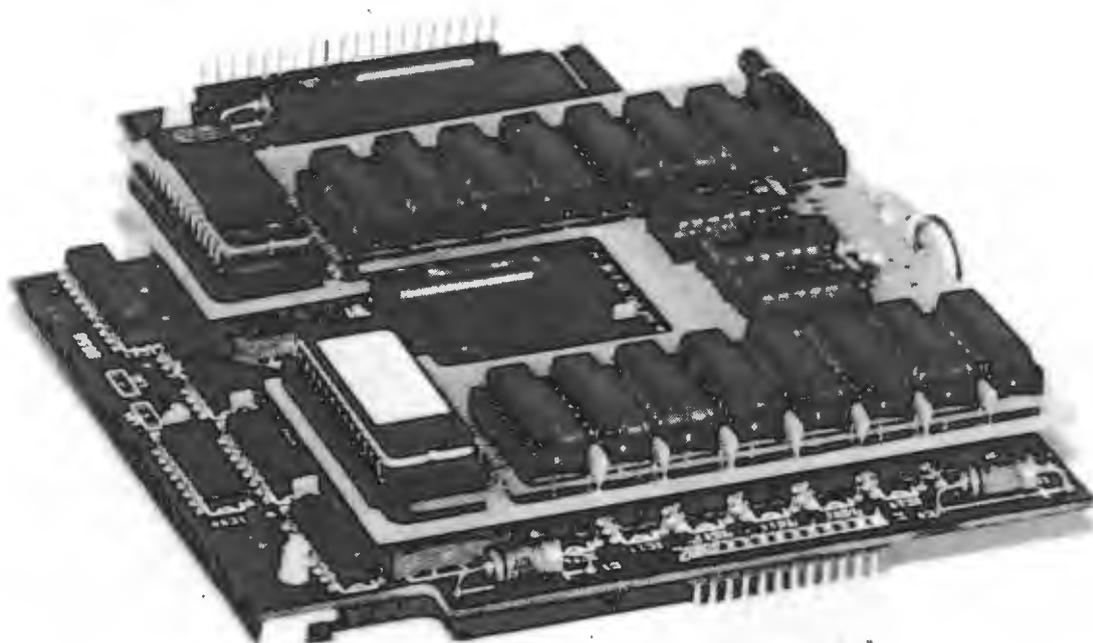


SOLIDISK (0702) 354674



PC-500 AND PC-PLUS, 16-BIT PC COMPATIBLE UPGRADES

512K and 986K RAM, 10 MHz 80186, GEM

An IBM PC compatible upgrade is just what you need to tap into the biggest investment on earth: the PC software.

Hardware:

The PC-500 and the PC-PLUS are Acorn 80186 MASTER internal co-processors, adapted with a lead by Solidisk for use with either the Beeb or the Master. An adaptor for the Archimedes is being developed at present.

The PC-500 comes with 512K of RAM. It is the Acorn 80186 with a lead. The first half of the PC-PLUS is Acorn 512K 80186, the second half is Solidisk memory upgrade, to one megabyte. As some of the addressable memory is occupied by the system ROMs, only 986K are presently visible and used (it is possible to reclaim the difference by reprogramming the 80186 address control register).

Both products have an Intel 80186 full 16-bit CPU running at 10MHz, yielding around thrice the speed of an IBM PC. Both come with a rubber ball mouse.

Important:

On the Beeb, you will need either Acorn WD-1770 and ADFS or Solidisk WD-1770 and Solidisk ADFS 2.1. The BOOT disc is in 80 track, double sided 5 1/4" ADFS format. All other discs are in 720K double sided 80 track DOS format. A double-sided 80 track drive is thus required.

Both PC-500 and PC-PLUS support 8 different disc format, including standard IBM 360K double sided 40 track format. You cannot boot from a PC DOS but most PC discs will run straight off the box. In any case, don't switch your drive to 40 track! DOS will double-step if necessary.

Software:

Both come with 4 software discs, containing DOS and the GEM collection (desktop, wordprocessor and paint). The wordprocessor can have fancy fonts (on the same disc) and scaled GEMPAINT pictures merged with your text.

The PC-PLUS has much more useable memory than the PC-500. A review in A&B Computing shows that the PC-PLUS has 768-886K left after loading DOS compared with 422K on the PC-500.

The PC-PLUS opens new doors to the 80186. Some high powered software requires more memory than available on the PC-500. Turbo-Lightning and Fleet Street Editor are two examples.

Both PC-500 and PC-PLUS out-perform most (if not all) compatibles in terms of speed but the PC-PLUS wins also on size.

Price:

PC-500, cased £239 inc. VAT
PC-PLUS, cased £339 inc. VAT
Upgrade from PC-500 to PC-PLUS £105 inc. VAT
Upgrade from 80186 to PC-PLUS, cased £120 inc. VAT

We do not offer uncased upgrade from 80186 to PC-PLUS at present. If the 80186 has not been purchased from Solidisk, you will be required to sign a disclaimer.

Availability:

Only from Solidisk.

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