，and then tell him to＂hit it＂，by making his waveform numbers odd－remember line 200 where we told everyone hands off？

In fact，we＇re going to go back to 200 later and tell the fellows to let go．If we didn＇t，they wouldn＇t be able to play the next note．But first， let＇s do some timing．

## $260 t=t+s$

Let＇s set the clock ahead so we can tell when this note has been played long enough．This way，we can wait until the note has had its full time：

## 270 if $\mathrm{t}>$ ti goto 270

When the note has played，we＇ll go back and do it all again with：

## 280 goto 200

and when the music is finished，we tell the band to take a break，until the next tune．Turn off the instruments．

290 for $\mathrm{j}=11$ to 54296：poke j,
That＇s all very well，but we＇ll need some music to play．Here it comes：

| 300 data 10， | 51，97， | 0,0 ， |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 310 data 10， | 43，52， | 0,0 ， | 0,0 |
| 320 data 20， | 34，75， | 21，154， | 8， 147 |
| 330 data 20， | 34，75， | 25，177， |  |
| 340 data 10， | 34，75， | 17，37， | 6， 108 |
| 350 data 10， | 38，126， |  |  |
| 360 data 10， | 43，52， | 25，177， |  |
| 370 data 10， | 45，198， | 0,0 ， |  |
| 400 data 20， | 51，97， | 21，154， | 8，147 |
| 410 data 20， | 51，97， | 25，177， | 0,0 |
| 420 data 20， | 51，97， | 17，37， | 9， 159 |
| 430 data 20， | 43，52， | 25，177， | 10，205 |
| 440 data 20， | 57，172， | 22，227， | 11， 114 |
| 450 data 20， | 57，172， | 34，75， | 0,0 |
| 460 data 20， | 57，172， | 28，214， | 8， 147 |
| 470 data 10， | 0，0， | 34,75 ， | 0 ， 0 |
| 480 data 10， | 51，97， | 0 ， 0 ， | 0,0 |
| 500 data 20 ， | 57，172， | 22，227， | 11， 114 |
| 510 data 10， | $0, \quad 0$ ， | 34，75， |  |
| 520 data 10， | 51，97， | 0,0 ， | 0,0 |
| 530 data 10， | 57，172， | 28，214， | 10，205 |
| 540 data 10， | 64，188， | 0,0 ， |  |
| 550 data 10， | 68，149， | 34，75， | 9， 159 |
| 560 data 10， | 76，252， | 0 ， 0 ， | 0,0 |
| 600 data 20 ， | 86，105， | 21，154， | 8， 147 |
| 610 data 20， | 0,0 ， | 25，177， | 0,0 |
| 620 data 20， | 0 ， 0 ， | 17，37， | 6， 108 |
| 630 data 10， | 68，149， | 25，177， | 0,0 |
| 640 data 10， | 51，97， | 0，0， | 0,0 |
| 650 data 20， | 68，149， | 21，154， | 8，147 |
| 660 data 20， | 0 ， 0 ， | 25，177， | 0,0 |
| 670 data 20， | 0 ， 0 ， | 17，37， | 8， 23 |
| 680 data 10， | 51，97， | 25，177， | 7， 53 |
| 690 data 10， | 43，52， | 0，0， | 0,0 |
| 700 data 20， | 51，97， | 22，227， | 6， 108 |
| 710 data 20， | 0,0 ， | 25，177， | 0,0 |
| 720 data 20， | 0 ， 0 ， | 19，63， | 9， 159 |


| 730 data | 10, | 38，126， | 25, |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 740 data | 10， | 43，100， | 0,0 ， | 0 ， |
| 750 data | 20, | 34，75， | 21，154， | 8， 147 |
| 760 data | 20, |  | 25，177， | 6， 108 |
| 770 data | 20, | 0,0 ， | 21，154， |  |
| 780 data | 20, |  |  | 0 ， |
| 790 | 0 |  |  |  |

That＇s the whole thing．You can add to the music，change the instru－ ments，change the timing or do whatever else you like．

If you＇d like to listen to the instruments one or two at a time， you can silence any player by chang－ ing the appropriate line 230－250 to a REM line．You could delete the line， but REM is better－it saves typing when you want to bring the instru－ ment back．

An easy way to change the speed of a tune is to change line 260；by multiplying or dividing variable S by an appropriate factor，the band can turn frantic or ease back into lazy playing．

If you change the waveform， remember that there are two places to do it：line 200 and the appropriate line of 230－250．

There are a couple of waveforms that we haven＇t used：we＇ve stayed with triangle（16）and sawtooth（32） instruments．If you want to bring in Fiddlin＇Fran，she will need a pulse waveform（64），and you＇ll need to supply a pulse width by setting values into（for instrument 1）V1－1 and／or V1－2．Snaredrum Sammy will want a noise waveform（128）．Don＇t forget to add 1 when you want the instrument played．

The group mostly plays southern music．But on a pleasant warm night when visitors stop to listen，they might just try a northern tune：

| 300 data | 20， | 34，75， | 21，154， | 8， 147 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 310 data | 20， | 34，75， | 25，177， | 0， 0 |
| 320 data | 20， | 38，126， | 28，214， | 6， 108 |
| 330 data | 20， | 43，52， | 25，177， | 0， 0 |
| 340 data | 20, | 34，75， | 21，154， | 8， 147 |
| 350 | 20， | 43，180， | 25，177， |  |
| 360 data | 20， | 38，126， | 22，227， | 8， 23 |
| 370 data | 20, | 0,0 ， | 25，177， | 0,0 |
| 400 data | 20， | 34，75， | 21，154， | 8， 147 |
| 410 data | 20, | 34，75， | 25，177， | 0,0 |
| 420 data | 20, | 38，126， | 28，214， | 6， 108 |
| 430 data | 20, | 43，52， | 25，177， | 0,0 |
| 440 data | 20, | 34，75， | 21，154， | 8， 147 |
| 450 data | 20， | 0,0 ， | 25，177， | 0， 0 |
| 460 data | 20, | 32，94， | 22，227， | 8， 23 |
| 470 data | 20， | 0，0， | 19，63， | 6， 108 |
| 500 data | 20， | 34，75， | 21，154， | 8， 147 |
| 510 data | 20, | 34，75， | 25，177， | 0,0 |
| 520 data | 20, | 38，126， | 21，154， | 7， 163 |
| 530 data | 20， | 43，52， | 17，37， | 0,0 |
| 540 data | 20, | 45，198， | 28，214， | 7， 53 |
| 550 data | 20, | 43，52， | 34，75， | 0,0 |

560 data $20, \quad 38,116, \quad 28,214, \quad 0,206$ 570 data $20,34,75,22,227,0,0$ 600 data $20,32,94,25,177,6,108$ 610 data $20,25,177,22,227,0,0$ 620 data $20,28,214,21,154,7,53$ 630 data $20,32,94,19,63,8,23$ 640 data $20,34,75,21,154, \quad 8,147$ 650 data $20, \quad 0, \quad 0,25,177, \quad 6,108$ 660 data $20, \quad 34,75,21,754, \quad 4,73$ 670 data $20, \quad 0,0,0,0,0,0$ 700 data 0
The final program is for those who prefer their music British．
3日日 ロATA 1 区，50，60，a，a，a， 0
310 DATA 20．67．15，42．62．6．57
320 DATA $10,67,15,0,0,0,6$
330 DATA $10,67,15,44,193,6,71$
346 ロFTA $16,63,75,8,0,6,6$
350 मATA $10,56,99,6,6,6, \mathrm{e}$
360 DATA $20,50,60,42,62,6,97$
$37 \mathrm{DATA} 10,44.193 .37 .162 .0 .6$

390 DATA $10,50,60.6,6,64$
4 46［月TA $20,67,15,42,62,6,97$
410 DATA $10,67,15,01,6,0,5$
425 ［月TA 20，75，69，44，193，9，164
435 ח月TA 16，ES， $75,37,162, G, 6$
440 חनTA 56，67． $15,42,62,6,97$
450 DATA $10,50,60,6,9,6,61$
460 DATA 20，67． $15,42,62,6,57$
4 40 DATA $10,75,69,6,6,0,6$
480 DATA $20,34,125,44,193,6,71$
496 LATA $10,69,131,0,6,0,0$
500 DATA $20,100,121,42,62,5,9$
510 DATA $10.85,125,37,162,6.6$
520 DATA 20，67．15，33．135．10．143
50 DATA 10， 5 E， $69,0,6,0.6$
541 DATH 20．84．125 54，60， 3,57
5 5日 ロFTA $10,64,125,6,6,0,6$
560 DATA $10,34,125$ 50，06， 12
59 DATA 16．75．69．44，193．0．6

599 DATA 56， 5.69 .44 ． $190.6,71$
690 DATA $10,50,60,6,0,0,0$


630 ПमTH $20.34 .125 .44,193.6,71$
640 OATA 10．85．131，6．0．6．0
656 D月TA 20，160，121，42．6e， 6,97
GEQ आATA $16,85,125,35.16 E, 0,0$
GTQ DATH EQ，ET， $15,30,135,16,14$
GSQ UATA 16．75．65，6，0．6， 6
690－पATH $20,54,125,56,60,8,57$
ア0日 DATA 10.84 .125 .0 .0 .0 .0
710 ロ月TA $10.54,125,56, .60,7,12$ 720 DATA $10,75,69,44,193,6,6$
 P4日 ロATA 36， $75,69,44,153,6,71$
 P6日 DATA 10．75，69．44．193．6．0 776 DATA 20．67．15．42，62．8．97 769 DATA 10，67．15， $0,6,0.0$ 790 DATA $10,67.15,44,193,6,71$ BDE DATA $10,63,75,6,6,6,6$ 815［ATA $10,56.99,6,6,0,6$ S2Q ロATA $20,50,60,42,62,8,97$ Q8 DATA $19,44,193,37,162.6, \mathrm{E}$ 840 DATA 20，42，62，33，135，6，160 859［मTA $10,59,60,6,6,6,6$ 660 DATA $20,67,15,42,62,5,97$ 67日 पनTA 1日，67，15，日，日，日，日 S6＠DATA $20,75,69,44,193,9,104$ 890 DATA $19,63,75,37,162,6,6$ 960 ［ATA 56，67，15，42，62，3，97 31日 DATA 日，日，日，0，0
929 LIATA E

# Running PET on a VIC 

Converting programs from one type of computer to run on a different type is usually quite difficult. Although the VIC and the PET are similar enough for most VIC programs in Basic to be run on the PET without too much trouble, VIC owners wanting to run PET programs will need to make several alterations.

Because the PET has nearly twice as many columns as the VIC, some PRINT statements will be broken in the middle of words and wrap around to the next line. Usually this is easily fixed by breaking up the PRINT statements. However, on some occasions, it is necessary for one PET line to end up as one VIC line.

For example, a PRINTed chess board cannot have the tail-end of each row wrapping around to the next line. In this case it is necessary to compress the PET line (usually by removing spaces). Sometimes the wrap-around is so bad that the VIC user has difficulty figuring out what is supposed to be happening. In this case it may be helpful to discard the excess characters on each line until the pattern is clearer.

## Values reduced

Other commands affected by the VIC's 22-column screen are POS, TAB and SPC. POS is most often used to test for the end of a line, in which case it will need to be reduced by about 18. TAB, SPC and comma are used to format printing on the screen. Their values will have to be reduced to fit the VIC screen and some of the printing may have to be abbreviated.

Usually an INPUT in a PET program will occur on the same line as its prompt. However, the VIC does not like wrapping around on an INPUT, so it is usually best to start INPUTs on a fresh line. Therefore a statement like INPUT"prompt";A\$ should be changed to PRINT"prompt": INPUTA\$.

Many PET programs have three spaces and three cursor-lefts at the end of a prompt to avoid dropping out of the program on a null input. Since the VIC does not stop on a null input, such extra characters at the
end of prompts can be left out.
The further a PET program is from mainstream Basic, the more difficult it will be to convert. Since PEEK, POKE and WAIT address specific memory locations, it may be awkward to find the equivalent locations in the VIC. SYS and USR are even worse because they jump to machine language routines.

The accompanying chart lists the most frequently used addresses for PEEK, POKE and WAIT and gives suggestions for conversions to the VIC. PEEKs and POKEs to the screen are not so simply dealt with. Because the PET screen is laid out in rows of 40, vertical lines are POKEd by
taking steps of 40 ; and diagonal lines, by steps of 39 or 41.

On the VIC, however, vertical lines require steps of 22 and diagonal lines, steps of 21 or 23 . VIC users will have to change screen offsets of $39,40,41,-39,-40$ and -41 . 32768 is the upper left corner of the PET screen, 32807 is the upper right, 33728 is the lower left and 33767 is the lower right. VIC owners doing conversions are advised to rule off a $25 \times 40$ grid and number the squares accordingly.

Usually PET programs containing a SYS or USR are too difficult to convert. Even a knowledge of 6502 machine language may not be enough.

Sometimes the SYS or USR can simply be left out. For example, a popular SYS routine flashes on the screen. Dropping such a SYS does no harm.

Common addresses for PEEK, POKE and WAIT

| $40-53$ | pointers: identioal to Vio 43-56 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 141-143 | clook : Yic 160-162 |
| 144 | FOKE 144.FEEK(144)+3 is used to disab le the stope key |
| 151 | FEEK 151 ) is wsed to see which key is he lot down (255 = none). Uic 197 ( $64=$ none). Uslues returned are different from FET ones. |
| 152 | WHIT 152. 1 waits until the shift kes $i s$ preseed. Vic 653. |
| 158 | Humber of characters in keybard buffer. Vic 198. |
| 166 | Similar to Fet 151 : Vio 209. |
| 16.7 |  |
| 623-682 | keybord butfer. Uic E31 to E46. |
| 684-1617 | Cassette buffers. Meohine Gode is aften FOKEd into this area : easy conversion is unlikely. Vio ges - 1019. |
| 8276-33767 | Soreen membry : Eee zoobmantins artiole. |
| 59464 | FOKE 59464 elass note ( 1 =hish, $255=$ low . |
| 59466 | FOKE 59466 sets ootave for note ( $15=$ low. $51=$ mid. $85=10 w$. |
| 59467 | FOKE 5946, 16 tume on Ecund ( $6=0+7$ \%. |
| 59468 | FOLE 5946e.14 sets upper lower oese. 12 = ar arhics. |

## Reverse character routine

By John Consadine

The machine code routine described here was written for a 3032 40column PET and the VIC-20. It resides in the second cassette buffer but is easily relocatable by altering the first two data statement values. Its function is to reverse any \$ characters present on the screen instantly on typing SYS 826 and convert to normal text with SYS 882.

These SYS commands can be liberally sprinkled throughout a program to reverse the character at any time. This can prove useful in business programs, to highlight $a$
section of the screen, or in games programs, to make your space invader etc. flash without slowing down the action.

The routine can be changed to flash any alphanumeric or graphic character by changing the two sets of numbers as shown.

The first four numbers ringed (36) are the POKE code for the \$ character. The second four ringed numbers (164) are the POKE code for the reversed \$ character. Hence, any reversed and non-reversed character codes may be substituted, e.g.

| Character | $\$$ | $\#$ | $*$ | $@$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Non-rev. code | 36 | 35 | 42 | 0 |
| Rev. code | 164 | 163 | 170 | 128 |
| Character |  | $\phi$ | $\vee$ | space |
| Non-rev. code | 127 | 48 | 83 | 32 |
| Rev. code | 255 | 176 | 211 | 160 |

In fact, if the top of memory is poked low enough, any number of these routines may be loaded into successive slots by choosing appropriate values for the first two data statements. These dictate where the routine will reside and can be accessed by a SYS call to the first data number.

Just type in the loader program, RUN and then NEW. The following short program will give you an example of the effect:

| 10 | REM-\$ FLASH EXAMPLE |
| :--- | :--- |
| 20 | FORX=1TO333: |
|  | PRINT"\$20";: NEXT |
| 30 | FORY $=1$ TO200: NEXT |
| 40 | SYS826 |
| 50 | FORZ $=1$ TO200: NEXT |
| 60 | SYS882 |
| 70 | GOTO30 |

```
The PET routine runs without modification on 80 column machines but will only effect the top half of the screen (i.e. 1000 characters).
    10 REM***********************
15 REM-$ FLASH ROUTINE
20 REM 40 COLUMN PET/CEM
25 REM
3O REM-J.CONSADINE 25/2/83
40 REM
50 REM-ACTIVATE AS FOLLOWS:-
6O REM REVERSE ON- SYS826
70 REM REVERSE OFF- SYSB82
80 REM***********************
90 REM
100 FEADL,H:FORI=LTOH:READDT:FOKEI,DT:NEXT
1000 DATA 826,937
1010 DATA 162,0,189,0,128,201,36,208,5,73,128,157,0,128,189,250
1020 DATA 128,201, 36, 208,5,75,128,157,250,128,189,244,129,201, 36),208
1030 DATA 5,73,128,157,244,129,189,238,130, 201, 36, 208,5,73,128,157
1040 DATA 238, 130, 232,224, 250, 208,203,96,162,0,189,0,128, 201, 164, 208
1050 DATA 5,73,128,157,0,128,189,250,128,201,164, 208,5,73,128,157
1060 DATA 250,128,189,244,129,201,(164,208,5,73,128,157,244,129,189,238
1070 DATA 130,201, 164),208,5,73,128,157,238,130,232,224,250,208,203,96
READY.
```

```
10 REM**********************
15 REM & FLASH ROUTINE
20 REM VIC 20
25 REM
3O REM J.CONSADINE 25/2/8S
40 FEM
50 REM ACTIVATE AS FOLLOWS:-
6O FEM REVERSE ON- SYS826
70 REM REVERSE OFF- SYS882
80 REM**********************
90 REM
100 READL,H:FORI=LTOH:READDT:FOKEI;DT:NEXT
1000 DATA 826,937
1010 DATA 162,0,189,0,30,201,36,208,5,73,128,157,0,30,189,115
1020 DATA 30, 201, 36, 208,5,73,128,157,115,30,189,230,30,201, 36, 208
1030 DATA 5,73,128,157,230,30,189,89,31,201,36,208,5,73,128,157
1040 DATA 89,31,232,224,115,208,203,96,162,0,189,0,30,201, 164,208
1050 DATA 5,73,128,157,0,30,189,115,30,201,164,208,5,73,128,157
1060 DATA 115,30,189,230,30,201, 164,208,5,73,128,157,230,30,189,89
1070 DATA 31,201,164,208,5,73,128,157,89,31,232,224,115,208,203,96
READY.
```


## Beat your machine to a line of five

This game，for the VIC－20，is a computer version of a traditional game from the Orient called Gomoko or Gomoku．The board is set up in a $10 \times 10$ grid and the object of the game is to put your disks in a line of five：horizontal，vertical or diagonal．

The computer will try to stop you from making the line and at the same time try to make a line itself．As the computer has to consider all possible moves， there is a long pause while it chooses the best move． The program requires a 3 K expansion cartridge．

```
5 DIM WMFX(2),NF(2),WIS2,20,4)
G DIM ETC10.10),DE(20)
100 GO5lIB 60000
105 GOsum 400
110 608UE 2000
120 G08UE 8000
150 60811 5000
180 IF MMK(2)=19 THEN MIN=2:GOTO 300
190 GO8UB 3000
200 IF WMAM<1》>=14 THEN WIN =1:GOTD 300
220 GOTO 110
300 IF WIH=1 THEMFRINT"WHI WIH SM":STOF
310 PRIMT"%筑OU MIN N
320 EMTI
400 R1=INT(RHICTI)米E)+3
410C1=INT(FNOCTI)挑E)+3
420 FF=7796+22椋1+C1
430 FOKE PF, S1:FOKE PF+30720,5
440 FETURH
```



```
2010 FRITHT"曾 ";"泪":
2040 R=vALCP事):C=FSCくC音-G4
2050 IF FBSCR-5.5)>4.5 OR FBECC-5.5>>4.5THENGOSUE 63000
2055 F=7796+22w+C
2060 D=PEEKくP)
2070 IF I=4E THEN 2120
2OBQ FRIMT"SPACE OCCUPIED"
2090 FA=120:G05UE 63000
2100 FRINT"紧 和";
2110 goto 2000
2120 FOKE P.B7:FOKE F+30T20.2
2130 FETURM
3000 FOR A=1 TO 2
S010 IF WMA&<A\<14 GOTO 3040
3020 GOgue 51000
3OSO RETINPH
3040 NEXT A
3100 FOE F=1 TO 2
```

```
3110 IF UMA&CAD<10 THEN 3140
3115 IF A=2 FNN UMAX(2)<12 FNN VMAX(1)=9THEN 314O
3120 608UB 50000
3130 FETURN
3140 NEXT A
3141 FOR A=1 TO 2
3142 IF 快芯脑くS THEN 3145
3143 GOSUB 50000
3 1 4 4 ~ R E T U E N H
3145 HEXT A
3146 FHMAK=0:HT=0
3150 FOF R1=1 TO 10
3160 FOR C1=1 TO 10
3170 IF ED(R1,C1)=0 THEH 3240
3180 F=ED(R1,C1)
3190 IF PCPMAX THEN 3240
3200 IF F=FMAAX THEN 3220
3 2 1 0 ~ N T = 0 : ~ P M A X = F '
3220 WT=NT+1
3230 RMCNT:=R1:CMCMT)=C1
3240 NENT C1,R1
3250 FN=INT(RNTG1)湘NT)+1
3260 FF=7796+22$FM(FW)+CM(PW)
3270 FOKE FF,B1:FOKE FF+3072Q.5
3280 FEETURH
5000 v=0
5005 FORIL=1 TO 2
5008 \MFM(IL)=0:NF(IL)=0
5009 NENT IL
5100 RL=1:RU=6
5110 CL=1:CU=10:F=22
5120 GOSUB 6000
5150 RL=1:RU=10
5160 CL=1:CU=6:F=1
5170 GOSUB6000
5200 RL=1:RU=6
5210 CL=1:CU=6:F=23
5220 GOSuRG000
550 RL=1:RU=6
520 CL=5:CU=10:F=21
5270 008UB6000
5 3 0 0 ~ F E E T U R N H
6000 FOR F=RL TO RU
6005 s=7796+22泩F
G010 FOR C=CL TO CU
6020 56=5+C
6030 FOR I=0 TO 4
6035 CD=5S+F束I
6040 I=FEEKCOCT
6050 IF D=46 THEN DMCI)=CD:GOTD 6090
6060 IF TP=0 THEH TP=I:II= CTF-S1),G+1).
6070 IFTPCD THEN v=0:TF=0:00TO 6SOQ
6080 v=v+5-FES(I-2)
6085 DWCT%=0
6090 NEXT I
6100 IF }V=0\mathrm{ THEN E300
6110 IF V<MMAK<II) THEHV=0:GOTD EIGE
6120 IF v=VMAKCII) THEN 61.40
6130 NF(IT)=0:UMF`CII)=U
6140 NF(II)=FF(II)+1
```

```
E150 FOR J=0 TO 4
616Q WDCII,MF|II%,J)=THKJ%
6165 NENT J
G16S FOR T=0 TO 4
6169 IFDM<J=0 THENG210
6170 TD=D|<T\-7796
6180 F1=IMT(TOM22)
6190 [1=OD-22%F1
6200 EI(R1, O1)=BNGR1,C1)+1
6210 HEST I
6220 
600 HEST C.EP
G310 FETINPH
8000 FOR R=1 TO 10
BO10 FOR C=1 TO 10
8020 EDCR,O}=
g025 HFCIT)=HF[II`+1
GO30 MEKT E.E
824Q RETURM
50000 FMFM=0:NT=0
50010 FOR I=1 TO MF(A)
50@20 FOR I=0 TO 4
50030 F=|D《A,I,I)
50040 IF F=O THEM 50120
50050 F1=THT<6P-7750%22)
50060 -1= 4F-7%96-22, F1
50070 IF BDCE1, %1)<PHM% THEN 50120
500EO IF EDCP1, O1S=FMA% THEN 50100
EDOSO NT=0:PMF%=ETGE1,C1%
5 0 1 0 0 ~ N T = N T + 1
50110 IECMT:F
5 0 1 2 0 ~ M E N T ~ I T ~ T
5 0 1 2 5 ~ I F ~ A = 2 ~ F H T D ~ F M A N = 1 ~ T H E N ~ 5 0 1 G 0 ~
```



```
50140 FOKE TBCFHD,B1:FOKE DBGFWQ+3OT20,5
SO15G RETUPH
50160 DNSUE 3145
SO170 FETURH
S1000 FOR I=0 TO 4
51010 IF WDCA.1.T)=0 THEN 5JOCD
51020 F=NDGF,1,T)
```



```
51040 FOKE F,E1:FOKE F+30720.5
51050 RETURH
60000 FFIMT""TMTEM"
60010 PRIMTTAEG7%:"FECDEFOHIJ"
```



```
60025 1,N=4
G0030 FOR I=1 TG 10
600S5 IF IVS THEN HN=3
```



```
G0050 HENT I
```



```
6 0 1 0 0 ~ W I N = 0
6 0 9 9 9 ~ F E T U P M
63000 T1=TI
63010 IF TI-TICFF THEH ESO10
65Q20 FETURH
FEFT'T'.
```


## Mastermind in colour

This computer version of Mastermind makes use of colour．The positions are chosen by hitting the respective function keys and then tapping a number that corresponds to the colour required．When a colour has been inserted into each of the four locations，hitting RETURN will enter them to the
computer，which tells you how you did on that guess．
You are the guesser all the time but apart from that it＇s an enjoyable game．As the function keys are being used，the super expander cartridge will not allow you to play the game properly，but it will fit into the basic VIC－20．

```
10 REM NHSTERMIHI
```



```
FEM
ZZ=0
```



```
GETL韦:IFL曺=""THENGEO
IFL丰="T"THEH920
IFL事="N"THEN10E
GOTOEG
REM
REM SET UF BOHRD
REM
```



```
110 FOKE36679,146
```



```
130 R=7699
140 FRINT" 『, 1, , , \, ""
150 FORH=1TOS
160 FRINT"।": FORH=1TOG
```



```
180 FRINT" F": :FORM=1TOB
190 FRINT"-+": FNE&T:FRINT"-」"
2 0 0 1 ~ H E X T M ~
210 FRINT"।"; :FORW=1TOS
```



```
200 FRINT" , , , , , ,",
240 FORA=13TO19STEFE
250 FOKET7E1+22輷.45+E
260 FOKESS421+2E果, 4
270 B=B+1
280 HENT
284 REM
285 REM CHOOSE FHHTIOM COLOURS.FLL IIFFEREFT
266 REM
290 < (1)=INT (EHD(1)束 6)+2
30日 <(2)=INT(ENUI(1)*E)+2
310 IF&(2)=& (1) THEHS00
320 < (3)=INT FND(1)串G)+2
350 IFK(3)=人(1)ORX(3)=人(2)THENS2Q
340 <(4)=INT(FNI(1)电E)+2
350 IF%(4)=&(1)OR&(4)=%(2)OR*(4)=人(3)THENS40
360 6-0
STG FORZ=13TO1SSTEF2
300 Ei=6+1
```



```
ADE NEKT
4 0 4 ~ E D M
40S REM WHITE "G"S" IH EVER" FOSITIOH
406 FEM
416 FOR'=13TO19STEFZ
4O6 FOKET680+1+22相:81
40 HEXT'
```



```
450 I=44:G0=7939-22
4E4 REM
4SE REM IHFUT + CHEOK FOR ILLEGHL KE' FRESG
468 GETQ&: IFD*=""THEH45E
470 IFHSC<Q = = STHENESO
```




```
50G GOTG4E0
504 REM
5GE REH FUSH FOINTEFG OFF FOW
50G REM
54Q FORG=7985TOB117STEF44
5QG POKES+1.31
5 3 0 ~ F O L E S , 3 2
54G HEST
544 REN
5 4 5 ~ F E M ~ F U G H ~ F O I N T E R ~ T O ~ F O W ,
54E REM
550 L=2*H5C(0%)-253
```



```
5%6 GOTO450
574 REM
SG REM FUT COLOUR IN FOSITIOH
5G REM
500 F=VRLC0.)-1
5 9 0 ~ I F L = 0 T H E H L = 1 3 ~
600 FOKESQ417-ZZ+L曹22.F
610 I(GL-11),2)=F
60 OUT0456
ESG IFZZ<14THENG50
634 FEM
G8 REM FILLEI FLL }14\mathrm{ COLUPH&
63 FEM
E40 PRIHT"TOU HBVE HOT BUCOEEDEI" :GOTOB1Q
650 ZZ=2Z+2:FOR4}=1\mathrm{ TO4
600 IFICN\=6THEHZZ=22-2:GOT0450
6 7 9 ~ H E N T ~
674 REM
675 REM OHEOK FOR ELHOK REFL'T
GG REM
600 Z=0:U=0
690 FORT=1TO4 : IFYCT)=ICT)THENZ =2+1
TOG HEST
T04 EEM
TGS REN CHEOK FOR WHITE REPL'T
TGE FEN
7, FORE=1TO4:FOFH=1TO4:IF&(E)=D(H)THENU=\psi+1
72G HERT:HERT : V=ツ-Z
76 FORN=1TO4:IMO=0:NENT
74日 IFZ=GTHENTGO
744 REM
745 REM IIGPLH' REFL'T
746 FEM
TEG FORN=1TOE:FOKE(GG+44)-4*44.81
```



```
79 IFZ=4THEHE16
```

```
70 IFV=0THEH456
79G FORW=1TOU:FOKE(GC+44)-(M+2)来44.81
800 FOKE GO+3OP64)-(N+2)車44 1:HENT:GOTO450
804 REN
SES REN DIGFLH'' COMEIHATION
GOE REN
810 G=0:FORZ=13TO19STEF2
820 G= G+1
80 FOKESS40日+1+22名, %G%
846 HEXT
850 FORN=1TOTGGO:HENT
60 FOKES6879,27
664 FEM
865 REM INFUIT FOR FHOTHER GIO
SGE REN
```



```
GGQ GETR= IFF事=""THEHESQ
8OQ IFF:= "'т"THENRUH
900 IFFt="N"THEHFOKESES79, 27: EHII
910 GOT0 560
920 REM
9GO REM INSTRULTIOHS
940 REM
956 PRINT"mTHIG IS THE GANME"
```



```
970 PRINT"瞄IN THIS GHNE 'TOU HFVE"
9Q日 FRINT"TO GUESS THE COLOUR-"
9g0 FRINT"COMEINATION IEVISEI"
1000 FRIHT"ET THE COMFUTER. THE"
1010 FRINT"4 COLOURS FRE HIDIEH"
102Q FRTHT"EH THE COHFUTER FHD"
1030 FRINT"IT HILL TELL YOU"
104Q PRINT"&HETHEE TOU HAVE "
1050 FRTHT"GUESSEI CORREGTL''OR"
1060 PRINT"HOT.
1070 GOSUE13Q6
1gOQ FRIHT"TM WHITE MAFKER TELLS"
&ggQ PEIHT"TOU THAT A COLOUR IS"
110G FRINT"IN THE COMEIHATIOH EUT";
1116 FRINT"HOT IN THE RIGHT FLRCE":
1120 FRINT"FHT H BLACK MARKEF"
1130 FRINT"TELLS 'TOU THAT A "
1140 PRIUT"COLOHE THAT YOU"
1150 FRINT"GUESGEI IS IH THE"
1160 FRINT"COHEIHATIOH FHII IN THE":
1170 FRIHT"RIGHT FLFCE CHOOSE THE":
11GO PRINT"FOMS E'T FRESSIHG KETG"
1190 FRINT"F1,FS,F5, OE FF "
1105 FRINT"REFEQTIVEL'T":"
+200 G0SUE1320
1210 FRIHT"गTHE OOLOURG THAT 'TOU"
122G FRINT"MF'T CHOSE FRE З-8"
1236 PRIHT"THESE COLOURG REE HG "
1240 FRINT"FOLLOHS: 3- RED"
1250 PRIHT" 4- ETHH"
IEEG PRIHT" S- FURFLE"
12G PRTHT" E- GREEN"
12g0 FRINT" F- ELUE"
Eg0 FFINT" E- 'TELLOH"
$00 GOGUE1820
1310 GOTO106
820 FRINT"鳃TMHIT HHN'KET";
1086 GETL吕:IFL京=""THEH1SSQ
1346 FETUFH
RERDY:
```


## Hi-res displays in bit map mode

One of the graphic capabilities of the 64 is to use the screen in bit map mode, enabling the user to 'plot' high resolution displays. In standard mode the resolution available is $320 \times 200$ pixels and in multi-colour mode the resolution is $160 \times 200$.

The method for setting up bit map mode is to clear an 8 K block of memory and redirect the screen to that 8 K block. The block of memory used in the example program starts at location 8192 which is the start of the 8th kilobytes block. The screen is directed at that memory by the command:

POKE 53272, PEEK(53272)OR8
Bit map mode is selected by setting bit 5 of the VIC-11 chip to 1 , which is location 53265 thus:

POKE 53265
PEEK(53265)OR32.
When bit map mode is required, the 8 K block of memory being used must be cleared. This cannot be done simply by typing CLR; each location must have a 0 sent to it, so there is a long pause before the graph is plotted.

## Character locations

Each line of pixels on the screen is represented by 5 bytes but unfortunately they are not in sequence; instead the bytes are arranged in character locations so that the first 8 bytes of the bit map make up the character location in the top left corner of the screen. Each consecutive group of 8 bytes makes up the next character going from left to right across the screen.

The equivalent to POINT cr, $\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}$ (where cr is the colour register) on


A program that uses the graphic skills of the 64 to plot a 3D graph.
the VIC-20 with super expander is:

$$
\mathrm{R}=\mathrm{INT}(\mathrm{Y} / 8): \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{INT}(\mathrm{X} / 8):
$$

$\mathrm{L}=\mathrm{YAND} 7$
$\mathrm{BI}=7-(\mathrm{XAND} 7)$
$B Y=8192+R * 320+C * 8+L$
POKEBY, PEEK(BY)OR2 BI
Where $\mathrm{R}=$ The character row number of your dot.
$C=$ The character position on that line.
$L=$ The line of that character position.
$\mathrm{BI}=$ The bit of that byte.
BY $=$ The location of the byte in the bit map.

The last line plots the point in the required position on the screen, considering that $X=0, Y=0$ is in the top left position on the screen.

In the standard bit map mode, colour is limited to one colour per character location. The colour of the character positions is not set using the colour map but using the video map; therefore POKEing 16 into location 1024 will not produce a ' $P$ ' in the top left corner of the screen but a black reverse space.

## Any combination

The value POKEd into a screen location produces the background from the lower 4 bits and the pixel colour from the upper 4 bits, thereby allowing any combination from the 16 colours available. The value 16 will produce a black background with white coloured pixels in that location.

All of the above information relates specifically to standard resolution. For multi-colour mode the following differences must be noted:

The horizontal or X resolution is halved because the pixels are plotted in pairs. The multi-colour mode is turned on by:

## POKE 53265, <br> PEEK(53265)OR32:POKE <br> 53270, PEEK(53270)OR16

Each 2 bits in the display memory area form a dot with a choice of 4 colours:

## Bit value Colour

01 Upper half of the screen memory
10 Lower half of the screen memory (dot off).
Value in colour nybble memory.

The value poked into a screen location produces the background from the lower four bits and the pixel colour from the upper four bits.

To turn off bit map mode:
For standard mode:
POKE 53265,
PEEK(53265)AND223
POKE 53272,
PEEK(53272)AND247
For multi/c mode:
POKE 53265,
PEEK(53265)AND223
POKE 53270,
PEEK(53270)AND239
POKE 53272,
PEEK(53272)AND247

```
10 REM FOUITHE TO DRAM A SII GREFFH
2G REM USIHGG STANINREI EIT MAF MODE
30 BFSE=2串4096
40 FEM CLEHF THE EIT MAF
50 FOR I=EASE TO EHSE+7999
60 FOHE I,G:HEKT I
TG FEN IIFECT SOREEN TO BIT MAF
```

```
BO REN FHII TURN OH EIT MAF MODE
90 FOKE 53272,FEEKC53272,ORE
100 FOKE 53265,FEEKC53265)OFO2
110 REM REN SCREEN, WHITE FIXELS
120 FOR I=1024 T0 202S
130 FOKE I,18:NEXT I
140 DEF FHF(Z)=90*EXF(-Z*2,6060
150 FOR }X=-100 TO E STEF 1
160 K=6:L=0:F=1:Z1=6
170 'T'1=K*INT (SORC10010-8䊉),N)
160 FOR 'Y='T1 TO -Y'1 STEF -K
```



```
200 IF 2<L THEN S20
210 GOSUE 340
220 L=2
20 IF F=0 THEN GOSUE 340: IF }z=Z1\mathrm{ THEN GOSUE 340
240 M=1
250 FOW=INT (200-2)/6)
```



```
270 LIHE=(200-2)FHIF
```




```
300 FOKE E'TTE,FEEK(E'TTE)OR2TBIT
310 IF M=1 THEN M=-1:GOTO 250
S20 NEKT T,X
330 GOTO 330
340 RETUFN
REFD'.
```


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7 FRIHT＂［rvE］EREIC4［口f＋］STS6245E： 5 T 4EEE2＂：FRIHT＂［Od，ruE］ERSIO2［口＋干］S＇S


## Explanation of Append program

Line 3 A one line program to provide a＇body＇to which another program can be appended．
Line 4 The variable E computes the location of the start address of the second program．As a Basic program ends with three zero bytes and the end of Basic program pointers（in locations 42 and 43 decimal）point to the byte after the three zero bytes，this address is equivalent to end of Basic program minus two．
Notice also the device to circumvent the dropping into direct mode if a null response is given to INPUT．This is three shifted spaces followed by three cursor lefts which ensures that AS is left with a shifted space （＝ASCII 160）if return only is pressed．This can be used if the sub－routine which is to be appended is at a known position on the tape：otherwise the name can be specified and will be searched for specifically by the OPEN 1，1，0，AS command．
Line 5 Searches for the named or next header． When found，the variable N computes the new end address for the load and pokes the low and high bytes of the new load start ad－ dress into the header．
Line 6 Pokes the low and high bytes of the new end address into the header and also into the ＇end of basic＇pointers in case an additional Append or Save needs to be performed．

Line 7 Prints out the location of two SYS calls，the first of which completes the load（assuming that the tape play button is still depressed） and the second of which rechains the link pointers into a single program．
As with conventional tool－kit Appends，this one assumes that the line numbers of the sub－routine are higher than the existing pro－ gram as it merely＇tags＇the new program on－ to the end of the existing one．If one keeps sub－routines in the high numbers（e．g． $60000+$ ）then this should not constitute a serious problem．Do not omit the END state－ ment．
It is possible to use the essential features of this pro－ gram in direct mode without having to enter a pro－ gram into the memory at all．It is also possible to ap－ pend a sub－routine in about $11 / 2$ minutes flat using direct mode statements．It is necessary to ab－ breviate the commands to the first letter plus the shifted second letter as is common for the Basic tokens but here are the direct mode statements for those who would like to try the same．With a pro－ gram already loaded into memory then：
（1）OPEN 1，1，0，＂PROGRAM NAME＂（or OPEN 1 if＠ tape is correctly positioned）（NB Leave PLAY button depressed！）
（2） $\mathrm{E}=\mathrm{PEEK}(42)-2+256 * \operatorname{PEEK}(43):$ POKE635， EAND255；POKE636，E／256： $\mathrm{N}=\operatorname{PEEK}(637)+256 * \operatorname{PEEK}(638)+\mathrm{E}-1025$
（3）POKE637，NAND255：POKE638，N／256： POKE42，PEEK（637）：POKE43， PEEK（638）：SYS62456：SYS46262
The last two SYS calls are for Basic IV：replace with SYS62393：SYS50242 for BASIC II）．

## A simple Auto－Start application

Normally a program will load into the first areas of free RAM i．e．location S0401（1025 decimal）on－ wards．If，however，we can have the ASCII codes


Figure 1：Auto－Start application
for the letters RUN and the carriage return character in a REM statement which is then loaded not into S0401 but into the keyboard buffer，then the program will run automatically upon loading．

The process is not quite as simple as this because the operating system also needs to be told the number of characters in the keyboard buffer and the header pointers themselves need to be changed，but this can all be done with machine code which can be saved along with the program name in the header．

The process is illustrated in figure 1.
What is required is to move the program down in memory so that the contents of memory locations 1030－1033（letters RUN and carriage return）load 407 bytes lower in memory into locations 623－626． As the start of the Basic program is actually 1025 （not 1030）the program needs to start loading five bytes earlier at location 618 （ $=$ S026A）．

One way to achieve this effect is by typing 5 lines （numbered 1－5）of REM followed by exactly 74 asterisks（or any other character）and a final line 6 of REM and one asterisk．Line 7 should now start at S0598（1432 decimal）which after relocation 407 bytes downwards will now start at location 1025 （decimal）．Now poke the hex characters $52,55,4 \mathrm{E}$ ， OD into locations 1030－1033 so that after relocation they will reside in the keyboard buffer（these are the characters for RUN and carriage return）．

However，two further features need to be added． As it stands the program would still load and run normally（which rather defeats the object of an auto－start if one wishes to protect code）．Secondly， some machine code needs to be added to change the header pointers，to poke the number of characters into the required location and to enable one to save the program in a non－standard way．

To achieve the first of these features，line 5 could be made into a line such as the following：

## 5 ？＂TO LOAD AND RUN THIS PROGRAM，TYPE ＇OPEN1：SYS655＇＂：FORJ＝ 1 TO3000：NEXT： SYS64790

If this is typed in as shown（with the ？rather than PRINT）and the number of asterisks in line 6 is then increased to seven then line 7 should still start at location S0598（check via the monitor）．If it does not，then adjust the number of asterisks in line 6 un－ til you are satisfied that the first of the link bytes of line 7 is in location S0598．

Obviously，if this is not exactly right then the let－ ters RUN will not be correctly inserted into the keyboard input buffer．The SYS call is to reset the whole machine（i．e．wipe out all the memory con－ tents）if a normal LOAD and RUN is attempted－ replace this with SYS 64721 for Basic II．

Now it is necessary to insert the machine code in－ to the second cassette buffer．A program name can be put into a variable AS and then poked into the top of the second cassette buffer with the state－ ment：

$$
\begin{aligned}
\text { FOR } J=0 & \text { TO LEN(AS)-1: POKE } 826+J, A S C \\
& (\text { MIDS }(A S, J+1)): \text { NEXT }
\end{aligned}
$$

Then，via the monitor，poke the following machine code into the second cassette buffer：

| $034 A$ | A9 | $6 A$ | $8 D$ | $7 B$ | 02 | A9 | 02 | $8 D$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0352 | $7 C$ | 02 | A9 | 04 | 85 | $9 E$ | $4 C$ | F8 |
| 035A | F3 | A9 | 01 | 85 | FB | A9 | 04 | 85 |
| 0362 | FC | A5 | 2A | 85 | C9 | A5 | $2 B$ | 85 |
| 036A | CA | A9 | 01 | 85 | D4 | A9 | 47 | 85 |
| 0372 | D1 | A9 | $3 A$ | 85 | DA | A9 | 03 | 85 |
| 037A | DB | A2 | 01 | CA | 4C | 42 | F7 |  |

This hex dump is for Basic IV．For Basic II alter the following two bytes：

$$
0359 \text { from F8 to B9 }
$$

037F from 42 to 03

| 228F | A9 | 6A |  | LDA | \＃$=$ 6月 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0291 | 80 | 7B | 02 | STA | \＄1278 |
| 0294 | R9 | 12 |  | LIA | \＃$\$ 12$ |
| 8296 | 30 | 7 C | 02 | STA | \＄027C |
| 0299 | H9 | －4 |  | LIA | \＃$\ddagger$ 84 |
| 029B | 85 | 3E |  | STA | \＄ 3 E |
| 12290 | 45 | F8 | F3 | JAP | 刺3F8 |
| 32月发 | H3 | 01 |  | LDA | \＃ $\mathbf{W}^{\text {® }} 1$ |
| 日2月2 | 85 | FB |  | STA | \＃FB |
| 02 A 4 | H3 | 04 |  | LIA | \＃$\ddagger 64$ |
| В2月6 | 85 | FC |  | STA | 和C： |
| 02 AB | AS | 2 A |  | LCAA | － 2 A |
| EटAF | 85 | 189 |  | STA | \＄0．9 |
| פ2AC | HS | 28 |  | Laf | ＋ 2 E |
| EIEAE | 85 | CA |  | ETA | 事CA |
| QCBC | Hig | 01 |  | LDA |  |
| $02 \mathrm{B2}$ | 85 | D4 |  | STA | \＃04 |
| 0284 | H9 | 47 |  | LDA | \＃ $\mathbf{H}_{4}$ ？ |
| 0266 | 85 | ［1 |  | STA | कD1 |
| ロ2B3 | H9 | 3A |  | LDA | \＃$⿻ ⿳ 一 冂 䒑 山$ 3 |
| 日2EA， | 85 | OA |  | STA | \＄0ヶ\％ |
| 92E50 | H3 | 03 |  | LDA | \＃${ }^{\text {a }} 13$ |
| －2be | 85 | DB |  | STA | \＄0， |
| 9200 | H2 | 01 |  | LO\％ | \＃ ¢ $^{1} 1$ |
| 日2c： | CA |  |  | DEX． |  |
| 0203 | 4 C | 42 | F7 | JMP | \＄F742 |

## Basic IV disassembly for Auto－Start

For BASIC II alter the following two bytes：

## 029E from F8 to B9 <br> 02C4 from 42 to 03

This is the machine code as it appears in the first cassette buffer．It is actually assembled in the se－ cond cassette buffer from locations 034A－0380 but is automatically transferred to the first cassette in a non－standard way by a call to SYS859．

Locations 028F-029F alter the header pointers, store the number of characters in the keyboard input buffer and jump to a ROM routine for loading the rest of the program minus header.

Locations 02A0-02C5 set the various parameters necessary for the non-standard save in order to preserve machine code in the first cassette buffer.

```
PE IFQ SR HC XR YR SP
B750 E455 2C S4 3A 90 F8
034A H9 OA 8[1 PB 02 HG ज2 3D
0352 7C E2 HS 044 85 JE 4C F8
935A F3 AG 01 85 FB F9 144 35
0352 FC HS 2A SS CG FS 2B 85
\boxed{36A CA AS Q1 85 [4 R9 47 85}
0372 01 AG SH B5 DA AG 03 85
Q3?H [IB H2 Q1 EH 4L 42 F? 20
```

This hex dump is for Basic IV. For Basic II alter the following two bytes:

0359 from F8 to B9
037F from 42 to 03

This machine code, as well as altering the header pointers and achieving the load of the remainder of the program (S034A-S035A), sets the parameters for a non-standard SAVE of the program, incidentally transferring itself to the first cassette buffer where it is saved in the header along with the program name. A non-standard SAVE is necessary because in the ordinary course of events a SAVE routine will overwrite the contents of the first cassette buffer, leaving behind details of the header start and end addresses and the program name.

If all has gone well so far a normal LOAD followed by RUN will result in a message displaying the fact that the program requires an

## OPEN1:SYS655

in order to load and run, followed by a resetting of the machine. When OPEN1:SYS655 is followed then the PET will locate the header, change the start address and auto-run without further ado.

To save a further copy of the program, follow this procedure:
(1) LOAD the program but do not run it!
(2) Put a program name ( 16 characters or less) into AS and then poke it into the first few locations of the second cassette buffer ( 826 decimal onwards) as previously described.
(3) Transfer the machine code from the first cassette buffer into the 2nd cassette buffer with the direct command:
FOR J=0 TO 70 : POKE $842+\mathrm{J}$, PEEK
(655 + J):NEXT J
(4) TYPE SYS859

When the SYS call is activated, you will get a PRESS PLAY \& RECORD message, which, when performed, will write on the screen the program name followed by a strange collection of graphic symbols as the machine code in the header is interpreted as ASClI characters! This is quite normal and will not reappear when the program is loaded.

This particular AUTO-RUN is rather crude and needs further code to prevent unauthorised access, e.g. all INPUT statements need protecting against a null return by three shifted spaces and cursor lefts as described under Append and the STOP key needs disabling by POKE144, PEEK(144) + 3. Finally, there should only be one exit point (simply good programming practice!) which should give the opportunity to run the program again or else reset the machine.

## More difficult

The technique is crude because resetting the start of BASIC pointers can circumvent the AUTO-RUN but life can be made more difficult for the would-be 'code-cracker' by including a few REMS with characters in them that prevent listing (e.g. SDB for BASIC IV or SCC for BASIC II). These are the shifted left square bracket and shifted $L$ respectively and can act as a deterrent against unauthorised listing.

The operation of disabling the stop key in machine code cannot be done before the tape load as the IRQ vectors are reset by tape load operations and afterwards if the program is run both of the tape buffers are overwritten. A way round, though, can be found by making the first line of the program (i.e. line 7) a REM statement with seven (or more) asterisks and then poking the locations 059D-05A3 with the hex values A5,90,69,03,85,90,60 and then calling this code by a SYS 1030 in line 8 (i.e. first operative line) of the newly loaded program.

This has the advantage also of making the stop key disable somewhat more opaque and covers both Basic II and IV. Notice that this stop key disable also turns off the clock; more sophisticated code will need to be written if the clock operations are required for timing purposes.

It is always possible to re-enable the stop key from Basic with POKE144, PEEK(144)-3 but of course in this case the program can be stopped and listed. It is always necessary to have the stop key reenabled before any more LOAD or SAVE operations, so make this the last program line.

## A simple screen dump program

By comparison with the Auto-Start application, this program is simplicity itself. The operating system will not allow a save beyond S8000 (S8000-S83FF

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are the screen RAM locations), so to save a screen image we transfer the contents of screen RAM to an area below S 8000 and then save this via the monitor. Then to load back onto the screen all we need to do is alter the header addresses to load back into the screen.

Assuming the smallest size of PET (i.e. 8 K of RAM) then on power-on the top of memory pointer will contain a value of 32 . Poking location 53 decimal with 28 will lower the top of memory to 7168 decimal leaving space free for our screen-save file.

## Graphic

Now load any program into the PET but preferably one with an interesting graphic display such as a chart or diagram. In the absence of anything immediately suitable try:

## FOR J = 161 TO 224 : PRINT J:CHRS(J);:NEXT J

Now locate the cursor on the bottom line of the screen and type on one line (assuming some abbreviations):

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { FOR } \mathrm{J}=0 \text { TO } 959 \text { : POKE } 7168+\mathrm{J}, \text { PEEK } \\
& \\
& (32768+\mathrm{J}): \text { NEXT }
\end{aligned}
$$

This will take about 15 seconds while the contents of the first 24 lines are read into the space above the top of memory. Now enter the monitor by SYS 4 and save the file just created by using the command:

## .S "SCREEN-DUMP",01,1C00,1FC0

Reposition the tape and load in the header of the Screen-Dump file by OPEN 1. Type SYS4 to break into the monitor and then M 027A-027A to read (and then alter) the header details.

The monitor will show the following:

| 027A 01 | 00 | 1 C | C0 | 1F | 53 | 43 | 52 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | ess | S | C | R |

Now with the cursor alter the start address to 0080 and the end address to 9883 and then complete the load into screen RAM by a SYS 62456 (Basic IV) or SYS 62393 (Basic II).

## Shorthand

As with the other programs detailed in this article, these SYS calls assume that the play button on the recorder is still depressed. A shorthand way of doing this without entering the monitor is to POKE 636,128 : POKE 638,132 before entering the SYS call.

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# Educating the business user 

Title: Choosing and using a Business Microcomputer, Author: Bradbeer, Allason, Miles and Webb, Price :<br>Publisher: Gower Publishing Co. Ltd., Address : Gower House, Croft Road, Aldershot, Hants. GU11 3HR<br>Tel : Aldershot 331551.

You might have heard of one or two of the coauthors : Robin Bradbeer, Julian Allason, Barry Miles and Robert Webb. All four are respected names in the business computer world and well qualified to tackle the subject.

The 'four wise men' have done their job well. Other books of a similar nature have appeared over the last couple of years, but this would seem to be the best of the bunch. Arguments are presented with interest, and not without humour, there are numerous diagrams and photographs (although these could be captioned: where did you get that PET on page 50 ?!), and the book as a whole makes 'a good read'.

We start off with an introduction to microcomputers, how they work and how they do what they do. Planning for a Microcomputer, the second chapter, goes more deeply into the question of what you ought to look for in a micro, and some simple rules to follow when you do get one. Should your staff be allowed to play Space Invaders, and how to look after floppy disks, are just two of the diverse (but commonly encountered) topics covered here.

## Choosing Your Software

The book progresses logically to the subject of choosing your software, and describes a number of criteria that must be satisfied before parting with that most valuable of assets, money. Maintenance, ease of use, reliability, are all areas that should be examined in detail, and all of these, and more, are covered.

Finally, choosing your system, with a round-up of what is available. Beware, though : this section of the book is not completely up to date. For instance, the Commodore 8050 disk drive is not new, Apple produce rather a lot more than the Apple II, and so on. Still, within these confines, the advice presented is useable and valuable.

Four case studies, useful if you fall into the categories described, but otherwise a waste of
space, lead into a series of appendices on manufacturers and suppliers, independent sources of software and hardware, and a glossary of useful terms.

If you are thinking of buying a microcomputer for business use then this book is well worth reading. For mere background knowledge of the subject area, it is a good reference guide. And to while away a few hours, Choosing and Using A Business Microcomputer is a humorous and interesting read.

## VIC-20 for beginners

| Title: : | Learning to Use the Vic-20 Computer |
| :--- | :--- |
| Author: | Ron Geere |
| Price : | £6.45 |
| Publishers: | Gower Publishing Company Ltd. |
| Address: | Lower House, Croft Road, Aldershot, |
|  | Hants. GU11 |

In our October 1982 issue we published a review of a book by Garry Marshall, called Learning to use your PET computer. This, as you might imagine, is a follow-on from that early work, but with a different author.

Our review of the PET book concluded that this was a fairly good idea, unfortunately not well implemented. We hoped for better things from other books in the proposed series. We are, however, presented with the same mixture as before, starting with an introduction to the Vic, a chapter on Using the Vic, and one on an Introduction to Programming. These are so banal as to (almost) defy belief. Why, in a book that is only 76 pages long, devote half a page to showing a screen display of what happens when you save and verify a program on tape? This, incidentally, follows similar displays on what happens when you load a program!

A number of diagrams, each taking up half a page or more, concentrate on flow charting the simplest of programs : adding two numbers together and guessing at the results, defining three string variables and showing the outcome of adding them together in three different orders.

The chapter on graphics follows a similar vein. Considering the number of pages we have at our disposal, needless space is wasted in inane diagrams and pictures.

Why, given such a good idea (an intermediate step between the original manual and the Programmers Reference Manual), does the end result have to be a book that tells you nothing that you don't already know ? Oh well, there's always the Commodore 64.

# Does your PET need a new chip? You need a SOFTCHIP ! 

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 Basic commands like :| AUTO | 40 | APPROXIMATE MEMORY USAGE |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BEEP | 60 | Plays music of given duration and pitch. | MOVE | 130 |
| BLOAD | 40 | Loads in a block of memory without affecting BASIC execution | NUMIN | 740 |
| BSAVE | 120 | Saves the memory area between two given addresses. | PCTRL | 100 |
| CALL | 30 | Enter a machine-code subroutine with given Acc, | PLO | 170 |
| CIF,CEND | 220 | Four commands which provide facilities for structured BASIC, | POP | 30 |
| ELIF,ELSE |  | largely eliminating the need for the GOTO command | PRINT | 130 |
| CURSOR | 30 | Places the cursor at position $\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}$ on the screen. | -PRINT | 280 |
| DATIN | 600 | Foolproof input routine for dates with full error detection. | PUSH | 60 |
| DELETE | 70 | Deletes a given range of program lines. | RENU | 930 |
| DISABLE | 50 | Disables the run/stop key without affecting the internal clock. | REPEAT | 50 |
| DISP | 140 | Displays a prompting or warning message on a given line. | REPLACE | 490 |
| DREAD | 100 | Reads data from disk without input restrictions. | RESCUE | 40 |
| DSEARCH | 330 | Searches a disk relative-file for a given string or pattern. | RESET | 170 |
| DUMP | 170 | Outputs the names and values of all current scalar variables. | RESTORE | 20 |
| EDIT | 70 | Adds 'delete-forwards' function. | REVERSE | 50 |
| EXEC | 140 | Executes a string as a BASIC command. | SCAN | 190 |
| FIND | 200 | Lists all lines in which a given character string appears. | SCOPY | 340 |
| GENIN | 700 | General foolproof input routine with selected key disablement. | SCROLL | 230 |
| GSUB | 110 | Performs a GOSUB to a given labelled line. | SEARCH | 270 |
| GTO | 90 | Performs a GOTO as above. | SHRIN | 180 |
| INPUT | 40 | Allows a program to continue despite a null entry being input. | SORT | 780 |
| INVERT | 160 | Turns a string back to front. | SWAP | 440 |
| IRQ | 60 | Restores normal system use of interrupts | SWIND | 150 |
| KILL | 20 | Takes out SOFTCHIP commands. | TRACE | 110 |
| LINES | 50 | Calculates the number of lines in a program. |  | 390 |
|  | 170 | Loads a screen display from a compressed for | WINDOW | 30 |
| E | 360 | Merges a program from tape or disk into the current program. | WPOKE | $50$ |

Enters the CBM mach hine-code monitor
130 Moves a block of memory to another position in RAM.
740 Foolproof input routine for amounts of money.
100 Set the device number and characteristics of the printer.
170 Plots a double-density point on the screen.
Removes the last subroutine return address from the stack
Addo routine to automatically right-justify amounts of money.
Modifies all printer-output as neeced and adds TAB function.
Pushes a return address onto the stack.
Renumbers a program, altering all GOTO's, THEN's, etc.
Adds repeat key function.
Replace all occurrences of one character string with another.
Recovers a program accidentally 'NEW'ed.
Resets a double-density point on the screen.
Restores DATA back to a given line number.
Reverses the field of the screen.
Scans a string for the next occurrence of a given character.
Copies the screen to the printer.
Scrolls screen contents up,down, left or right.
Searches an array for a given string or pattern.
Removes all unnecessary spaces and 'REM's from a program.
Sorts any one-dimensional array (and tags another array along)
Loads in another program, retaining all variables.
Saves the contents of the screen in a compressed format.
Displays the last six line numbers at the top-right screen.
Outputs the names of all variables referred to in a program.
Sets top, bottom, left, right for an 8032 screen window.
Pokes two memory locations in hi-lo 6502 order.

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BORDER 100 Draws a border around the edge of the screen CLOCK 250 Continually displays the time at a given screen position. GRAPH 20 Gives access to the box-drawing characters on an 8032
ON 50 Branches to program line corresponding to key pressed.
PROTECT 90 Allows regain of control after system crash.
STATS 120 Outputs the number of statements in the current program.
$\star \star$ NEW FUNCTIONS which may be used in any expression
AVG 140 Calculates the average of the elements in a numeric array.
BLANK 40 Tests a string : returns true if the string is blank.
DEC $\quad 80$ Gives the decimal equivalent of a hexadecimal number.
FACT 60 Provides the factorial function.
GAMMA 90 Provides the gamma function.
HEX $\$ 90$ Gives the hexadecimal equivalent of a decimal number.
MAX 120 Returns the maximal element of an array.
MIN 120 Returns the minimal element of an array.
NORM 160 Provides the normal distribution area function.
PAD\$ 90 Pads a string with spaces.
QUME\$ 70 Assists high-resolution plotting on QUME Sprint 5 printer.
SHR\$ 260 Gives the compressed form of a number for compact storage.
SPC\$ $\quad 30$ Gives a string of spaces of given length.
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8

## Locksmith

By Peter Gabor

This will work on any Basic 4．0 PET and requires a disk drive to be connected and switched on before running．

It is a way of protecting a normal Basic pro－ gram from prying eyes．When run，the program merges a machine code routine to the start of your program，then saves the whole lot onto disk again．

Subsequent loading of your original program will show you that the program now runs automatically on loading，and the stop key has been disabled．

```
100
```



```
SG FEM * MEFGES LODGGHITH EEDUEHEE
146 FEM 采 TO EFEIS FFOGEFM.
IEG FEM& I MF OFT FHHT
GGEEM * GOII STAFT THE FET EEFORE$
TG FE| क UGING LOCTEMITH!
```



```
O0
OQ LHE&="
```

$\qquad$

``` ＂＂
```



```
215 S1=240: 5-2100
```



```
ES OFENS,E,S,FL曺+",F,F""
2% IF IS\19 THEH FRIHT"TIT]": IULOGE: GOTOZ2Q
24 51G S1
EE OFEHS,B,5,FL$+",F,F'"
```



```
20 IF IE&)"6" FHII IE&&"1" THEH FRIHT"TIT":GOTO2EG
200 GOE|E405: FO末=LEFT&(FLま,13)+",FU"
```







```
T0 PRINT"HEN FFOUFEMM HFME: E"F口里
80 5'TES2
G0 GLUSES: CLIGEE FRINT"
```

$\qquad$

```
    ELGEES CLGEE:FRINT"
```



```
        IF F:="'T" THENH FUHY
4 0 0 ~ E H I I
4E OFEN15,8,15
4161 IHFUT#15,Fi,F寺:IFF=EUTHEHFETUFH
420 FFIHT"思"H索: DCLOEE: EHII
```



```
FEFI'T'
```


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## Unlock

## By Peter Gabor

This performs the reverse function of Locksmith，in that it removes the machine code routine at the start of the program．Obviously，if you＇re going to using Locksmith on your own programming，keep the rest of the magazine away from those same prying eyes！



```
110 FEM | | NLGEK
2. FEM * 
OG FEM : FEMOUES MO FHET FROM ETGET:
14G FEM 誩 DF EHEIC FROLSRMM
```



```
50
20 FOHE42, 6GG:FOHE4G,G:CLF:LHE$='
```

$\qquad$

``` ＂
```








```
276 IF I2+&"G" FHII I2&人"1" THEN FRIHT"IIT|"[GOTO2EG
275 GOGUE410: A$=RIGHT*(FL悉,3)
```




```
2G6 DFEHE,B,G,I2&+":"+FD&+",F,N"
30G FFIHT"MRTHE NC F'HRT FT THE START OF"
310 FFIIHTLEFT秉(LHE*,LENH(FLまり)
```




```
30% FFINT"NEM FFGGRFMM HFME: E"F口未
800 S'S 2006
OG ELDEES:CLOGEE
406 ErfI
410 IF IEGOG THEN FETINFN
```





```
BEFIT'.
```


## Grapher

## By Steven Darnold

Grapher is a program for any 40 column PET．Its purpose is to plot out a function on the screen using quarter square graphics．The first time you run the program you＇ll be seeing a plot of the function $\operatorname{SIN}(X) 1$ ，as a demonstration，but in future runs the routine in lines 50 to 65 allows
you to plot any function you like．
After seeing the result you have a number of options，which are outlined in lines 9510 to 9560.

A useful program that makes good use of the graphics character set on the PET．


```
EG FETHT",WH&HT FUHOTIOH IN HOL WHHT GRRFHED?
```



```
5% IHFUTAF
```





```
SE FRTHT"M
G TEFFHH&%=STHQ人+1
IOG FGIMT"MHHT IS LFEGEST UHLUE OF & TO EE
11G FRTHT"晤FRPHET"
12G IHPUT%
IZS FRTHT"#
130 '1=0
4Q FOFI=RTONGTEF PI品
1505=F|AGIO
1GO IFSQHTHEMH=THTGS+.O%
1FG HEVT
1SG FOET=ETOST
19 POKESST2O+1.5G
Qब HE%T
```



```
2IQ FOFT=GTO2G
29 FOFESQDG+4日% . 10G
2G HENT
```



```
240 4F=5TF家号
```



```
2-9 POESO-2, 4%
4GG FOFT=1TOTGTEFQ
```



```
4|O TFI=7GTHEHEDOQ
```





```
45G %FABG(4-42)=1G0TOSOQE
1000 H=THT& E%%1+ 5`:TFHYQTHEH110日
101日 TFH= E渒1THEHFOKEKK-4G&H, IG
```






```
12-6 HEST
```




```
2g日 FOKEFK 4Q串,GG :HEYT
3000 H=IUTC.5*'H+5%
300 IFY1)+2HHDY1:5%HTHEN1GOQ
Z0% TH1,GOHNIU1% S=HTHEH1606
SOO TFY14-1THEN HENT
4g0 TF',YQTHENFOKEKK-40%H:12T:NETT
S50 FOKEKK 40.OH 2SE:NE, T
50NG FRTHT"思"安
500 < =THT, 100%
```

```
E270 &2=THT(%10-164%)
5280 <1=8-10% <2-100% %3
5290 IF43YQTHENFOKES37E5,43+48
5 5 0 1 0 ~ I F , 2 \ O O R \% O Q T H E H F O L E S S T E S ~ \% 2 + 4 8 ~
531g POMESETG,42+45
```



```
550 J=0
5507 IFJ=5G日THEUJ=197: GOTO5600
5510 FORI=2G094+TTOSS097+T+LENCA$)
```





```
550 HEKT
554| PEINT"年="月4
5550 G0T06000
```



```
5610 FORI=80094+TTOQ6097+T+LENCAक?
```



```
5620 IFPEEKGI <<2THEHFRIHT"思: : J=T+0,0:GOTOGE10
55, TFPEES I-4GYQQ2THEHPRTHT" "
```



```
500% |EPT
5s40 G0T05540
```



```
551G PRTHT",GESE 1 2 OE & TO INDTCATE YOUR
SSQ PRTHT ORTUT"GELEETIOH FFOH THE LIST GELOM
```







```
9700 पमढ0T0125, 55,50.9909
9095 E4D
RERDY:
```


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## Compulsion

This is based on the popular Simon game and provides a good lesson in memory testing．It works on any PET machine and has some in－ teresting programming techniques within it．

Note for instance the use of sensible variable
names like DELAY（line 740）．Although the PET only acknowledges the first two letters of a variable name，you can still work within that restriction to produce meaningful program listings．

```
10 FFEIHT"rymel"THE&13`"COMFULSIGH"
ZG FRIHTTHEG1S%"
```




```
5G IFF&="けt"THEH+16&
```




```
EG FRIHT"MRF THE HHMEERES-1, z.s4, 5.""
```



```
1EG FRIHT"gREFEFT IT E'T LEING THE KE'T'S"
110 FEIHT"BGOREESFOH[IIHG TO THE FH|HEEFS SHOWH."
```



```
13Q FRIHT"EELIT EHLH SULCESEIVE GO HT THFT LE%EL"
14E FFIHT"县ILL EEODNE MDRE COIFLEN."
```



```
160 [IIMF本く25),EEく25>,S¢25,
```











```
260 IFH车="E"THEHLIELH'=6ET0 GOTTOEG
```



```
286 GOTOこ5E
2G0 [OGUES1E:REN|:LFENW FIOTUFE
```



```
31E FFIHT"FFESG SFHLE EFR," "GQSUETEE
S2Q IFH:`" "THEHEEN
```



```
34E H=1
```







```
4EG IF[IELF'r=2GETHEHIFH=FH|NGこりTHEH42E
41E N=N+1:GOTOSEG
```




```
44E FOF*:=1 TOF|||
```



```
4EE IFFGSSG% THEHESE
```



```
4BG FFIHTF"乎&)"#####
4G0 HENT
SG6 FDFE:=1 TO2E
```




```
ESG FOR's=1TQ5E, NENT
```









```
G1E EOTORZG
```




```
E4E FOFA=1 TG2EG6:FE%T
ESG FEIHTE&:FRINT"[MO YOU WISH TU SEE GOREEST SEQUEMOE""
```



```
GT日 IFH&く殳"'"THENESEt
```






```
PEQ HENT:GGOTGESE
P3G PEIHTE&&PRIHT"JHNGTHER GQ ?" :GUSUETSE
```




```
TEE TFHF="H"THENEHG
79 EOTOF36
```



```
TGE RETIURH
ELE FOFF=1TG15EE :HE%T:FETUFH
```





$\qquad$








## Extra code for Keysort

## Dear Editor，

In your February issue you listed a machine code Keysort program and said it was suitable for Basic 2 or 4 machines．This is partly true but the author did not take account of the different way in which Basic 4 machines store strings at the top of memory， namely，with a 2 byte garbage collection address at the end of each string pointing back to the length of that string as entered in the array table．

Enclosed is some extra cocie and a piece of pat－ ching that will tidy up these pointers at the end of the sort routine．

The original Keysort routine should be loaded and the moniter entered using SYS 4．Type M 74AE 74B5 and overtype the numbers shown to read as in－ dicated in figure 1．Next type M 78017889 and enter the hex code shown in figure 2．The whole block of code should then be saved through the monitor from 7454 to 7889 ．

The Keysort routine must be called by a new ad－ dress of SYS 30721．This new call in turn uses the whole sort program as a sub－routine and returns to the garbage collection routine upon completion．

The extra code has only a slight effect on the timing for the overall sort．

> STEPHEN FELLOWES, Enfield,
> Middlesex.

Figure 1

$$
\begin{array}{llllllll}
\text { Fc: } & i r g & 5 r & \text { oc } & \text { or } & \text { yr } & 5 F \\
\text { b780 } & 6455 & 34 & 33 & 30 & 36 & f 8
\end{array}
$$

Figure 2


## Printing from PET to Epson

David Hornsby

Here's a program that will let you print the contents of your PET screen to an Epson printer, dot for dot as it appears on the screen. You will need an MX-80 or MX-100 with type III ROMs (the ones that give the high resolution 'bit image' printing mode), but remember, if you have an earlier MX-series Epson, type III ROM upgrades can be bought and are worthwhile since they give other advantages as well, such as underlining and super and subscripts. The quality of the image is excellent.

The machine code program presented here is written for the Basic 4 machines but is easily modified for Basic 2. If you make use of the assembly listing, lines 1410 to 1480 give the differences. Some will prefer to enter the machine code direct and so a full monitor listing is also provided with the 12 bytes that need altering for Basic 2 users marked in the margin.

## Reserve a space

To use the program, first reserve a space at the top of RAM memory as described later on, load it from tape or disk, then type SYS 28672. Nothing will appear to happen but a short routine will have been added to the normal interrupt sequence to test for the simultaneous closure of three keys-both SHIFT keys and the ZERO key on the numeric keypad. When all three are pressed, the computer will 'freeze' and the contents of the screen will be printed out at full printer speed.

This may be done while in immediate mode or at any time while a program is running. The three keys chosen are easy to remember and cannot be pressed with one hand, so the chances of accidental activation are small. To tension the paper, the program first sends a line-feed to the printer. Next, 25 screen lines are sent in bit image mode and at the end the printer bell is sounded and the printer re-initialised so that normal printing can follow immediately afterwards.

While printing, pressing the RVS key will end the printing at the end of the current line. This key has been chosen rather than the usual STOP key since it is a non-printing key and avoids the danger of ending a Basic program you might be running. The interrupt routine may be restored to normal by typing SYS 28683: it is probably safest to leave the machine in this condition if you have finished with the screen dump facility.

An alternative method of using the routine is to insert SYS 28719 into a Basic program (or JSR \$702F into a machine code program) at the appropriate point. This has the added advantage of leaving the interrupt routine alone and not 'freezing' the computer during printing. This means, for instance, that the clock will continue undisturbed.

The program is fast. The time for one screen dump is around 46 seconds on an MX-80 and is limited by the printer, not the program. Only 'upper case and graphics mode' is catered for since, although it would be easy enough to include the extra code and look-up table for 'lower case mode', most people can already print upper case and lower case letters to their printer.

Epson characters are much better than CBM screen characters, so this program only caters for what is normally hardest: the graphics.

## Entering the program

The program has been written for a 32 K memory machine. The code is 1288 bytes long and so will fit 8 or 16 k machines readily enough, but you will have to figure out the few changes required.

To enter the monitor listing, first reserve an area of RAM from $\$ 7000$ onwards by entering:

POKE 53,112: POKE 52.0: CLR


PET version of the starship Enterprise

Then enter the machine code monitor with SYS 4. The monitor listing has been made in seven blocks of one screenful each. Type in .M 7000 70B0 to display a screen of bytes. Use the cursor to set these to the values of the first block. Enter the next six blocks in a similar way.

When this is done, save the code on tape with
.S"EPSON DUMP", 01,7000,7508
or on disk with
.S"EPSON DUMP",08,7000,7508.
Next exit from monitor with the .X command and enter the following short program which will check the data you have just entered.

```
100 FOR N = 0 TO 6
110 SUM = 0
120 FOR \(\mathrm{X}=0\) TO 183
130 SUM \(=\operatorname{SUM}+\operatorname{PEEK}\left(28672+184^{*} \mathrm{~N}+\mathrm{X}\right)\)
140 NEXT X
150 ?SUM
160 TTAL = TTAL + SUM :REM TTAL IS
    RUNNING TOTAL
170 NEXT N
180 ?"'TOTAL = "TTAL
```

If all is well this will, when run, give the following results:

24129
19172
12259
10183
8819
10761
12652
TOTAL $=97975$
If the total is incorrect then check each of the preceding seven numbers to see which of the blocks is in error.
When subsequently loading the program from tape or disk, remember to reserve space at the end of RAM for it with the POKES described earlier.

If you hate typing in programs yourself, write to me at 61 Germander Place, Conniburrow, Milton Keynes MK14 7DW and I'll send you a copy-£2 for a tape or $£ 3$ for a disk (4040).

Happy dumping!
1.
$\begin{array}{cllllll}\text { PC } & \text { IRQ } & \text { SR } & \text { AC } & \text { XR } & \text { YR } & \text { SF } \\ \text { B780 } & \text { E455 } & 32 & 38 & 2 C & 34 & F S\end{array}$
BASIC 2
700078 A9 168590 A9 7685 $7008 \quad 91586678$ A9 (55) 8590 7016 A9(E4) 859158 60 78 A9 7013 08 8D 10 E8 AD 12 ES A 2 7020 E9 日E 16 E8 C9 9E D0 03 $7028 \quad 202 F 76584 C(55$ E4 A9
 7038 D2 85 D4 20 (63)F5 A6 D2 764020 C9 FF 20 (34 D5 A9 1B 704820 D2 FF A9 3320 D2 FF 7050 A9 1826 D2 FF A9 6085 705861 A9 808502 A9 0885 7060 C9 A9 7185 CA A9 1985 7068 4F A2 00 A9 1B 20 D2 FF 7670 A9 4B 20 D2 FF A9 4020 7078 D2 FF A9 4120 D2 FF BA 7086 A8 B1 $6185 \quad$ C7 A9 7F C5 708 C7 B6 0D A9 FF 85 A2 A9 7690 7F 25 C7 $85 \quad$ C7 4C 9C 70 7678 A9 0085 A2 A9 6085 CB

 $70 \mathrm{E} 0 \mathrm{C} 985 \mathrm{C} 79002 \mathrm{E} 6 \mathrm{C8} 18$
2.


70 BB AS CB 65 CA 85 CB A0 60 70 C 0 B 1 C 745 A 220 D 2 FF CB $70 C 898$ C9 OB DO F3 ES BA C9 $70 \mathrm{D} 028 \mathrm{DO} A C \mathrm{AD} 12 \mathrm{~EB}$ C9 FE 70D8 F0 1520 34 D5 18 A5 01 70E0 $6928 \quad 85 \quad 91 \quad 9002$ E6 02 $70 E 8$ C6 4F FQ 03 4C 6970 A9 $70 F 8$ FF A9 4026 D2 FF 20 (34 D $D$ $\begin{array}{llllllllllll}7168 & 00 & 38 & 34 & 92 & \text { AA } & 7200\end{array}$ 711000 JE 50969050 JE 00 71180082 FE 929292 6C 90 $\begin{array}{llllllllll}7120 & 00 & 38 & 44 & 82 & 82 & 82 & 44 & 60\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{llllllllllll}7128 & 00 & 82 & \text { FE } & 82 & 82 & 44 & 38 & 60\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{lllllllllll}7130 & 00 & \text { FE } 929292828290\end{array}$ 713860 FE 909690808090 $\begin{array}{llllllll}7140 & 00 & 38 & 44 & 82 & 92 & 92 & 5 C\end{array} 00$ $\begin{array}{llllll}7148 & 60 & \mathrm{FE} & 16 & 10 & 10 \\ 710 & \mathrm{FE} & 60\end{array}$ 715000000082 FE 826000 71580064020282 FC 8600 $\begin{array}{llllllll}7160 & 06 & \text { FE } & 10 & 10 & 28 & 44 & 日 2\end{array} 00$ 716800 FE 020202020269

```
    2E
    E6
    2E E6
    2 4
    D\varnothing FD
```

    \(D \varnothing F D\)
    \(F D A C\)
    
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| :--- | :--- |
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| :--- | :--- |
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717000 FE 40303040 FE 90 717800 FE 402010 0日 FE 90 $\begin{array}{llllllllll}7180 & 60 & 38 & 44 & 82 & 82 & 44 & 38 & 00\end{array}$ 718860 FE 909090906060 $7140603844 \quad 828 A \quad 44$ 3A 60
 $71 A 9 \quad 006064 \quad 9292924 \mathrm{C} 00$ 71 AB 90608080 FE 808060 71 B 900 FC 02020262 FC 96 718860 EO 18 OG 06 18 EO 00 $71 C 066 \mathrm{FE} 64 \quad 181864 \mathrm{FE} 90$ $71 C 8 \quad 00$ CG $2 日 1010 \quad 2 日$ CG 60 71006090 EO 10 1E 10 EO 00 71 DB 60 86 日A $92 \quad 92$ A2 C2 00 $\begin{array}{llllllllllllll}71 E 0 & 60 & 60 & F E & 82 & 82 & 82 & 60 & 60\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{llllllll}71 E 8 & 00 & 40 & 20 & 10 & 08 & 04 & 02 \\ 7100\end{array}$ $71 F 00060 \quad 82 \quad 82 \quad \mathrm{~B} 2 \mathrm{FE} 9000$ 71F日 $0060010 \quad 20 \quad 7 F \quad 201000$ 72000068 IC 2A 08989898 72080960906060000060 721000600000 F 2000000 721B 0000 EO 0600 EO 0000 72206028 FE 2828 FE 2860
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$722800 \quad 00 \quad 54$ FE 544800 $\begin{array}{lllllllll}7230 & 60 & 62 & 64 & 08 & 10 & 26 & 46 & 60\end{array}$ 723800 6C 9292 6A 94 6A 00 72400000602040800000 $\begin{array}{llllllllllll}7248 & 60 & 00 & 06 & 38 & 44 & 82 & 00 & 60\end{array}$ $72500000824438 \quad 000000$ 7258006054 38 FE 385460 $\begin{array}{llllllllll}7260 & 00 & 60 & 10 & 10 & 7 C & 10 & 10 & 00\end{array}$ 72680000060106000000 $\begin{array}{llllllll}7270 & 00 & 00 & 10 & 10 & 10 & 10 & 10\end{array} 00$ 72780000006606000000 $728906 \quad 02040910 \quad 204000$ $\begin{array}{lllllllllllll}7288 & 90 & 7 C & B A & 92 & 92 & 7 C & 00\end{array}$ 729000002242 FE 020260 72980046 BA BA 92926200 $\begin{array}{llllllllllll}72 \mathrm{AO} & 00 & 44 & 82 & 92 & 92 & 92 & 6 C & 60\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{llllllllllllll}72 A B & 00 & 68 & 18 & 28 & 48 & \text { FE } & 68 & 00\end{array}$ 72 BO 06 E 4 A 2 A 2 A 294 BB 00 $72 B 89690$ 3C 529292 OC 90 $72 C 000 \mathrm{CO} 80 \mathrm{AE} 90 \mathrm{AO} \mathrm{C} 日 60$ $72 C 8696 C 92929292 \quad 6 C \quad 00$ $72 D 06086929292947890$ 72080000000024000606

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73980202026262020202 $73 A 00070$ FB FC $7 E$ FC F8 70 73AB 00 FF 000090600090 $73 B 00000000003040808$ $\begin{array}{lllllllll}73 B 8 & 81 & 42 & 24 & 18 & 18 & 24 & 42 & 81\end{array}$ $73 C 000$ उС 42424242 3C 90 $\begin{array}{lllllllll}73 C 8 & 00 & 10 & 38 & 50 & E F & 56 & 38 & 16\end{array}$ 73D0 000000000006 FF 00 73D8 $0010 \quad 38$ 7C FE 7C 3810 73E0 08 0日 0808 FF 0日 0898 73E日 AA 55 AA 5500600060 73F0 00000000 FF 000060 $\begin{array}{lllllllll}73 F 8 & 00 & 68 & 10 & 1 E & 10 & 1 E & 10 & 20\end{array}$ $740080 \mathrm{CQ} E O$ FO FB FC FE FF 74080000000090000690 7410 FF FF FF FF 00000000 7418 OF OF OF OF GF OF OF OF 74208080808080808080 74280101010101010101 7430 FF 00000000000000 7438 AA 55 AA 55 AA 55 AA 55 744000000000000000 FF 7449 OA 65 OA 65 OA OS OA O5


PET version of the world


## 7.

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { FF } \\ & 00 \end{aligned}$ | FE | FC | FB | Fo | E0 | Co |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 崖 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 60 | FF | 08 | - |  |
| 468 | 06 | 96 | 00 | 60 | OF | 6F |  |  |
| 76 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 60 | F8 | 08 |  |  |
| 7476 | 6 B | 68 | 08 | 08 | OF | 06 |  |  |
| 86 | 03 | Q3 | 03 | 03 | 03 | 03 |  |  |
| 488 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | OF | 08 | 08 |  |
| 96 | 68 | 68 | 68 | 68 | F8 | 08 |  |  |
| 7498 | 08 | 68 | 08 | 08 | OF | 88 |  |  |
| A 6 | 08 | 68 | 68 | 08 | FF | O |  |  |
| AB | FF | FF | 00 | 00 | 00 | 60 |  |  |
| $74 \mathrm{B6}$ | FF | FF | FF | Q0 | 00 | 66 |  |  |
| 74B8 | 06 | 90 | 60 | 90 | 00 | FF |  |  |
| 44C0 | CO | C0 | Co | ce | C6 | C6 |  |  |
| C8 | EO | EO | E9 | E6 | EO | Ee |  |  |
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| 74F8 | FO | Fg | Fg | Fo | 00 | 60 |  |  |
| 560 | Fo | F | Fo | Fo |  |  |  |  |

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[^0]:    Area: Cleaning products.
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[^1]:    Pagewriter is most useful for short reports containing many rows of figures which need aligning. The manual formatting features are easy to use and layout may be planned at the keyboard.

[^2]:    Robert Moscrop, director of Computotech Ltd, is a widely experienced systems analyst and designer. Since 1978 he has been developing training systems for the Manpower Services Commission and working as a consultant.

[^3]:    Quackers

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