

WHAT PC? AND SOFTWARE



Cover CD

4 What CD? number two plus Compuserve CD

Our fully-interactive cover CD is now better than ever. You'll find the latest games and multimedia; our new interactive Getting Started; a resources section filled with essential shareware and utilities; videos, music, photos and poetry; a 12-month back-issues index of *What PC?*; the complete previous issue of the magazine to read on disc; plus more than 500 pages of Hands On articles; and much, much more.

● There's also Compuserve's brand-new Easy Internet Access CD, with ten hours free on line, and a selection of the latest software utilities for the Web.



Cover story

74 Small office/home office PCs



Buying a personal computer that is suitable for small or home office use usually involves a considerable investment, so it's well worth taking steps to ensure your purchase is future-proof. We put a selection of systems through their paces to help you find one which will both suit your wallet and match your business needs.

Features

92 Personal information managers

Pims have come a long way since they were first developed over ten years ago. Not only do they provide a simple way to store and access addresses and appointments, many now offer sophisticated contacts tracking and project management facilities. We evaluate seven key products.



108 Budget integrated accounts

Small businesses and the self-employed are better served than ever by budget accounting packages which range from entry-level cashbooks to sophisticated systems packed with features. We examine ten products to give an idea of what's currently available.



120 Fax/printer/copiers

An all-in-one unit combining faxing, copying and printing facilities could well be the answer for small or home businesses that have little work space and budgets to match. We examine six of the latest fax/ printer/ copiers to help you weigh up the pros and cons.



Reviews

23 Up front

Delrina Cyberjack 7.0 for Windows 95 Internet suite.
Turbochip 133MHz & 83MHz Overdrive 486 upgrade chips.
Canon BJC-210 Compact colour-capable inkjet printer.
PowerDesk 1.1 Collection of Windows 95 tools.
Carrera Explorer P100 Pentium 100-based notebook.
Garmin GPS30PC Global Positioning System receiver.
Apple Laserwriter 4/600 PS 600dpi Postscript laser printer.
Nokia Valuegraph 417TV 17in monitor and TV all in one.
Digital Hinote Ultra II Modular sub-A4 Pentium notebook.
Filemaker Pro 3.0 32-bit version of Filemaker Pro 2.0 database.
ASAP WordPower 1.95 Presentation graphics program.
Adobe PhotoDeluxe 1.0 for a digitised family photo album.
Apricot MS540 A 200MHz Pentium PC with multimedia.
Pipex Dial 3.0 Connectivity software for Pipex subscribers.

58 In brief

Samsung Syncmaster 15Me Monitor with built-in speakers.
Computerguard PC Alarm Security device for PCs.
STB Powergraph 64 Video 64-bit graphics card.
Sicos DMS2000 800dpi black-and-white desktop scanner.
Taxcalc (1995-96) Complete your tax returns electronically.
Xircrom Creditcard Modem 28.8 V.34 PCMCIA card modem.
Blasterkeys Home Studio Sound card with Midi keyboard.
Netbox A device for networking PCs and sharing printers.
CTX 1769MS Monitor 17in monitor with built-in speakers.
Samsung SCR-830 CD-Rom drive Eight-speed CD drive.
Corel Visual Cadd 32-bit Windows-based Cad package.

131 Computer class

If working on a corner of the kitchen table is cramping your style, you might well be considering setting up a home office. James Taylor explains how to go about it.

Regulars

- 15 News** hardware and software latest.
- 65 Letters** and competition winners.
- 69 Competition** Go for gold this month and win one of two Goldstar monitors, or one of three Goldstar eight-speed CD-Rom drives.
- 141 Question time** Write to us with your PC problem – if we publish your letter, you'll receive a copy of either MS Works or Publisher.
- 174 Reader survey** Tell us what you think and you could win a copy of MS Encarta.
- 174 Faxline** *What PC?* pages via your fax.
- 215 Product index**
- 216 Back page** Next Month; book reviews; and Terry Pinnell grapples with some irritating encounters of the computer kind.

What PC? buyer's guide

Essential advice and information for beginners, plus the most comprehensive buyer's tables on the market.



165 Buyer's guide contents

getting started

13,166 Getting started The ultimate beginner's guide to personal computing.

179 How to buy Detailed advice for buyers, including a checklist and a self-questionnaire to help you reach a decision.

183 Tables Make an informed choice from our comprehensive listings of the latest PCs, software & peripherals – including specifications, prices and manufacturers' contact numbers.

187 Buyer's charter



What PC? on the Web

If you have access to the Internet, you can now visit the *What PC?* Web site at: <http://www.vnu.co.uk/vnu/hc/wpc/>

After hours

146 Games This month we opt for Normality, a new improved Civilisation, a ripping yarn of a game starring Christopher Walken and a steering wheel for more gripping gameplay.

153 Family Concoct a spell with Winnie the Witch, swot up Dorling Kindersley's latest dictionary and compose yourself with our Music Maker project.

157 On line Terry Pinnell's Net travels take in the Louvre and culminate in a spot of armchair shopping.

