This guide to materials on microcomputers that are available in the Library of Congress is designed to assist individuals in the process of determining the need for a microcomputer, selecting the most appropriate one, understanding its use, and developing the ability to exploit its full potential. Buying guides, evaluations, and books on individual systems are listed to assist persons considering the purchase of a microcomputer with information on what these machines can do and the software that is available. References to books on maintenance and repair are also included. A brief explanation of the scope of the topic introduces the references, which are listed in the following categories: (1) introductions to the microcomputer; (2) subject headings; (3) selected buying guides; (4) basic texts; (5) additional texts; (6) related texts; (7) handbooks, manuals, encyclopedias, and dictionaries; (8) catalogs; (9) maintenance and repair; (10) bibliographies; (11) state-of-the-art reviews and conference proceedings; (12) government publications; (13) abstracting and indexing services; (14) online databases; (15) journals; (16) representative journal articles; (17) indexes to reports; (18) selected technical reports; (19) selected vertical file materials; and (2) associations that can provide additional information. (CGD)
SCOPE: Microcomputers, often referred to as personal computers (PCs), are small, stand-alone computers whose basic characteristics include moderate cost, immediate use right out of the carton, expansion and enhancement capabilities, and the availability of third-party software. As they evolve, they become capable of doing more and more of what larger computers can do. Microcomputers are used in both home and office by one person only or by a small group to perform such activities as word processing, data management and analysis, graphics, planning, and communication with peripherals and other computers.

Microcomputers are not essential for everyone. Many have been purchased only to sit idle after their owners find that they have too little use for them. The aim of this guide is to assist in the process of determining the need for a microcomputer, selecting the most appropriate one, understanding its use, and developing the ability to exploit its full potential. Buying guides, evaluations, and books on individual systems are listed in an attempt to provide those considering the purchase of a microcomputer with information on what these machines can do and what software is available. References to books on maintenance and repair are also included. Not meant to be a comprehensive bibliography, this Tracer Bullet, an update of TB 81-12, is designed—as the name of the series implies—to put the reader "on target."

INTRODUCTION


SUBJECT HEADINGS used by the Library of Congress, under which books on microcomputers can be located in most card, book, and online catalogs, include the following:

MICROCOMPUTERS (Highly relevant)
MINICOMPUTERS (Highly relevant)
PORTABLE COMPUTERS (Highly relevant)
See also under the names of individual computers, e.g., Apple IIe, IBM Personal Computer, Macintosh. It is usually best to use the browse command when trying to locate information about a particular computer using the online system.
COMPUTER SOFTWARE (Related)
MICROPROCESSORS (Related)
COMPUTERS (More general)
ELECTRONIC DIGITAL COMPUTERS (More general)

SELECTED BUYING GUIDES (Subdivision PURCHASING can be used to identify other titles, e.g., MICROCOMPUTERS--PURCHASING, MINICOMPUTERS--PURCHASING)


Computer buying guide: rating the best computers, peripherals & software. 1984— By the editors of Consumer guide. Skokie, Ill., Publications International. QA76.5.C612562*


McDonald, Clement J. Buying equipment and programs for home or office. New York, Springer-Verlag, 1987. CIP


BASIC TEXTS


Three program files on 1 computer disk (5 1/4 in.). Disk characteristics: dual sided, double density.
System requirements for disk: IBM PC or compatible computers; 256K; 1 disk drive.


Computer magazines and publications: p. 293-332.


Rowntree, Derek. Do you really need a home computer? New York, Scribner, c1985. 144 p. QA76.5.R69 1985


Rev. ed. of Computer literacy--concepts and applications (c1984). Available support materials include instructor's manual, computerized testbank, transparency masters, and BASIC programming tutorial.


ADDITIONAL TEXTS


Chiefly material solicited by Byte magazine but not selected for publication therein.


Bibliography: p. 396-402.


RELATED TEXTS


Benton, Mike. The complete guide to computer camps and workshops. Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill, cl1984. 279 p. QA76.33.B46 1984*


HANDBOOKS, MANUALS, ENCYCLOPEDIAS, and DICTIONARIES


CATALOGS

AOC market Guide: personal & professional computers. 1983- Bala Cynwyd, Pa., Advanced Office Concepts Corp. QA76.5.A64

Cover title: Bowker's 1985 complete sourcebook of personal computing.
Rev. ed. of Bowker/Bantam 1984 complete sourcebook of personal computing, c1983.

Computer classified bluebook. fall 1983- Reno, Nev., Computer Classified Bluebook, Inc. QA76.5.C6125634

Kept up to date with monthly issues of supplement pages.
Datapro reports on microcomputers newsletter is issued with supplement pages and filed at back of its v. 3.

Omni complete catalog of computer hardware and accessories. Edited by Owen Davies. New York, Macmillan; London, Collier Macmillan, c1984. 343 p. QA76.5.046 1984*


Retailers' microcomputer market place. spring 1985- New York, Bowker. QA76.5.R448

Latest edition in SciRR.


MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR


----- How to repair and maintain your Apple computer: all II series models, including the IIc. Radnor, Pa., Chilton Book Co., c1985. 212 p. TK7887.W549 1985

BIBLIOGRAPHIES


STATE-OF-THE ART REVIEWS and CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS


Papers or digests of papers from this series of symposia are cataloged individually and classed under various call numbers. To obtain a listing of those held by the Library of Congress, type FIND COMPCON in the Library's online LOCIS file. "IEEE catalog no. 84CH2070-1."


Papers from this series of symposia have been published beginning with the second, held Oct. 12-14, 1976, in Venice. Each volume has an individual title, but all are classed in QA76.5.E9. The first symposium in the series is entered under the heading Workshop on the Microarchitecture of Computer Systems, Nice, 1975, and is held under QA76.6.W7 1975. A volume of papers for the 13th symposium (1987) is in press.


"Reprinted from the journal Education & Computers, vol. 2, nos. 1,2, (1986)."


Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on Computer Workstations, Santa Clara, Calif., 1987 is being cataloged.


Bibliography: p. 207-224.

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS


ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING SERVICES that index relevant journal articles and literature are listed below. Some suggested terms are given as aids in searching.

**Applied Science & Technology Index** (1913-) Z7913.I7*
See: Computers, Portable
Microcomputers
Personal Computers
Telephone--Computer Combination

**Business Periodicals Index** (1958-) Z7164.C81B983
See: Microcomputers
Portable Computers
For specific applications see subheading Data Processing under various subjects.
See also under names of individual products.

**Computer Abstracts** (1957-) Z6654.C17C64*
See: Microcomputers
Personal Computing
See also under names of individual products.

**Computer & Control Abstracts** (1969-) QA76.C548*
See: Hobby Computing
Home Computing
Microcomputers
Personal Computing
For applications see Microcomputer Applications and under relevant application heading.

**Computer Literature Index** (1980-) QA76.Q3*
See: Microcomputers
Minicomputers
Personal Computing
Videotex

Note: Consult reference librarian for location of abstracting and indexing services in the Science Reading Room.
Magazine Index (1983-) Available on film/ROM reader
See: Laptop Computers
Microcomputers
Minicomputers
Portable Computers
See also under names of individual products.

Microcomputer Index (1980-) QA75.5.M5*
This publication has an author index, company name index, product name index, and an index to microcomputers.

Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature (1900-) AI3.R45
See under headings beginning COMPUTERS.

ONLINE DATABASES available through commercial electronic database vendors include:

- Business Software Database (Data Courier, Inc.)
- The Computer Database--The Database for Computing, Electronics, and Telecommunications (Management Contents)
- The International Software Database (International Software Database Corp.)
- Magazine Index (Information Access Company, IAC)
- Microcomputer Index (Database Services)
- Microcomputers (GML Corp.)

JOURNALS that often contain articles relevant to microcomputers are

- Byte QA76.5.B9
- Communications of the ACM QA76.A772
- Compute QA75.5.C587
- Computerworld QA76.C5816
- Datamation T175.M26
- Infoworld uncataloged
- PC QA76.8.11015P38
- Personal Computing QA76.5.P3937
- Software Reviews on File QA76.75.S64

REPRESENTATIVE JOURNAL ARTICLES


Reports statistics on industry growth and changes as well as trends for the future.
Divoky, Diane. Image copyright: are you breaking the law? Making it easy to copy someone else's artwork or photograph doesn't make it right. Publish!, v. 2, Aug. 1987: 51-55.


Freedman, Beth, and Jim Forbes. Increasingly, corporate users acquire a taste for Macintosh: applications and connectivity make Mac a safer choice but some users say it's not all-around competitor to PC. PC week, v. 4, Aug. 18, 1987: 1, 6.


Murphy, Brian J. Long live the home market (whatever it is). High-tech marketing, v. 4, June 1987: 20-26.


REPORTS and other types of literature are indexed in the following guides:

**Government Reports Announcements & Index (1946-) Z7916.G78**

**Scientific & Technical Aerospace Reports (1963-) TL500.S35**

**SELECTED TECHNICAL REPORTS**


**AD-A173 314**


**PB87-157 368**


**AD-A149 065**


**AD-A158 130**


**AD-A177 751**


**AD-A172 379**


**AD-A177 622**

**SELECTED MATERIALS** available in the Science Reading Room pamphlet boxes include:


Includes a list of vendors, organized information, and specifications for video display adapters, accelerator cards, memory cards, port cards, controller cards, and multifunction cards.

For latest update, see Datapro notebook in Science Reading Room.

**Available in the microform collection, Science Reading Room.**


ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Association for Computing Machinery, Inc.  
11 West 42nd Street  
New York, New York 10036  
Telephone: (212) 869-7440

Institute for Computer Sciences and Technology  
U.S. National Bureau of Standards  
Building 225, Room B154  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899  
Telephone: (301) 921-3151

International Communications Industries Association  
3150 Spring Street  
Fairfax, Virginia 22031  
Telephone: (703) 273-7200

See Encyclopedia of Associations, v. 1, pt. 3 (in Science Reading Room) under Computer Users for identification and location of users groups.