

# Home

An Argus Specialist Publication

# Computing WEEKLY

40p

**FREE**  
competition  
More than 300  
prizes from  
**CRL**  
are waiting  
to be won

**Software**  
reviews for:  
Spectrum, BBC,  
Commodore 64,  
Dragon, Sord M5,  
VIC-20, Texas

**Spectrum:**  
three great  
games to  
type in

**BBC listing:**  
can you  
escape from  
danger island?

**Our Dragon**  
program puts  
you in command  
of a nuclear sub

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J.S. Scene, news,  
One Man's View,  
your letters

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and listings**

**No. 59**  
**April 24-30, 1984**



## Crime by numbers

Computer crime has hit Micronet 800, but the Prestel-based network is taking action to step the thefts.

Commercial software, downloaded from the system and paid for by legitimate subscribers, has been stolen by people who have used Micronet's exhibition and demonstration identities.

Now Micronet editor David Babsky has renewed his appeal to his 8,500 subscribers: "Do not let anyone know your identity number or your password."

Micronet, and sometimes other companies, uses special 10-digit identity numbers along with alterable four-character passwords to demonstrate the system at exhibitions.

Some visitors have been  
*Continued on page 5*

## Pirates on the air

Software pirates have taken to the airwaves — and lawyers have been brought in to stop them.

A&F, the Lancashire-based software house, has tapes of hours of broadcasts by radio hams exchanging software.

Managing director Mike Fitzgerald said one ham broadcast a program which turned out to be a list of 416 commercial programs from big-name companies.

Each program had a number, so a ham would place an "order" and have the program transmitted to him.

Mr Fitzgerald said A&F found out through a tip-off by a radio ham with an interest in software and commented: "We were amazed and horrified."

Now the company has two monitoring stations, one in its offices and one in Barnsley, plus a mobile receiver.

And to prove to themselves that broadcast software worked, A&F staff loaded and ran several. They included their own programs and several from other companies.

Mr Fitzgerald said: "We have concrete evidence and we have instructed our solicitors to approach certain people."

"Initially we are after undertakings from the serious offenders to stop doing it and we want details of those they are sending it to. They are stealing our software."

*Continued on page 5*



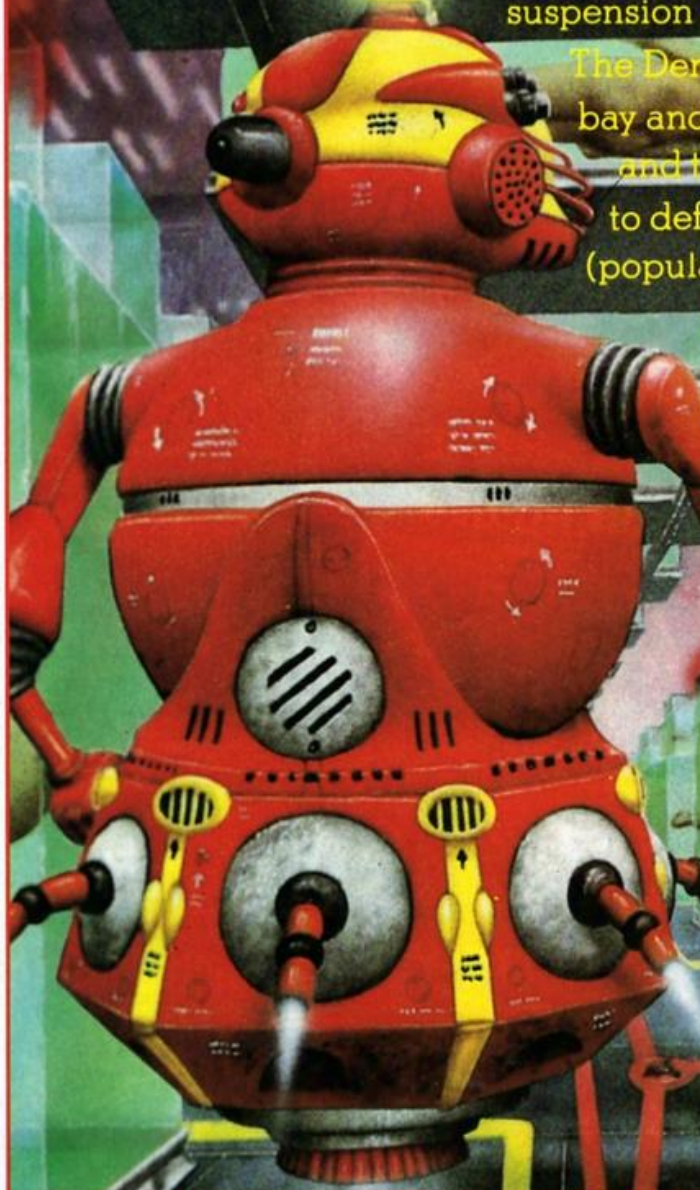
THE NAME IN VIDEO GAMES

# Visions

## DEMOLATOR

Following the Thousand year war with the Alien Demolators the last remnants of the human race are being transported across the galaxy in cryogenic suspension aboard the B.S. Quinn (Battle Star).

The Demolators however have invaded the cargo bay and it is your job to destroy the Demolators and to protect the human cargo. All you have to defend Humanity with is Xeno (popularly named "the Phobe") the ultimate Robot. You can control his movements on two planes and fire an ultrasonic Cannon to defend humanity with.



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# Home Computing WEEKLY

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HOME COMPUTING WEEKLY  
BRITAIN'S BRIGHTEST



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S

FIVE MILLION BARBARIANS  
AN ARMY OR TWO OF PERSIANS  
SEVERAL THOUSAND UPSET ARMENIANS  
FIFTY LEGIONS OF ITINERANT ITALIANS  
.....AND YOU!

MEANS

THE  
FALL OF  
ROME

.....UNLESS YOU KNOW BETTER

A great new graphic game for Atari, BBC, Spectrum and Commodore 64  
ON IT'S WAY TO YOUR SHOPS MAY 1ST



ASP

ASP SOFTWARE

A member of the Argus Press Software Group  
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## Crime by numbers

From front page

memorising the numbers and — in the short period before they are changed — using them to download software.

And one reliable source said the thefts had gone further, with a confidence trick played on genuine Micronet subscribers.

The source said the thieves had been leaving messages for subscribers, purportedly from Micronet, saying there was a problem with their numbers and could they log them onto the exhibitions or demonstrations mailbox numbers.

Then they inspect the mailboxes, take the numbers and use them to get more software. To make matters worse, says the source, they change the passwords, locking out the genuine subscribers.

Mr Babsky acknowledged that the first method had been used but had no knowledge of the second.

He said: "We acknowledge that it's just something that happens if people are careless. It's one of the facts of life."

"When I'm at exhibitions I'm very careful. Other people give demonstrations on our behalf and we expect them to be as careful as we are."

He said the maximum period during which these special numbers could be used was one day, as they were changed at the end of each exhibition day.

He said: "Everyone who joins Micronet gets a number from Prestel and they are told not to divulge it to anyone at all. If they have that's something of their own doing. They must not do it under any circumstances."

"We at Micronet have no reason to want their 10-digit number or their password and we will not ask for it under any circumstances. The only number we need is the Mailbox number so that messages can be left."

If subscribers mislaid their numbers, Prestel would treat it in the same way as a lost credit card. It would be sent to the subscriber's address in sealed envelope.

Asked about genuine subscribers' numbers being illicitly used, he said: "It is possible." *Micronet 800, Telemap, Scriptor Ct, 155 Farringdon Rd, London EC1R 3AD*

## WP for the VIC-20

New word processing programs are now available for the VIC-20 with at least 8K expansion. Atlantic Software has brought out the TOTL range, available on tape and disc and costing from £11.95 to £19.95.

The range can be used not only

with Commodore printers, but also with other parallel and RS-232 printers. Programs are also available for the VIC-20 with 16K, providing advanced functions such as merge and labels.

*Atlantic Software, 18b Thorpe Road, Kingston, Surrey KT2 5EU*

## Light up a buggy

Northern Computers has launched a Micropulse buggy for use on the BBC computer in conjunction with its Micropulse Young Trainer.

The buggy costs £29 and comes with two light dependent resistors which you can program to follow a torchlight. A micro-switch is incorporated so that the buggy does not collide with stationary objects.

Also included is an accessories kit; together with the Micropulse Young Trainer, a robotic device which can simulate traffic lights. This forms part of a teaching course suitable for secondary school pupils.

*Northern Computers, Churchfield Road, Frodsham, Cheshire WA6 6RD.*

## All change for Oric

If you have found that your Tansoft Oric tapes are not compatible with the new Atmos, you can now exchange them at a cost of £3.

Munch, Base, Forth, Mon, CAD, Zodiac and House of Death are the titles affected; this offer does not apply to Oric Flight or Multigames 1 and 2, as new versions are not being produced.

Send a cheque/postal order for £3 per tape to cover handling to: *Tansoft, Units 1 & 2, Techno Park, Newmarket Road, Cambridge.*

## Pirates on the air

From front page

On pricing of commercial software, Mr Fitzgerald said: "If they feel a program is over-priced they should leave it. I don't walk into Tesco, think an item is over-priced and then walk out with it. That's a direct parallel."

"A lot of genuine radio hams have been ringing us up because they think it's annoying having the radio waves taken over."

He stressed that only a small percentage of radio hams were involved and that it was perfectly legal for them to transmit programs they had written themselves.

A&F's technical director Martin Hickling reported on the company's four weeks of monitoring to the annual meeting of the Guild of Software Houses.

GOSH secretary Mike Johnston said: "Our members were

horrified, as you can understand. What we are good at in this country is ideas, which everyone has been ripping off, from jet engines and all the way down the line. Software could generate a lot of wealth for the country."

A three-man group has been set up by GOSH to report back on practical ways of tackling piracy. The members are Nick Alexander, of Virgin, who is also GOSH chairman, Rod Cousins of Quicksilver, who is vice-chairman, and Rod Evans, of New Generation.

David Evans, general manager of the 36,000-member Radio Society of Great Britain, said: "We don't have any knowledge of any of our members being involved. We are not a law enforcement organisation, but we will be putting a message in our magazine that this is an infringement of copyright."

"My own feeling is that the people who are involved probably do not appreciate the copyright laws. It has probably been done in ignorance rather than a malicious act. After all, there are many other ways of doing this without using the public amateur bands."

● Through Home Computing Weekly, Mr Johnston is appealing for readers who have evidence of piracy to contact him.

● A&F has just launched its first program using copy protection devised by JLC Data, another version of which was placed on the secret list by Whitehall. Mr Fitzgerald said: "We are confident it will reduce piracy by 99.9 per cent."

The program is for the BBC and is called Haunted Abbey. It is priced at £6.90, £1 less than usual, because of the greater potential sales if copyright is impossible, said Mr Fitzgerald. In about a week it would be available for the Commodore 64 and all future A&F software would be protected in the same way.

*A&F, Unit 8, Canalside Industrial Estate, Woodwine St, Rochdale, Lancs OL16 5LB  
Guild of Software Houses, 79 Park Lane, Tottenham, London N17 0HG*

## Briefly

The Midland Computer Fair will be held from May 4-7, 1984, at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. Over 16,000 attended last year's exhibition and more are expected this year as the show is over a Bank Holiday weekend.

*Midland Computer Fair, Reed Exhibitions, Surrey House, 1 Throwley Way, Sutton, Surrey SM1 4QQ.*

An association between five software houses — IJK, Joe and

Lion, PSS, Severn Software and Arcadia — has been formed with the aim of promoting Oric and Atmos software.

*The Association of Oric Software Houses, c/o 18 Harrow View, Harrow, Middlesex*

The Sinclair QL Companion, by Boris Allan, has been published by Pitman at £6.95.

*Pitman Publishing, 128 Long Acre, London WC2E 9AN*

Bubble Bus has released an updated version of Word Wizard, its Commodore 64 word processing program, to run in conjunction with the Commodore 1520 printer/plotter. It can be set for 80 or 40 columns and supports most Commodore and Epson printers. Price: £6.99.

*Bubble Bus, 87, High Street, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1RX*

Atari has launched its biggest ever cartridge promotion with Phoenix, Galaxian, Battlezone and Ms Pac Man retailing at £9.99, a saving of up to £15. Cartridges for the Atari XL and VCS will fall into three price brackets — £29.99, £24.99 or £19.99.

*Atari, Atari House, Railway Terrace, Slough, Berks SL2 5BZ.*

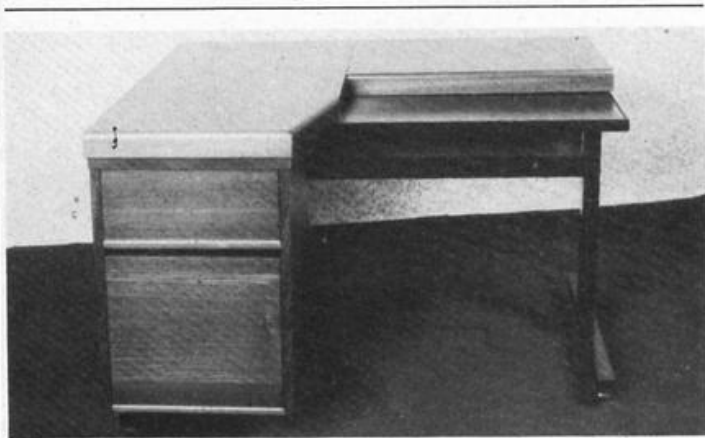
New from Mirrorsoft are two learning games on one cassette: Old Macdonald's Farm and Sort, for the 48K Spectrum. Old Macdonald's Farm is for children aged three to seven, while Sort is for six years and upwards. It costs £7.95 and Commodore 64 and BBC B versions are being prepared. Also from Mirrorsoft: Go-Sprite for the Commodore 64 (£9.95), and Count with Oliver for the 48K Spectrum (£7.95).

*Mirrorsoft, Holborn Circus, London EC1P 1DQ*

Beta-Base, a disc-based database for the BBC micro, allows 200 fields, each of up to 254 bytes, and more than 2,000 records, according to Clares Micro Supplies. Up to five fields can be searched and up to three sorted at once and a file of 500 records can be sorted in about 60 seconds. Price: £25 with manual and demonstration program.

*Clares Micro Supplies, 98 Middlewich Rd, Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 7DS*





PDF has added thick top workstations to its range of furniture. The thick top (50 mm instead of the normal 30 mm) increases the height between keyboard well and worktop. The keyboard well is narrow, only 250 mm deep, and the unit is finished in veneered teak and African walnut.

*Planned Data Furniture, Unit 8A, Vaughan Industrial Estate, Manchester M12 5DU*

Valhalla, the best-selling adventure from Legend, will be available for the Commodore 64 in May at £14.95. Although identical to the Spectrum version, claimed to have sold £2m-worth, Legend's managing director John Peel said the new version would have more lifelike backgrounds and smoother, flicker-free animation.

## Are you a winner?

The solution to our Phoenix Software spot the difference competition:

- hatband, stripe missing
- bullets missing from belt
- bullet omitted bottom left
- tuft of grass changed
- part of path of bullet missing
- letter L omitted from wanted poster
- part of child's dummy missing
- mountain range altered at right
- hinge on pram hood different
- spokes missing from pram wheel

Winners of two twin-packs of software worth £9.99 each:

K Brooke, West Yorks; Geoffrey Baldock, Maidstone; Mike Long, St Johns Hill; M Joyner, Nuneaton; William J Fox, Derbys; Thomas P Kilroy, Ireland; Mr S Webster, Cambs; Keith Blackwell, Romford; G N Lacey, Kent; Damian Hargreaves, S Wales; D J Wilson, Hants; J Newman, Ryde; Ian Bowell, Dublin; Svend Sorensen, Denmark; M Javed, Surrey; David Caulfield, Pennington; R D Bamford, Mansfield; S Phillimore, Halifax; M C Newhouse, Croston; F V Harrison, BPO 45; Jason Taylor, Coventry; C Gouch, Manchester; D Shaw, Argyshire; Mr H Collings, Aldershot; Simon Whitting, Norfolk; Mark Maynes, Burton-on-Trent; Mr D Russell, Warminster; Graham Furniss, Chesterfield; P J Gunn, Harlow; E Edginton, Frome; Mark Kent, Lincs; Tim Prince, Cumbria; Andrew Doyle, Huddersfield; Mark Morrison, Tyne & Wear; Clayton Thompson, Newark; William Rennie, Aberdeenshire; R C Coppock, Nottwich; J J Hartopp, Nuneaton; Ian Mansfield, Windsor; J A Robson, Leigh-on-Sea.

*Legend, P.O. Box 435, London E4 7LX*

Cubsoft, a new Lynx software house, has launched CBS-Forth for the Lynx at £19.95 with five free utility programs. CBS-Forth is for the 48K or 96K Lynx and, says Cubsoft, offers twice as much useable memory as its nearest 96K competitor, is the only version for the 48K model and has its own unique three-command editor.

*Cubsoft, 6 Okeover Rd, Salford M7 0JX*

## ZX Lprint does more

A new version of the ZX Lprint interface for the Spectrum works with a wider range of printers and offers both RS232 and Centronics outputs.

Euroelectronics says the COPY command can be executed from the keyboard or from BASIC and that no extra software is needed to send a high-resolution screen picture to a number of printers.

Routines are built in for printer models from Seikosha, Epson, Star, Walters, Shinwa and CTI. Full colour screen COPY can be made on the Seikosha GP700.

Euroelectronics says these will produce user-defined graphics and Spectrum block graphics in text or a program listing. On other printers a routine scans the display and prints alphanumeric characters, allowing daisywheels to be used.

Soon to be added are routines for printing in hi-res full colour on the MCP 40 and Tandy CGP 115. Other printers to be added shortly include the Microline 80 and 82.

Prestel pages can be printed and baud rates under RS232 can be varied between 75 and 9600.

ZX Lprint costs £34.95; Centronics and RS232 cables are £9.95 each.

*Euroelectronics, 26 Clarence Sq, Cheltenham, Glos GL50 2UJ*

# Computers don't think

*The question of artificial intelligence, or whether an inanimate machine such as a computer can be said to possess intelligence or not, is an important and interesting one. Or at least it would be were there to be found any arguments in its favour which could be taken seriously.*

*It is an endearing, if irrational, weakness of people to ascribe human characteristics to objects such as motor cars, ships, and so on, and one which perhaps serves to compensate for unconscious fears of isolation and insecurity in occupying our unique position in the animal kingdom. This idiosyncrasy can be expressed most readily toward computers because such artifacts can be made to give the appearance of simulating consciousness quite convincingly. Even apparently anti-A.T. writers fall easily into the trap of anthropomorphism. How often I've read the words: "... computers are really quite stupid."*

*Of course, even stupidity presupposes some degree of intelligence, and can be no more ascribed to a computer than to, say, a milk bottle or a carpet tack.*

*The confusion is not eased by the unfortunate choice of terms used in computer jargon, such as "electronic brain", "memory", etc. This latter is an especially bad one as computer "memory" in no way resembles true memory, but is closer in function to an abacus, albeit an electronic one.*

*The foremost reason for the popular belief that computers are potentially capable of thought must be that, whereas most tools have been designed to assist with primarily physical tasks, such as removing nails and opening tin cans, computers on the other hand help to perform mental tasks like arithmetic. Because the computer appears to be more efficient at logical processes, and logic being a property of mind (though by no means its most sublime attribute), it is tempting for some to infer that the hardware and program in combination are exhibiting intelligence. This is no more true, however, than saying an abacus thinks when you move its beads.*

*The belief that computers resemble minds is no more than a harmless fad. The real danger lies in the obverse assumption that minds are really no more than very sophisticated computers. Ludicrous as this notion may seem to all but the most hopeless materialist today, future generations could nevertheless fall victim to such a delusion, if only by the natural contrariness of the young, which always delights in opposing or shocking the beliefs of the previous generation. But such a conviction would contribute more than any other single factor in lowering the quality of life.*

*An individual so convinced will deny himself access to the limitless creative potential of his mind, dull his imagination and appreciation of the more subtle and loftier realms of human experience; in short, become a computer.*

**P.J. Willcox**  
Cardiff

• This space is for you to sound off about the micro scene, to present bouquets, to hurl brickbats, or just to share your opinions or experiences. Contributions from individuals earn a fee. Send your views to Paul Liptrot, Editor, Home Computing Weekly, No.1 Golden Square, London W1R 3AB



# Over 300 games from



must be  
won in our  
**FREE**  
competition



**Your mission: to rescue the imprisoned princess. There's nearly £2,000-worth of games of Rescue — CRL's Spectrum mind-stretcher — waiting to be sent to the winners of this week's wordsquare competition**

There's a princess waiting to be rescued — if you're one of the 300-plus winners in this week's great wordsquare competition.

We've got nearly £2,000-worth of tapes from CRL to give away. That's a total of 333 winners of Rescue, a classic adventure for the 48K Spectrum.

Written by army captain Derek Baker, author of CRL's best seller Test Match, Rescue gives you the rôle of a secret agent.

Your first challenge is to find the castle in which the princess is held prisoner. Once inside there are several rooms to search, each one a different game in itself.

Problems don't end when you have reached the fair maiden — now you have to get away, while being chased by armed patrols.

Rescue, a game of strategy and tactics, has both text and graphics and keeps many players occupied for days.

CRL's managing director, Clement Chambers, admitted he had to cheat and said: "It would have taken me at least four hours at the lowest level — and that's the record for this game."

Our prizes are for the 48K Spectrum, and would cost £5.95 in the shops, but Rescue is now out also for the Oric and the Commodore 64.

The original took Derek Baker four months to write because of its complexity. And the conversions are said by CRL to be just as mind-stretching.

## How to enter

Examine the wordsquare and mark all the CRL titles you can find with a ball-point or semi-opaque felt-tip pen. Complete the coupon fully and clearly — if you are a winner it will be used as a label — and send the wordsquare and coupon to us.

You may enter as many times as you wish provided each is on the official wordsquare and coupon and in a separate envelope. Please do not enclose anything else.

**Important:** you must write on the back of your envelope the number of titles you found.

The titles in the wordsquare are all drawn from this list of CRL software:

Orpheus	Fifth
Rescue	Zaraks
Stargazer Secrets	Glug Glug
Test Match	High Resolution
Pandemonia	Handicap Golf
The Great	Omega Run
Detective	Incredible
Woods of Winter	Adventure
Grand National	Olympics
Jackpot	Draughts
Derby Day	Crawler

All except High Resolution (ZX81) are for the Spectrum and

some are also available for other computers: Test Match (BBC), Glug Glug, Omega Run and Derby Day (Commodore 64), Zaraks (ZX81) and Handicap Golf (Dragon).

Send your entry to CRL Competition, Home Computing Weekly, No.1 Golden Square, London W1 3AB.

Closing date is first post on May 11, 1984. Senders of the first 333 correct entries we open after that date will win the prizes. They will arrive from CRL within 28 days, or earlier, of the results appearing in Home Computing Weekly.

## The rules

Entries will not be accepted from employees of Argus Specialist Publications, CRL and Alabaster Passmore & Sons. This restriction also applies to employees' families and agents of the companies. The rules include the guidance in the How to Enter section. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

## CRL Competition

### Entry Coupon

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ post code \_\_\_\_\_

Number of differences found \_\_\_\_\_

Complete clearly and fully — if you are a prizewinner this will act as a label. Post to CRL Competition, Home Computing Weekly, No.1 Golden Square, London W1R 3AB. Closing date: first post on May 11, 1984. Follow carefully the advice in the How to Enter section, including writing the number of titles you found on the back of the envelope.

S A D M I L Z U S H G S T G F Z  
O T D C J L R T K E P R D S O O  
N P A N D E M O N I A J F Y L Y  
W M D R E S C U E D V I C D Y E  
B C E G G Q X H K U H F Y Z M J  
R S R P L A E T R P Q N J O P W  
V B B E U Z Z A R A K S B M I Z  
O U Y A G Y Y E A U G E X C C O  
N O D L G E T D R A U G H T S E  
C R A W L E R X M S D A C L A S  
P O Y M U N K W C L E B W P X H  
O A N J G U F I V J A C K P O T  
U T F I F T H O M E G A R U N I  
X W S B K G R V A W Z J V E C Y  
V G B F H H L K M K O T X B T T  
T E S T M A T C H O R P H E U S



# Find befo

We all face a  
watery doom  
unless you  
destroy the  
menace ticking away  
on the  
seabed

Taken from Hot  
Programs to  
Feed Your  
Dragon and  
Tandy Colour  
Computer

## Variables

<b>CS,SN</b> arrays used to store pre-calculated cosine and sine values	marine
<b>V</b> array of 3D object vertices	<b>AN</b> angle used in calculation of sine and cosine arrays
<b>E</b> array of 3D object edges	<b>NV,NE</b> number of vertices and number of edges in the 3D object
<b>A,B,C,D</b> blank arrays for screen erasure	<b>DP,DH</b> changes in pitch and heading
<b>NOS</b> strings for graphics numerals	<b>VL</b> submarine's velocity
<b>Q</b> array used to erase timer in TV mode	<b>VX,VY,VZ</b> velocity components in three dimensions
<b>AM,BM,DM</b> variables used to obtain 3D image	<b>AX,AY</b> components of object-sub distance in X,Y plane
<b>EM,FM,GM,HM,IM,U,U1,V,V1</b> used to plot each edge of 3D object	<b>RO</b> radial distance of object from sub
<b>UM,TS,US</b> three digit timer value, units of mins, tens of secs, units of secs	<b>B</b> used to read button settings
<b>SX,SY</b> X,Y, position of dot on sonar screen	<b>CF</b> flag to denote screen cleared
<b>D</b> distance of viewer from TV screen	<b>EW</b> flag to denote end of world has come
<b>FL</b> flag used to change from sonar to TV display screen	<b>EA</b> current edge value in 3D projection
<b>XO,YO,ZO</b> object coordinates	<b>X,Y,Z</b> coordinates of object relative to sub
<b>XS,YS,ZS</b> submarine coordinates	<b>X3,Y3,Z3</b> transformed coordinates
<b>P,H</b> pitch and heading of sub-	<b>MU,MV,MP</b> used to check for hit when firing
	<b>DX,DY</b>
	<b>HT</b> flag to signal object hit

by Peter Robinson,  
Mark Smith and  
Neil Blacow, published  
by Sigma  
Technical Press

As commander of a nuclear submarine you are told that a device has been placed on the seabed near a fault in the earth's crust.

Should this device explode the result will be an earthquake of sufficient magnitude that a giant tidal wave will engulf all continents and their inhabitants will perish.

Of course, you and the rest of your crew would also perish due to the hull of your submarine being crushed in the blast. Hence there is some incentive for you to try to prevent this slight messy situation from occurring.

How then can you find and destroy this menace? Easy. You have two aids to underwater vision. One is the 360 degree sonar scan. This is the display which presents itself when the game starts.

Submariners may skip this explanation and go onto the next section. The sonar sweeps around the hull of the sub sending out sound pulses and listening for echoes. Targets are displayed on the TV screen in such a way that the arrow head on the display points in the direction of travel of the sub. Thus an object on the left appears on the left of the screen.

If you spin the sub round the dot corresponding to an object would travel round a circular path in the opposite direction to your spin direction.

Horizontal movement of the right hand joystick will cause the sub to spin on its axis, i.e. this stick controls the submarine's heading. Run the program, select the easiest level, make sure the left hand stick is pulled as far back in the vertical plane as it will go, and try moving the right hand stick horizontally.

You will see that the dot (which is the object to be located and destroyed) will appear to move in a circle about the centre of the screen. It is not

## How it works

- 10 reserve graphics screen memory and clear screen
- 20-30 DIMension arrays, initialise variables
- 40 set graphics mode, clear graphics screen
- 50 set up strings for drawing numbers for timer
- 60 set timer value and initialise time to 10secs
- 70 draw time in top right of screen
- 80 set variables SX and SY to a clear part of screen, set viewer distance (D) to 75 units, set flag (FL) to select sonar display on entry
- 90-220 set up the sonar display in screen 1
- 230-340 draw the status displays for sonar screen
- 350 ask user to set level of difficulty
- 360-370 initialise object's X,Y,Z position
- 380-390 initialise sub's X,Y,Z position
- 400-410 set initial pitch and heading to zero
- 420-530 generate look up tables for sines and cosines
- 540-650 read in data to form 3D picture of bomb
- 660-720 sample joysticks, compute new values for pitch, heading and speed
- 730-760 form new X,Y and Z components of velocity
- 770-800 calculate new sub position using new velocities

really the object that is moving, but the fact that your sub is spinning about its axis. At the same time a beeping sound will indicate that the object has been located by your scanners.

While spinning round, watch the dials at the bottom of the screen. The leftmost dial shows the heading of the submarine relative to the points of the compass (North at the top). This dial will rotate as your heading changes.

To move nearer to the object, use the heading control to bring the dot back to the dead ahead position (i.e. on the line with the arrow head).

Now, holding this heading, move the left hand joystick



# the bomb before it's too late for us all

forward and watch the dot move nearer to the centre of the screen. The pitch of the bleep goes up as the dot gets nearer.

Don't get too near as the bomb has a proximity fuse which will be triggered if the range is less than 7 units. (The object is initially at 600 units away, due North).

The pitch of the sub is controlled by vertical movement of the right hand stick. Pull this back and the sub rises in the water, push it forward and the sub dives. This control only takes effect if the sub is moving.

The starting depth of the sub depends upon the level of difficulty selected, and at level 9 the sub is on the sea bed, as is the object. Thus, to destroy the object from level 1 (the hardest) the submarine commander is going to have to dive from the surface to the sea bed pretty quickly if the world is to be saved.

The middle dial shows the pitch angle of the sub and the pointer will be level if the sub is neither rising nor diving. The right hand gauge shows the sub's depth, the pointer being at the top when the sub is at the surface and vice versa.

The time readout at the top right shows how much time is left until the bomb explodes. Keep an eye on this. It could be important to several people.

When the dot is within the innermost circle on the sonar display it should be visible on the second (TV) display.

Press the button on the right hand joystick to turn on the TV camera mounted on the front of the sub. When the object is in view it will be seen that it is a rectangular box with a cross on one end.

To destroy the bomb the centre of this cross must be aligned with the cross hairs on the TV display. When all is lined up, press the button on the left hand joystick to fire.

**Note** that, due to the slowness of BASIC, the buttons

have to be pressed for a considerable time before they take effect.

If all is well and you have aligned the cross hairs on the display with the cross on the box you will succeed in destroying it. The snag is that you can't fire **through** the box. This means that you must be sure to have the end of the box with the cross marked on it facing you when you fire.

**Hint:** use the sonar display to help you move round the bomb. To move round it in an anti-clockwise direction, keep the dot on the horizontal line to the left of centre and move the speed control forward.

Adjust the controls to keep the dot on the line and watch the heading indicator turn. When the heading has changed by the required amount (say 90 degrees) bring the dot back to the dead ahead position and look at it on the TV display.

Remember not to get too close or the proximity fuse will detonate the bomb. A warning will sound when the sub is approaching the point where this will occur, so take note!

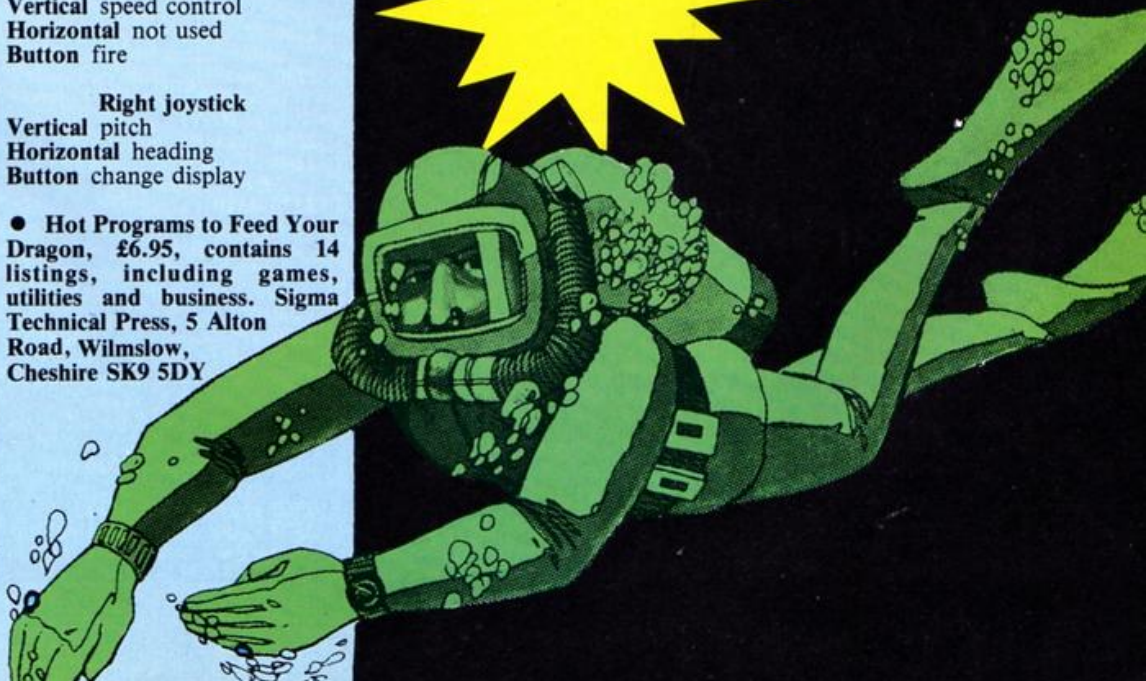
#### Left joystick

Vertical speed control  
Horizontal not used  
Button fire

#### Right joystick

Vertical pitch  
Horizontal heading  
Button change display

● **Hot Programs to Feed Your Dragon**, £6.95, contains 14 listings, including games, utilities and business. Sigma Technical Press, 5 Alton Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5DY





```

10 PCLEAR8:CLS:PRINT"PLEASE WAIT"
20 DIM CS(181),SN(181),V(20,3),E(20),B(20,20),C(4,4),D(4,4),
A(10,10),NO$(11),Q(30,10)
30 AM=0:BM=0:DM=0:EM=0:FM=0:GM=0:HM=0:IM=0:
U=0:U1=0:V=0:V1=0
40 PMODE4,1:PCLS
50 GOSUB 3200:REM INITIALISE STRINGS
60 TIMER=50:UM=0:TS=0:US=9
70 DRAW"BM245,5"+NO$(US):DRAW"BM239,5"+NO$(TS):
DRAW"BM228,5"+NO$(UM)
80 SX=118:SY=50:D=75:FL=1
90 LINE(225,0)-(255,11),PSET,B
100 CIRCLE(128,70),69
110 LINE(0,0)-(255,140),PSET,B
120 PAINT(79,5):GET(0,0)-(3,3),C:PAINT(180,5)
130 LINE(0,140)-(255,191),PSET,B
140 LINE(0,0)-(255,140),PRESET,B
150 CIRCLE(128,70),10
160 CIRCLE(128,70),40
170 LINE(128,0)-(128,60),PSET
180 LINE(128,140)-(128,80),PSET
190 LINE(48,70)-(118,70),PSET
200 LINE(138,70)-(255,70),PSET
210 LINE(118,10)-(128,0),PSET
220 LINE(138,10),PSET
230 REM SET UP STATUS DISPLAY
240 LINE(53,159)-(75,181),PSET,B
250 LINE(64,157)-(64,160),PSET
260 LINE(52,170)-(54,170),PSET
270 LINE(64,183)-(64,180),PSET

```



```

280 LINE(74,170)-(76,170),PSET
290 FOR I=160 TO 180 STEP 2
300 LINE(116,I)-(118,I),PSET:NEXT I
310 LINE(116,160)-(139,180),PSET,B
320 LINE(172,156)-(212,158),PSET,B
330 LINE(172,182)-(212,184),PSET,B
340 LINE(172,156)-(212,184),PSET,B
350 GOSUB 7000
360 REM GENERATE OBJECT COORDS
370 XO=0:YO=600:ZO=1000
380 REM SET INITIAL SUB POSITION
390 XS=0:YS=0
400 P=0:REM INITIAL PITCH=ZERO
410 H=0:REM INITIAL HEADING=ZERO
420 REM GENERATE SINE AND COSINE LOOKUP TABLES
430 FOR I=0 TO 45
440 AN=3.142*I/90
450 CS(I)=COS(AN)
460 CS(90-I)=-CS(I)
470 CS(90+I)=-CS(I)
480 CS(180-I)=CS(I)
490 SN(45-I)=CS(I)
500 SN(45+I)=CS(I)
510 SN(135-I)=-CS(I)
520 SN(135+I)=-CS(I)
530 NEXT I
540 REM READ OBJECT MATRICES
550 READ NV:REM NUMBER OF VERTICES
560 FOR P=1 TO NV
570 READ V(P,1),V(P,2),V(P,3)
580 V(P,1)=V(P,1)+XO
590 V(P,2)=V(P,2)+YO
600 V(P,3)=V(P,3)+ZO
610 NEXT P
620 READ NE:REM NUMBER OF EDGES
630 FOR E=1 TO NE
640 READ E(E)
650 NEXT E
660 REM SAMPLE CONTROLS
670 DP=JOYSTK(1):DH=JOYSTK(0)
680 VL=16-JOYSTK(3)/4

```

```

690 H=H-FIX(DH/8)+4
700 IF DP<32 THEN P=164+DP/2 ELSE P=DP/2-16
710 IF H>180 THEN H=H-180
720 IF H<0 THEN H=H+180
730 REM UPDATE 3D VELOCITIES
740 VX=VL*SN(H)*CS(P)
750 VY=VL*CS(H)*CS(P)
760 VZ=VL*SN(P)
770 REM CALC NEW SUB POSITION
780 XS=XS+VX:YS=YS+VY:ZS=ZS+VZ
790 IF ZS<0 THEN ZS=0
800 IF ZS>1000 THEN ZS=1000
810 REM CHECK FOR OBJECT IN LONG RANGE SCAN
820 AX=XO-XS:AY=YO-YS
830 RO=SQR(AX*AX+AY*AY)
840 IF RO>680 THEN 1090
850 IF RO<7 AND ZS>990 THEN 4000
860 B=PEEK(65280):IF B=254 OR B=126 THEN 870 ELSE 880
870 CF=1:FL=FL-1:IF FL<1 THEN FL=2:PMODE
4,5:PCLS:GOSUB3010:SCREEN1,0
880 ON FL GOTO 1000,2000
1000 REM GENERATE LONG RANGE SCAN
1010 PMODE 4,1:SCREEN1,0:GOSUB 3010
1020 PUT(SX-2,SY-2)-(SX+2,SY+2),D

```

#### Hints on conversion

<p>810-830 calculate distance from sub to object (RO)</p> <p>840 if out of range of sonar only update status, no sound</p> <p>850 check for proximity explosion, but make sure sub depth is near bottom</p> <p>860-870 if right hand button pressed then change display by altering value of flag FL</p> <p>880 go to appropriate display routine</p> <p>1000-1190 generate long range (sonar) scan with sound, check for end-of-world flag (EW) (set by timer routine)</p> <p>2000 select 3D display starting at page 5</p> <p>2010-2070 calculate 3D projection parameters</p> <p>2080 clear screen, set flag telling timer routine to re-display time, put crosshairs at centre</p> <p>2090-2130 move observer to origin</p> <p>2140 call timer routine</p> <p>2150-2170 transform coordinates of box edge (eight edges in all)</p> <p>2180-2190 project object edge on to 2D screen</p> <p>2200-2230 clip object to lie within screen limits</p> <p>2240 plot edge from end of last edge (U1,V1) to end of new edge (U,V)</p> <p>2250 check fire button</p> <p>2260 skip next section if not last edge of object</p> <p>2270-2310 calculate distance from centre of cross on bomb to crosshairs on screen, if within allowed limits set midpoint glag (MP) to 1 else reset it</p> <p>2320 update U1, V1 ready for next time round</p> <p>2330 check for proximity warning, sound if too near</p> <p>2340 repeat above for all edges of box</p> <p>2350 if EW flag set then explode everything</p> <p>2360 reset hit flag (HT)</p> <p>2370 if button was pressed during drawing of bomb then go</p>	<p>to fire routine</p> <p>2380 fire routine will set HT to indicate a hit</p> <p>2390 go and do it all again</p> <p>2400-2510 DATA for drawing (bomb)</p> <p>3000 timer routine counts down from initial setting to zero. Sets EW flag at zero.</p> <p>3010 check flag which signals screen cleared, if set then re-write entire time display and clear flag</p> <p>3020 if TV screen selected then must erase corner of screen to remove any object drawn there</p> <p>3030 draw time</p> <p>3040 only update time every 50 timer ticks (1 sec)</p> <p>3050 reset timer, sample joysticks (to provide better control sensing)</p> <p>3060 erase units of seconds</p> <p>3070 zero flags</p> <p>3080 decrement units of seconds count</p> <p>3090 check for underflow, reset to 9 if 0, set flag to signal that tens of seconds must also change</p> <p>3100 draw units of seconds</p> <p>3110-3180 repeat for tens of seconds and units of minutes</p> <p>3200-3300 strings for drawing numerals on graphics screen</p> <p>4000 like it says!</p> <p>4010 enable sound channel output from D-A converter</p> <p>4020 copy sonar screen to TV screen (to save re-writing the sonar screen ready for next game)</p> <p>4030-4070 draw expanding circle with random low frequency sounds poked straight to the D-A convertor, flash random colours by changing modes on the 6847 TV controller chip</p> <p>4080-4240 put up end message, invite further attempt</p> <p>5000-5150 draw tracer to centre of screen, check for hit</p> <p>6000-6030 congratulate and print safety margin</p>
--	---



# COLOUR PROGRAM

```

1030 SX = -(AX*CS(H)-AY*SN(H))/10 + 128:SY = -
AY*CS(H) + AX*SN(H))/10 + 70
1040 GET (SX-2,SY-2):(SX+2,SY+2),D
1050 PSET(SX,SY):PSET(SX+1,SY+1)
1060 PSET(SX+1,SY):PSET(SX,SY+1)
1070 SOUND 255-RO/10,1
1080 REM UPDATE STATUS DISPLAYS
1090 PUT(57,160)-(71,180),B
1100 PUT(122,162)-(134,178),B
1110 PUT(182,160)-(202,180),B
1120 LINE(-8*SN(H)+64,-8*CS(H)+170)-(64,170),PSET
1130 LINE(63,169)-(65,171),PSET,B
1140 LINE(-8*CS(P)+128,-8*SN(P)+170)-(128,170),PSET
1150 LINE(127,169)-(129,171),PSET,B
1160 LINE(187,ZS/50+160)-(197,ZS/50+160),PSET
1170 GOSUB 3010
1180 IF EW = 1 THEN 4000 : REM BOMB EXPLODES
1190 GOTO 670
2000 PMODE 4,5:SCREEN 1,0
2010 AM = CS(H):BM = -SN(H)
2020 DM = SN(H)*CS(P)
2030 EM = CS(P)*CS(H)
2040 FM = SN(P)
2050 GM = -SN(H)*SN(P)
2060 HM = -SN(P)*CS(H)
2070 IM = CS(P)
2080 PCLS:CF = 1:LINE(123,96)-(133,96):PSET:LINE(128,91)-
(128,101),PSET
2090 FOR E = 1 TO NE
2100 EA = ABS(E(E))
2110 X = V(EA,1)-XS
2120 Y = V(EA,2)-YS
2130 Z = V(EA,3)-ZS
2140 GOSUB 3010
2150 X3 = AM*X + BM*Y
2160 Y3 = DM*X + EM*Y + FM*Z
2170 Z3 = GM*X + HM*Y + IM*Z
2180 U = 128-150*X3/Y3
2190 V = 96-127.5*Z3/Y3
2200 IF U > 255 THEN U = 255
2210 IF U < 0 THEN U = 0
2220 IF V > 255 THEN V = 255
2230 IF V < 0 THEN V = 0
2240 IF E(E) > 0 THEN LINE(U1,V1)-(U,V),PSET
2250 B = PEEK(65280):IF B = 253 OR B = 125 THEN B2
= 1 ELSE B2 = 0
2260 IF E < > NE THEN 2320
2270 IF U1 > U THEN MU = (U1-U)/2 + U ELSE MU
= (U-U1)/2 + U1
2280 IF V1 > V THEN MV = (V1-V)/2 + V ELSE MV = (V-V1)/2 + V1
2290 IF MU > 128 THEN DX = MU-128 ELSE DX = 128-DX
2300 IF MV > 96 THEN DY = MV-96 ELSE DY = 96-MV
2310 IF DX < 5 AND DY < 5 AND XS > 10 AND YS > 580
AND YS < 620
AND ZS > 900 THEN MP = 1 ELSE MP = 0
2320 U1 = U:V1 = V
2330 IF RO < 15 AND ZS > 990 THEN SOUND 255-RO,1
2340 NEXT E
2350 IF EW = 1 THEN 4000
2360 HT = 0
2370 IF B2 = 1 THEN GOSUB 5000 : REM FIRE
2380 IF HT = 1 THEN 6000 : REM HIT
2390 GOTO 670
2400 DATA 8
2410 DATA 5.25,-2,3.25
2420 DATA -5.25,-2,3.25
2430 DATA -5.25,-2,-3.25
2440 DATA 5.25,-2,-3.25
2450 DATA 5.25,2,3.25
2460 DATA -5.25,2,3.25
2470 DATA -5.25,2,-3.25
2480 DATA 5.25,2,-3.25
2490 DATA 19
2500 DATA -1,2,3,4,1,5,6,7,8,5

```

```

2510 DATA -2,6,-3,7,-4,8,1,-4,5
3000 REM COUNTDOWN
3010 IF CF = 1 THEN CF = 0 ELSE 3040
3020 IF FL = 1 THEN PUT(225,10)-(255,0),Q,PSET
3030 DRAW"BM244,5" + NO$(US) + "BM239,5" + NO$(TS) +
"BM228,5" + NO$(UM)
3040 IF TIMER < 50 THEN RETURN
3050 TIMER = 0:DP = JOYSTK(1):DH = JOYSTK(0)
3060 PUT(245,10)-(254,0),A,PSET
3070 S1 = 0:S2 = 0
3080 US = US-1
3090 IF US < 0 THEN US = 9:S1 = 1
3100 DRAW"BM245,5" + NO$(US)
3110 IF UM = 0 AND TS = 0 AND US = 0 THEN EW = 1
3120 IF S1 < > 1 THEN RETURN ELSE TS = TS-1:IF TS < 0 THEN
TS = 5:S2 = 1
3130 PUT(238,10)-(242,0),A,PSET
3140 DRAW"BM239,5" + NO$(TS)
3150 IF S2 < > 1 THEN RETURN ELSE UM = UM-1:IF UM < 0 THEN
UM = 0
3160 PUT(228,10)-(234,0),A,PSET
3170 DRAW"BM228,5" + NO$(UM)
3180 RETURN
3200 NO$(1) = "BU3BR3D3BL3BD3BR3U3BR1"
3210 NO$(2) = "BU3R3D3L3D3R3BU3BR1"
3220 NO$(3) = "BU3R3D3L3BD3R3U3BR1"
3230 NO$(4) = "U3BR3D3L3BD3BR3U3BR1"
3240 NO$(5) = "U3R3BD3L3BD3R3U3BR1"
3250 NO$(6) = "U3BR3BD3L3D3R3U3BR1"
3260 NO$(7) = "BU3R3D6BU3BR1"
3270 NO$(8) = "U3R3D3L3D3R3U3BR1"
3280 NO$(9) = "U3R3D3L3BD3BR3U3BR1"
3290 NO$(0) = "U3R3D3BL3D3R3U3BR1"
3300 RETURN
4000 REM EXPLODE BOMB
4010 POKE &HFF23,&H3C
4020 FOR I = 1 TO 4:PCOPY I TO I+4:NEXT I
4030 PMODE 4,5:SCREEN 1,0
4040 FOR I = 1 TO 50
4050 CIRCLE(SX,SY),I
4060 FOR J = 1 TO RND(10):POKE&HFF20,RND(127):
POKE&HFF20,0:POKE&HFF22,RND(255):NEXT J
4070 NEXT I
4080 PMODE 3,5:SCREEN 1,1
4090 DRAW"BM5,20S8C5BU8R8BL4D8BR8"
4100 DRAW"U8BR8D8BU4L8BD4BR12"
4110 DRAW"U8R8BD4L8BD4R8BR4"
4120 DRAW"BM193,130U8R8BD4L8BD4R8BR4"
4130 DRAW"U8F8U8BD8BR4"
4140 DRAW"U8R6F2D4G2L6BR12S4"
4150 FOR I = 1 TO 2000:NEXT I
4160 SCREEN 0,0:CLS

```

```

4170 PRINT "HAVING SINGULARLY FAILED TO
":PRINT"SAVE THE WORLD"
4180 PRINT "WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY AGAIN?"
4190 PRINT "ENTER Y OR N> "
4200 AS = INKEY$
4210 IF AS = "" THEN 4200
4220 IF AS = "Y" THEN GOSUB
7000:FL = 1:XS = 0:YS = 0:H = 0:HT = 0:EW = 0:GOTO 670
4230 POKE 65494,0 : REM NORMAL PROCESSOR RATE
4240 END
5000 REM FIRE AT BOMB
5010 X = 0:Y = 128:POKE &HFF23,&H3C
5020 FOR I = 1 TO 32
5030 LINE(X,Y)-(X+4,Y-1),PSET
5040 LINE(256-X,Y)-(251-X,Y-1),PSET

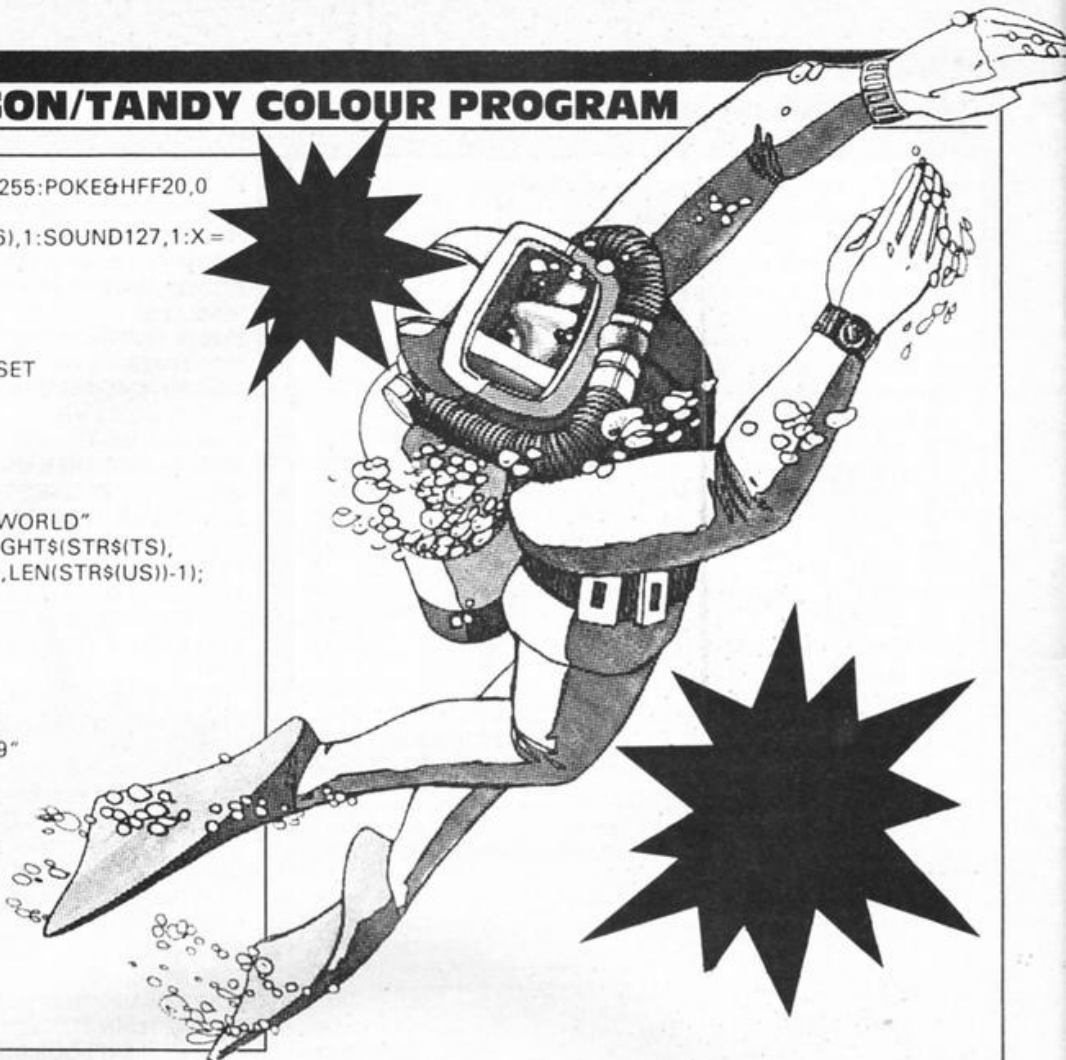
```



## DRAGON/TANDY COLOUR PROGRAM

```

5050 X=X+4:Y=Y-1:POKE&HFF20,255:POKE&HFF20,0
5060 NEXT I
5070 CIRCLE(128,96),4:PAINT(128,96),1:SOUND127,1:X=
      0:Y=128
5080 FOR I=1 TO 32
5090 CIRCLE(128,96),4+I/8
5100 LINE(X,Y)-(X+4,Y-1),PRESET
5110 LINE(256-X,Y)-(251-X,Y-1),PRESET
5120 X=X+8:Y=Y-2
5130 NEXT I
5140 IF MP=1 THEN HT=1
5150 RETURN
6000 REM HIT BOMB
6010 PRINT"YOU HAVE SAVED THE WORLD"
6020 PRINT"WITH";STR$(UM);";";RIGHT$(STR$(TS),
      LEN(STR$(TS))-1);RIGHT$(STR$(US),LEN(STR$(US))-1);
      "TO SPARE"
6030 GOTO 4180
7000 REM INSTRUCTIONS
7010 SCREEN 0,0:CLS
7020 CLS
7030 PRINT"LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY?"
7040 PRINT"ENTER A NUMBER 1 TO 9"
7050 PRINT"(1=HARD,9=EASY)"
7060 IS=INKEY$
7070 IF IS="" THEN 7060
7080 IF IS<"1" OR IS>"9" THEN 7060
7090 UM=VAL(IS):TS=5:US=10
7100 CF=1:TIMER=50
7110 ZS=(VAL(IS)+1)*100
7120 PRINT"LEVEL ";IS
7130 PRINT"PLEASE WAIT"
7140 RETURN
  
```



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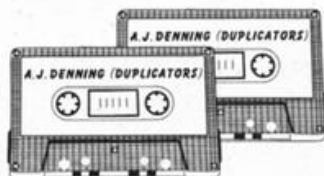
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# WHAT IS EDU-GAME?



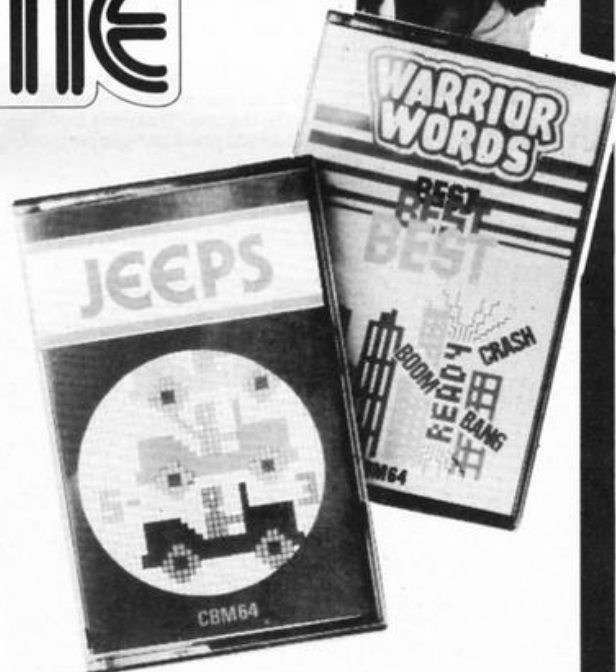
## EDU-GAME

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### Cut-price school offer

COMMODORE has finally come up with its answer to the government's 'micros in schools scheme' – a cut-price offer of its own. Deliberately designed to coincide with the end of the government scheme, Commodore is offering schools and

colleges throughout the UK the chance to buy Commodore 64s complete with 1541 single floppy disc drives, Logo and Simon's Basic for £299.99 per package. This is a saving of £172 over the recommended retail price of £472.

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## Light Cycle Wars 32K BBC £6.95

Personal Software Services, 452  
Stoney Stanton Road, Coventry  
CV6 5DG

This review should be one word — impossible! I have seen other versions, based on the light cycles in Tron, and found them tedious. But this is fast, desperate and difficult. Control can be from keyboard or joystick and the latter is really necessary to play well, especially against the computer. As yet I have not been able to outwit the beast, though human opponents are possible and, fortunately, a little easier to beat.

The BBC's highest resolution is used which makes the light cycle lines rather thin, but means

play is much more sensitive and difficult, as the gaps between cycle trails become almost invisible. If you hit your own or your opponent's trail you are dead, so hand and eye co-ordination is the name of the game. You can only win if you take risks, but too great a risk and you're off your bike.

I think this game may pall after a while. It cannot be varied much and higher levels are simply faster. Nevertheless it is certainly as breathless as PSS claim and I recommend it to all Tron fans.

N.W.

instructions	75%
playability	85%
graphics	80%
value for money	80%



## Line up 4/ Reversi VIC-20 £6.95

Terminal, 28 Church Lane,  
Prestwich, Manchester M25 5AJ

Line up 4, connect 4, or any other name you care to call it, is a simple strategy game for two players. Getting four counters in a row, with the computer as your opponent, is not an easy task, although it is possible to win, occasionally. The computer response time is quite fast and, to emphasise that point, both your time and the computer's are displayed at the end of each game.

I know there are some people who take this type of game quite seriously. If you are one of them, you will find this a challenge.

Much less of a challenge is the version of Reversi. The programmer seems to have got it wrong, I'm afraid. Quite easy to beat, the computer seems bent on self destruction, making the most obvious mistakes. Without trying too hard I won the first game, leaving the computer with just six pieces to its credit.

If the programmer produces a better version of Reversi, then both games on one tape would represent better value for money. As it is, with only the one worthwhile game, Reversi detracts from the value.

B.B.

instructions	100%
playability	60%
graphics	75%
value for money	50%



## Golf 48K Spectrum £5.95

Lyversoft, 66 Lime St, Liverpool  
L1 1JN

With so many golf simulation programs now available for the Spectrum, a new one must offer something special to stand out from the crowd. This one doesn't. It is no better or worse than several others.

Program instructions are available as an option at the start, providing a clear, but unimaginative guide.

You can choose between a nine or 18 hole course, and one or two players. At the start of each hole, you get a bird's eye view of the fairway, with all the information necessary to select club and strength of shot. The possibility of hooking or slicing appears to be selected at random, so the only skill required is in judging the direction, and selecting the right club.

Once you get to the green, the view changes to a close-up. Here you decide on the direction and strength of your shot. It is rather confusing that the strength scale is different for putting on the green, compared with the fairway.

A few minor bugs in the program only helped to confirm that this is a mediocre offering from Lyversoft.

D.N.

instructions	70%
playability	40%
graphics	50%
value for money	50%



# Out of doors with your computer

Games which take you outside  
— and into space — star-rated  
by our panel

## Checkout 32K BBC £7.95

Virgin, 61/63 Portobello Rd,  
London W11 3DD

An excellent and very colourful arcade-type game. You guide Checkout Charlie around a grid, changing the colour of the squares as you pass over them. The first time you run over a square it turns striped, the next it becomes the target colour — the one the grid has to be completely covered in before you can proceed to the next screen.

This may sound more like a game of logic rather than an arcade game, probably because I haven't told you about the remote controlled robot who moves very swiftly around the maze. If he bumps into you, you lose a life.

On the left of the screen is an egg timer. Every time the last few grains of sand disappear the robot fires a four-way death dealing laser. If you happen to be in its path you disintegrate.

As you clear more screens the action speeds up, and even though the concept remains the same I haven't got bored yet. Superb graphics and sound, and originality, combine to make a wonderful game.

M.B.

instructions	80%
playability	100%
graphics	90%
value for money	90%



## Pedro Dragon 32 £5.50

Imagine, 5 Sir Thomas St, Liver-  
pool L1 6BW

An excellent arcade style game with plenty to keep you on your toes (or rather your joysticks) and an endearing story line for anyone with a garden.

The game is set in the garden of poor Pedro who is fighting a losing battle, I'm afraid. He tends two flower beds but, being rather poor, he can't afford enough bricks to keep holes in the fences blocked. This means that all the animals who pass by try to take a nibble of Pedro's prize blooms. You can help him to block the gaps with the one brick he has left or with compost but this is only a temporary measure as the animals just eat it away.

During the first screen it is ants who invade, then rats followed by rabbits who jump over the walls anyway. The game is responsive on both keys and joysticks, although we preferred the stick, and has an attractive screen. Sound is also of a very high standard. I'm not going to tell you what to do with the tramp or what he does to you! Try it for yourself.

D.C.

instructions	100%
playability	90%
graphics	95%
value for money	95%





While attempting to discover a new sea route through a group of volcanic islands, you are shipwrecked in a sudden storm off the south coast of Saurus Island.

You reach the safety of the island but have to traverse it, searching for materials to build and make a raft before you can set sail for the mainland and home. You have to sail from the calm waters of the northern shores.

Saurus Island has only been seen from the air before. It has remained unexplored because pilots of the aircraft have reported horrendous, strange and gigantic creatures lurking in its swamps and forests. These creatures are dinosaurs, extinct except on Saurus Island.

No man has dared to set foot on it before. Will you survive the dangers of Saurus Island?

You will travel by many different routes meeting many hazards. Like all discoverers, you need to keep an accurate log of your journey saying who or what you meet and the hazards you encounter.

Most of the land is low and flat and warm seas frequently flood it. There are many marshes and swamps with a lot of green plants resembling giant ferns which thrive in this warm moist climate. Streams have their sources in the high areas and flow quickly down mountain sides, often by way of gorges or waterfalls.

They then flow sluggishly over the flat plains until they reach the sea. Ravines, and pits appear everywhere caused by many factors. Perhaps as the earth was formed meteors fell from space; perhaps by the movement of rock; earthquakes or by volcanic eruptions.

Volcanoes may erupt at any time, sending out streams of lava so hot that everything within its path is burnt, or they may hurl out massive boulders in all directions, or ash or poisonous gas.

And remember, the island is full of dinosaurs lurking everywhere. Some, like Ankylosaurus and Stegosaurus are friendly plant eaters whose defence is an outer coat of armour plating and whose biggest enemies are the meat eaters, like Tyrannosaurus Rex.

To meet Tyrannosaurus Rex means instant death. Pteranodon is a dreadful dragon like reptile and king of the air, with a long pointed beak, no feathers and wings like a glider. Travel with caution if you meet this creature.

Naturally any discoverer will have prepared for mishaps, but remember you have been

```

1 REM S. ISLAND
10 MODE 7
12 Y$=CHR$(255)+CHR$(255)+CHR$(255)
15 W$=CHR$(255)+CHR$(255)+CHR$(255)+CHR$(255)+CHR$(255)
20 X=285: Y=0: rope=1: drinking=0
100 CLS:PRINT TAB(0,3)CHR$(141);CHR$(131);"S A U
R U S I S L A N D"
102 PRINT TAB(0,4)CHR$(141);CHR$(131);"S A U R U
S I S L A N D"
104 PRINT TAB(1,5)CHR$(130);"A journey through t
ime."
106 PRINT TAB(8,8)CHR$(145);CHR$(206)
108 PRINT TAB(8,9)CHR$(150);CHR$(255)
110 PRINT TAB(8,10)CHR$(150);CHR$(255)
112 PRINT TAB(8,11)CHR$(150);CHR$(255)
114 PRINT TAB(8,12)CHR$(150);CHR$(255)
116 PRINT TAB(1,13)CHR$(145);CHR$(215);CHR$(150)
;CHR$(255);W$;W$;CHR$(145);CHR$(197)
118 PRINT TAB(8,14)CHR$(150);CHR$(255)
120 PRINT TAB(8,15)CHR$(150);CHR$(255)
122 PRINT TAB(8,16)CHR$(150);CHR$(255)
124 PRINT TAB(8,17)CHR$(150);CHR$(255)
126 PRINT TAB(8,18)CHR$(145);CHR$(211)
128 PRINT TAB(19,19)CHR$(131);"Which Direction?"
130 INPUT TAB(21,21),Z$
150 IF Z$="N" THEN X=X-20: GOTO 200
160 IF Z$="S" THEN X=X+20: GOTO 200
170 IF Z$="E" THEN X=X+1: GOTO 200
180 IF Z$="W" THEN X=X-1: GOTO 200
190 PRINT TAB(20,23);"Wrong sign": FOR T = 1 TO
3000: NEXT T: GOTO 100
200 A=RND(16)+83: B=RND(16)+103: C=RND(16)+123:
D=RND(16)+143: E=RND(16)+163: F=RND(16)+183: G=RND
(16)+203: H=RND(16)+223: I=RND(16)+243: J=RND(16)+
263
230 IF X=A OR X=B OR X=C OR X=D OR X=E OR X=F OR
X=G OR X=H OR X=I OR X=J THEN 900
240 IF X>=250 AND X<=255 THEN 1000
250 IF X>=122 AND X<=127 THEN 1000
260 IF X>=151 AND X<=157 THEN 1100
270 IF X>=184 AND X<=189 THEN 1100
280 IF X>=246 AND X<=250 THEN 1200
290 IF X=290 OR X=291 OR X=238 OR X=239 OR X=197
OR X=198 OR X=118 OR X=119 OR X=49 OR X=50 THEN
1200
300 IF X>=210 AND X<=212 THEN 1300
310 IF X>=165 AND X<=167 THEN 1300
320 IF X>=103 AND X<=105 THEN 1300
330 IF X=191 OR X=172 OR X=146 OR X=84 THEN 1300
340 IF X=53 OR X=90 OR X=91 OR X=110 OR X=133 OR
X=134 THEN 1400
350 IF X>=72 AND X<=77 THEN 1400
360 IF X>=94 AND X<=98 THEN 1400
370 IF X=52 OR X=117 THEN 1500
380 IF X=256 OR X=237 THEN 1600
390 IF X>=224 AND X<=235 THEN 1700
400 IF X=216 OR X=196 OR X=176 OR X=169 OR X=149
OR X=128 OR X=108 OR X=87 THEN 1700
410 IF X=209 THEN 1800
420 IF X=158 OR X=34 THEN 1900
430 IF X=44 THEN 2000
440 IF X=85 OR X=111 OR X=136 OR X=194 THEN 2100
450 IF X>=1 AND X<=31 THEN 2200
460 IF X>=37 AND X<=43 THEN 2200
470 IF X=46 OR X=47 OR X=60 OR X=61 OR X=66 OR X
=67 OR X=80 OR X=81 OR X=100 OR X=101 OR X=120 OR
X=121 OR X=294 OR X=295 OR X=286 OR X=287 OR X=314
OR X=315 THEN 2200
480 IF X>=140 AND X<=142 THEN 2200
490 IF X>=160 AND X<=163 THEN 2200
500 IF X>=179 AND X<=183 THEN 2200
510 IF X>=200 AND X<=203 THEN 2200
520 IF X>=220 AND X<=222 THEN 2200
530 IF X>=240 AND X<=242 THEN 2200
540 IF X>=260 AND X<=262 THEN 2200
550 IF X>=280 AND X<=284 THEN 2200
560 IF X>=300 AND X<=308
THEN 2200
570 IF X>=320 AND X<=340
THEN 2200

```

shipwrecked and the only equipment you managed to save is:

- a compass
- a penknife
- rope
- drinking water
- a badly damaged map of the area

As you trek around the island you may need to replace lost equipment but you **must** visit a certain spot on the edge of the forest for twine, **you** must find this place. Remember you need wood and two lots of rope to build your raft. You begin with one lot of rope. If you lose this it needs replacing.

You will need fresh water for drinking and a visit to the spring is necessary once you have started your journey. Good luck and have a safe trip home.

You may find it useful to make booklets showing the island, giving the rules of the game and allowing for space for the explorer's log to be kept, which will include illustrations of the dinosaurs met, and the route taken.

**Instructions:** Move through the island one square at a time in any of the four compass directions. You are not allowed to move into the sea. You must visit the spring for fresh water at least once. Twine is found near the forest but you must find the exact spot. Your survival kit is a compass, a penknife, rope, drinking water, a badly damaged map. Always remember to log your journey. You may cross any obstacles that you see.

● Computing for all the Family, £6.45, covers simple to advanced BASIC programming and contains four games listings and 25 instructional programs. Published by Sigma Technical Press, 5 Alton Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5DY

**Shipwrecked escape island**



```

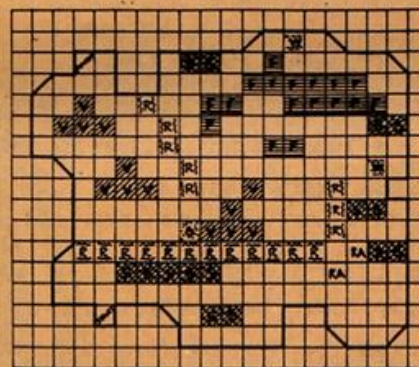
600 CLS: PRINT TAB(6,10)CHR$(141);CHR$(136);CHR$
(134);CHR$(157);CHR$(129);"S A F E M O V E ";CHR
R$(156)
610 PRINT TAB(6,11)CHR$(141);CHR$(136);CHR$(134)
;CHR$(157);CHR$(129);"S A F E M O V E ";CHR$(15
6)
620 FOR K = 1 TO 15: SOUND 1,-13,RND(20),5: NEXT
K
630 FOR T = 1 TO 3000: NEXT T: GOTO 100
900 CLS: FOR L = 1 TO 3: FOR M = -15 TO -1: SOUN
D 2,M,1,5: NEXT M
910 PRINT TAB(5,4)CHR$(136);CHR$(129);"AH-H-H-H-
H": PRINT TAB(12,6)CHR$(136);CHR$(129);"AH-H-H-H-H
": PRINT TAB(19,8)CHR$(136);CHR$(129);"AH-H-H-H-H"
920 PRINT TAB(7,11)CHR$(136);CHR$(129);"S U D D
E N": PRINT TAB(18,13)CHR$(136);CHR$(129);"D E A T
H"
930 NEXT L
940 PRINT TAB(7,17)CHR$(130);"BACK TO THE BEGINN
ING": FOR T = 1 TO 3000: NEXT T
950 RUN
1000 CLS: PRINT TAB(0,1)CHR$(141);CHR$(131);"S T
E G O S A U R U S B E W A R E"
1002 PRINT TAB(0,2)CHR$(141);CHR$(131);"S T E G
O S A U R U S B E W A R E"
1008 FOR stego = 1 TO 5: AA=RND(32): BB=RND(14)+4
1010 PRINT TAB(AA,BB)CHR$(136);CHR$(145);CHR$(244
);CHR$(244);CHR$(244)
1020 PRINT TAB(AA,BB+1)CHR$(136);CHR$(145);Y$
1030 PRINT TAB(AA-1,BB+2)CHR$(136);CHR$(145);CHR$
(240);Y$;CHR$(255)
1040 PRINT TAB(AA-1,BB+3)CHR$(136);CHR$(145);CHR$
(182);CHR$(233);CHR$(160);CHR$(182);CHR$(233)
1050 VDU 7: FOR T = 1 TO 1000: NEXT T:
NEXT stego: GOTO 100
1100 CLS: PRINT TAB(0,1)CHR$(136);
CHR$(141);CHR$(129);
"A N K Y L O S A U R U S"
1102 PRINT TAB(0,2)CHR$
(136);CHR$(141);
CHR$(129);
"A N K Y L O S
A U R U S"

```

```

1104 PRINT TAB(1,4)CHR$(136);CHR$(129);"KIND AND
GENTLE"
1106 FOR ank = 1 TO 5
1110 CC=RND(30): EE=RND(16)+4
1120 PRINT TAB(CC,EE)CHR$(136);CHR$(146);CHR$(248
);CHR$(255);CHR$(255);CHR$(244);CHR$(240)
1130 PRINT TAB(CC-2,EE+1)CHR$(136);CHR$(146);CHR$
(240);CHR$(166);CHR$(182);CHR$(233);CHR$(182);CHR$
(233)
1140 PRINT TAB(CC-2,EE+2)CHR$(136);CHR$(146);CHR$
(161)
1150 VDU 7: FOR T = 1 TO 1000: NEXT T: NEXT ank:
GOTO 100
1200 CLS: PRINT TAB(0,6)CHR$(141);CHR$(131);"S W
A M P S"
1210 PRINT TAB(0,7)CHR$(141);CHR$(131);"S W A M P
S"
1220 PRINT TAB(0,10)CHR$(130);"WARM SEAS FLOODED
OVER THE LOW FLAT"
1230 PRINT TAB(0,12)CHR$(130);"LAND.GREEN PLANTS
GREW IN ABUNDANCE."
1235 PRINT TAB(0,14)CHR$(130);"GO WITH CARE."
1240 PRINT TAB(0,20)CHR$(135);"Hit any key to con
tinue": keyhit=GET: GOTO 100
1300 CLS: PRINT TAB(17,8)CHR$(146);CHR$(224)
1305 PRINT TAB(17,9)CHR$(146);CHR$(250): PRINT TA
B(24,9)CHR$(146);CHR$(232)
1310 PRINT TAB(12,10)CHR$(146);CHR$(234);CHR$(160
);CHR$(160);CHR$(160);CHR$(250);CHR$(255);CHR$(180

```



100  
 80  
 V volcano  
 R river  
 F forest  
 W fresh water  
 S swamp  
 G grave of Bronto  
 RA ravine

Your guide to Saurus Island

d! Will you  
 from the  
 and dangers?



Build a raft and sail from Saurus Island — if the  
 monsters let you. Tony Noble's program, for both models  
 of the BBC micro, is taken from his book, Computing for all  
 the Family with a BBC Computer, just published by Sigma  
 Technical Press



## BBC PROGRAM

```

;CHR$(160);CHR$(160);CHR$(160);CHR$(160);CHR$(160);CHR$(160);CHR$(160)
);CHR$(234);CHR$(181)
1320 PRINT TAB(11,11)CHR$(146);CHR$(224);CHR$(250)
);CHR$(181);CHR$(160);CHR$(224);CHR$(255);CHR$(255)
);CHR$(245);CHR$(160);CHR$(160);CHR$(160);CHR$(160)
);CHR$(224);CHR$(255);CHR$(181)
1330 PRINT TAB(11,12)CHR$(146);CHR$(250);CHR$(255)
);CHR$(181);CHR$(160);CHR$(250);Y$;CHR$(176);CHR$(
250);CHR$(160);CHR$(160);Y$
1340 PRINT TAB(10,13)CHR$(146);CHR$(254);CHR$(255)
);CHR$(255);CHR$(253);CHR$(250);Y$;CHR$(255);CHR$(
245);CHR$(255);CHR$(180);CHR$(250);Y$;CHR$(181)
1350 PRINT TAB(9,14)CHR$(146);CHR$(234);W$;W$;W$;
CHR$(255);CHR$(255);CHR$(255)
1360 PRINT TAB(8,15)CHR$(146);CHR$(248);W$;W$;W$;
W$
1365 PRINT TAB(0,17)CHR$(135);"VOLCANOES LIKELY T
O ERUPT AT ANY TIME"
1370 JJ=RND(2)
1375 IF JJ = 1 THEN PRINT TAB(8,20)CHR$(129);"GO
WITH CAUTION!!!!!" ELSE PRINT TAB(8,20)CHR$(131);"
ERUPTION.ROUTE BARRED"
1380 IF JJ = .2 THEN PRINT TAB(3,7)CHR$(129);"***
*** * * * * ** * *"
1385 IF JJ = 2 THEN PRINT TAB(2,6)CHR$(131);"*
* * * * * * * *"
1388 IF JJ = 2 THEN PRINT TAB(3,5)CHR$(130);"*
* * * * * * * *"
1390 FOR T = 1 TO 5000: NEXT T: GOTO 100
1400 CLS: PRINT TAB(8,3)CHR$(135);"SEARCH FOR YOU
R TWINE"
1410 PRINT TAB(12,5)CHR$(135);"IT IS NEAR THE"
1420 PRINT TAB(14,7)CHR$(135);"FOREST EDGE"
1430 FOR N = 1 TO 10: P=RND(30): Q=RND(14)+7
1440 PRINT TAB(P,Q)CHR$(130);"^^^^^^": PRINT TAB(
P+3,Q+1)CHR$(130);"^^^^^^"
1450 NEXT N: FOR R = 1 TO 6: SOUND 1,-13,41,5: SO
UND 1,-10,249,8: NEXT R
1460 FOR T = 1 TO 3000: NEXT T: GOTO 100
1500 CLS: PRINT TAB(0,1)CHR$(141);CHR$(129);"T W
I N E"
1510 PRINT TAB(0,2)CHR$(141);CHR$(129);"T W I N E
"
1520 PRINT TAB(0,5)CHR$(134);"WELL DONE.THIS SPOT
CONTAINS SOME"
1530 PRINT TAB(0,7)CHR$(134);"OF THE TWINE THAT Y
OU NEED."
1540 PRINT TAB(0,9)CHR$(134);"BEFORE ARRIVING AT
THE FINISH YOU"
1550 PRINT TAB(0,11)CHR$(134);"MUST HAVE TWO LOTS
OF TWINE,TO MAKE"
1560 PRINT TAB(0,13)CHR$(134);"THE ROPE.YOU BEGAN
WITH ONE LOT BUT"
1570 PRINT TAB(0,15)CHR$(134);"IF YOU HAVE LOST T
HIS THEN FIND"
1580 PRINT TAB(0,17)CHR$(134);"ANOTHER SPOT IN TH
E FOREST FOR MORE."
1585 PRINT TAB(0,19)CHR$(134);"THE COMPUTER CAN T
ELL IF YOU CHEAT!!!!"
1590 PRINT TAB(0,21)CHR$(135);"Hit any key to con
tinue"
1595 keyhit=GET: rope=rope+1: GOTO 100
1600 CLS: PRINT TAB(0,5)CHR$(141);CHR$(129);"R E
X R A V I N E"
1610 PRINT TAB(0,6)CHR$(141);CHR$(129);"R E X R
A V I N E"
1620 PRINT TAB(0,9)CHR$(134);"IN TRAVERSING THE R
AVINE YOU USED ALL"
1630 PRINT TAB(0,11)CHR$(134);"YOUR ROPE.VISIT TH
E EDGE OF THE"
1640 PRINT TAB(0,13)CHR$(134);"FOREST TO COLLECT
MORE TWINE TO MAKE"
1650 PRINT TAB(0,15)CHR$(134);"MORE ROPE. YOU MUS
T DO THIS TO GET"
1660 PRINT TAB(0,17)CHR$(134);"OFF THE ISLAND AS
YOU NEED ROPE TO"
1670 PRINT TAB(0,19)CHR$(134);"BUILD A RAFT.GOOD
LUCK."
1680 PRINT TAB(0,22)CHR$(135);"Hit any key to con
tinue": keyhit=GET: rope=rope-1: GOTO 100
1700 CLS: PRINT TAB(0,5)CHR$(134);CHR$(141);"R I
V E R O N I D"
1710 PRINT TAB(0,6)CHR$(134);CHR$(141);"R I V E R
O N I D"
1720 PRINT TAB(0,9)CHR$(133);"BOOT LOST IN DECAYI
NG MATTER IN THE"

```

```

1730 PRINT TAB(0,11)CHR$(133);"RIVER.YOU MUST VIS
IT THE GRAVEYARD OF"
1740 PRINT TAB(0,13)CHR$(133);"B R O N T O  TO MA
KE A REPLACEMENT."
1750 PRINT TAB(0,15)CHR$(133);"EACH TIME YOU LOSE
A BOOT YOU MUST"
1760 PRINT TAB(0,17)CHR$(133);"VISIT THE GRAVEYAR
D OF BRONTO."
1770 PRINT TAB(0,20)CHR$(131);"Hit any key to con
tinue": keyhit=GET: Y=Y-1: GOTO 100
1800 CLS: PRINT TAB(0,1)CHR$(141);CHR$(135);"G R
A V E Y A R D  O F  B R O N T O"
1810 PRINT TAB(0,2)CHR$(141);CHR$(135);"G R A V E
Y A R D  O F  B R O N T O"
1820 PRINT TAB(4,4)CHR$(136);CHR$(151);CHR$(163);
CHR$(100)
1830 PRINT TAB(6,5)CHR$(136);CHR$(151);CHR$(229);
CHR$(240);CHR$(240);CHR$(240);CHR$(240);CHR$(240);
CHR$(176)
1840 PRINT TAB(6,6)CHR$(136);CHR$(151);CHR$(182);
CHR$(233);CHR$(160);CHR$(160);CHR$(182);CHR$(233);
CHR$(162);CHR$(100);CHR$(240)
1850 PRINT TAB(0,8)CHR$(135);"HERE LIES THE BODY
OF BRONTOSAURUS."
1860 PRINT TAB(0,10)CHR$(135);"COLLECT ALL THE SK
IN THAT YOU NEED"
1870 PRINT TAB(0,12)CHR$(135);"FOR YOUR BOOTS AND
GO ON YOUR WAY."
1880 PRINT TAB(0,18)CHR$(131)"Hit any key to cont
inue": keyhit=GET: Y=50: GOTO 100
1900 CLS: PRINT TAB(0,5)CHR$(141);CHR$(134);"W A
T E R"
1910 PRINT TAB(0,6)CHR$(141);CHR$(134);"W A T
E R"
1920 PRINT TAB(0,9)CHR$(129);"SAFE DRINKING WATER
TAKE ALL YOU NEED."
1930 FOR DD = 1 TO 5: SOUND 2,-13,RND(100)+50,10:
NEXT DD: drinking=drinking+1: FOR T = 1 TO 7500:
NEXT T: GOTO 100
2000 CLS: PRINT TAB(0,5)CHR$(141);CHR$(130);"W E
L L  D O N E"
2010 PRINT TAB(0,6)CHR$(141);CHR$(130);"W E L L
D O N E"
2020 PRINT TAB(0,9)CHR$(134);"YOU HAVE SURVIVED S
AURUS ISLAND."
2030 PRINT TAB(0,11)CHR$(134);"HAVE YOU ENOUGH RO
PE TO MAKE YOUR"
2040 PRINT TAB(0,13)CHR$(134);"RAFT AND TO GET OF
F THE ISLAND?"
2050 IF Y>=0 THEN PRINT TAB(0,15)CHR$(131);"GOOD
YOU HAVE YOUR BOOTS" ELSE PRINT TAB(0,15)CHR$(131)
;"CHEAT YOU HAVEN'T REPLACED YOUR BOOTS"
2060 IF rope>=2 THEN PRINT TAB(0,17)CHR$(133);"GO
OD YOU HAVE ENOUGH ROPE" ELSE PRINT TAB(0,17)CHR$(
133);"CHEAT, GO AND GET MORE ROPE"
2070 IF drinking>=1 THEN PRINT TAB(0,19)CHR$(131)
;"YOU REMEMBERED YOUR WATER" ELSE PRINT TAB(0,19)C
HR$(131);"CHEAT,GO FOR DRINKING WATER"
2080 IF Y>=0 AND rope>=2 AND drinking>=1 THEN PRI
NT TAB(0,22)CHR$(129);"YOU HAVE ALL. NOW FACE THE
MIGHTY SEA" ELSE PRINT TAB(0,22)CHR$(129);"CHEAT.B
ACK TO THE BEGINNING"
2090 FOR T = 1 TO 10000: NEXT T: END
2100 CLS: PRINT TAB(5,2)CHR$(136);CHR$(135);"PTER
ANODON_____BEWARE"
2110 FOR S = 1 TO 12: V=RND(35): W=RND(18)+3: VDU
30
2120 PRINT TAB(V,W)CHR$(136);CHR$(151);CHR$(180);
CHR$(160);CHR$(232): PRINT TAB(V,W+1)CHR$(136);CHR
$(151);CHR$(162);CHR$(255);CHR$(161)
2130 VDU 7: FOR T = 1 TO 500: NEXT T: NEXT S: GOT
O 100
2200 CLS: PRINT TAB(0,5)CHR$(141);CHR$(134);"CHEA
T YOUR'RE IN THE S E A"
2210 PRINT TAB(0,6)CHR$(141);CHR$(134);"CHEAT YOU
R'RE IN THE S E A"
2220 PRINT TAB(0,9)CHR$(129);"OH NO!! YOU ARE N
O T ALLOWED TO"
2230 PRINT TAB(0,11)CHR$(129);"PADDLE."
2240 PRINT TAB(0,13)CHR$(131);"BACK TO START.REME
MBER TO BEGIN AT"
2245 PRINT TAB(0,15)CHR$(131);"THE CORRECT SQUARE
"
2250 SOUND 2,-15,9,40: FOR T = 1 TO 10000: NEXT T
: RUN
>

```



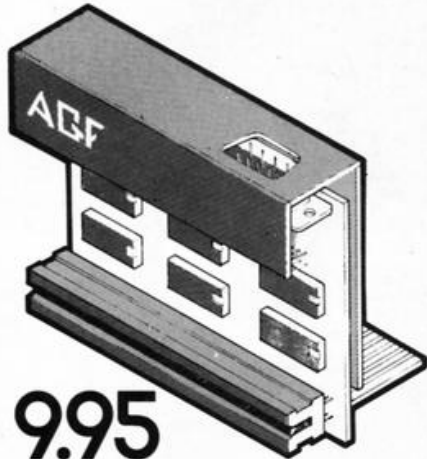
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## Tower TI-99/4A £7

Not Polyoptics, from Stainless, 10 Alstone Rd, Stockport, Cheshire

Here's a chance to exercise some brain power instead of finger muscles, in this simulation of a flight controller's duties at Washington airport.

There are three levels, ranging from beginner to pro, but even the easiest proves demanding.

The screen shows runways and surrounding area as it would be seen on a controller's scanner. The aircraft appear as small white blips and there is a storm cloud for them to avoid. The object is to safely land five planes. As you may have to take control of a possible 10 aircraft some snap decision making is required.

Using several commands, you control the course and altitude of planes that are airborne and coming in to land. At the same time you must not forget to plan take off for those still on the ground.

Because the program is continually undating the screen display and aircraft data, trying to input commands seems very slow, and can be inaccurate. If you don't correct your mistakes a "Message Garbled" appears on the screen. This sometimes locks up the program, in which case you have to break and start again.

instructions	85%
playability	75%
graphics	70%
value for money	80%



J.W.

## Black Jack/ Slot Machine Sord M5 £8.95

Computer Games, Golding Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 2RR

As if you didn't know, Black Jack is the card game as close to 21 as possible. The computer plays the part of the dealer and takes care of all the calculations. You start off with 10 chips and the game continues until you run out of chips or cards remaining is less than nine.

The other game in this pack is a simulation. You simply enter how much you want to bet and press RETURN. The computer takes care of everything else. There are no options such as nudge, hold or gamble.

Both these games have respectable graphics considering the limitations of BASIC-I and the memory restriction. But these are rather severe restrictions and it shows up in the games. Also, as the main attraction of gambling games such as these is money, computer simulations, not just for the M5, very often require absolutely no skill and fail to maintain interest for long. I'm afraid this games pack is no exception.

	S.S.
instructions	100%
playability	40%
graphics	50%
value for money	50%



## Oligopoly Spectrum 48K £5.95

Cases Computer Simulations, 14 Lanton Way, London SE3 7TL

A management game for one to six players. You decide how much to manufacture, what to spend on advertising, research, new equipment dividends and your sale price.

Prompts give last year's details under each heading and entries are secret although opponents can guess by the number of asterisks displayed. Play length selects two to 25 years and strikes, taxes and Japanese imports abound. Bar and pie charts of all players' assets and sales are displayed and yearly results, in the form of company accounts, are displayed — (where everyone sees them) or sent to printer — 10 inches of paper per company per year could bankrupt you!

Instructions say the object is to make your shares highest valued and to pay dividends, but the winner is the one with most assets and dividends decrease these. Strangely, obsolete stock makes the balance sheet give an increased (and false) total of assets — mismanagement could win! This and the failure to erase parts of previous prompts, causing confusion, spoils the game and questions the standards of the 1983 Cambridge Award won by this program. Bugs corrected, this game might while away a rainy afternoon. **Warning:** do not use this to do forecasts for a real business. D.C.

instructions	70%
playability	60%
graphics	50%
value for money	60%



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and TI-99/4A

## Cuthbert in the Mines Dragon 32 £7.95

Microdeal, 4 Truro Rd, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 5JE

I have to admit that while the Cuthbert series is the flagship of this particular software house, I was less than impressed by another in the series. This one is superb, however, and worthy of high praise. In particular the sound is very good. I have only previously heard the Dragon sound as organ-like as this through a synthesiser program. Graphics are also very good, flicker free and fast.

Here the mine has been taken over by Moronians and in order to escape you have to jump your way to the exit avoiding ore-

carrying trucks which will knock you back a level if they hit you. This seems quite a mild penalty when compared to what happens to hapless frogs in their game, but it is all too easy to get knocked into another truck and then find yourself in the fires of hell at the bottom. There is also the ladder climbing demon who, if he gets onto your level, throws a fire ball and sends you flaming into the pit.

A good value program with plenty of interest and action.

	D.C.
instructions	85%
playability	90%
graphics	95%
value for money	90%



## Timequest 48K Spectrum £6.95

Mikro-Gen, 24 Agar Crescent, Bracknell, Berks

No insert instructions — not even loading. Side 1 contains an instruction program and, as each further page of over-crowded, complicated instructions appeared (13 in all) our groans grew louder. Had review not forced continuance I'd have given up then. Printed instructions, for reference during play, seem vital.

Having foolishly ventured into a black hole with your tachygen, it promptly breaks into 20 pieces, randomly scattered through time, which you must find to return to your own time.

Each era displays the same green field, containing unconvincing graphics representing, you are told, Roman soldiers or such, sometimes weapons, bits of tachything and you. You move by rotating an arrow and fire by similar arrow rotation. Unfairly, the other characters seem to get longer moves than you and, if bracketed, you cannot move further. You could shoot but even at point blank range can miss. Without weapon, you either wait until your wound points are used up and you die, or try to jump to another era. I wish I could find something nice to say about this program. D.C.

instructions	5%
playability	15%
graphics	10%
value for money	15%





Tiger distribution

**Tiger**  
distribution

Tiger distribution

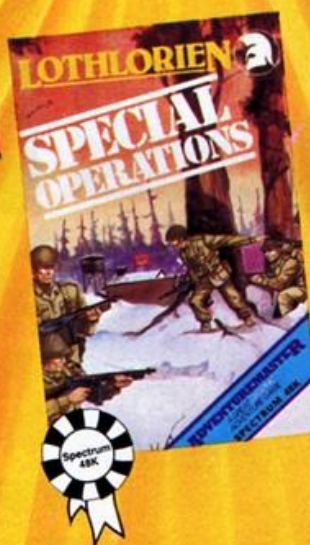
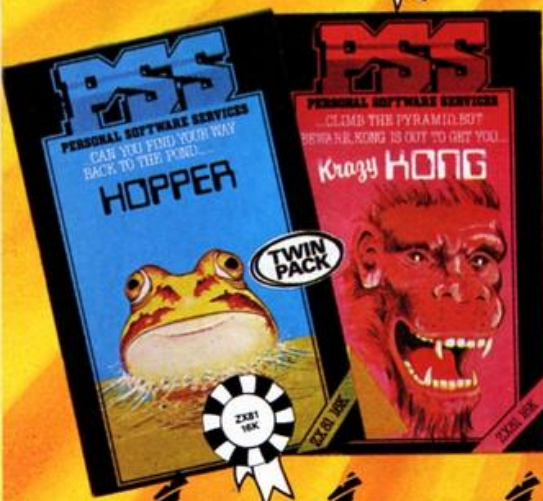
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By John Marshall and J. Gr

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5 BORDER 7: PAPER 7: INK 0: FLASH 0: BRIGHT 0: OVER 0: INVERSE 0: CLS : GO SU
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hl high score  
sc current score  
fl flowers  
x2, y2 values added to co-ordinates to give constant movement  
x, y co-ordinates of mower  
lv level reached  
aS, bS top, bottom halves of mower

[illegible]

```

1 BORDER 0: PAPER 0: INK 7: CLS
3 RESTORE 2: FOR f=USR "a" TO USR "f+7: READ a: POKE f,a: NEXT f
4 GO SUB 94
5 LET hi=0
7 LET sc=0: LET li=3
8 LET sheet=1
10 LET x=12: LET y=15
11 LET m=115: LET n=75
12 GO SUB 104
13 LET box=0
14 LET level=1
15 LET a=4: LET b=15
16 LET wait=0: LET count=0
17 LET o=14: LET p=5
18 LET level=0
19 PRINT AT 0,0;"hi-score:";hi
20 PRINT AT 3,0;"pyramid:";sheet
21 PRINT AT 2,0;"lives";li
22 PRINT AT 1,0;"score";sc
24 IF sheet=13 THEN PRINT AT 3,0;"PYRAMID :1": LET sheet=1: LET li=li+1: PRIN
T AT 2,0;"LIVES:";li: PRINT AT 2,13: FLASH 1;"BONUS": FOR f=-20 TO 20: BEEP .01,
f: BEEP .01,10-f: NEXT f: FOR f=1 TO 100: NEXT f: LET sc=sc+1000: PRINT AT 2,13:
FLASH 0;" "
25 LET chance=sheet-5
26 GO SUB 31
27 IF sheet<5 OR sheet>8 THEN GO SUB 44
28 IF sheet>4 THEN GO SUB 60

```





## Mower by Jarrod Grundhill and John Marshall

Guide your mower around the garden cutting down all the weeds while avoiding the flowers and the garden wall.

When you have demolished all the weeds the screen will clear and you will move onto a harder screen with more flowers.

One of the good points about our game is that the mower is made up of four user-defined graphics together for each of the four directions.

### How it works

- 5-90 introduction and instructions
- 92-185 define variables and set up main screen
- 190-250 move mower
- 260 check if mower has hit a flower, weed or the wall
- 270-400 restart in centre of screen
- 970 game over. Alter high score if necessary
- 4999-9010 DATA for user-defined graphics

```

29 PRINT AT 1,0;"score:";sc
30 GO TO 23
32 PRINT AT x,y; INK 3; PAPER 8;"AB"
33 IF POINT (m,n)=0 THEN LET sc=sc+10; LET z=USR 60035; LET box=box+1; GO SUB
57: IF box=21 THEN GO TO 42
34 LET x1=x; LET y1=y
35 IF INKEY$="i" AND y=15+(5-level)*2 OR INKEY$="e" AND y=5+level*2 OR INKEY$=
"f" AND level=0 OR INKEY$="j" AND level=0 THEN GO TO 67
36 IF INKEY$="i" THEN LET x=x-2; LET y=y+2; LET level=level+1; LET m=m+16; L
ET n=n+16
37 IF INKEY$="e" THEN LET x=x-2; LET y=y-2; LET level=level+1; LET m=m-16; LE
T n=n+16
38 IF INKEY$="j" THEN LET x=x+2; LET y=y-2; LET level=level-1; LET m=m-16; LE
T n=n-16
39 IF INKEY$="f" THEN LET x=x+2; LET y=y+2; LET level=level-1; LET m=m+16; LE
T n=n-16
40 PRINT AT x,y; INK 3; PAPER 8;"AB"
41 IF x1<>x AND y1<>y THEN PRINT AT x1,y1; INK 7; PAPER 8;" "
42 IF box=21 THEN LET z=USR 60059; LET sc=sc+100; LET sheet=sheet+1; GO TO 9
43 RETURN
45 IF wait=1 THEN GO TO 54
46 LET d=INT (RND*2)
47 PRINT AT a,b; INK 2; PAPER 8;"CD"
48 IF x=a AND y=b THEN GO TO 67
49 LET a1=a; LET b1=b
50 LET a=a+2; LET b=b+(2 AND d=0)-(2 AND d=1)
51 PRINT AT a,b; INK 2; PAPER 8;"CD";AT a1,b1; PAPER 8;" "
52 IF a=x AND b=y THEN GO TO 67
53 IF a=16 THEN LET wait=1; LET count=(20 AND sheet=1)+(10 AND sheet=2)+(5 AN
D sheet=3)+(1 AND sheet=4)+(30 AND sheet=5)+(20 AND sheet=6)+(10 AND sheet=7)+(1
AND sheet=8)+(30 AND sheet=9)+(20 AND sheet=10)+(10 AND sheet=11)+(1 AND sheet=
12)
54 IF wait=1 THEN LET count=count-1
55 IF count=0 AND wait=1 THEN LET wait=0; PRINT AT a,b; PAPER 8;" ": LET a=4
: LET b=15
56 RETURN
58 IF y=5+level*2 AND x<>4 THEN GO TO 63
59 IF y=15+(5-level)*2 AND x<>4 THEN GO TO 65

```

# Try mowing, hopping and driving with your Spectrum



• When typing in all Spectrum programs, capital letters in PRINT statements should, unless part of text, be entered in GRAPHICS mode.



## Cubit by Robin England

Your task in this game for either Spectrum is to jump on every square on the pyramid — avoiding the ball and a snake.

There are 12 pyramids to cover and if you reach the twelfth there is a special bonus. You have three lives.

### How it works

1-4 set up screen  
7-18 initialise variables  
19-25 instructions etc  
26-92 main game routine  
93-105 more instructions  
106-131 define characters

## Hazard Driver by A.G. Bird

Drive your car through 10 laps of a race track to assess your driving ability.

The hazards to avoid are broken glass, logs and oil slicks. The best of luck to you.

### How it works

10-20 draw borders  
30-40 variables  
50-65 check lap, print hazards  
80-180 main loop (car lap)  
200-300 print car as it goes out of picture  
500-610 game end, give score  
1000-1200 keep score  
7000-7050 instructions  
9000-9500 graphics

### Variables

lap laps  
dd driving ability  
b horizontal position of car  
a loop for car (vertical)



```
hi-score: 0
score: 20
lives: 3
pyramid: 1
```

Screen dump of Cubit

```
60 IF x=4 THEN PRINT AT x-1,y;"OP";AT x,y-1;"M"; PAPER 7;" "; PAPER 0;"N";AT
x+1,y;"KL": RETURN
61 PRINT AT x-1,y;"HI";AT x,y-1;"G"; PAPER 7;" "; PAPER 0;"J";AT x+1,y;"KL"
62 RETURN
63 PRINT AT x-1,y;"OI";AT x,y-1;"M"; PAPER 7;" "; PAPER 0;"J";AT x+1,y;"KL"
64 RETURN
65 PRINT AT x-1,y;"HP";AT x,y-1;"G"; PAPER 7;" "; PAPER 0;"N";AT x+1,y;"KL"
66 RETURN
67 LET z=USR 60083
68 PAUSE 10: LET li=li-1
70 IF a=x AND b=y THEN PRINT AT 19,7;"THE BALL GOT YOU": FOR f=1 TO 200: NEXT
f: GO TO 73
71 IF o=x AND p=y AND sheet>4 THEN PRINT AT 19,7;"THE SNAKE GOT YOU": FOR f=1
TO 200: NEXT f: GO TO 73
72 IF y=15+(5-level)*2 OR y=5+level*2 OR level=0 THEN PRINT AT 19,10;"YOU FEL
L OFF": FOR f=1 TO 200: NEXT f
73 IF li=0 THEN GO TO 75
74 GO TO 9
75 CLS
76 IF sc>hi THEN LET hi=sc: PRINT AT 4,8: FLASH 1;"NEW HIGH SCORE"
77 PRINT AT 10,2;"PRESS ANY KEY TO PLAY AGAIN"
78 PRINT AT 0,8;"YOU SCORED ";sc
79 PAUSE 0: GO TO 6
81 IF sheet>8 THEN LET chance=sheet-9
82 PRINT AT o,p: INK 9: PAPER 8;"EF"
83 IF (RND*7)>chance+1 THEN RETURN
84 LET oi=o: LET pi=p
85 IF o>x AND p<y THEN LET o=o-2: LET p=p+2
86 IF o>x AND p>y THEN LET o=o-2: LET p=p-2
87 IF o<x AND p>y THEN LET o=o+2: LET p=p-2
88 IF o<x AND p<y THEN LET o=o+2: LET p=p+2
89 IF o<>oi AND p<>pi THEN LET z=USR 60000
```

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90 PRINT AT o,p: INK 9: PAPER 8;"EF"
91 PRINT AT oi,pi: PAPER 8;" "
92 IF o=x AND p=y THEN GO TO 67
93 RETURN
95 PRINT TAB 13: PAPER 1;"CUBIT"
96 PRINT "YOU MUST GUIDE BERT""; INK 3;"AB"; INK 7;"ON TO ALL THE CUBES WI
THOUT FALLING OFF THE PYRAMID AND BEFORE THE BALL""; INK 2;"CD"; INK 7;
""GETS HIM."
97 PRINT "ALSO YOU MUST WATCH OUT FOR THE SNAKE""; INK 6;"EF"; INK 7;"WHICH
WILL CHASE YOU."
98 PRINT "YOU GAIN POINTS BY FILLING IN THE TOPS OF THE SQUARES IN THE PYRA
MID." 99 PRINT "IF YOU COMPLETE PYRAMID 12 YOU WILL BE AWARDED A BIG BONUS"
100 PRINT "THE CONTROLS ARE: E I J F"
101 PRINT TAB 4: FLASH 1;"PRESS A KEY TO PLAY"
102 GO SUB 125
103 PAUSE 0: RETURN
105 CLS
106 DATA 230,140,176,192,192,176,220,171,73,147,37,73,147,44,112,192,213,170,21
3,170,213,58,13,3,213,59,13,3,3,13,51,229,192,176,92,171,85,171,85,171,3,12,49,2
10,164,201,146,164,3,12,48,192,192,176,220,171,192,48,12,3,3,13,51,229,0,0,0,0,3
,12,48,192,0,0,0,0,192,48,12,3,213,59,13,3,0,0,0,0,203,140,176,192,0,0,0,0
107 RESTORE 106: FOR f=USR "g" TO USR "r"+7: READ a: POKE f,a: NEXT f
108 PRINT "TAB 15;"OP"
109 PRINT TAB 14;"M N"
110 PRINT TAB 13;"OIKLHP"
111 PRINT TAB 12;"M JG N"
112 PRINT TAB 11;"OIKLHIKHP"
113 PRINT TAB 10;"M JG JG N"
114 PRINT TAB 9;"OIKLHIKHIKHP"
115 PRINT TAB 8;"M JG JG JG N"
116 PRINT TAB 7;"OIKLHIKHIKHIKHP"
117 PRINT TAB 6;"M JG JG JG JG N"
118 PRINT TAB 5;"OIKLHIKHIKHIKHIKHP"
119 PRINT TAB 4;"M JG JG JG JG JG N"
120 PRINT TAB 3;"IKLHIKHIKHIKHIKHIKHLH"
121 PRINT TAB 2;"QR QR QR QR QR"
122 DATA 203,143,191,255,255,191,223,171,73,147,37,73,147,47,127,255,213,170,21
3,170,213,250,253,255,213,251,253,255,255,253,243,229,255,191,95,171,85,171,85,1
71,255,252,249,210,164,201,146,164,3,15,63,255,255,191,233,171,192,240,252,255,2
55,253,243,229,0,0,0,0,3,15,63,255,0,0,0,0,192,240,252,255
123 RESTORE 122: FOR f=USR "g" TO USR "p"+7: READ a: POKE f,a: NEXT f
124 RETURN
125 DATA 1,10,7,33,255,0,17,10,0,29,213,197,205,181,3,193,209,225,125,145,111,1
6,242,251,201
126 DATA 33,100,1,17,1,0,205,181,3,201
127 DATA 1,30,3,33,255,0,17,100,0,229,213,197,205,181,3,193,209,225,125,145,111
,16,242,201
128 DATA 1,10,100,33,255,0,17,70,0,229,213,197,205,181,3,193,209,225,125,145,1
11,16,242,201
129 DATA 1,10,75,33,255,11,17,1,0,229,213,197,205,181,3,193,209,225,125,12,111
,16,242,201
130 RESTORE 125: FOR f=60000 TO 60106: READ a: POKE f,a: NEXT f
131 RETURN
```



## Listing for Hazard Driver

```

5 GO SUB 9000: GO SUB 7000
10 BORDER 3: PAPER 7: CLS
12 FOR f=0 TO 21: PRINT AT f,0: PAPER 3;"      ";AT f,25;"      ": NEXT f
20 FOR f=0 TO 21: PRINT AT f,7: INK 0: PAPER 6;"■";AT f,24;"■": NEXT f
30 LET lap=0: LET da=100
40 LET b=RND*12+9
42 PRINT AT 0,1: INK 0;"LAP:";lap;AT 0,26;"LAP:";lap
46 IF lap=10 THEN GO TO 500
48 FOR f=0 TO 21: PRINT AT f,8: PAPER 7;"      ": NEXT f
50 IF lap=1 OR lap=5 OR lap=8 THEN FOR f=1 TO 7: PRINT AT INT (RND*17),INT (R
ND*13)+10; INK 5;"K": NEXT f
60 IF lap=2 OR lap=3 OR lap=6 OR lap=9 THEN FOR f=1 TO 7: PRINT AT INT (RND*1
6),INT (RND*13)+10; INK 4;"L": NEXT f
65 IF lap=0 OR lap=4 OR lap=7 THEN FOR f=1 TO 6: PRINT AT INT (RND*15),INT (R
ND*13)+10; INK 3;"M": NEXT f
80 FOR a=18 TO 0 STEP -1
85 IF ATTR (a,b)=61 OR ATTR (a,b+1)=61 THEN GO SUB 1000
90 IF ATTR (a,b)=60 OR ATTR (a,b+1)=60 THEN GO SUB 1100
95 IF ATTR (a,b)=59 OR ATTR (a,b+1)=59 THEN GO SUB 1200
100 INK 2: PRINT AT a+1,b-1;" CD ";AT a+2,b-1;" EF ";AT a+3,b-1;"      "
110 IF INKEY$="8" THEN PRINT AT a,b-1;" GH": LET b=b+1
120 IF INKEY$="5" THEN PRINT AT a,b;" IJ ": LET b=b-1
130 IF INKEY$="" THEN PRINT AT a,b;"AB"
140 IF b<9 THEN LET b=b+1
150 IF b>21 THEN LET b=b-1
160 BEEP .012,-30
180 NEXT a
200 PRINT AT a+3,b-1;"      ": BEEP .012,-30: PAUSE 3
210 PRINT AT a,b-1;" CD ";AT a+1,b-1;" EF ";AT a+2,b;"      ": BEEP .012,-30: PAUS
E 3
220 PRINT AT a,b-1;" EF ";AT a+1,b-1;"      ": BEEP .012,-30: PAUSE 3
230 PRINT AT a,b-1;"      ": BEEP .012,-30
250 LET lap=lap+1
300 GO TO 40
500 FOR f=30 TO 100
510 BORDER 3: BORDER 4: BORDER 6: BORDER 1
515 BEEP .01,f/2: BEEP .01,f/3
520 NEXT f
530 PAPER 5: BORDER 0: INK 0: CLS
540 PRINT AT 2,0;" Your driving ability is ";da;"%"
600 PRINT AT 20,0;" Press any key for another go ! "
610 PAUSE 0: CLS : GO TO 10
1000 BEEP .02,10: LET da=da-13: RETURN
1100 BEEP .02,0: LET da=da-9: RETURN
1200 BEEP .02,-10: LET da=da-5: RETURN
7000 BORDER 3: PAPER 3: CLS : PRINT AT 2,0: INK 2: PAPER 6: FLASH 1;"
      HAZARD DRIVER
"
7010 PRINT AT 5,0: INK 3: PAPER 6;"      BY A.G.BIRD. 1984.      "
7015 PRINT AT 8,9;"<< 5      8 >>"
7020 PRINT AT 10,0: INK 1: PAPER 6;"The idea is to drive your car      through the
hazards on the road."'"These include
      K Glass      L Logs      M Oil      "
7030 PRINT AT 16,0: INK 1: PAPER 6;"Points will be deducted every      time you hit
a hazard and at      the end your driving ability      is given.
"
7040 PRINT AT 21,0: PAPER 4: INK 0;"Press any key to start your car."
7050 PAUSE 0: RETURN
9000 FOR f=144 TO 156: FOR n=0 TO 7
9010 READ a: POKE USR (CHR$ +f)+n,a
9020 NEXT n: NEXT f
9030 DATA 1,99,99,127,99,99,7,7,128,198,198,254,198,198,224,224,7,6,4,4,4,7,7,7,
224,96,32,32,32,224,224,224
9040 DATA 7,103,99,127,99,98,15,15,224,230,198,254,198,70,240,240,1,51,115,127,2
27,195,7,7,128,195,199,254,206,204,224,224
9050 DATA 1,195,227,127,115,51,7,7,128,204,206,254,199,195,224,224
9060 DATA 0,64,73,17,0,148,72,2,0,0,32,24,12,255,255,0,14,31,127,254,254,252,124
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# Looking for the ultimate joystick?

Creative Software has just announced an integrated line of software called *The People's Choice*. So far, it consists of three programs called *Jack's Calc*, *Fred's Filer*, and *Joe's Writer*. Each is designed to be able to be used by older children and adults at all levels of computer experience. The firm claims that, using *Joe's Writer*, anyone can be writing letters within 15 minutes, even if they have never used a computer before. That claim comes from Joe Jetson, the programmer. The program has all the standard word processing features plus an on-line help feature and a brief instruction card. Says Joe: "If you can use a typewriter, you can use *Joe's Writer*".

Using *Jack's Calc*, developing forms for business and personal finances becomes an easy thing to do, while *Fred's Filer* allows the user to create an index card-like system on the screen using whatever format seems best. Later the user can scan through the file making changes at will.

Look for *The People's Choice* series, to be available for the Commodore 64 soon, with IBM PC and PCjr versions expected by mid-year. The programs can be purchased separately or as a package and can be used together as they share a common command vocabulary. The suggested list price of each program will be \$49.95. You can contact Creative Software at 230 East Caribbean Drive, Sunnyvale, California 94086. (408) 745-1655.



Are you a computer games player looking for the ultimate joystick? Watch out for the *High Score (HS-20) Tournament Master*, which is being billed as the first ergonomically designed controller.

Although you really need to see this product to be as impressed as I am (and I don't often play games), here are a few of its many features:

- Fire buttons are the same size as regular coin-operated arcade games
- Two fire buttons are supplied — manual fire and auto fire
- The latest design is used for increased sensitivity coupled with high reliability
- It includes a carrying bag which has space for 10 games cartridges

The *Tournament Master* is nine inches long, 5¼ inches deep, it is compatible with the Atari, Coleco, Apple and TI-99/4A and all switches are of the heavy duty industrial grade leaf type. And it comes with a five year warranty.

Although I cannot give you a price, you can find out for yourself by contacting *High Score*, 1667 West Ninth Street, Long Beach, California 90813.



I have just received some interesting information on another piece of hardware, and thought I'd pass the information along. It's called *Micro-X64* which is an expansion board for the Commodore 64. It plugs into the expansion slot (naturally) and provides the following features: allows the addition of a Z80 card so the machine can run CP/M; supports an additional disc drive; allows the use of a DMA controller; it's small and convenient to use; has two vertical slots and one horizontal slot; provides a system reset button; a system pause switch; uses all gold connectors; supports an 80-column card. Best of all, it is very reasonably priced at \$49.95. Contact *Compuscope Inc.*, 6400 Signal Street, Tillamook, Oregon 97141. (503) 842-4431.

Some time ago I wrote here about the problem of using portable video games and computers on board airplanes. The situation seems to be getting resolved.

In a recent announcement, Eastern Airlines, one of the first to ban the items, stated that passengers would indeed be able to use portable computers on board at any time except during takeoffs and landings. This decision was based on its findings that such devices do not interfere with the navigation instrumentation.

The tests that led to such a conclusion were conducted by Eastern and the Federal Aviation Administration. Since the FAA has set no firm policy on the issue, it is therefore up to each individual airline to set its own policy. As far as I know, so far Eastern, TWA, United Airlines and Delta allow computers, whereas American Airlines does not.

The policy of certain airlines regarding this now becomes one more reason to prefer flying one airline over another, that is if using a portable computer is important to you. In which case, you may find that certain skies are friendlier than others.



A few new product announcements from the Hayden Book Company: First there is *The Unofficial I Hate Computers Book*, by John Barry and Richard Tennant. This 80-page paperback contains 76 anti-computer cartoons that offer a "tongue-in-chip" look at the perils of home and business computing. To give you an idea, the cover shows a cat using a computer as a litter box, while on the back an ape is about to use a computer as a punching bag. The contents are filled with similar "applications".

Next, Hayden has announced the *Fast Reference Guides* series. This is a line of six reference booklets that include options, menus, commands, and formats for dBase II (one for programming and another for using it), *SuperCalc*, *CP/M*, *VisiCalc*, and *WordStar*. A glossary of useful terms is included in each guide. The suggested price of each guide is \$3.95.

*Atari in Wonderland* is the title of a Hayden text that contains 22 short stories and programs designed to introduce children to the Atari and have them learn word and numerical skills. Among other things, the book explains how to count in French and Spanish, how to appear on a TV quiz show, how to write songs, how to measure angles while riding on a roller coaster, and how to write a book report. The book also includes a listing of programs and instructions for using Atari graphics. Each chapter shows how to modify the programs and use the features. Hayden is planning to make the programs available on cassette soon. The paperback has 128 pages and costs \$9.95.

Hayden has also brought out two books for the Commodore 64. The first is called *Commodore 64 Programs For The Home*. It contains over 40 BASIC listings for the entire family and is written for first-time users. The book explains and lists each program including a symbol table, sample data, and an example run. All programs can be easily modified and have been thoroughly tested. This 170-page paperback will cost \$14.95. The second is *Basic Commodore 64 BASIC* and is a guide that is designed to be used in the home or in class. It starts with short easy-to-learn programs, adding one command at a time. Each program is kept short and is divided into segments, most of which can fit on a single screen page. This 256 page paperback also costs \$14.95. In the unlikely event that you cannot locate a source for these, contact Hayden Book Company directly at 10 Mulholland Drive, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey 07604. (201) 393-6303.

Definitely out of space again. See you next week.

**Bud Izen**  
Fairfield, California

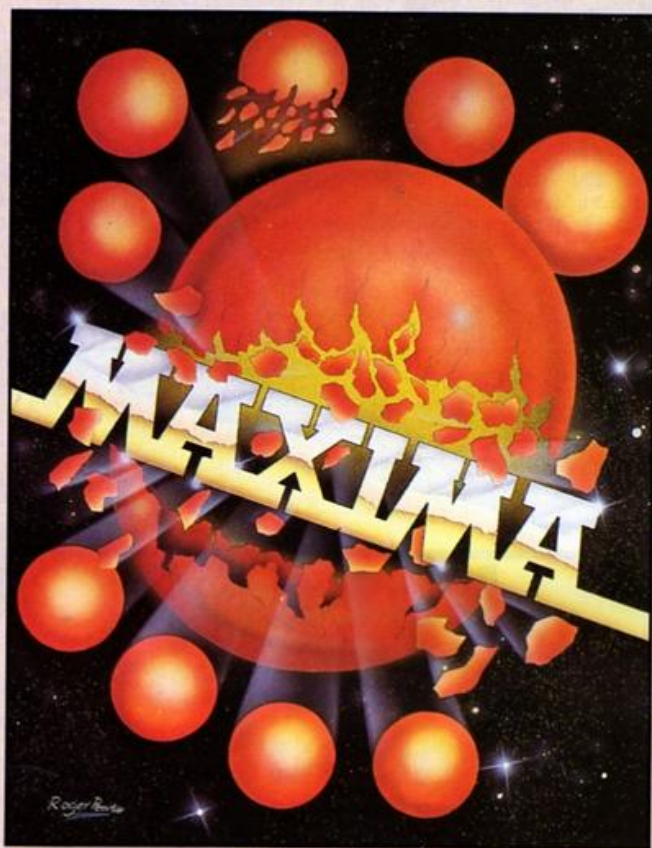


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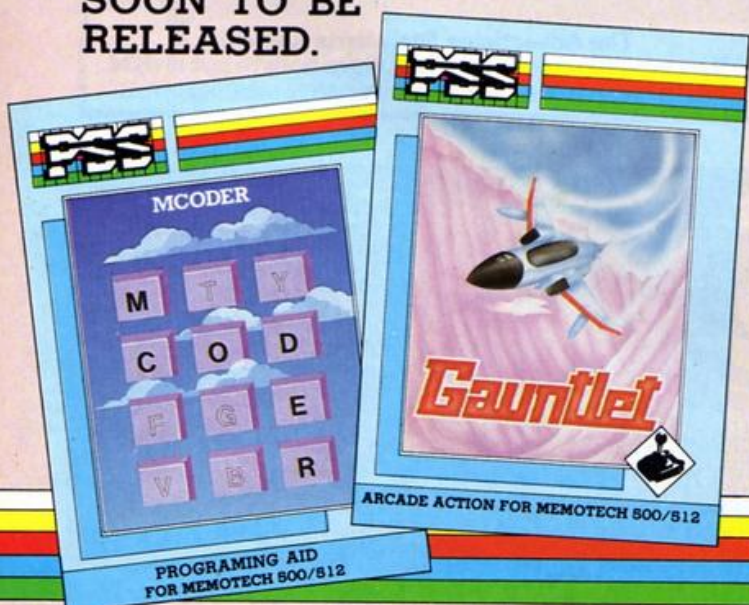
The game opens with your ship executing an impressive jump through hyper-space to where the action is. First up are the green snappers - easy targets against the starry backdrop. Next comes the blue meanies, a swirling bunch of wriggling invaders. To follow, a crescent of rather beautiful revolving hexagonal barrels who arc around the screen raining bombs on you. Its a shame to pot these lovely creatures. On you go to a further 13 screens of magnificent graphics.

Devastatingly simple in concept it nevertheless has that indefinable ability to compel you to have just one more attempt to try and see what the 16 screens hold in store.

A must for all Memotech owners.

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The Green,  
Ashby de la Zouch,  
Leicestershire.





## Petite Pascal Dragon 32 £14.95

Oasis, Alexandra Parade,  
Weston-super-Mare, Avon BS23  
1QT

Attractively packaged in a video-  
style case with manual, one tape  
contains the machine code  
program and the other a series of  
applied demonstrations, from a  
simple sort routine to a P-Code  
disassembler (there are 12  
altogether).

The manual is in two sections:  
first a simple tutorial and a  
second for the more experienced  
programmer.

It was interesting that part of  
the claimed advantage was that  
Pascal "prevents the  
programmer from jumping in  
feet first" and "from writing at  
the terminal". It therefore

"forces the program to be  
structured and designed first".

Whether you need another  
version of BASIC is debatable  
but this one comes with its own  
compiler to produce fast running  
times. Even this is not essential  
when Oasis has a very good  
Dragon BASIC compiler.

Everything performed well  
although I would have liked  
more detail with the  
demonstrations. They were not  
self explanatory to the beginner.  
Which brings us back to the  
central question: why Pascal?  
Does the experienced  
programmer want another high  
level language? I suspect not.

M.P.

instructions	80%
playability	70%
graphics	N/A
value for money	70%



## Turbo Compiler 32K BBC/Electron £9.95

Salamander, 17 Norfolk Rd,  
Brighton, East Sussex BN1 3AA

This may seem to be the answer  
to many prayers: the speed of  
machine code by writing BASIC.  
But life is never that simple. If it  
was we would all be writing  
chart-toppers.

The problem is that this can  
only cope with a small subset of  
BASIC keywords. The manual  
claims it covers 65, but even to  
do this you must write in a  
particular way. For example, a  
MOVE statement must first be  
translated into VDU statements  
which may not be easy if you

don't usually use this method.

That understood, this is a very  
compact and fast compiler which  
does all that is claimed. The  
manual is well written although I  
didn't find the disc instructions  
very easy to understand. The  
subset is reasonable and the code  
you produce can be used without  
compiler in memory.

The demo program shows  
another problem, though. The  
machine code version of the first  
part is no faster than the BASIC  
one and the second doesn't even  
run in BASIC as it was written in  
a special way so the compiler can  
make sense of it!

D.C.

instructions	80%
playability	90%
graphics	N/A
value for money	80%



## Adventure Creator 48K Spectrum £7.95

Fusion, 17 Crome Cl,  
Colchester, Essex

This program is a little like a toy  
piano — you can pick out a tune  
on it but wouldn't use it to play  
Beethoven. The authors have  
programming expertise but  
insufficient knowledge of text  
adventures.

Adventures created permit  
verb/object commands.  
Normally, solving problems  
requires discovery of the exact  
two words, i.e. only "Wave  
Wand" in sealed room reveals  
exit. But this program only  
permits one Wave or Wand, but  
not both. Exit would reveal with  
"Wave Dwarf" or "Eat Dwarf"  
or any combination of keyword  
and another!

Only part of the built-in  
vocabulary is revealed — a coy  
note says it understands many  
more. Quite how the writer is  
supposed to use these unknown  
words escapes me. A better  
manual with explanation of  
menu headings would help.  
Displays in same two colours  
throughout, exits must be strict  
directions and "facility to add  
your own graphics" translates as  
"we've left room if you know  
how". Music selection available  
— Congratulation and Funeral  
March being obligatory.  
Although apparently cheaper  
than others, still too pricey for  
what it is, even with sample  
adventure thrown in.

D.C.

instructions	60%
playability	50%
graphics	40%
value for money	40%



# Are these any use to you?

New utilities for the Dragon,  
BBC/Electron and Spectrum  
examined by our experts

## H.U.R.G. 48K Spectrum £14.95

Melbourne House, 131 Trafalgar  
Rd, London SE10

A long time coming but worth  
the wait. My criticism of games  
designers so far is you're  
confined to variations on space-  
invaders — graphics change but  
game's the same.

The demo games are not great  
but I guess they are deliberately  
left simple so you can easily see  
what they are doing and use them  
for experimentation. Initially,  
the many menus and options  
seem confusing. I got stuck  
trying to enter yes/no answers,  
having skipped "keyboard or  
joystick left, right, up, down and  
fire controls work both games  
and program". If you haven't  
written games before, some

terms may be new but the  
manual explains well. If you're  
still not sure, try it and see.

You can load previously  
designed backgrounds then,  
within the program, design and  
test animation of player's and  
enemy graphics, set colour,  
movement, collisions,  
explosions, etc. It will take time  
and practice but it really makes  
original games design possible.  
Hopefully, due to delay in  
release, Melbourne House will  
extend the £3,000-plus-  
publication competition for an  
original H.U.R.G.- designed  
game which, at present, closes  
April 30. If so, have a go!

D.C.

instructions	90%
playability	85%
graphics	90%
value for money	90%



## Graphics and Sound Toolkit Spectrum £5.50

Lerm Software Products, 16  
Stonepit Dr, Cottingham,  
Market Harborough, Leics

Contains 25 machine code  
routines giving scrolls: up, down,  
right, left by character or pixel;  
screen "dissolve"; character  
rotation, reflection or upside-  
down; box-fill with character or  
attribute; attribute change  
without CLS; screen invert;  
screen-fill with random pixels or  
colours; screen flash; border  
stripes and flashes; and several  
sound aids.

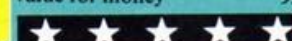
A demo program loads with  
the toolkit, breakable for study  
and erasable, allowing initial  
practice with routines. For  
practical work, provision is made  
to copy toolkit without demo.

Instructions include: demo  
listing with REM headings on  
routine used; list of routines with  
USR call address, POKES  
necessary and menu line  
reference for study; manual with  
simple explanations and sample  
programs. In principle, excellent  
but missing string/hash symbols  
with some address misprints.  
Box-fill example gave problems  
with window size and crashed  
program but worked O.K. on  
reLOAD.

Takes 2K relocatable memory,  
allowing other utility use at same  
time. Must be present in  
programs but author only  
requires acknowledgement.  
Useful package with very nice  
effects.

D.C.

instructions	85%
playability	90%
graphics	85%
value for money	95%





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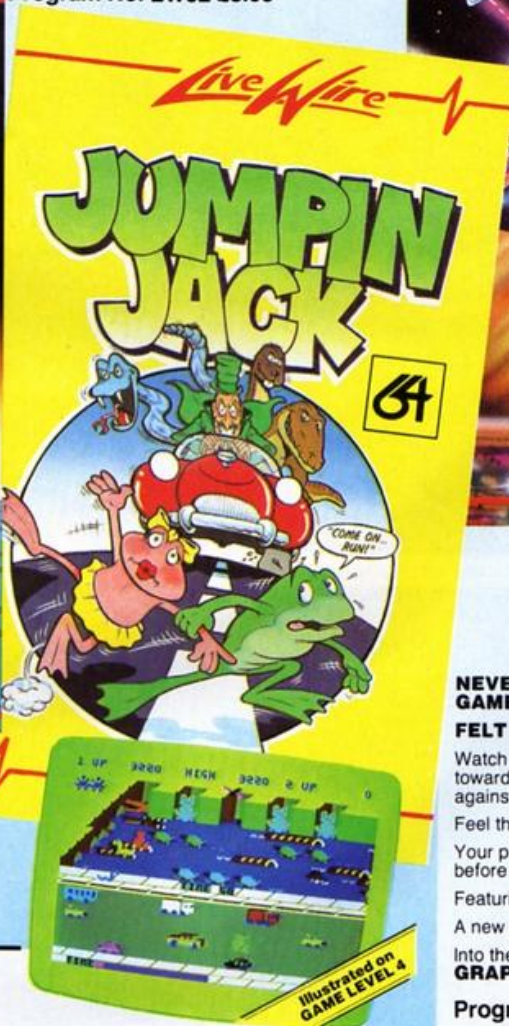
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## Chopper X-1 Spectrum £5.50

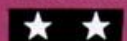
R & R, 5 Russell St, Gloucester  
GL1 1DE

As commander of a helicopter gunship, you must destroy waves of Spinad, Spore and Fusa before they reach earth and rear attack. Your helicopter is firmly fixed left of screen, moving only up (cursor 7) or down (6), firing missiles (0) and smart bombs (9), green ground scrolling beneath you. Attacks come from above by upside-down ice cream cones, from the right by white whirling crosses, with occasional blue octopi dropping, out of range, to earth. Score is shown at the top, with five unexplained graphics marked "Pods", increasing and decreasing. Similar graphics appear, already imbedded, as the

ground scrolls on, and explode upwards as they pass you. Since the game's aim is to destroy aliens before they reach earth, it seems a bit unsporting to let them land off-screen. And, without rear missiles, your two smart bombs are your only hope.

Mindless "zap aliens" games without originality or complexity, difficult only for lack of manoeuvrability and off-screen or out of range items, might have been acceptable once but program design has moved on. When landing aliens erase character squares in supposedly solid mountains, a problem overcome by most novices. **D.C.**

instructions	50%
playability	40%
graphics	20%
value for money	40%



## Star Commando Commodore 64 £7.95

Terminal, 28 Church Lane,  
Prestwich, Manchester M25 5AJ

I've tried — I've really tried — but I'm still a rookie. Is it me, I ask myself, or a game too difficult even in easy levels? First you log in your name (I swear the computer sneers) and bang, you're in outer space, nervously peering through a target sight. Examine score (nil), hi score (unbelievable), energy (full 500). Check scan information — tells you, (sometimes), what fiends await you where and mothership location.

Right, let's have a go at the Sausonic Raiders — enter

selection, hyperspace flickers... help, you're in the middle of the moaning, whistling horde. Fighting like a tiger but no good — too many — can't escape sector until they or you are finished... made it... fuel low! Head for Mothership sector. Mid-air refuel operation, must lock both target sights. And Mother doesn't hang about. Any fumbling and whoosh, she's off leaving you half-full.

There are various colourful, noisy, deadly nasties and seven levels, culminating in Star Commando wings. If anyone makes it, don't tell me. **D.C.**

instructions	90%
playability	60%
graphics	90%
value for money	80%



## Altair 4 Comodore 64 £7.50

Voyager, Business Centre,  
Cloughton Road, Birkenhead,  
Merseyside L41 6ES

A text adventure, at least no graphics as far as I've got — about 15%. Story so far: your strato-cruiser is badly damaged in an asteroid storm. You land on Altair 4 — a galactic penal planet — and must find repair equipment, avoiding vile, cannibalistic criminal inhabitants. Finding and befriending wrongly imprisoned Furry Wokey could help.

Some rooms to be explored inside the strato-cruiser. In one, damaged cables and a snoring animal, with comment, "not badly damaged, needs some patching up". Animal or cables? He or it refuses to awaken and I can't find the first aid so I've started exploring the planet.

The nicest thing is that you feel the author, K. Suddick, is sitting inside the TV, watching your progress with fellow-feeling and offering the occasional encouragement or hint. I would have put on the spacesuit unprompted but the suggestion I do so was friendly.

Descriptions are detailed, atmospheric and sometimes subtle. Colour is used sparingly but to good effect and text occasionally behaves in a graphical way. Loved the adventure, hated the 15 minute LOAD. But highly recommended.

**D.C.**

instructions	90%
playability	90%
graphics	90%
value for money	95%



# Up and away by computer

Five new games, all involving  
flight of some sort. Our  
reviewers return to earth with  
their ratings

## 3D Space Wars Dragon 32 £7.95

Hewson Consultants, 56B  
Milton Trading Estate,  
Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4RX

No prizes for guessing that this is another 3D shoot-'em-up game in which you sit in your nice padded pilot's seat trying to despatch the latest invaders to a land from which they can never return.

So what is special about this one? Well it certainly is the best, yes the best, graphical screen I have yet seen for the Dragon. To be honest I had despaired of ever seeing anything this good. There is always a price to pay, however, and that is paid in the lack of

colour. The screen is only black and white but the detail is well worth it and the colour comes back when you explode which, if you're like me, is quite regularly. The game has all the other features you would expect: radar screens, fuel gauges, speed changes and a mother ship to dock upon when needed.

The only disappointing feature is the sound which is the on the pathetic side of inadequate. While this is poor enough to lose a star in the ratings, anyone wanting this type of game should give it a whirl. **D.C.**

instructions	95%
playability	90%
graphics	100%
value for money	80%



## Up Up Balloon Sord M5 £23.95

Computer Games, Goldings Hill,  
Loughton, Essex IG10 2RR

There is one thing for certain: this is one of the most original games cartridges.

You move a little balloonist around the screen collecting hearts, or "Gal Marks" as the instructions call them, avoiding Galoons, Pirocs, Kniphoons, Sharcoons, Condolooncs and Barracudas. There are two ways to tackle these creatures: knock them down with your balloon from above, or shoot them with your arrow. However, you can be knocked out by colliding with any of the creatures, being eaten by a barracuda, or by failing to collect nine Gal marks within the time limit. You have five balloons.

All this takes place to a jolly background tune. Graphics and animation are extremely impressive, especially the enormous barracuda which jumps out of the water from time to time with mouth agape. The creatures all behave in their own ways and if you are not playing, you will enjoy watching them wandering around the screen. With professional touches like two-player and joystick options, Up Up Balloon is well worth its hefty price and a must for anyone who is fed up with traditional shoot-'em-up games.

**S.S.**

instructions	90%
playability	90%
graphics	95%
value for money	90%





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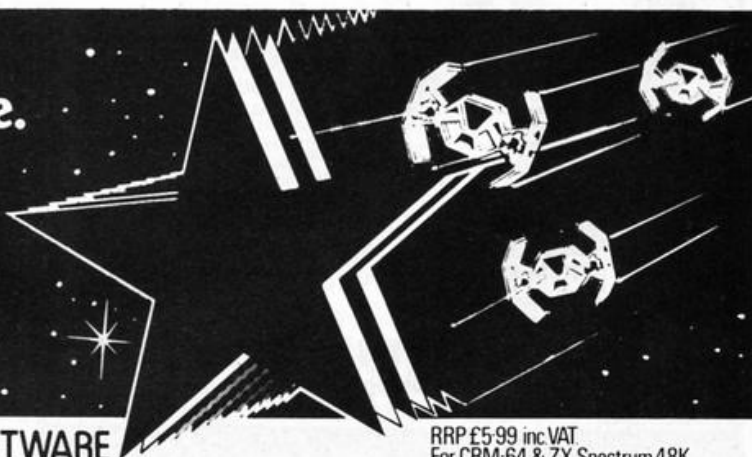
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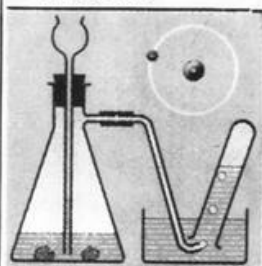


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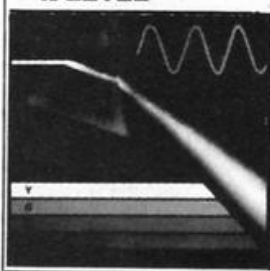
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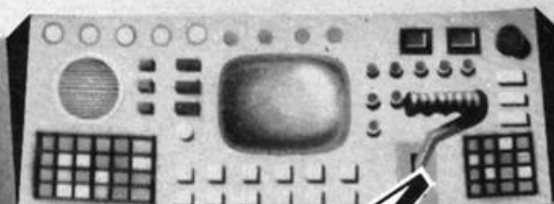
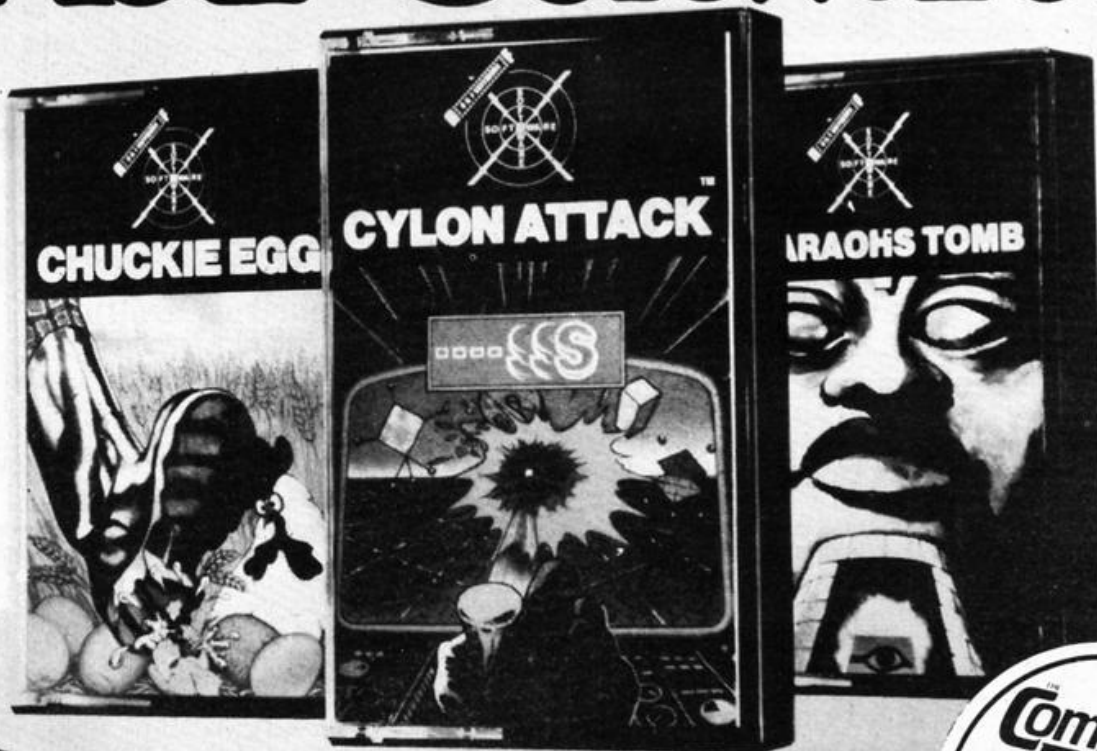
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## Patscram Mission TI-99/4A £6

Stainless, 10 Alstone Rd, Stockport, Cheshire

The third in a series featuring the Starship Patscram. Your mission is to restore the Cube of Peace, that the Zirgons have made ineffective, by penetrating their defences on five different screens.

After the title screen you choose the momentum type that your spacecraft will have and keyboard or joystick control. You then have the unusual option to practice operating the ship before play starts. Another feature is the choice of a demonstration game by the computer — far more valuable than a set of instructions.

Once the preliminaries are over, you make a start with Starship Patscram lift-off. By steering through Zirgon mines, it has to be taken to the top of the screen. On screen two you have a limited time in which to destroy Arrowite weapons. This you do by crashing into them! On screen three the converse applies as you have to avoid asteroids. On the fourth you manoeuvre gliding cubes to recover the Cube of Peace, and on the fifth take it back home. But when you've landed the game won't end here as the action re-starts on screen one. Needs Extended BASIC.

	<b>J.W.</b>
instructions	95%
playability	85%
graphics	80%
value for money	90%



## Confrontation 32K BBC £7.95

M.C. Lothlorien, 56A Park Lane, Paynton, Stockport, Cheshire SK112 1RE

You may have guessed from its name that this is a game of war. In fact it's one of a series of two-player strategy games. The instructions reminded me of the typical rules for a board game. They are very complicated and detailed and if you read them extra carefully you may just be able to comprehend them. But I'm making no promises.

When the game has loaded there is no scenario in the memory, so it can either be loaded from the tape or you can make up your own, which can also be saved. Each player's

forces consists of 35 units, 12 separate types of unit, each holding different properties. The conditions for victory are decided upon by the two players. For example, you may wish the outcome to be decided on the number of cities taken rather than units lost.

If you hate board games this isn't really worth considering. If, on the other hand, you like the sound of it try and find out more about it. The same game has been released for the Spectrum.

**M.B.**

instructions	40%
ease of use	60%
display	70%
value for money	55%



## Pettigrews Diary 32K BBC £7.95

Shards, 189 Eton Rd, Ilford, Essex IG1 1UQ

This adventure comprises three programs, each under its own chapter heading, and each just as difficult as the last.

In the first, The Burning Farmhouse, you have to venture inside to retrieve as many objects as you can, avoiding the swirling flames. Once you have completed any stage you are given a code word, and from then on that stage can be missed out if wished.

In London Frolics, the next chapter, you have to earn enough to buy a ticket to Paris. You communicate with the computer in two-word phrases.

In Chapter 3, European Trek, you have to complete eight tasks. If you succeed you will have solved the mystery of Pettigrew's Diary. Graphics are included in Chapters 1 and 3. Each is referred to separately in the instructions, which tell you as much as they can without giving too many clues away.

After a while the music in Chapter 1 began to aggravate me a little but now I have most of the codes I don't have to listen. I haven't got long to go now. I'll complete the adventure soon.

**M.B.**

instructions	70%
ease of use	70%
display	70%
value for money	90%



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## Wallaby TI-99/4A with Extended BASIC plus Joystick £7

Counterpoint, from Stainless, 10 Alstone Rd, Stockport, Cheshire

Poor Wally the Wallaby is trapped inside a Thing-A-Ma-Jig factory and must find his way out. Exits are on four different screens along which he will encounter various obstacles. Successfully completing all four screens, however, only returns Wally to a more difficult screen one.

The first displays a series of ladders leading to upper floors, at the top right is the exit. Wally must not only climb these ladders but jump over sliding baskets and duck to avoid overhead

buckets. Should he be hit not only does he lose a life but must start again.

Having reached the exit, Wally receives bonus points before continuing on the next screen, where he must travel down slides. On the third screen are both slides and ladders, and on the fourth, moving holes.

The program runs smoothly unless you attempt to move sideways off screen. Then it crashes with a BAD VALUE. I had to enlist the help of a nephew to find what lay beyond the first screen. "What a Wally," did you say?

**J.W.**

instructions	95%
playability	85%
graphics	80%
value for money	80%



## Mr D TI-99/4A £5

SP Software, from Stainless, 10 Alstone Rd, Stockport, Cheshire

Mr D is certainly strange. Not only does he resemble a little horse, but goes underground to collect cherries. I always thought they grew on trees.

It seems dinosaurs are also fond of these fruits — on each screen there are two that pursue Mr D, who will lose a life if caught. Using keys or joystick, Mr D must collect all the cherries to progress onto another screen and score points. Also beneath the ground are apples. If Mr D passes directly under one it will fall down the screen. Should one fall on a dinosaur's head, the monster is killed.

If Mr D can't manage to out-run the monsters he does have five magic balls to use in each screen. When fired, it will follow the path left by Mr D, destroying a dinosaur if it happens to be in the way.

Compared with other games of its type, this doesn't stand out as being particularly original or inspiring. Some variation in the graphics and a high score table might add more interest to what is otherwise a very repetitive game.

**J.W.**

instructions	80%
playability	45%
graphics	40%
value for money	60%





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7 Light Cycles	PS	Spectrum(-)
8 Falcon Patrol	Virgin	CBM 64(4)
9 Hunchback	Ocean	Spectrum(-)
10 Flying Feathers	Bubble Bus	CBM 64(-)

### NON-ARCADE

1 Twin Kingdom Valley	Bug-Byte	CBM 64(-)
2 Golf 64	Abrasco	CBM 64(-)
3 Hobbit	M.House	Spectrum(2)
3 Home Manager	Abrasco	CBM 64(-)
5 Golf Spectrum	Abrasco	Spectrum(-)
6 Twin Kingdom Valley	Bug-Byte	BBC(-)
7 Pool	CDS	Spectrum(-)
8 Mad Martha	Microgen	Spectrum(-)
9 Dragonbane	Quicksilver	Spectrum(-)
10 The Valley	APS	VIC-20(-)

Compiled with the assistance of Britain's leading software distributors, including: Pinnacle, SDL, PCE, Websters, PCS and Software Centre.

### SPECTRUM

1 Chequered Flag	Psion (2)
2 Ant Attack	Quicksilver (-)
3 Atic Atac	Ultimate (1)
4 Hunchback	Ocean (5)
5 Fred	Quicksilver (-)
6 Cyrus-Is-Chess	Intelligent (-)
7 Scuba Dive	Durell (3)
8 Flight Simulation	Psion (6)
9 Lunar Jetman	Ultimate (7)
10 Snowman	Quicksilver (9)

### COMMODORE 64

1 Crazy Kong	Interceptor (3)
2 Buga Boo (The Flea)	Quicksilver (6)
3 Revenge of the Mutant Camels	Llamosoft (-)
4 Super Blitz	Commodore (-)
5 Manic Miner	Software Projects (2)
6 Chinese Juggler	Ocean (10)
7 Depth Charge	Commodore (-)
8 Mr Wimpy	Ocean (-)
9 Tank Attack	Superior (-)
10 Hobbit 64	M.House (-)

### DRAGON 32

1 Chuckie Egg	A&F (1)
2 Up Periscope	Beyond (7)
3 Pedro	Imagine (8)
4 Hungry Horace	M.House (6)
5 Devil Assault	Microdeal (-)
6 Ring of Darkness	Wintersoft (-)
7 Frogger	Microdeal (10)
8 Kriegspiel	Beyond (3)
9 Dragon Chess	Oasis (-)
10 Skramble	Microdeal (-)

Compiled by W. H. Smith and Websters. Figures in brackets are last week's positions.

### VIC-20

1 Snooker	Visions (-)
2 Crazy Kong	Interceptor (2)
3 Wizard and the Princess	M.House (3)
4 Flight 015	Ferranti / Davenport (1)
5 Jet Pac	Ultimate (6)
6 Gridrunner	Llamosoft (9)
7 Arcadia	Imagine (8)
8 Snowman and Maths Maze	Commodore (7)
9 Race	Commodore (-)
10 Supervaders / Bomber Run	K-tel (-)

### HOME COMPUTING WEEKLY BRITAIN'S BRIGHTEST

### ZX81

1 Mothership	Sinclair (-)
2 Crazy Kong	PSS (3)
3 Fantasy Games	Sinclair (-)
4 Flight Simulation	Sinclair (-)
5 Space Raiders	Sinclair (-)
6 Asteriods	Quicksilver (2)
7 Skramble	Quicksilver (1)
8 Chess 1K	Sinclair (-)
9 Football Manager	Addictive (4)
10 Defenders	Quicksilver (5)



## Secret Agent TI-99/4A £7

Stainless, 10 Alstone Rd, Stockport, Cheshire

We've all seen the classic film stunt of running along a moving train, leaping from one carriage to another. Now here's the chance to try it without leaving the comfort of your armchair.

You have five enthusiastic agents with which to recover a briefcase — full of secrets, of course! On the first screen your agent crosses the train by jumping over pylons and taking care not to fall between the carriages. The briefcase is located at the far end of the train, but once recovered another appears at the opposite end. This continues until a total of six have been collected, the number of pylons increasing with each complete traverse of the screen.

The train then disappears and your agent reappears on one of a series of cable cars. By jumping up and down onto the cars he must once gain take possession of the briefcase which has been hidden in one of the cars. If he survives this screen he returns to screen one which continues at a faster pace.

Makes excellent use of the sprites available in Extended BASIC, providing graphics that are both amusing and effective.

instructions	70%
playability	80%
graphics	100%
value for money	80%



J.W.

## Fruit Search Sord M5 £19.95

Computer Games, Goldings Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 2RR

The instructions tell you that you are planning a party for your girlfriends, but each will only eat the kind of fruit she likes. Your job is to find out which kind of fruit each girl prefers.

On the left of the screen there is a fruit shop from which you can select various fruits and on the right there are fruit baskets. You select three to five fruits, depending on the difficulty level, then the computer prints a blue fruit for each fruit of correct position and type.

Sounds familiar? Well, you've

probably guessed by now, Fruit Search is a derivative of Master Mind, except you have to guess the right combination of fruits instead of boring little pins. And you get pretty pictures on the screen.

Graphics are nice and clear, presentation very professional. There are many nice touches as joystick option and difficulty levels and, even though relatively cheap for a cartridge game, it doesn't represent very good value for money.

instructions	90%
playability	30%
graphics	80%
value for money	50%



S.S.

## Last day of the Earth/ Mini Star Trek Sord M5 £8.95

Computer Games, Goldings Hill, Loughton Essex IG10 2RR

Both are, in fact versions of the Star Trek game that originated on mainframe computers. They do not transport well onto machines such as a standard Sord M5 which has a tiny memory.

Basically, the universe is infested with Klingons, or any other nasties, and you have to crusade to fumigate it. But it's not an easy task as the cosmic vermin are everywhere so you'll have to travel through sub-universes if you want to effectively clean up.

To aid your heroic quest, there are several allied base stations throughout where you'll be able to replenish supplies and stock up on missiles. The universe is divided into sub-universes but as the screen is too small to show them all at once, it will only display one at a time. To effectively clean up the universe, you have to use warp drive and shifts cunningly and use missiles sparingly.

Although both games are very simple, they are well written and surprisingly fun to play.

	S.S.
instructions	80%
playability	50%
graphics	40%
value for money	60%



## Wonder Hole Sord M5 £23.95

Computer Games, Goldings Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 2RR

The blurb says that all you have to do is to drive the car across the field, and wherever you encounter a monster, knock it underground. But the monsters won't stay put. They will dig their way back up to the surface and as soon as they remerge, they will regenerate into larva, "Lar", then pupa, "Boo", and will continue to grow every time they are knocked underground until finally, they turn into adults, "Eema". These are particularly nasty as they shoot at you.

In fact you drive your car over what look like plates and you

simply go over anything that's not an "Eema". That's just about all there is to the game apart from the odd chance to get bonus points. You go on to the next screen when you knock out all the monsters. I must confess that I couldn't achieve this however hard I tried.

Although the game uses sprites and sounds well, the baddies and yourself doesn't show up well at all on the light coloured background and this spoils a game that could have been very addictive.

	S.S.
instructions	90%
playability	50%
graphics	60%
value for money	60%



## Starprobe 99 TI-99/4A £7

Counterpoint, from Stainless, 10 Alstone Rd, Stockport, Cheshire

Just as it seemed that the Xyolians had been expelled from the galaxy, a starprobe has reported underground activity on a small moon. Now it's up to you to penetrate the defences of their hidden base by controlling the probe.

As the game starts your probe descends into the depths of a cave. Using keyboard control to hover, move left, right or fire either QuasiThermite bombs or the Superbeam, the probe must be guided down the maze of tunnels that scroll up the screen, blasting Xyolian defences all the way. Any fuel depots you see should be bombed to boost the probe's reserves. The same applies to ammunition dumps.

When the game ends you are given the total depth, reserve fuel and ammunition, and your deepest probe, although this information can be called any time during the game by the P, pause, key. You may play again in the same cave or in any of another eight different ones.

If you're looking for an entertaining program for your unexpanded TI this is an excellent choice. It's by far the best that I've seen for a long time that exploits the better qualities of this under-rated machine.

	J.W.
instructions	100%
playability	90%
graphics	100%
value for money	100%





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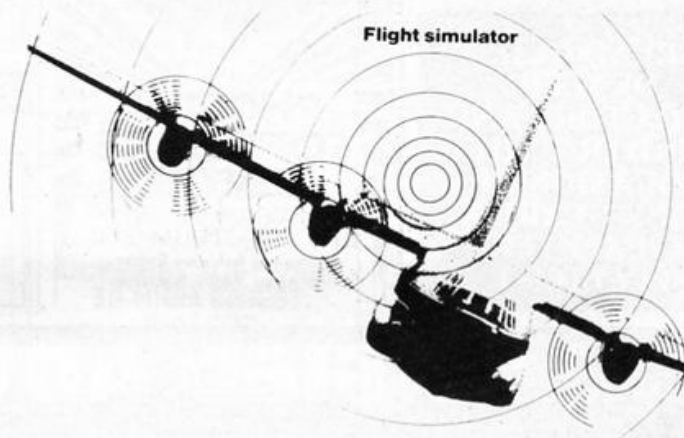
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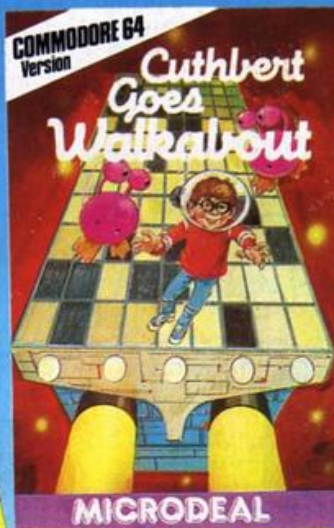


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