

apricot *PC*

The award-winning Apricot combines outstanding ergonomics with superb computing performance.

Features include genuine 16-bit processing, 256k of RAM (expandable to 768k), three mass storage options—from 315k to a massive 1.44 megabytes, high resolution display monitor and a multi-function keyboard incorporating the unique liquid crystal display MicroScreen.



The Apricot pc is a member of the Apricot family—a fully compatible range of personal computers with over 2,000 software packages already available.

So no matter how specialised your business or application, you can be sure that there's an Apricot computer and the right software to match your precise needs.

For the serious business user, a practical, multi-function keyboard is a must. And the Apricot pc keyboard incorporates in one package every feature you need to help you get the most from your computer.

The low-profile keyboard has 90 keys divided into a QWERTY layout (which include cursor, scroll and general editing keys), a calculator keypad and eight function keys. Also included is a system reset button, and a port to connect an optional mouse.

A unique feature of the keyboard is the MicroScreen—a liquid crystal display with two lines of forty characters, and six touch-sensitive keys with integral LCD's.

The MicroScreen performs a variety of practical functions:

- It displays the day, date and time as soon as the system is powered up.
- Pressing the calculator function key turns it into a calculator without the need to load a disk.
- It provides labelling of the touch-sensitive keys within an application.
- System prompts.
- A copy of the data as it appears on the CRT display (displaying a line at a time) can be shown.

Processing capability

The Apricot pc has as standard two 16-bit processors; the Intel 8086 microprocessor and the Intel 8089 I/O processor. (Available as an option is the 8087 Mathematics co-processor.)

Another processor, a single chip device, type number 6301, is located within the keyboard. This performs keyboard scanning, the communication between the keyboard and systems unit, and the implementation of a real-time clock/calendar.

Memory

The Apricot pc is fitted with a minimum of 256 kbytes of system RAM.

Two expansion slots allows the pc's RAM to be expanded using the Apricot expansion boards—128k, 256k or 512k. Fitting one 512k expansion board, for example, will increase RAM to the pc's maximum 768kbytes, leaving one expansion slot free for the addition of further advanced facilities such as the modem.

Disk drives

The Apricot pc uses 3.5" Sony disk drives and offers three mass storage options.

Option one has one, single-sided drive using MicroFloppy disks with a storage capacity of 315kbytes.

Option two offers twin single-sided drives providing a total storage capacity of 630kbytes.

The single-sided Microfloppy disks contain 70 track, and are soft sectored with 9 sectors per track and 512 bytes per sector.

The third option uses twin, double-sided drives providing a total storage capacity of 1.44 Megabytes. The double-sided MicroFloppy disks contain 80 tracks per side, soft sectored with 9 sectors per track and 512 bytes per sector.

Display features

The Apricot pc drives as standard either a 9" or 12" high resolution monochrome monitor, displaying bit-mapped images with a resolution of 800 × 400 pixels. The text display area is 80 characters × 25 lines using a character cell of 10×16 pixels.

By fitting a colour board to one of the pc's expansion slots, compatible colour monitors can be driven displaying 16 colours simultaneously.

Printer and communication connections

The Apricot pc has two ports available for connecting printers: a Centronics port for parallel printers and a RS232C port which can be used for serial printers.

A sophisticated RS232C communications port is provided as standard equipment for general purpose communications (via acoustic couplers, modems, direct connection to other micros, etc). It can also be configured for driving various printing devices (serial line printers, plotters, typesetters, etc), and can be programmed to operate in both asynchronous and synchronous modes.

Other communications facilities available to the pc are provided by optional expansion boards. The pc is hardware compatible with the Apricot Local Area Network card and Apricot integral modem.

Typical applications that the pc, complete with modem, can be used for are:

1. Emulation of various computer terminals which are used for communicating to mainframes and minicomputers.
2. Access to public and private databases.
3. Transferring files and data between the pc and any other micro or computer with asynchronous modem facilities available.

Transportability

It is possible to transport your Apricot pc by a unique arrangement for attaching the keyboard to the underside of the systems unit. A shutter slides down to cover the disk drives and a carrying handle pulls out from the systems unit for ease of carrying. The monitor also has an integral carrying handle

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Specification

Multi-processor architecture:
Intel 8086 running at 5mHz
Intel 8089 I/O management
Intel 8087 maths co-processor (optional)

Memory:
256kbytes standards, expandable to 768kbytes.

Disks:
(a) 2×3.5" double-sided MicroFloppies (total capacity 1440k formatted)
(b) 2×3.5" single-sided MicroFloppies (total capacity 630k formatted)
(c) 1×3.5" single-sided MicroFloppy (capacity 315k formatted)

Communications:
On-board modem with auto-dialer, BABT approved (option).
1×RS232 (v24) serial port—synchronous and asynchronous.
1×8-bit bi-directional Centronics parallel port.

Expansion:
Two expansion slots.

Display Screen:
9" or 12" green phospor—P39—with antiglare optical filter.
80 characters × 25 lines.
800×400 pixels.

Keyboard:
8 fixed function keys and six touch-sensitive keys labelled by the MicroScreen (tm).
Alphanumeric layout to international standards

Dimensions:
Systems Box: 16.5" wide × 4" high × 12.5" deep.
9" Monitor: 10.5" wide × 8.5" high × 10" deep.
12" Monitor: 13" wide × 11" high × 12.75" deep.
Keyboard: 16" wide × 2" high × 7" deep.

Weight:
Systems Box: 13.5 to 15.1 lbs.
(depending on configuration)
Monitor: 9": 9.1 lbs. 12": 18.2 lbs
Keyboard: 3.3 lbs.

Inclusive Software:
MS-DOS 2.11
GSX Graphics System Expansion Utilities
Microsoft Basic Interpreter
Configurator
SuperCalc
SuperPlanner
SuperWriter
CP/M86 (optional)
Concurrent DOS (optional)
Personal Basic (optional)

Programming Languages:
CBASIC-86
CBASIC-86
'C' Language Compiler
Pascal/MT+ 86
PL/I
Level 11 COBOL with Forms 2
Level 11 COBOL Animator
Assembler plus Tools
Display Manager
Access Manager
MBASIC Compiler
FORTRAN
Pascal
MS COBOL
MS Assembler



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