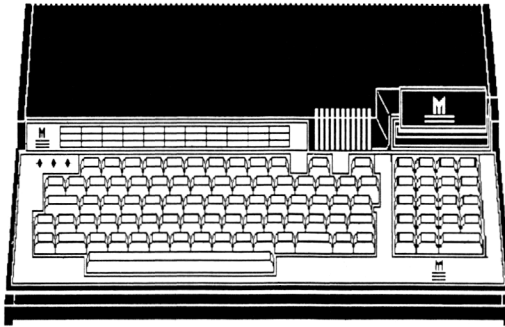


**BOOKS &
SOFTWARE**
catalogue



For the Acorn/BBC B/B+/Master Microcomputers

BOOKS & SOFTWARE

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VIEW: A Dabhand Guide

Product: Word Processing Machines: All Acorn machines Format: Book and 40/80 disc.
Author: Bruce Smith Cost **£12.95** Book / **£7.95** 5.25" disc / **£9.95** 3.5" disc. Available: **Now**
ISBN 1-870336-00-3

This is the most comprehensive tutorial and reference guide written about using the VIEW wordprocessor, now in its second edition.

The book assumes no prior knowledge, and can thus be used in substitution for the VIEW Reference Guide, which is not supplied with Master 128 and Compact machines. It does however go far beyond the standard reference guide, taking this flexible wordprocessor to its limits.

ViewIndex and ViewSpell, the indexing and spelling checking programs which accompany VIEW are covered in depth. Also, several accessory programs are provided in the book itself, and also on the accompanying Programs Disc which contains additional programs and a complete Viewspell dictionary. The book covers all versions of VIEW, from the original version 1.4 to the latest VIEW 3. Also the Master 128 and Compact standard bundled versions are covered. All the differences between the various versions, plus complete appendices of printer controls codes, highlight codes, commands and stored commands, errors, and useful tips are listed.

The many features of this book include:

- Command and Edit Mode
- Rulers and Margins
- Saving and Loading text
- !Boot files
- Markers
- Formatting and Justification
- SEARCH and REPLACE
- Stored Commands
- Page Layout
- Printer Drivers
- Macros and how to use them
- Handling Long documents
- Covers ViewSpell, ViewIndex and OverView
- Quick Reference Guides
- Getting more memory
- Printer Control Codes

What the press have said about *VIEW: A Dabhand Guide*

"It's very good...I liked it very much" John Allen, speaking on Radio London.

"...much more to offer the competent VIEW user...practical and down-to-earth...for those who want a complete, thorough and readable guide to VIEW, then Bruce Smith is your man." Mike Williams, Editor, Beebug Magazine.

"This is the first computer book I've read in bed for pleasure rather than to cure insomnia" Bill Penfold, Acorn User.

Master Operating System: A Dabhand Guide

Product: Programming Machines: BBC B+/Master/Compact Format: Book and 40/80 disc.
Author: David Atherton Cost **£12.95** Book / **£7.95** 5.25" disc / **£9.95** 3.5" disc Available:
Now ISBN 1-870336-01-1

When the BBC Micro was first released one of the most highly praised features was its powerful operating system. This was made even better on the BBC B+, and eventually the Master Series. This book, now in its updated second edition, is aimed at the post Model B world. It covers the complete operating system for the BBC B+, Master 128 and Compact, with substantial references to the Disc and Advanced Disc Filing Systems. As well as being a complete reference guide, the book also gives practical examples and programs showing you how to use sideways and shadow RAM, the Tube, CMOS RAM/EEPROM, and so on.

Topics covered in the book include:

- All 'star' commands on all models
- The 65C02 processor (inc. Rockwell mnemonics)
- All the new OSBYTE and OSWORD calls
- Sideways and Shadow RAM including examples.
- ROM service calls and header code
- Saving and loading ROM images (program provided)
- Driving the Tube in both directions
- Filing system changes on the various models
- BBC B, B+, Master 128 and Compact differences.
- CMOS RAM/EEPROM editing (a program is provided)
- Cartridge and internal modem pinouts.
- How the Compact analogue emulator works.

Veteran BBC hackers will know that the Tube information supplied in this book has been long awaited. This comprehensive chapter at last describes the complete protocols for transfer of data from host processor to parasite (language) processor, and vice versa. Example listings are given.

The 'differences' section of the book will be invaluable to program developers who want to ensure that their programs will work on the entire Acorn range. Also, anyone trying to convert BBC B software to run on the later machines will find the compatibility checklist useful. The differences between different versions of BBC BASIC are also listed.

The Programs Disc accompanying this book contains all the programs listed in the book. Also it contains a full scrolling memory editor which will display edit absolutely any byte in memory on any BBC machine, a Sideways RAM image of a utility ROM containing ROM versions of many of the programs in the book, and also a number of debugging tools and status displays.

David Atherton is a partner in Dabs Press, and a regular contributor to Acorn User magazine.

What do the reviews say? David Somers in *A&B Computing*, November 1987 said "*It is essential reading for users of the Master series of microcomputers, and is presented in a clear manner. The index is very comprehensive, and enables information to be found quickly and easily. Serious users should not be without their copy of this invaluable book*".

ViewSheet and ViewStore: A Dabhand Guide

Product: Business Machines: All Acorn machines Format: Book and 40/80 disc. Author: Graham Bell Cost **£12.95** Book / **£7.95** 5.25" disc / **£9.95** 3.5" disc Available: **Now**
ISBN 1-870336-04-6

This mammoth 352-page book is a complete tutorial and reference guide for the Acornsoft ViewSheet spreadsheet and ViewStore database manager. Every aspect of setting up and using a database or spreadsheet is covered, and numerous examples are provided.

There are also a number of utility programs to help you get more out of the VIEW family, including programs that join two databases together and help transfer spreadsheets into a wordprocessor, and print spreadsheets sideways. OverView and ViewPlot are also explained.

The many features of the book include • Compatible with BBC B and Master Series • Usable with DFS, ADFS and network • Simple spreadsheet and databases • Absolute and relative replication • Building an invoice system • Performing a mailshot • Database design • Use of SELECT and REPORT • Using a printer • Hints and Tips • OverView and ViewPlot

Electron User, June 1988 said "*This guide is the sort of invaluable reference tool that all serious users of the View business suite need*". IT Education/Network User Sept 1988 concurred "*The practical examples are far better than those in the official Acorn manual ... Any IT Co-ordinator should seriously consider adding them to the reference shelf. "You certainly feel that the manual has been put together by someone who has explored the facility thoroughly. The author seems aware of all its pitfalls and knows how to warn others to avoid them, and get the best out of it"*". Oldham Evening Chronicle.

Here's a chapter-by-chapter summary:

- 1 : Introduction, The VIEW Family, OverView Goodies, Compatibility.
 - 2 : Beginning With ViewSheet, The Active Cell, The Contents of Cells, Entering Label, Formulae
 - 3 : Designing and Building a Model, Pre-planning, Direction of Recalculation
 - 4 : Putting ViewSheet To Work, A Household Budgeting Model, Building the Model
 - 5 : Using the Model, On-Screen Presentation, Multiple Screen Windows, Planning Again
 - 6 : Printers and Drivers, Printer Drivers and ViewSheet, A Modified ASCII Spooler, Technical Details
 - 7 : Beginning with ViewStore, Just Browsing, Changing Data, Adding New Data, Getting Data Out
 - 8 : Creating a Database, Setting Up the Prefixes, Reserving Database Disc Space.
 - 9 : Customising the Database, Loading a New Database, The Record Format, Field Name, Field Type,
 - 10: Searching, Selecting, Sorting
 - 11: The Name and Address Database, Planning, Setting Up, Mailshots and Macros, The MACRO Utility,
 - 12: Diverse Reports, Setting Up a Report Definition File, The Report Definition, Layout Types
 - 13: ViewSheet Hints and Tips
 - 14: Special Spreadsheet Functions, ROW and COL, Conditional Functions, Frequency Tables
 - 15: Spreadsheet Integration, Link Files, Consolidation, Writing to Link Files from BASIC
 - 16: ViewStore Hints and Tips
 - 17: Advanced Reporting, Highlights in ViewStore Reports, Editing Report Definitions, Mailshot Reports
 - 18 :View Plot, Graphs, Printers, Automatic Data Entry,, Multiple Data Sets, ViewChart
 - 19 :OverView, Using OverView, The Keeper, Advanced Use, Reading Contents Files
- Appendices: ViewSheet Quick Reference, ViewStore Quick Reference, ViewPlot Quick Reference, OverView Star Command Reference

C: A Dabhand Guide

Product: Programming/Tutorial Machines: Acorn/PC/Atari ST/Amiga and others Format: Book and disc. Author: Mark Burgess Cost £14.95 Book / £7.95 5.25" disc / £9.95 3.5" disc. ISBN 1-870336-16-X Available: June '88

A behind the scenes storm has quietly been sweeping over the microcomputer world during the last few years: it is the C programming revolution. So much so that both Acorn and Beebug have recently released versions of versions of C for the Master and Archimedes.

Spread over an amazing 500 pages this thoroughly readable Dabhand guide leaves you in no doubt as to the natural successor to BBC Basic on your computer. From elementary principles Mark Burgess introduces the C philosophy in a highly readable, no nonsense manner. Step by step, page by page you ascend the C ladder with simple illustrated and documented programs providing the practical type-in theory behind the startling fact.

C is a standard language - programs the world over (and perhaps beyond?) are written to this standard and in such a way as to allow them to be transferred to other machines and run again, in many cases with little or no editing required. A program written in C on the Master for instance would generally run quite happily on the Archimedes, or, more startlingly, on a PC or Amiga!

Speed - a vital factor in the writing of programs - is assured because when a C program is written it is compiled into ultra fast machine code - write your very own * commands in a friendly environment and let the C compiler transform it into machine code-no assembly language need be known! And what's more the original C source program remains intact for editing or fine tuning as you require.

Thirty-seven chapters, six appendices, glossary and comprehensive index covering some 500 pages make *C: A Dabhand Guide* probably *the* guide to programming C and includes chapters on programming C on the Master 128/Master Compact and Acorn Archimedes.

To help the beginner a complete chapter on fault finding and debugging assists in tracing and correcting both simple and complex errors. The book also contains questions at the end of each chapter to test your understanding. this makes the book ideal for learning C in a formal teaching/training environment.

Some of the many features of this book include:

- Step by step guide and reference section
- Diagrams to help the reader think in C
- Debugging hints and tips
- Arrays
- String handling
- Data structures
- Mathematical programming
- Recursion
- Building toolkits
- Using a WIMP environment

The programs disc contains the listings in the book plus other useful utilities and comes with its own manual. Seperate discs are available for BBC, Archimedes, PC, and Amiga.

Personal Computer World said "*I wish this book had been available when I was learning C*". Elektor Magazine (Dec 88) found that the book "*will give even relatively inexperienced programmers a clear understanding of programming in C*".

Mini Office II: A Dabhand Guide

Product: Business Machines: BBC B/BBC B+/Master Format: Book and 40/80 disc.
Author: Bruce Smith and Robin Burton Cost **£9.95** Book / **£7.95** 5.25" disc / **£9.95** 3.5"
disc Available: **Now** ISBN 1-870336-55-0

This award-winning and revolutionary low cost business software package had humble beginnings, but the current version is full-featured, and offers an all-in-one business computing environment rivalling systems ten times the price.

However, like many low-cost products, the standard manual provides reference material only and doesn't really *teach* you how to use the software. This latest Dabhand Guide fills the breach with a detailed 256-page tutorial taking you through many worked examples to try yourself. The book starts at first principles, and no previous knowledge of wordprocessing, spreadsheet, database, or communications use is required.

The book is divided into logical sections covering each of the Mini Office modules, providing many hints and tips en route. As well as every aspect of the software, general information on such matters as printers and communications services is also provided. The book is rounded off with a comprehensive index.

The book is applicable to all versions of Mini Office II (tape, disc, ADFS, Instant) running on a BBC B, BBC B+, Master 128 or Master Compact. Any differences between the versions are noted at the appropriate point.

Also available is a companion disc, which contains all the example files required to perform the exercises (if you don't wish to type all the data in), and several extra useful utilities, such as an on-line help system, and a sideways printing program for wide spreadsheets.

Bruce Smith is a respected computer author, with over twenty books published, mostly on BBC Micro topics. Robin Burton is a professional programmer with years of BBC experience, and the author of the MiniDriver printer support package, detailed elsewhere in this catalogue.

Here's a chapter-by-chapter summary:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1: In the Beginning | 19: Maintenance |
| 2: File Management | 20: Load, Save and Print |
| 3: About Wordprocessors | 21: Hints and Tips |
| 4: Up and Running | 22: The Label Printer |
| 5: Loading and Saving Text | 23: Spreadsheet Design |
| 6: Markers | 24: Creating the Sheet |
| 7: Printing and TABs | 25: Formulae |
| 8: Embedded Commands 1 | 26: Replication |
| 9: Page Setup | 27: Filing |
| 10: More on Menus | 28: The Results |
| 11: Embedded and Revisited | 29: Graphics |
| 12: Printers and Commands | 30: Graphs, Histograms, Pie Charts |
| 13: Mail Merging | 31: Graphics: Getting Ready |
| 14: Hints and Tips | 32: Graphics Examples |
| 15: About the Database | 33: Communications |
| 16: Data Structure | 34: MiniDriver |
| 17: Entering Data | Appendices |
| 18: Searching and Sorting | Indexes |

Master 512 Technical Guide

Product: Programming Machines: BBC B/BBC B+/Master Format: Book and disc.
Authors: Robin Burton and Andy Smith Cost **£14.95** Book / **£7.95** 5.25" disc / **£9.95** 3.5"
disc Available: **Mid 1989** ISBN 1-870336-59-3

This book, by Master 512 expert Robin Burton, and written with the assistance and co-operation of Acorn Computers is the sole source of technical information on Acorn's popular PC-compatible add-on board. This book is essential for anyone wishing to write programs on the 512 system, and for those who wish to dig deeper than the DOS level, or are just curious. The book also covers some user-level information unavailable at the time of publication of our companion volume, the *Master 512 Dabhand User Guide*.

Starting with a description of the 80186 processor, the book looks in detail at each component of the system software, both 6502 code and 80186 code, and then continues by showing, with the use of the appropriate software tools, how to write programs to run on the system. Most of the example programs are written in 80186 assembly language.

Whereas there is much to interest any Master 512 user in this book, it is aimed primarily at those with existing knowledge of the 'BBC side' of the system, and familiarity with 6502 assembler, and BBC system calls is assumed. (If you are not familiar with these see our 'Master Operating System' book described elsewhere).

Also included in the book are three unique hardware projects by Andy Smith, Master 512 Support Manager at Acorn, to provide an extra 512k of RAM on the system, to increase the processor speed by 20%, and for the more adventurous, a major project to provide 1Mb of RAM, and increase the processor speed by 60%. Full instructions are given, although soldering and PCB etching skills are assumed.

Topics covered in the book include:

- The 80186 registers and instructions
- Writing programs in 80186 assembler
- Writing programs in high-level languages
- The Acorn XIOS and bootstrap ROMs
- The 6502.SYS file (a complete disassembly) and Host ROM
- Complete tube handling documentation
- The 512 memory map
- OSWORDs, OSBYTEs, OSFILE etc calls supported.
- Full specification of DOS Plus 2.1
- DOS Plus error handling, and full error list
- Break and Escape processing
- The degree of PC hardware and software emulation provided
- Previously undocumented system calls
- Full documentation of the CMD, COM and EXE filetypes
- Full documentation of the MOVE utility
- DOS Plus interrupt structure
- Rewriting standard DOS utilities
- Control of PC processes from the BBC side
- Partitioning a hard disc
- Use of the EDBIN and ED utilities
- Use of the XIOS ROM monitor
- Circuit diagram

The companion disc contains a complete assembler/debugger system, and various other system utilities to aid program development.

Master 512: A Dabhand User Guide

Machines: Master 128/B/B+. Format: Book **£9.95** Programs disc **£7.95** 5.25" / **£9.95** 3.5"
Author:Chris Snee Available: **Now** ISBN 1-870336-14-3

The book that every Master 512 owner has been waiting for—the only definitive guide to the Acorn's Master 512 PC-compatible second processor for the Master 128 (and BBC B/B+ with Co-Pro Adaptor or Universal Second Processor). The emphasis is on using the system and understanding basic concepts in order to run applications.

A mine of vital information, this book reveals the inner secrets of hardware and software. Highly practical in approach it provides a complete A to Z list of all, both transient and resident DOS Plus commands with detailed information, including how the commands differ from MS-DOS.

It shows step-by-step how to install and PC applications including user configuration and batch files, and provides valuable information on software compatibility and how to go about determining whether particular PC software packages will run suitably on your Master 512.

Full explanations are given for every DOS Plus command and certain items, such as PIP, ED, and the Memory disc have been expanded to full tutorial chapters. A chapter is devoted to new, and previously unpublished information on GEM, supplementing the manual supplied with the system.

The book covers all versions of DOS Plus, including the latest, version 2.1.

Included in the book are

- Filename Types and Syntax
- Update on using GEM
- Shareware and PD Software
- File copying
- The memory disc
- A-Z of DOS Plus commands
- Transient utilities
- Batch files
- I/O Redirection and Filters
- The File Manager and the Line Editor
- Reserved Words, AUX and PRN
- Installation of Software
- Disc Formats used under DOS Plus
- Compatibility charts
- Hardware expansion
- Differences between DOS Plus and MS-DOS

A programs disc is also available containing many useful utilities.

Chris Snee is a consultant engineer working in the computing field, with many years experience of both BBC Micros and PC compatibles, both programming and advising users. His last book *Mastering the Disc Drive*, received much acclaim.

Master 512 Shareware Collections

Dabs Press are compiling collections of public domain and shareware software (often as good as commercial software) for the Master 512, all fully tested as 512-compatible. Each collection consists of five 800k discs, containing nearly 4Mb of software, with a manual covering matters specific to the Master 512. The first collection is available **now**, price £29.95 (inc.VAT), which contains a full function wordprocessor, Lotus 1-2-3 compatible spreadsheet, flowchart design program, nine games (Bridge, Chess, Othello, arcade games), NLQ print utilities, and much much more. The second collection is due for release in Spring 1989. If you have a Master 512, contact Dabs Press now for our special Master 512 catalogue. Due in 1989 are many special utility programs for the 512, and a large list of generously discounted PC software tested and supported on the 512 system.

Mastering Interpreters and Compilers

Product: Programming Machines: All BBC Format: 40/80 disc. Author: Bruce Smith Cost
£14.95 book £7.95 5.25" disc / £9.95 3.5" disc Available Now ISBN 1-870336-12-7

In this fascinating 320-page tome Bruce Smith provides the most definitive work yet written for the BBC B/B+, Master series and Electron micros. *Mastering Interpreters and Compilers* is probably the most authoritative practical work written for the machine code programmer on implementing fully fledged interpreters and machine code compilers. Being a practical hands-on guide, listed examples are given culminating in TACTLESS - a compiler that will convert a program written in the TACTLESS language - a subset of BASIC - into a stand alone machine code program for use as a * command.

Section 1 - Interpreters

This covers all aspects of writing an interpreter be it a language interpreter or simply an interpreter to act on * commands. The highlight of the section is Grafrite - a Graphics language interpreter. The section discusses and shows how variables are implemented and used in expressions.

Section 2 - Threaded Interpretive Languages

FORTH is an example of a TIL - a language which implements the use of stacks and reverse polish notation. Stack handling is discussed along with TIL dictionary creation, which allows you to define new commands by using existing commands. Two example TILs are provided for you to type in and try.

Section 3 - Compilers

This area of computing has always been shrouded in mystery, but after reading this the reader will be left into no doubt as to how they work and can be written with relative ease. TACTLESS provides the key as the author develops the TACTLESS Compiler during the course of the informative narrative. Using a BASIC like programming language the reader can write and edit powerful programs in the normal manner. Type COMPILE and the program will be transformed into 6502 machine code which can be *RUN at any time and does not require the Compiler to be present.

Compatibility

The book and programs are written with compatibility in mind. They are applicable to all BBC micros, the Electron and Master series computers. Programs will work on all versions of BASIC, MOS, DFS, ADFS and NFS. Sideways RAM is useful but *not* essential.

The Author

Bruce Smith is well known in the BBC Micro world, where he is considered to be one of its leading authorities. Formerly Technical Editor of Acorn User he has written nearly 20 books on various aspects of computing alone many dealing with the BBC Micro.

Programs Disc

To avoid having to type in the many listings in the book, a separate disc containing all the programs ready-to-run, with a menu system to select them, is also available.

HyperDriver

The ultimate printer control system

Product: Business Machines: BBC B/B+/Master 128/Compact/Electron with ROM capability. Format: 16k ROM and/or 40/80T disc. Cost: **£29.95** ROM / **£24.95** 5.25" Disc only for SRAM / **£26.95** 3.5" Disc. Available: **Now** Author: Robin Burton. ISBN 1-870336-40-2

HyperDriver is the ultimate printer driver ROM. It's an extremely easy to use interface between you and your printer independent of the application environment. This means that HyperDriver is used in the same way, with the same commands and facilities, regardless of the language, program or wordprocessor that you are using.

HyperDriver is fully compatible with Epson, and Epson compatible matrix and laser printers, and all BBC and Master micros including 6502/Turbo second processors and, with limitations, Z80 and 80186 second processors. HyperDriver is compatible with the VIEW family (via a unique inbuilt VIEW printer driver) Microspacing is fully supported. HyperDriver is also compatible with Computer Concepts Inter range of software and also WordWise Plus (not original Wordwise).

Commands using parameters can also be regarded as two types but the parameters are always entered as ordinary decimal numbers for both. The simplest are those with a single parameter, ie, Line Feed 8 times (*LF8) Horizontal Tab 3 times (*HT3) Character Set 1 -French- (*CS1). Commands can also be entered together separated by a semi-colon with a single * at the onset of the command string, eg, *LM10;SH20,40,60;EL;IT;UN;EM;LF2;HT.

You can also include *commands from other ROMs, provided they are preceded by a colon. The sequence above could have been: *LM10;SH20,40,60;EL;IT;UN;EM;LF2;HT:WORD - here VIEW would have been selected as the last command item.

Features

Two character mnemonics	Approx. 80 * commands
On-screen preview	Test print option
Used from ANY language	NLQ printer driver
Microspacing	Integrated VIEW Printer Driver
ROM and S/w RAM versions	CRT Graphics
10 User definable Macros	Colour handling
Full on-screen help	Comprehensive manual
Demo programs	Easy to learn

This is HyperDriver's NLQ font, which is a design based on Times and Palatino by Wallace Nicoll
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNPOQRST
UVWXYZ0123456789@#\$
%&'()*~\^{}|;:~+

Compatible with all BBC and Master Micros and works with VIEW, ViewSheet, ViewStore, View Prof, InterWord, InterSheet/Base, BASIC and many more...

Test Print simulates printing, executing all the computer's functions, including all command validation and execution, formatting, page numbering etc., but it uses no paper. Screen effects are the emulation on the screen of the print modes produced by your printer.

Macros are commands which allow you to define, up to 10 printer command sequences. All 10 are available concurrently and using special commands allow you to save, load and kill macro definitions. Whether your printer has non-standard or extra codes, or you want to define a string of functions into a single command, macros provide the means to do so.

Printing pounds always causes problems - not with HyperDriver. The printer's pound character is set by the special command *D£c where c is the micro's keyboard character with the same ASCII code that your printer uses to print a "£". This is normally CHR\$(35), the '#' character, so this is the default used. This can be changed to any printable character. Use of the *CS (character set) command allows pound characters/hashes to be obtained from other international character sets if required.

Graphics print is a precise reversal of screen effects, in that it is the emulation on the printer of the characters displayed on the screen. Graphics print may be selected when screen effects or the NLQ font are already selected, but in either case the existing selection is cancelled.

The characters are printed in exactly the same eight by eight matrix pattern as that used by the micro and this mode operates in all the screen modes in which you can define your own characters, that is, all except mode seven. The characters printed are the normal printable range, 32 to 127 and any user defined characters output in the range 128 to 255.

Graphics print can be selected and turned off at any time, so it can be used both to insert user defined characters (defined by 'VDU23') into normal text, or as a quite acceptable extra typeface, midway in size between elite and normal condensed.

The NLQ font allows printers that do not have an inbuilt NLQ font to produce text of this standard, and provides printers that do have the capability with an extra NLQ typeface. As for graphics print, existing text modes are retained until normal text output is resumed, but are suppressed during this selection.

HyperDriver is supplied with a comprehensive, 100 page wire-bound manual, detailing all of HyperDriver's facilities and commands, and containing many hints and tips and details on use within applications such as View and InterWord.

The HyperDriver pack contains a 16k EPROM for permanent internal fitting to the micro and a Sideways RAM image on disc. The disc also contains sample programs and files for ease of use and reference. There is no functional difference between the two versions. The HyperDriver disc is 40 track (convertible to 80 track) DFS format. It is unprotected for your convenience allowing you to make a backup copy and to transfer it to your preferred filing system.

Advanced Sideways RAM User Guide

Product: Utility Machines: BBC B/B+/Electron/Master 128/Compact Format: Book and 40/80 disc. Cost **£9.95** Book / **£7.95** 5.25" disc / **£9.95** 3.5" disc. Author: Bruce Smith ISBN 0-948938-00-5 Available: **Now**

Published by Victory Publishing, now part of Dabs Press

Sideways RAM is a technique central to the philosophy of the Master Series range of computers, and is also one of the most popular add-ons for earlier models of BBC Micro. This fascinating 230-page text explains the many uses to which you can put this valuable memory. You can load software from disc or cassette which then resides in the machine as if it were part of the Operating System, and remains there as long as the power is on, always on tap to the user.

The many features of this book include:

- 25 tried and tested programs
- RFS system explained
- Compatibility tables and conversion notes for the BBC and Electron
- Covers new 65C02 instructions
- Checking routines built into all the major programs
- ROM Formatter to convert BASIC programs into ROM/Sideways RAM form
- Writing languages and interpreters
- Details of all the Sideways RAM utilities built into the B+/Master
- ROM Service calls explained and illustrated
- New Master service calls covered.

The contents of the book are also applicable to BBC Micro users with other brands of Sideways RAM ie, Solidisk, Watford Electronics, Brainsoft etc. The current second edition has been revised and expanded to cover the Master Compact computer as well as the Master 128/BBC B and B+. A disc containing over twenty programs which use Sideways Ram in various ways, is also available. The listings are also in the book but this will save you many hours of typing.

MiniDriver

Product: Business Machines: BBC B/BBC B+/Master Format: Rom and 40/80 disc.
Author: Robin Burton Cost **£24.95** Rom version/ **£19.95** 5.25" disc version/ **£21.95** 3.5"
disc version Available: **Now** ISBN 1-870336-64-X

MiniDriver is a *must* for all users of Mini Office II, providing real printer power from within any module and a Viewdata terminal in one! Its many features include:

- Very easy to use
- 50 easy * commands
- On-screen preview of effects
- Test print option
- User definitions (macros)
- NLQ printer driver
- Gives disc users ROM board facilities
- Integral ViewData terminal
- Teletext screen dump
- Demo disc
- Comprehensive manual
- Compatible with all BBC and Master micros

```
MiniDriver
Printer Control for Mini Office II
Normal emphasised underlined
Normal italics underlined
Normal superscript and subscript
Mixed italics underlined
expanded emphasised
italics underlined
expanded superscript
expanded subscript
Condensed is inverse, even
italics, underlined
H>804 {a+b}{a-b}=a2-b2
H>504 {a+b}{a-b}=a2-b2
Screen effects from the wordprocessor!
```

Simple mnemonic star commands (eg, *NL for NLQ font,*PI for Pica) are used by MiniDriver and these may be embedded directly into wordprocessed text or used as * commands from within other modules. All commands are 'failsafe' so that issuing them more than once causes no ill effects, making it ideal for beginners and advanced users alike.

On-screen printer effects as illustrated above, let you see the appearance of your finished output before you print it, and the test print facility is a great paper saver! A proportional NLQ font ensures all users of Mini Office have letter quality print output, and the user definition capability allows you to construct your own printer commands, thereby catering for special printer options.

An integral Viewdata terminal allows access to electronic mail areas such as Prestel, and Micronet, and works with manual and automatic modems.

Compatibility

MiniDriver works with *all* versions of Mini Office II, any Epson compatible printer and any BBC Micro.

Test Print and Screen Effects

Test Print is selected by the command '*TP'. This facility simulates printing, executing all the computer's functions, including all command validation and execution, formatting, page numbering etc., but it uses no paper. Screen Effects are selected by the command '*SF' and are turned off by '*XF' or by a hard break. Screen effects are the emulation on the screen of the print modes produced by your printer. Using both together ensures your printed copy is right first time thereby cutting your paper bills!

Near Letter Quality Font

The NLQ font allows printers that do not have an inbuilt NLQ font to produce text of this standard, and provides printers that do with an extra NLQ typeface. All existing text modes are retained until normal text output is resumed, but are suppressed for the duration of this selection. Uniquely this font is proportional. See the Hyperdriver description in this catalogue for a sample.

The MiniDriver Pack

MiniDriver is available in two formats, as a 16k EPROM for permanent internal fitting in your micro or as a Sideways RAM image on disc. Both packs include a disc of sample files and additional hints and tips for use. There is no functional difference between the two versions. A 40 page manual supplies full details on using MiniDriver.

Conversion Kit

Product: Utility Machines: All BBC machines Format: 40/80 disc. Author: B. Smith Cost **£7.95** 5.25" / **£9.95** 3.5" disc Available: **Now** ISBN 1-870336-06-2

One of the most difficult aspects of machine code programming is writing routines to convert from one base to the other. How many times have you wished you could take a two byte binary number and print it to the screen as a five digit decimal number? Or perhaps you have longed for a routine that will do the reverse. These problems, and many more are solved by Conversion Kit.

The Conversion Kit is a disc containing 24 expert routines that you can use in your own programs. Each routine is held within a BASIC and assembler program as a procedure that demonstrates how to use it. All demonstration programs are menu driven, and the majority of the routines are fully 'REMed'. In addition the Conversion Kit disc also contains many of the conversion routines in a ROM image (with source code) for use with sideways RAM.

NB : Unlike many other software development packages, you do not have to pay any royalty or take out any licence for commercial use of these routines in other programs. Think about it- if you save one hour of development time, you have probably recovered more than the pack costs. Can you really do without it!

As well as the ordinary routines, there is a sideways ROM image (including source) contained on the disc which offers all the routines in the form of OSWORD calls. This is very useful for those writing sideways ROM programs that need access to arithmetic routines.

Fingerprint

Product: Utility Machines: All BBC Format: 40/80 disc. Author: D. Spencer Cost **£9.95** 5.25" disc / **£11.95** 3.5" disc Available **Now** ISBN 1-870336-07-0

You may have seen machine code monitors before, but you haven't seen one like Fingerprint!

Fingerprint is a single-step machine code tracing program. Unlike many other monitors costing many times the price, Fingerprint will trace code in sideways RAM, sideways ROM, and any other area of memory. It will also handle inter-ROM jumps, and internal ROM paging, as used on 27513/27011 EPROMs. The trace system works on VIA Timer 1, rather than by using a code buffer, making ROM/OS etc. tracing much easier, and less likely to halt. Don't be fooled by the price. Fingerprint is a full-spec. product, better than competitors many times the price.

Works with 6502, and (R)65C02/65C12 instruction sets • Function key driven • List past 20 instructions at any point • Runs in any screen mode occupying only two lines of display • Completely compatible with Shadow and Sideways memory • Works on all BBC computers including Master 128/Compact • 'Free-run' mode where target program runs slowly without intervention • Eight breakpoints, which may be RAM, or sideways RAM/ROM or MOS • Contains memory editor and disassembler, including (R)65C02 mnemonics • Line trace to printer as an option • Trace to another computer via RS423 port • Switch in ranges (for example subroutines) to action with tracing • Will trace sideways ROM code, language startups etc. • Supplied as ROM image for sideways RAM, and relocatable RAM image

If you do any serious machine code programming, you need Fingerprint! Tubelink, the BBC magazine on Prestel said "a *down-to-earth efficient package at a very reasonable price...it is simple to use and there is little it doesn't provide for the machine code programmer.*"

MOS Plus

Product: General Machine: Master 128 **only**. Format: 16k ROM or 40/80T disc. Cost **£12.95** ROM, **£7.95** 5.25" disc / **£9.95** 3.5" disc Available: **Now** Author: David Spencer ISBN 1-870336-44-5 (ROM) 1-870336-45-3 (5.25" disc) 1-870336-46-1 (3.5" disc)

MOS Plus is a ROM which improves and extends your Master 128. It's not a "utility" ROM and it's not meant for programmers. *MOS Plus* has been designed for you, the ordinary day-to-day user of the Master 128. The facilities provided when you install this ROM fall into five categories:

- Some of the bugs in the Master are fixed
- Extra commands that Acorn introduced with the Compact are included, notably ADFS Format and Backup.
- A few completely new useful commands are provided.
- The previously ignored Master alarm clock facility is implemented.
- An on-line help facility giving information text on View, BASIC, Terminal and MOS Plus.

Bug fixes A major problem with the Master has always been that the DFS will not close files properly. (Specifically an existing file updated then closed with CLOSE#0 will retain it's old length). Many software packages don't work with DFS because of this, including several major and important items for which there is no substitute. *MOS Plus* fixes the bug, possibly freeing a socket in your machine. Also fixed is the bug which insists that you type exactly one space after *EDIT when including a filename.

Extra commands *MOS Plus* provides several extra commands which are completely new. This is not a long list, because we have only included those commands we find genuinely useful, unlike some ROMs packed with commands that you never use. The commands can, like all '*' commands, be issued whether in BASIC, VIEW, ViewSheet or whatever, and follow a consistent format.

- *FIND Finds any file on an ADFS disc
- *SRKILL Wipes Sideways RAM banks, avoiding 'Bad id' error messages.
- *BLIST Lists BASIC program without loading it.
- *CATALL List all files in hierarchical order on an ADFS disc.
- *EXALL Give *EX information on each file—load and execution addresses and lengths.
- *SETTIME To set the clock other than from BASIC
- *SCONFIG Save CMOS RAM settings to a file
- *LCONFIG Load CMOS RAM settings from a file
- *ECHO Echo bytes in GSREAD format to VDU (allows control codes in !BOOT files etc.)
- *LPRINT Send sequence of bytes (eg. ESC sequence) to printer

Compact improvements Although the Master Compact has inferior hardware to the Master 128, it has a superior operating system, because it appeared nine months after the 128, and benefitted from the further time spent on development. *MOS Plus* brings your Master 128 Operating System up to Compact standard. *FORMAT, *VERIFY and *BACKUP are in ROM, *SHOW now shows the contents of all function keys, *SRLOAD allows you the use 'I' suffix to initialise a ROM image after loading it. *BUILD/*APPEND take top-bit-set characters. *CONFIGURE and *STATUS now list in alphabetical order. *ROMS now shows RAM where Sideways RAM is present. Also *BACKUP and *COMPACT now use Sideways RAM meaning less swaps for single drive users, and of course you can now *BACKUP a disc without corrupting your current program or data. *BACKUP and *FORMAT have options to bypass the YES prompt—ideal for setting up function keys for multiple copying of discs.

Configure options *MOS Plus* contains a configurable start string, allowing a command to be executed every time the machine is turned on, or hard reset. Also the startup screen colour is configurable.

Assembler Bundle

Product: Utility Machines: BBC B/B+/Elec./M128/Compact Format: 2 books and 40/80 disc.
Cost **£4.95** 5.25" disc and 2 books / **£4.95** 3.5" disc and 2 books Author: Bruce Smith Available:
Now ISBN 1-870336-15-1

Are you interested in assembly language? Machine code? Do you want to learn all about it? Here is a chance to explore this fascinating subject with our special offer. We are able to bring you a five-part package of assembly language materials at less than a sixth of their normal price! - all from the prolific keyboard of BBC expert, and former Acorn User Technical Editor Bruce Smith. Here's what you get...

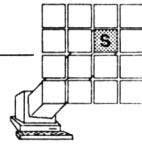
❶ BBC Micro Assembly Language, an excellent 200-page introduction and tutorial guide to 6502 assembly language programming. ❷ A disc packed full with 60 programs to accompany the book. ❸ BBC Micro Assembler Workshop. A 160-page volume starts where the tutorial book leaves off and covers a number of interesting topics such as adding new "" commands to the machine, and implementing large software stacks. ❹ Another disc with 30 programs from the BBC Micro Assembler Workshop book. ❺ An extra booklet containing additional programming information on the new 65C02 op-codes found on the Master 128 and Compact.

All together, this superb collection would cost you £30.80. With this special offer it's not even half that. In fact, it isn't even a quarter. For everything listed above, you only pay £4.95!

(The Electron version of the package contains the alternative '*Electron Assembly Language*' book, and appropriate disc but it otherwise the same. Please specify when ordering.)

SideWriter

Product: Utility Machines: BBC B/B+ with Sideways RAM, M128/Compact. Format: 40/80T disc. Cost **£7.95** 5.25" disc / **£9.95** 3.5" disc Available: **Now** Author: Mike Ginns ISBN 1-870336-42-9



How many times have you been at your BBC Micro and wanted to make a quick note of something? Does your keyboard get buried under a mound of paper. Is the paperless office ever further away. SideWriter is a memory resident notepad for BBC Micro owners with Sideways RAM, and all Master 128 and Master Compact users. It's available for use at any time when using a program. And the beauty of it is that you can use it with *any* program, even arcade games, and it will never corrupt memory or files. Also, whatever you were doing, SideWriter returns you to exactly where you left off. The pad contents can be printed, stored and reloaded.

Sidewriter is simply installed in your machine from disc (including a hard disc) and stays dormant until you need it. Its presence does not corrupt or interfere with any other program. However when you activate it by pressing CTRL-SHIFT and TAB at the same time, your current activity is suspended, and Sidewriter takes over. Pressing TAB alone returns you to your application.

The SideWriter screen is a large Mode 7 page, upon which the screen forms a window. You can scroll up down left and right, and view any part of the page. Also, text can be typed in, and edited by overtyping. The total capacity of the window is nearly 10,000 characters, allowing fairly substantial note-taking.

All the books and software described in this catalogue may be ordered post-free (in the UK, £2.50 Europe or surface, £12 airmail), directly from: Dabs Press, 5 Victoria Lane, Whitefield, Manchester M25 6AL Tel: 061-766 8423 (24 hours). Access/Visa by phone/post, quoting card number and expiry date. All prices quoted are VAT-inclusive.

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(1) When buying any book together with programs disc, the programs disc costs £5 inc. VAT (5.25") or £7 (3.5") instead of the normal £7.95 (5.25") or £9.95 (3.5").

(2) Special offer on the Master 512 books - both books, and both discs - £32.00 inc. VAT

(3) General free gifts. Spend over £40 in one order and receive a free gift of Assembler Bundle, Conversion Kit, or SideWriter. Spend over £60 and receive all three. All items count towards these totals, including floppy discs etc.

Blank Floppy Discs: We also sell high-quality 5.25" and 3.5" discs suitable for most machines. Prices (regardless of quantity) 5.25" (double-sided double-density 96TPI) 60p each. 3.5" (DSDD 135TPI) £1.20 each. Sleeves and labels provided. Prices include VAT and carriage. We also sell the plastic wallets in which our software is packed at 99p each inclusive of VAT.

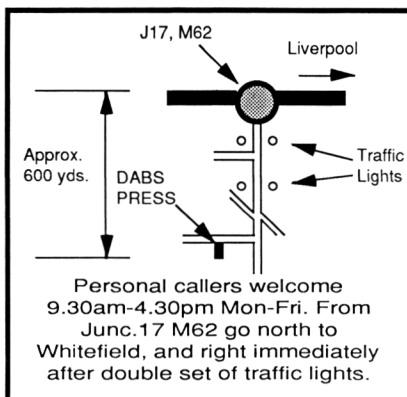
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Author: David Atherton. Typesetter: David Tomlinson. Set in 9/10 pt. Helvetica. Printed in the UK by Ernest Brown & Son, Sefton St., Whitefield, Manchester. Tel: 061-796 8750.