

**Modulator**

This takes the colour signal from the video chip and converts it to a signal of the same type as that broadcast to the aerial of a television set to produce its display

Ear and Microphone Sockets

These sockets are for use with a cassette recorder to transfer information to the computer from a cassette and vice versa

Input/Output Chip

This converts inputs from the keyboard and cassette unit to a form suitable for use by the computer, and changes information from the computer to the appropriate form when it is to be displayed on the screen

Edge Connector

This is where peripherals such as the ZX Printer are attached to the Spectrum

Power Socket

This is where the nine volt power supply from the Spectrum's power supply unit is connected to the computer

Microprocessor

This is the computing engine at the heart of the Spectrum. It is a Zilog Z80A microprocessor

Basic Chip

This chip provides the Spectrum's BASIC programming language. It is a 16 Kbyte ROM. The chip examines the program instructions given to the Spectrum and translates them into a suitable form for the microprocessor to carry them out

Voltage regulator

This accepts the nine volt supply from the power socket and converts it to the levels needed by the various electronic components in the Spectrum

Speaker

This small electric buzzer generates the sounds which the Spectrum can produce

SINCLAIR SPECTRUM

PRICE

£99.95 for 16K model

SIZE

232 x 144 x 30mm

WEIGHT

552g

CPU

Z80A

CLOCK SPEED

3.5MHz

MEMORY

16 Kbytes of RAM expandable to 48 Kbytes. 16 Kbyte ROM containing BASIC

VIDEO DISPLAY

24 lines with 32 character positions, or 192 x 256 dots for high resolution graphics. Both modes have 8 colours

INTERFACES

TV connector, cassette connector (no remote control), 28-pin edge connector for connecting peripherals

LANGUAGE SUPPLIED

BASIC

OTHER LANGUAGES AVAILABLE

FORTH, PASCAL, LISP, LOGO, PROLOG

COMES WITH

Power supply unit (but no plug), aerial lead, cassette leads, demonstration cassette, 2 manuals

KEYBOARD

40 moving keys all on a single rubber sheet

DOCUMENTATION

The Spectrum comes with a thin introductory manual on setting up the machine and a more substantial manual on BASIC programming. The latter begins with a tour of the keyboard that really needs to be more detailed to describe to the beginner how the various shift keys are used. The chapters on BASIC programming demonstrate the Spectrum's capabilities with numerous examples of individual commands and a number of short programs.

A series of appendices provides a fairly complete reference guide to the Spectrum and its BASIC. The manuals are well produced and give a complete coverage, respectively, of how to set up the Spectrum and of the machine's capabilities