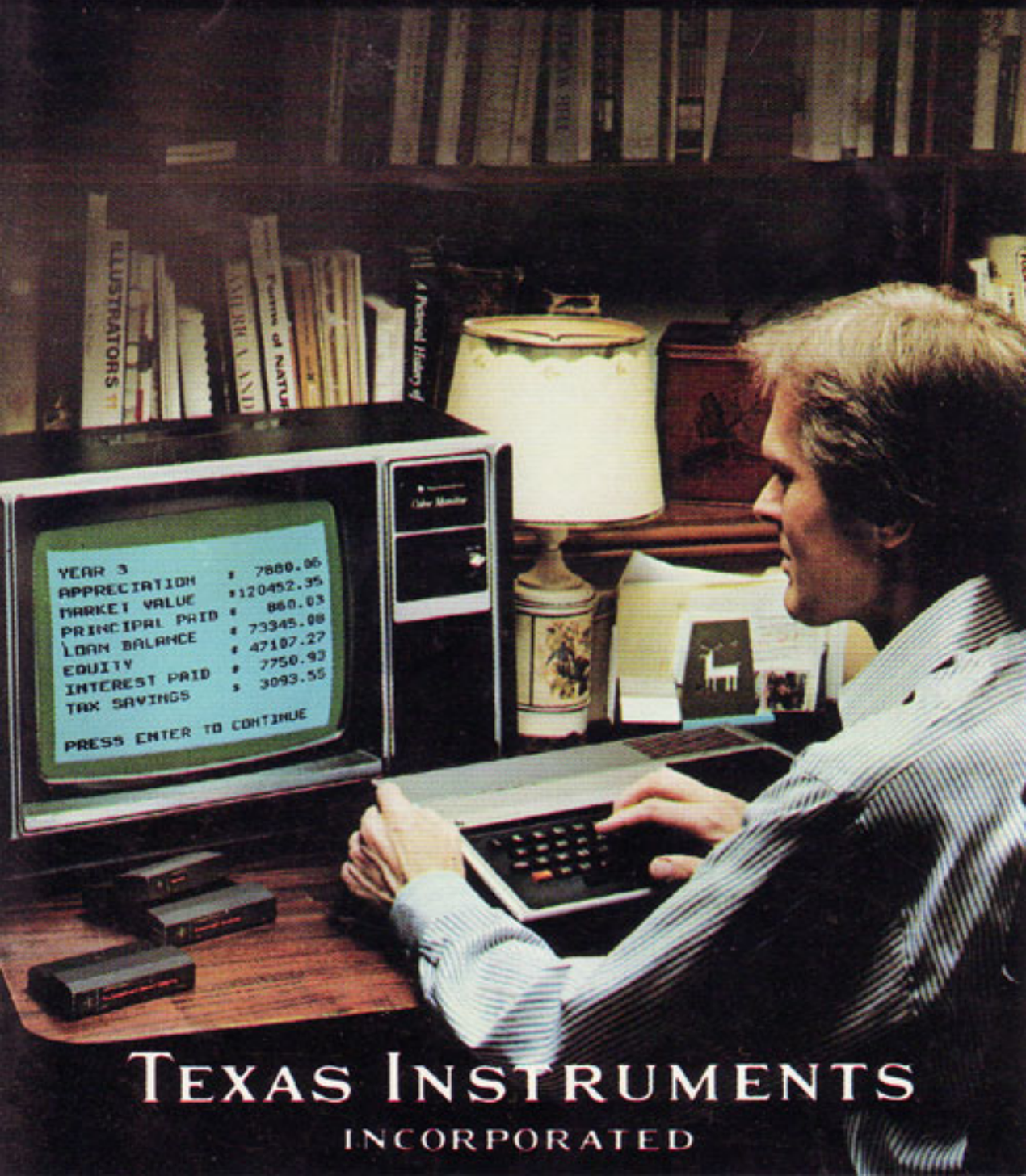
CL-436A

Texas Instruments introduces the TI-99/4 Home Computer

For personal finance. For record keeping. For home management. For education. For entertainment. For every member of your family. For right now.



TEXAS INSTRUMENTS
INCORPORATED

The remarkable TI-99/4 Home Computer. Compare it. Dollar for dollar. Feature for feature.

Superior color, music, sound and graphics — *and* a powerful extended BASIC — all built in. Plus TI's special Solid State Software™ and new Solid State Speech™ Synthesizer.

The TI-99/4 was designed to be the first true home computer — skilled computer users and beginners alike will be able to put it to effective use right away.

If you're new to computers, the TI-99/4 is for you.

You can begin using the TI Home Computer literally minutes after you unpack it. Without any previous computer experience or programming knowledge. You simply snap in one of TI's Solid State Software™ Command Modules and touch a few keys. Step-by-step instructions are displayed right on the screen. So you or just about anyone in your family can use the TI-99/4.

If you know computers, you'll quickly see the difference in the TI-99/4.

Texas Instruments has taken those features you've been wanting — plus some you may not have heard about yet — and included them in one incredible, affordable computer system. The TI-99/4 gives you an unmatched combination of features and capabilities, including:

- **Powerful TI-BASIC** — Built-in 13-digit, floating point BASIC. Fully compatible with ANSI Minimal BASIC, but with special features and extensions for color, sound and graphics.
- **Up to 72K total memory capacity** — 16K RAM (Random Access Memory), 26K ROM (Read Only Memory) plus up to 30K ROM in TI's Solid State Software Command Modules.
- **26K ROM** — Operating system, BASIC, floating point, sound and color graphics software are contained in ROM.
- **16-color graphics capability** — Easy to access high resolution graphics have special features that let you define your own characters, create animated displays, charts, graphs... and more.
- **Music and sound effects** — Provides outstanding audio capability. Build three-note chords and adjust frequency, duration and volume quickly and simply. You can build notes with short, straightforward commands. Five full octaves from 110 Hz (Hertz) to beyond 40,000 Hz.
- **Built-in equation calculator** — Unique convenience feature helps you find quick solutions to everyday math problems, as well as complex scientific calculations. Directly accessible from the keyboard.
- **High quality 13″ color monitor** — Specially matched for use with the TI-99/4 computer console. Simple, sure hookup.

(Where data storage is required or desired — for instance with some of our personal finance programs — the use of a cassette recorder is necessary.)

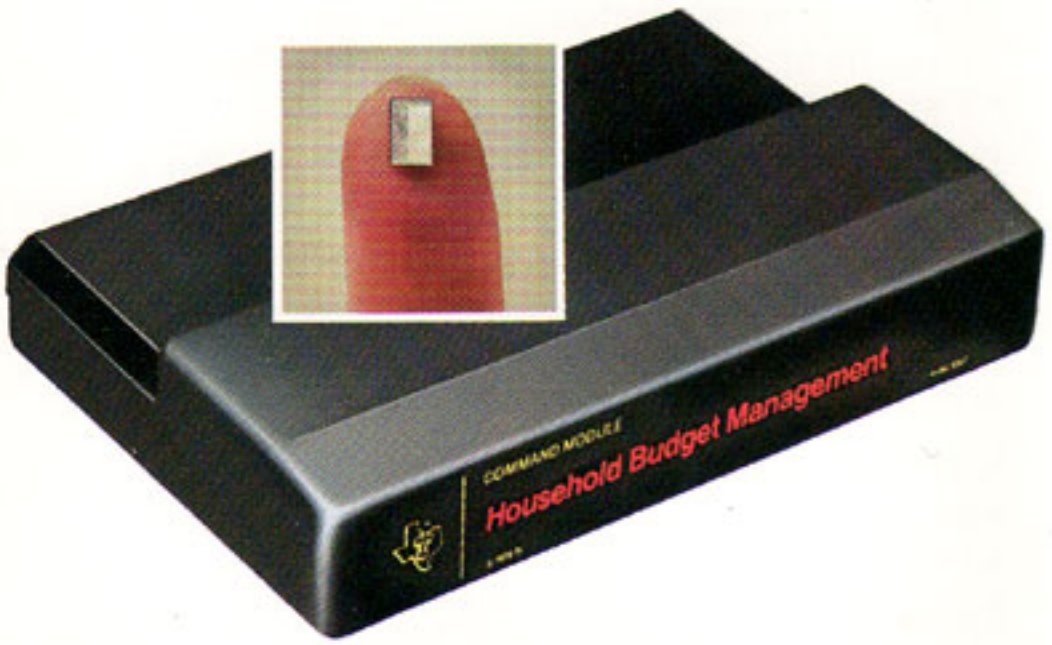
Due to the difficulty of photographing video screens, some of the screens represented are simulated.

Two pioneering technological developments *in particular* set the TI-99/4 apart from the rest.

Solid State Speech™

This optional speech synthesis accessory enables the TI-99/4 to literally speak—to provide verbal prompts and special messages to the user. Actually reproduces the human voice electronically. Hundreds of words are available, and plug-in word modules will add hundreds more. TI's exclusive technology lets you call up the words you want by simply typing them in. Outstanding voice clarity and fidelity. Solid State Speech is a proven technology already on the market in TI's unique Speak & Spell™ electronic learning aid for children.

The Solid State Speech Synthesizer requires the use of the Speech Editor Command Module or a Command Module designed for speech synthesis.



Solid State Software™ Command Modules

Available in a wide range of application areas, these optional ROM modules actually add application program memory to your TI-99/4. They let you use the TI Home Computer immediately, with no programming. Serious programmers will appreciate the time and effort saved by these preprogrammed modules. Plus, they'll let you introduce your family to the computer in the easiest possible way. Solid State Software was pioneered by TI for use with its powerful programmable calculators.

A world of genuine, practical applications exist for the TI Home Computer right now.

In addition to the many personal finance, home management, educational and entertainment uses for the TI-99/4, there are also a variety of home business and professional applications. The TI-99/4 is a powerful problem-solving tool—an ideal solution where larger, more expensive computers would be impractical.

Basic programming—The TI Home Computer was designed to be used for extensive personal programming. The built-in BASIC language makes the TI-99/4 a valuable desktop tool—at home or at the office. It also gives you a great way to teach your children about computers. And in a society constantly making greater use of computers, familiarity with them will be a tremendous asset.

Personal finance/home business uses—The TI Home Computer can help pay for itself over and over by helping you with tax and financial planning. It can help you weigh investment alternatives. The TI-99/4 helps take the guesswork out of problem-solving, whether they're personal or business problems. And it can assist with everything from record-keeping and budgeting, to making decisions about major purchases like homes and autos.

Education—Computer-assisted education is now available right in the home. For instance, your TI Home Computer can help students sharpen their grammar, math, spelling and reading skills. The computer guides the student through activities at his or her own pace. Colorful, entertaining pictures—plus sound effects and rewards—make learning fun and encourage achievement.

Entertainment—One of the many capabilities of a powerful computer system like this is its ability to add a new dimension to entertainment—from chess to football. The TI Home Computer is a challenging, "thinking," ever-ready opponent. And, unlike ordinary home TV games, it can also be a patient instructor in a variety of exciting games. Use Solid State Software or program your own.

Texas Instruments offers you a wide choice of Solid State Software Command Modules in the following general categories:

Home Management/Personal Finance Command Module programs:

- Personal Record Keeping*
- Home Financial Decisions
- Household Budget Management
- Investment Analysis*
- Tax/Investment Record Keeping*
- Statistics*

Example: *Household Budget Management*—Today, an increase in income is often blunted by higher taxes, but saving through better money management is *pure gain.* This program will help you implement a budget and monitor expenses by category, month and year. In short, you can create a workable budget then make it work.

Education Command Module programs:

- Early Learning Fun
- Beginning Grammar
- Physical Fitness
- Early Reading*
- Number Magic

Example: *Beginning Grammar*—This program helps school children (grade levels 3-5) learn the basic parts of speech and how they're used to build sentences. Activities combine color, sound and pictures. The computer provides encouragement and rewards—with pictures and sounds.

Entertainment Command Module programs:

- Football
- Video Chess
- Video Graphs

Example: *Video Chess*—Developed with the assistance of International Master David Levy. It allows you to play chess with the computer or with a friend. A special replay feature lets you watch an entire game over again. "Video Chess" can be a capable, ever-ready opponent or a friendly, patient instructor.

Other Command Module programs:

- Demonstration
- Diagnostic
- Terminal Emulator*
- Speech Editor*

*Programs available later in 1979. Check with your dealer for the Command Module programs currently available.

Texas Instruments developed an extremely powerful built-in BASIC for the TI Home Computer.

If you know anything about BASIC, you'll quickly recognize that TI BASIC is a rich, highly versatile language. It's a full floating-point, 13-digit extended BASIC—fully compatible with specifications of the American National Standards Institute for Minimal BASIC.

TI BASIC is designed to provide all the accuracy and power required for the most demanding technical applications of the TI Home Computer, yet it is expressly structured to be easy to use for the beginner.

In addition to a full complement of 33 statements, 19 system functions and 14 commands, TI BASIC features extremely easy-to-use color graphics capability (with 16 colors) and simple-to-access sound and music that includes five full octaves.

Many other small computer systems offer an advanced BASIC like ours, but you ordinarily have to pay extra for it and it must normally be loaded into the machine each time you need it. TI BASIC is built right into the TI Home Computer—at no additional cost to you. And it's instantly available at the touch of a few keys.

For a deeper insight into the power of TI BASIC and the TI Home Computer take a look at copies of the manuals shown below.

Texas Instruments has prepared a simple, easy - to - understand "Beginners Guide to BASIC" book to get you started into programming step-by-step. The "User's Reference Guide" which comes with the TI Home Computer contains advanced details on using TI BASIC. Both come with the TI-99/4 or, if you like, you may purchase these in advance to help you in your computer choice. McGraw-Hill has prepared a special book called "Programming in BASIC on the TI Home Computer." This optional book will give you even more understanding of the BASIC power of your TI-99/4.

Specifications

Console

CPU: 9900 Family, 16-bit microprocessor, plus 256-byte scratchpad RAM.
Memory: Total combined memory capacity: 72K bytes. Internal ROM memory supplied: 26K bytes. External ROM memory: (Solid State Software Command Modules) Up to 30K bytes each. RAM memory supplied: 16K bytes.
Keyboard: Staggered Qwerty, full travel style layout. Overlay for second functions.
Sound: 5 octaves, 3 simultaneous tones plus noise generator. From 110 Hz to beyond 40,000 Hz.
Video resolution: 192 x 256
Power: 110V, 60 Hz, 20W. Wall mounted console transformer.
Size: 25.9 x 38.1 x 7.1 cm (10.2 x 15.0 x 2.5 in.)
Weight: Less than 2.3 kg. (5 lbs)

Display

13" color monitor. 24 lines of 32 characters.

Optional accessories

Solid State Speech™ Synthesizer: Approx. 250 English words built in. Accessible from TI BASIC. Accommodates add-on word modules to broaden vocabulary.
Wired remote controllers: Eight-position stick with side-mounted action button.
Solid State Software™ Command Modules: Variety of financial, educational and entertainment programs in rugged, reliable plug-in modules. Modules contain up to 30K bytes of extra ROM.

Three Month Limited Warranty: On TI console, monitor and Command Module hardware.

Important Notice To Consumers

The warranty mentioned above covers only the hardware portion of the Command Module. See "User's Reference Guide" for complete warranty text. TI cannot and does not warrant that the TI Home Computer programs and book materials will be free from error or will meet the specific requirements of the user. The user assumes complete responsibility for any decisions made or actions taken based on information obtained using these programs and book materials, which are made available solely on an "AS-IS" basis (see owner's manual).

Texas Instruments reserves the right to make changes in materials and specifications without notice.

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