

<table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">  </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">  </td> </tr> </table>			<p style="font-family: verdana, geneva; font-size: medium; color: #000000;"> History </p>
			
			
<p>A far more substantial machine than the ZX80 was the Atom launched at £150 by a small company called Acorn. This was the predecessor of the groundbreaking BBC Micro. It used its own version of BASIC and some of its features were similar to those of the ZX Spectrum. The BBC Micro initially came in two models: the A and the B, the A with 16k RAM the B 32k. It was developed in conjunction with a BBC TV programme Making The Most Of The Micro leading to controversy over the BBC's involvement with something as commercial as making computers, but helped make Britain one of the most computer literate countries in the world. This was also helped by the fact that the government launched a scheme for schools whereby it paid half the cost of computers bought - providing the machine was a BBC, Research Machines 380Z or ZX Spectrum. At one time there were more computers per person in the UK than anywhere else. Acorn won the BBC contract over rivals Sinclair (who launched his Spectrum anyway) and Newbrain. Although launched in December 1981, the BBC micro was not available until Summer 1982 because of production difficulties. This did not affect its success.</p>			
			
			
Acorn Atom (1979)			
Acorn Elektor			

center;" mce_style="text-align: center;" valign="top" align="" lang="">>BBC Atom Model A/B/B+
(1982)</td> <td scope="" dir="" style="text-align: center;" mce_style="text-align: center;" rowspan="1" valign="top" align="" lang="">>BBC Master Compact
With 128KB and
3.5" FDD (1986)
</td></tr></table></td></tr> <tr style="background-color: rgb(240, 239, 239);" mce_style="background-color: #f0efef;" valign="top"> <td> <table class="mceltemTable" width="100%" border="0" cellpadding="0" cellspacing="0"> <tr><td scope="" dir="" rowspan="1" colspan="5" valign="top" align="" lang="">>
Technical Specs

</td></tr><tr> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>
</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>Acorn Atom
</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>Acorn Elekton</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>BBC Atom Model A/B/B+
</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>BBC Master Compact
</td> </tr> <tr> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>CPU</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>MOS 6502 @ 1Mhz</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>MOS 6502 @ 1.8Mhz</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>MOS 6502 @ 1.8Mhz</td> <td id="" scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>MOS 65C102 @ 1.8MHZ</td> </tr> <tr> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>RAM</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>2KB
(expandable to 32K)</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>32KB</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>Model A : 16KB
Model B : 32KB
Model B+ : 64KB</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>128KB
Devided in:
32K Main RAM,
64K Paged RAM,
20K Video RAM,
12K OS Workspace</td> </tr> <tr> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>ROM</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>8KB
</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>32KB
</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>32KB
</td> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>32KB
</td> </tr> <tr><td scope="" dir="" id="" colspan="1" valign="top" align="" lang="">>VIDEO</td><td scope="" dir="" id="" colspan="1" valign="top" align="" lang="">>Text:
32x24
16x12

Graphics:
256x192 monochrome
128x192 monochrome
64x192 with 4 colors
128x96 monochrome
64x96 with 4 colors
64x64 with 4 colors</td><td scope="" dir="" id="" colspan="1" valign="top" align="" lang="">><table class="mceltemTable" style="width: 100%;" border="0" cellpadding="0" cellspacing="0"> <tr> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">>Text:
80 x 32/25 with 2 colors
40 x 32/25 with 2 or 4 colors
20 x 32 with 16 colors
40 x 25 for
Teletext display
<br

```

/><b>Graphics:</b><br />160 x 256 with 16 colors<br />320 x 256 with 4 colors<br />640 x 256
with 2 colors</td> </tr> </table></td><td scope="" dir="" id="" colspan="1" valign="top"
align="" lang=""><b>Text:</b><br />80 x 32/25 with 2 colors<br />40 x 32/25 with 2 or 4
colors<br />20 x 32 with 16 colors<br />40 x 25 for <br />Teletext display<br /><br
/><b>Graphics:</b><br />160 x 256 with 16 colors<br />320 x 256 with 4 colors<br />640 x 256
with 2 colors</td><td scope="" dir="" colspan="1" valign="top" align="" lang=""><table
class="mceltemTable" style="width: 100%;" border="0" cellpadding="0" cellspacing="0"> <tr>
<td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang=""><b>Text:</b><br />80 x 32/25 with 2 colors<br
/>40 x 32/25 with 2 or 4 colors<br />20 x 32 with 16 colors<br />40 x 25 for <br />Teletext
display<br /><br /><b>Graphics:</b><br />160 x 256 with 16 colors<br />320 x 256 with 4
colors<br />640 x 256 with 2 colors</td> </tr> </table></td></tr><tr><td scope="" dir=""
colspan="1" valign="top" align="" lang=""><b><span style="color: rgb(153, 51, 0);"
mce_style="color: #993300;">AUDIO</span></b></td><td scope="" dir="" colspan="1"
valign="top" align="" lang=""><table class="mceltemTable" style="width: 100%;" border="0"
cellpadding="0" cellspacing="0"> <tr> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">1
Channel mono<br />(built-in beeper)</td> </tr> </table></td><td scope="" dir="" colspan="1"
valign="top" align="" lang=""><table class="mceltemTable" style="width: 100%;" border="0"
cellpadding="0" cellspacing="0"> <tr> <td scope="" dir="" valign="top" align="" lang="">3
channels + 1 noise channel<br />7 octaves</td> </tr> </table></td><td scope="" dir=""
colspan="1" valign="top" align="" lang="">3 channels + 1 noise channel<br />7 octaves</td><td
scope="" dir="" colspan="1" valign="top" align="" lang=""><table class="mceltemTable"
style="width: 100%;" border="0" cellpadding="0" cellspacing="0"> <tr> <td scope="" dir=""
valign="top" align="" lang="">3 channels + 1 noise channel<br />7 octaves</td> </tr>
</table></td></tr><tr><td scope="" dir="" colspan="1" valign="top" align="" lang=""><b><span
style="color: rgb(153, 51, 0);" mce_style="color: #993300;">EXTERNAL
STORAGE</span></b></td><td scope="" dir="" colspan="1" valign="top" align=""
lang="">Tape<br /></td><td scope="" dir="" colspan="1" valign="top" align="" lang="">Tape,
Floppy</td><td scope="" dir="" colspan="1" valign="top" align="" lang="">Tape, Floppy</td><td
scope="" dir="" colspan="1" valign="top" align="" lang="">Floppy</td></tr></table>
</td></tr><tr> <td style="text-align: center;" mce_style="text-align: center;"> <table
style="width: 100%;" class="mceltemTable" border="0" cellpadding="0" cellspacing="0"> <tr>
<td class="infuse" colspan="3"> <p style="text-align: left;" mce_style="text-align: left;"><span
style="font-family: verdana, geneva;" mce_style="font-family: verdana, geneva;"><span
style="font-size: medium;" mce_style="font-size: medium;"><span style="color: rgb(0, 0, 0);"
mce_style="color: #000000;"><span style="font-size: x-large;" mce_style="font-size:
x-large;"><b><span style="font-size: large;" mce_style="font-size:
large;">Screenshots</span></b></span></span></span></p></td></tr> <tr
valign="top" align="middle"> <td width="33%"> <br /></td> <td width="33%"> <br /></td> <td width="33%"> </td></tr> <tr> <td
style="text-align: center;" mce_style="text-align: center;"><span style="color: rgb(153, 51, 0);"
mce_style="color: #993300;"><b>Basic Screen<br /></b></span></td> <td style="text-align:

```

center;" mce_style="text-align: center;">Baron
</td> <td style="text-align: center;" mce_style="text-align: center;">Mr. Robot (1984)
</td></tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;" mce_style="text-align: center;">
</td> <td style="text-align: center;" mce_style="text-align: center;">
</td> <td style="text-align: center;" mce_style="text-align: center;">
</td></tr> <tr valign="top" align="middle"> <td style="text-align: center;" mce_style="text-align: center;" width="33%">Chess
</td> <td style="text-align: center;" mce_style="text-align: center;" width="33%">Mr. Wiz
</td> <td style="text-align: center;" mce_style="text-align: center;" width="33%">Qwak
</td></tr></table></td></tr> <tr style="background-color: rgb(240, 239, 239);" mce_style="background-color: #f0efef;" valign="top"> <td class="infuse"> <table style="width: 100%;" class="mceltemTable" border="0" cellpadding="0" cellspacing="0"> <tr> <td width="20%"> <p>Emulators</p></td> <td width="33%"> </td> <td width="15%"> </td></tr> <tr> <td width="20%">BeePem</td> <td width="33%">http://www.mkw.me.uk/beebem/<br mce_bogus="1"></td> <td width="15%"><a mce_href="http://bbc.nvg.org/emul/BeebEm/BeebEm141.zip" href="http://bbc.nvg.org/emul/BeebEm/BeebEm141.zip" target="_blank"> Download<br mce_bogus="1"></td></tr></table></td></tr></table>