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NUMBER 1

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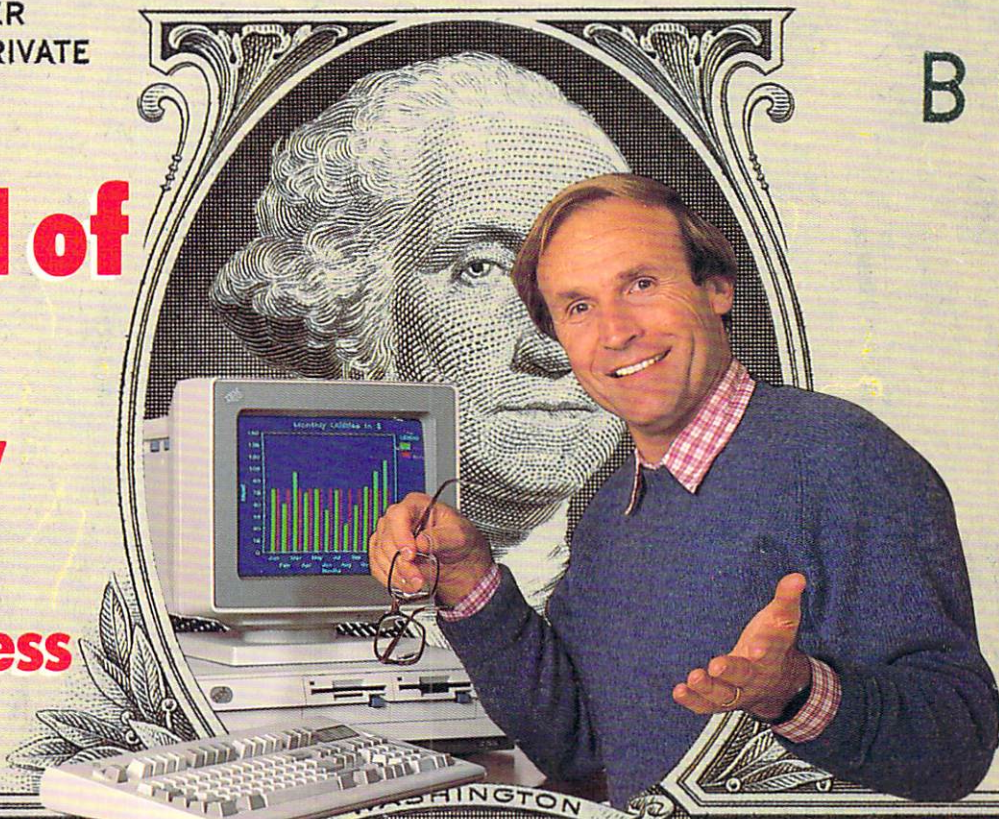
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## Taking Control of Your Money

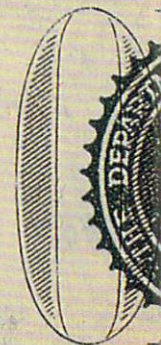
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## BUYER'S GUIDE

**49**  
PERSONAL COPIERS  
Tired of running to the copy shop? Look through our guide to 10 affordable personal copiers that deliver a range of options—right in your home office.

## PRODUCT REVIEWS

**52** **HARDWARE**  
The Compaq Portable III computer; Tandy's 1000 HX; Seikosha's SP-1200AI dot-matrix printer; Toshiba's Model 30100 personal facsimile machine; and the LiteSet telephone headset.

**60** **SOFTWARE**  
SOFTWARE GUIDE & REVIEWS  
A guide to 24 new and noteworthy programs for Business & Productivity, Education & Creativity, and Entertainment, plus longer reviews of several programs.

## THE OFFICE AT HOME

**8**  
HOME-OFFICE TAX DEDUCTIONS  
What does the new tax law mean for you? Here are some key points that affect home-office filers, plus the differences between allowable deductions in 1986 and in 1987-88.

**43**  
WHY BORLAND PRESIDENT PHILIPPE KAHN STAYS HOME  
A visit with the successful software publisher at his home office—equipped to serve as an extension of corporate headquarters.

**46**  
CORPORATE HOMEWORKERS  
Find out about the working-at-home phenomenon and discover some tactics for convincing your company to let you try it.

## TELECOMPUTING

**14**  
JOB TRAINING AND PLACEMENT FOR THE HOMEBOUND  
Learn how telecommuting has opened up new avenues of employment for many disabled workers.

## SOFTWARE: APPLICATIONS & UTILITIES

**40**  
GETTING MORE FROM SPREADSHEETS AND DATABASES: PART II  
Spreadsheet or database? That is the question—when your tasks involve text, data, and numbers—and the answer may be surprising.

## EDUCATION

**18**  
MATH SOFTWARE YOU CAN COUNT ON  
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## ENTERTAINMENT

**24**  
Announcing . . . the winners of FAMILY & HOME-OFFICE COMPUTING's Critics' Choice Awards for the Best Games of 1987!

## DEPARTMENTS

**4**  
EDITOR'S NOTE

**6**  
LETTERS

**28**  
MACHINE SPECIFICS  
Industry analysts offer news, opinions, quotes, and rumors about Apple, Atari, Commodore, IBM and MS-DOS, Tandy, and orphaned computers.

**56** **NEW!**  
USING HYPERCARD  
Welcome to our new department devoted to *HyperCard*, the new information-management system for Macintosh computers. THIS MONTH: A conversation with *HyperCard* creator Bill Atkinson. In future issues, look for a host of useful applications for *HyperCard*; news on third-party offerings; and regular HyperTalk tutorials.

**73**  
THE PROGRAMMER  
Programming news, machine coverage, December's *Crossword Puzzler* solution, and this month's programs: *Schedule Planner* (Productivity Program) and *Buzz* (Fun-and-Games Program).

**97**  
THE CLASSIFIEDS

**100**  
ADVERTISER INDEX



Page 46

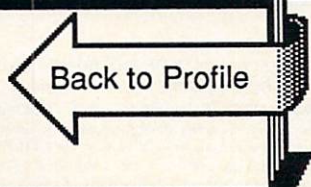


Page 52



Page 52

Page 56



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COVER PHOTOGRAPH BY DONNELLY MARKS

# MACHINE SPECIFICS

clunky rodent. The new Microsoft Mouse looks and handles like an Italian sports car. Designers moved the rolling ball forward to provide quicker response and lengthened the mouse's "tail" considerably to make the unit much more convenient on cluttered desktops.

There are three models—a serial mouse, a bus mouse (with its own interface card), and a PS/2 mouse. You can buy any one bundled with *Microsoft Paintbrush* and *Microsoft Menu* (\$150), with *PC Paintbrush* for *Microsoft Windows* (\$200), or with *EasyCAD* (\$175).

**Painting Windows.** ZSoft Corporation has announced new versions of two highly regarded graphics programs that now run under *Microsoft Windows*. *PC Paintbrush* for *Microsoft Windows* (\$84) and *PC Paintbrush Plus* for *Microsoft Windows* (\$139) are compatible with any color or monochrome graphics mode supported by *Windows* and simplify cutting and pasting *PC Paintbrush* images with other *Windows* applications. *Paintbrush Plus* adds support for scanners to the basic full-featured freehand drawing package.

STEVE MORGENSTERN can be reached on CompuServe (ID: 72545.606).

## TANDY

BY STEPHEN MILLER

Even though they look the same and operate the same, there is a difference between the versions of *Personal Deskmate 2* for the Tandy 1000 HX and TX. The HX version (25-1053) has some instructions in ROM. The TX version (25-1600) is completely on disk. The bottom line is that the two versions are *not* interchangeable. You can't run the HX *Personal Deskmate 2* on a TX, or vice versa.

Most of the hardware options offered on previous models of the Tandy 1000 series will work without modifications on the new 1000 TX. If you upgrade from the SX to the TX, you can simply swap boards. But there are some little things to watch out for. Because earlier models did not come with a serial port, there might be conflicts with COM (communications port). The built-in serial port on the TX is set for COM

1, and a serial device such as an internal modem may have to be set for COM 2. You can change port designations through your communications software. Also, be sure to check the jumpers on the E1 to E4 pins that help control the active COM ports.

**OS 9 Help.** If you're an experienced OS 9 Level I user and have just moved up to Level II, a good supplement to the Tandy manual is Kevin Darling's *Inside OS 9 Level II* (Frank Hogg Laboratory, Inc., \$40). The book is chock-full of tips, bug fixes, and program listings.

You don't need to type in all the listings in the book, because a supplemental disk (\$20) is available. Frank Hogg deals exclusively with the OS 9 operating system and is a good source of support. You can have your name added to the company's mailing list by writing to: 770 James St., Syracuse, NY 13203.

STEPHEN MILLER is a computer consultant and journalist.

## ORPHANS

BY PATRICK SPERA

A reader in Prince George, British Columbia, Canada, asks why we don't cover the Canadian computer market. Good question: What are our northern neighbors doing? A lot, that's what! Especially with the orphans.

**Spectravideo and MSX.** SYNODA Company provides hardware and software for Spectravideo and MSX computers. Items include MSX graphic tablets (\$99, Canadian), a disk controller (\$85, Canadian), and a printer interface (\$35, Canadian).

Memberships in the Spectravideo/MSX Users' Group (S.M.U.G.) are \$25 (Canadian), and include a monthly newsletter. The newsletter is usually printed in both English and French.

**Adam MegaCopy.** As the stock of original Digital Data Packs (DDP) for the Adam has dwindled, users have been forced into many different schemes to make copies of DDPs. Enter Trisyd Video Games with MegaCopy (\$60, Canadian), a hardware-software combo that will allow you to make DDP copies with ease.

You'll need two Digital Data Drives, as the hardware is plugged

into the second drive. Then all you need is a modified audiocassette. Drill holes into the write-protect slots similar to the one in a Coleco DDP. I recommend spending the extra bucks and getting high-quality tapes. DDPs have enough trouble as it is; don't add to your woes with cheap tape!

The process of making copies is completely menu-driven. MegaCopy should be a boon to users' groups and dealers with large public-domain databases to distribute.

**2068 Disk Interface.** Larken Electronics has redesigned its disk controller for the TS 2068. The DOS is now on a card that plugs into the expansion slot. This leaves the RAM free for program use. There's also an additional slot on the controller open for user ROMs and EPROMs, such as a Sinclair Spectrum Emulator.

The disk controller will drive up to four disk drives. Also included as part of the interface is a Kempston joystick port (a must for Spectrum program use!) and an NMI push button. This is used to transfer cassette software to a floppy disk.

And if that's not enough, Larken has included some new Extended BASIC commands for graphics and windows. The price of the interface and DOS cartridge is \$160 (Canadian). If you already have an old Larken interface, the new DOS cartridge will work with it. Also available is a TS 1000/1500/2068 disk controller for \$145 (Canadian).

PATRICK SPERA is *sysop* of the Computer Club Forum on CompuServe (GO CLUB), a meeting place for owners of orphaned computers.

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