

**Keyboard**

The full-size keyboard uses 62 keys to provide four complete character sets, and allows the use of up to eight programmed functions from the dedicated keys on the right-hand side

CHRIS STEVENS

**Cartridge Slot**

This slot will accept ROM software cartridges or memory expansion boards

**Power Socket**

The external power supply plugs in at this point

**On/Off Switch****Games Port**

Light pens, joysticks or paddles can be connected at this point

**Audio/Video Socket**

An external RF modulator plugs in at this point

**Microprocessor**

The Vic-20 uses the well-tryed and extremely popular MOS Technology 6502 microprocessor

**Serial Port**

Most of the Vic's peripherals, the printer and disk drive for instance, are driven from this purpose-designed port, which, unlike most serial interfaces, can address more than one peripheral device at once

**Read-Only Memories (ROM)**

These chips contain BASIC, the character set, and the other pieces of information needed to interpret and run programs

## COMMODORE VIC-20

**PRICE**

£149.95 inc. cassette deck

**SIZE**

404 × 216 × 75mm

**WEIGHT**

1,820g

**CLOCK SPEED**

1 MHz

**MEMORY**

The machine comes, as standard, with 5K of memory, expandable to 32K by means of one 3K, one 8K and one 16K adaptor

**VIDEO DISPLAY**

23 rows of 22 characters. High resolution graphics allows 184 × 176 pixels. A maximum of 16 colours are available

**INTERFACES**

Two serial ports, audio/video connector, cassette port, cartridge slot, games port

**LANGUAGES SUPPLIED**

BASIC

**OTHER LANGUAGES AVAILABLE**

Assembler and additional BASIC commands

**COMES WITH**

Power supply, aerial lead, manual

**KEYBOARD**

Full size typewriter-style keyboard with 62 keys and four dedicated function keys

**DOCUMENTATION**

One of the areas in which CBM falls down badly is in documentation for its home computers. Business systems like the 8032 come with a copy of Adam Osborne's excellent 'Guide To CBM Computing', but Vic owners are relegated to a much more mundane level. While simply written, and therefore easy to understand, the users' manual barely skims the surface of the machine's capabilities. Happily, there are a large number of alternative publications available