

The Vectrex Arcade System

A VECTOR-DISPLAY GAME SYSTEM FOR \$200 BRINGS TRUE ARCADE ADVENTURES INTO THE HOME.

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Here is one of the greatest game machines we have seen this year. With superb *vector* graphics, excellent sound, cartridges for some of the best coin-operated arcade games, and a suggested retail price of \$200, the Vectrex Arcade System is a good bet to score big with the consumer. Developed and distributed by General Consumer Electronics (GCE), a subsidiary of the Milton Bradley Company, the Vectrex comes closer to duplicating a real arcade game than any other game system on the market.

Because the Vectrex is a stand-alone system, you won't have to fight other people for use of the television set. Just take your Vectrex and plug it in wherever you have an electrical outlet. The system uses a Motorola 68A09 microprocessor chip in order to offer more speed and power than is available in most video games. You have a detachable control panel with a self-centering joystick and four buttons to play the games. You can plug in an additional optional control panel if you want to play

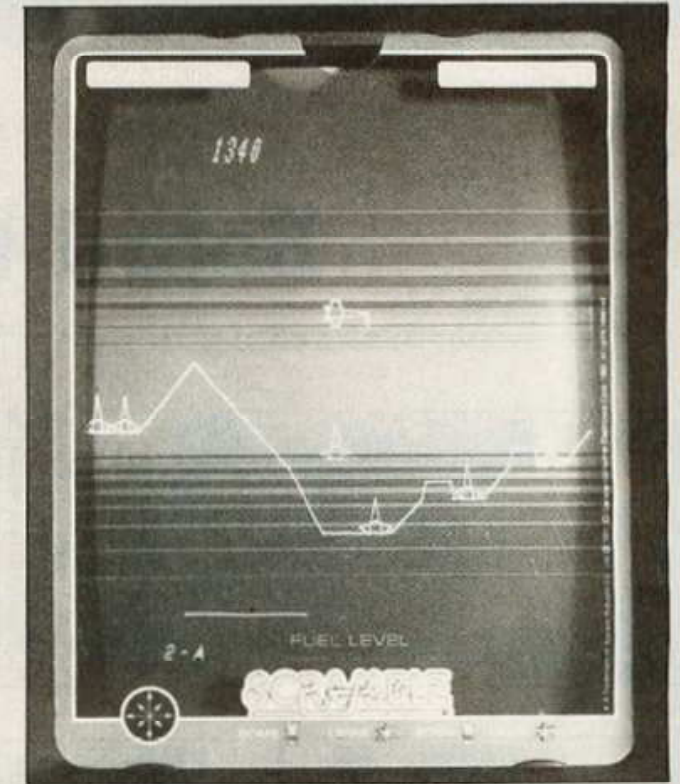


Games Available

GCE has obtained licensing rights and produced versions of the following coin-op arcade games: from Cinematronics Inc., *Armor Attack*, *Space Wars*, *Star Hawk*, *Rip Off*, and *Solar Quest*; from Konami Industry, *Scramble*; and from Stern Electronics Inc., *Berzerk*.

Several games have been developed in-house by GCE, including the *Star Trek* game, modeled after the movie; *Mine Storm*, the resident space game; *Blitz*, an action football game; *Cosmic Chasm*, a space action game; *Clean Sweep*, an action maze game; and *Hyper Chase*, an auto race adventure. In *Clean Sweep*, you try to clean up your bank after a burglary. The bank robbers, in trying to blow open the vault, have scattered money through the bank corridors. Use the joystick to move your vacuum cleaner through the maze, sucking up all of the loose money. But be careful, the robbers want the money too and will be trying to destroy you at every turn.

If you dream of being a formula-one race driver, then *Hyper Chase* is your game. The vector graphics are superb, as you use the controls to drive a grueling grand prix. All of these cartridges will retail for about \$30.



with a friend (or foe). The realistic sound, produced by a General Instrument AY38912 chip, includes music, explosions, and crowd cheers. And the display—well it almost has to be seen to be believed; imagine playing games at home (or in the office) using vector graphics with three-dimensional rotation and zoom.

Not only does this machine look and sound like its coin-operated counterparts, but it already has cartridges for seven of the more popular arcade games (see box).

One game, *Mine Storm*, was created by GCE and is resident in the 64K-byte ROM (read-only memory). GCE has also developed additional game cartridges, each with a screen overlay to provide color and detail to the 9-inch black-and-white display, and a complete player's reference manual. It is unusual and refreshing to see a product appearing on the market with its software ready to run. But enough of these words, just look at what it can do. ■

