

APPLICATION



FITTING THE BILL We examine a number of products currently on the market that are billed as 'robots' and see how well they conform to our definition of the term

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HARDWARE



A TOUCH OF CLASS The Touchmaster is a new graphics tablet that is designed to work with most of the popular home machines. We see how it compares with its rivals

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SOFTWARE



EDUCATED GUESS We conclude our look at TK!Solver by looking at its ability to solve equations from incomplete information through a series of 'guesses'

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COMPUTER SCIENCE



WHO DUNNIT? Using the example of a murder mystery in which a list of suspects is drawn up and analysed, we continue to examine the use of list processing in LOGO

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JARGON



INFORMATION STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL TO INK JET PRINTER A weekly glossary of computing terms

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PROGRAMMING PROJECTS



TAKING ORDERS Now that we have discussed methods of moving around the adventure world, we can look at how the program analyses instructions from the player

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MACHINE CODE



BYTE THE DUST Our debugger program is now complete and this instalment also concludes our series on 6809 machine code

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WORKSHOP



OUTBOARD MOTOR We look at the working principles of the stepper motors that will be used to power the robot we are building and construct the board to hold the motor and accompanying parts

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REFERENCE CARD We begin to list extracts from the 6502 programmers' reference card

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COVER

Next Week

- Osborne changed the face of business computing with their original portable computer, the Osborne 1. We examine their chances of a repeat performance with the IBM-compatible Osborne Encore.
- If you think vertical software is another name for jumpsuits, you should read our new series starting next week.
- In the first instalment of a new machine code series we begin an in-depth examination of computer operating systems.



QUIZ

- 1) Where might you find an unexplained foot switch?
- 2) What is a modem icon?
- 3) When is half a loaf as good as a whole one?

Answers To Last Week's Quiz

- 1) The new feature on the Spectrum+ is the reset button, positioned on the left-hand side of the casing.
- 2) We are using stepper motors in our robot project. Because they move in discrete steps, they can be moved with great precision.
- 3) To access an array in memory we would normally expect to use indexed addressing.
- 4) An equation processor enables you to define variables in a flexible format and can solve for any variable, while spreadsheets have a more rigidly defined construction.

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