

APPLICATION

HOW DO YOU DO? The second part of our series on communications describes in detail the protocols necessary for home micros to communicate with each other via a modem



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HARDWARE

SHARP SIGHTED We scrutinise two pocket computers marketed by the Japanese company, Sharp. The PC-1251 and PC-1500A are both light-weight, inexpensive and versatile machines



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SOFTWARE

PLAYSCHOOL More educational packages for the very young: the programs we look at this week are primarily designed to teach language skills



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COMPUTER BOOKS We present our first book reviews: *Mindstorms* details the ideas and aspirations behind the development of LOGO; *The Soul Of A New Machine* traces the construction of Data General's Eagle computer

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COMPUTER SCIENCE

LATTICE PATTERNS A special project that exploits LOGO's many geometric strengths



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JARGON

KEYPUNCH TO LABEL A weekly glossary of computing terms



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PROGRAMMING PROJECTS

DRAWING PICTURES We design screen displays for the Spectrum to illustrate locations of interest in our Digitaya game



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MACHINE CODE

SMOOTH MOVER We explore the use of the Commodore 64's VIC chip to allow the 'smooth scrolling' of screen displays



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WORKSHOP

MANY MOTORS We show you how to control several servo motors simultaneously. A range of possible applications are also suggested



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Next Week

- Having now constructed our robot, we begin to look at some practical applications programs.
- Memotech have recently upgraded their MTX 500 series of computers. We examine the improvements in the RTS128.
- We review two books that speculate how computers will change the shape of society.



QUIZ

- 1) Where would you find a 'software board'?
- 2) Who led the team in the birth of the Eagle?
- 3) Why does data have to be 'detokenised' before it can be transmitted?

Answers To Last Week's Quiz

- 1) An acoustic modem — also known as an acoustic coupler — requires a telephone handset.
- 2) The Canon T70 chip contains 16 bytes of RAM.
- 3) Parity checking is used in computer communications to ensure that the correct signal has been received.
- 4) In LOGO, 'state transparent' means that after a procedure has been executed, the turtle is pointing in the same direction as it was before the procedure commenced.

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