



ANSWER QUEST TIP SHEET

WE ANSWER YOUR TECHNOLOGY QUESTIONS

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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History of the World! (Ok, just computers)

It's "Back to School" time! So rev your brain into gear! I thought we'd do a little *history* lesson and look at the History of Computers.

WOW! Look how far we have come!

From using our fingers, to building the first calculators, it was just a matter of time before the first computer was built. Check out <http://www.thocp.net/timeline/timeline.htm> for a great timeline.

I found some other websites that not only list the details but also have some fantastic pictures of older computers. There is even some websites that show old advertisements (is that Bill Cosby selling a TI?) and old magazines. Have a really old computer sitting around and don't know what to do with it? What about trading it? There's even one site that has a Trade section. Bet you didn't think someone might still want that old Apple IIc!

But, the **most important** piece of information I know you want to learn is:

What was going on with computers the year you were born!

Go to: http://www.thocp.net/reference/year_index.htm and check this out. It's great! I'm an ASCII baby! ASCII was first introduced the year I was born.

So here are some websites to help with your learning today (although I'm sure there are many more): <http://www.old-computers.com>, <http://www.thocp.net/>, <http://members.tripod.com/pcmuseum/>, and <http://encarta.msn.com/find/concise.asp?mod=1&ti=761563087&page=1#s1>, <http://oldcomputers.net/>.

Do you remember the Radio Shack TRS-80 Model 1?



It was first introduced in 1977 with the lightening speed of 1.77 MHz. The RAM was 4 kb / 16 kb (depending on the model) and on some models was expandable to 48 kb.

Remember that wonderful new color we all loved? Monochrome. Ah yes, so easy on the eyes. You didn't have to worry about what color Windows was going to use. Wait, Windows?

Nah, this used the TRS-DOS. You ARE still using this, aren't you?

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If you want to see other old computers, visit the PC Museums and take a look at what we used to think was “groovy dude”: <http://www.old-computers.com/museum>, <http://www.aceadvanced.org/computers/>, and <http://users.rcn.com/crfriend/museum/index.shtml>.

Here's the site I was telling you about that has a Trade section (but note that it's .de which means the domain is in Germany): <http://www.homecomputer.de>.

What about that Bill Cosby ad? You can find that and others at: <http://www.vintagecomputerads.com/> and <http://members.cox.net/oldcomputerads/>. And here's the address for the old computer magazines: <http://www.old-computer-mags.co.uk/index.htm>.

Well that's it for today's history lesson. Did you find anything in there you remember? That you actually owned?

Tonight, your homework will be (did you think I wasn't giving you homework!):

Find out what year I was born!

Have fun and remember to learn something new everyday!

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