

The ZX Series

In the early eighties Sir Clive Sinclair developed the ZX series of computers. These computers were some of the first affordable computers that hobbyist could have.

ZX80 Computer

The ZX80 was released in 1980. It was the first computer with a retail price below \$200 going for \$199.95. It had 1K of static ram, a 4K ROM with integer basic. It had a processor speed of 3.5MHz. It used a black and white TV with 24 rows of 32 characters and a graphical resolution of 64x48. The screen would blank out when doing calculations and only display when an input or pause was set causing the screen to flicker. There was no sound or joystick and cassette tapes were used to load and save programs. The keyboard was a membrane instead of actual keys. You could buy a 16K RAM Pack separately to increase its memory. There were 50,000 sold mainly in the UK. It was sold as a kit or assembled

ZX81 Computer

In 1981 Sinclair came out with the predecessor of the ZX80, the ZX81. The ZX81 retailed for \$99.95 since the IC count was significantly reduced by using a custom chip the ULA. The major improvements were the 8K ROM with floating point basic and a new screen mode that permitted the display to always be shown. Other than these differences it had the same features as the ZX80. It could also have its memory expanded with a 16K Ram Pack. 350,000 were sold worldwide in the first year of production and also came as a kit or assembled.

Timex Sinclair 1000

In 1982 Timex started selling the ZX81 repackaged as the Timex Sinclair 1000 in the USA. The only difference from the ZX81 is that it came with 2K of RAM and minor changes to the keyboard labeling. By early 1983 there were 600,000 sold and only came assembled

Timex Sinclair 1500

In 1983 an upgraded Timex Sinclair 1000 the 1500 was sold. It came with the 16K ram built in and a keyboard with rubber keys. It sold for \$79 assembled. It was not as popular as the 1000.

Clones

Micro-Ace	ZX80 Clone
TK-80	ZX80 Clone
Jupiter Ace	ZX81 Clone which ran forth rather than Basic
CP200	ZX81 clone with inverted video and larger case
TK82	ZX81 clone with ZX80 case
TK82C	ZX81 clone with a smaller case and 2K RAM
TK83	ZX81 clone, same case as original, but golden instead of black
TK85	ZX81 clone with the ZX Spectrum case and 16K or 48K RAM
ZX-97	Homebrew ZX81 with discrete logic and 16K RAM
ZX-Core	Homebrew ZX80/81 switchable with discrete logic and 16K RAM
ZX-More	Homebrew ZX80/81/Spectrum/CPM switchable

Links

Forums

<http://www.sinclairzxworld.com> Active forum

<http://forum.tienhard.com/TS1000/www.ts1000.us> Archived read only

Store/Auction:

<http://www.sellmyretro.com> - Sells replacement parts, add ons, many old computers and software

<http://ebay.com> – Sells ZX80, ZX81, Timex Sinclair 1000 and Timex Sinclair 1500

<http://www.rwapsoftware.co.uk> – Lists many add ons sold at SellMyRetro

Emulators:

<https://www.aptanet.org/eightyone/> Eighty One -Windows one of the best

<http://problemkaputt.de/zx.htm> no\$zx – Windows another good emulator with editing tools

<http://zx81.vb81.free.fr> vb81 – Visual basic based Site also has good graphic tools

Software:

<http://www.zx81.nl> Site with a extensive software collection

[https://archive.org/details/tosec?and\[\]=zx81](https://archive.org/details/tosec?and[]=zx81) – Another good collection packed in a zip file

<http://www.rwapsoftware.co.uk> – Has current software for ZX81/Zx80

<http://www.worldofspectrum.org/rrnet> – Has a detailed database of programs

<http://www.zx81stuff.org.uk> – Has a good collection with cassette inserts and directions to most games

Hardware Projects/Info

<http://www.rwapsoftware.co.uk> -RWAP Software

http://www.user.dccnet.com/wrigger/index_files/ - Good projects and info on the ZX-97

<http://oldwww.nvg.ntnu.no/sinclair/contents.htm> - Planet Sinclair - All things Sinclair

<http://zx81.reids4fun.com/zx81/index.html> - Steven's ZX81 – Info- Current Games Links

<http://searle.hostei.com/grant/> - Grant Searle Good hardware info site on the ZX80/ZX81

<http://k1.spdns.de/Vintage/Sinclair/> Kio's Archive -I nfo and ROM images

Online/PDF Books

Mastering Machine Code on your ZX81

<http://www.users.waitrose.com/~thunor/mmcocyx81/>

The Complete Timex TS100/Sinclair ZX81 ROM Disassembly

<http://www.worldofspectrum.org/infoseekid.cgi?id=2000980>

ZX80 User manual

<http://k1.spdns.de/Vintage/Sinclair/80/Sinclair%20ZX80/ZX80%20Operating%20Manual.pdf>

ZX81 User manual

<http://www.retroisle.com/sinclair/zx81/originaldocs.php>

Timex Sinclair 1000 User Manual

http://www.larwe.com/museum/download/ts1000_instructions_lowres.pdf