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Tatung Einstein TC-01 with original packaging

The Tatung Einstein was released in 1984 costing about £500.

It uses a 3" disk drive (the same used by Sinclair and Amstrad) but I have read somewhere that with a bit of 'handy andying' you can fit a standard 720k 3.5" floppy drive quite easily.

Is it me or does this machine have quite a lot of physical similarities to the Acorn BBC computer? I never had one of these machines but did have a beeb for a long time, and when I took the Einstein out of the box there were several similarities that hit me :

- Similar keyboard action
- Similar expansion connectors
- Similar power supply
- Similar moulded mains plug
- Similar plastic strip above the functions keys

... but technically the machines are very different - The BBC computer being 6502 based and the Einstein being Z80 based for a start!

I've done quite a bit of looking round the web and can't find any other references to these similarities except to say that they are both British computers.

Unusually, the machine boots up into MOS (Machine Operating System) and you need to load a high level language like BBC Basic to use it. Yes, the machine was (I think) supplied with BBC Basic - a strange coincidence bearing in mind the similarities to the beeb ...

The fact that it booted into MOS made it ideal for hardcore programmers to write software and it was apparently on this machine that copy protection systems were developed for other computers due to the fact that you could program the disk controller chip directly.

This machine has a model No: TC 01 with a serial number of 6001268 and is complete with the original manuals

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Manufacturer: Tatung
Date: 1st January 1984

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[Personal Computer World Special: Business Computing The 1986 Survival Guide](#)

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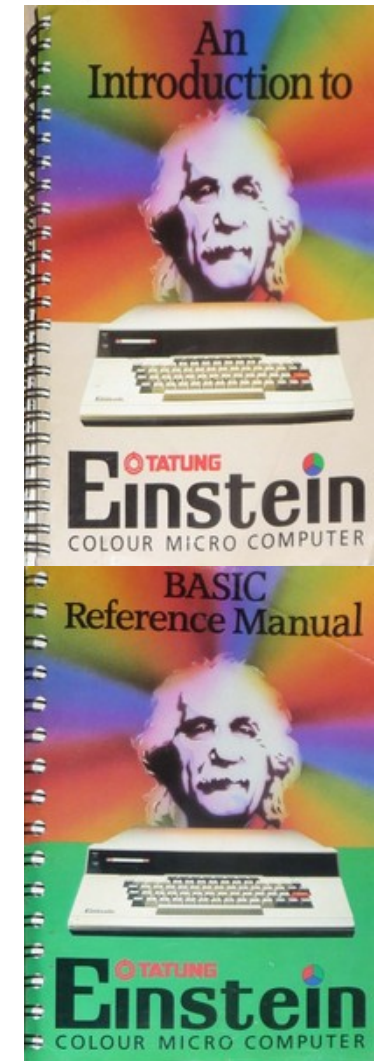
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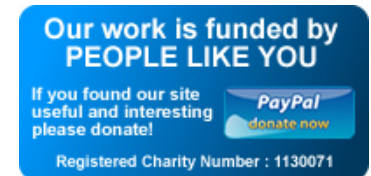
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