

# SVI • 728

PERSONAL COMPUTER  
USER'S MANUAL

---

# SPECTRAVIDEO'S USER'S MANUAL STATEMENT

This equipment generates and uses radio frequency energy and if not installed and used properly, that is, in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, may cause interference to radio and television reception. It has been type tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B computing device in accordance with the specifications in Subpart J of Part 15 of FCC Rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against such interference in a residential installation. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient the receiving antenna
- Relocate the computer with respect to the receiver
- Move the computer away from the receiver
- Plug the computer into a different outlet so that computer and receiver are on different branch circuits

If necessary, the user should consult the dealer or an experienced radio/television technician for additional suggestions. The user may find the following booklet prepared by the Federal Communications Commission helpful:

“How to Identify and Resolve Radio-TV Interference Problems”

This booklet is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Stock No. 004-000-00345-4.

## **WARNING:**

This equipment has been certified to comply with the limits for a class B computing device, pursuant to Subpart J of Part 15 of FCC Rules. Only peripherals (computer input/output devices, terminals, printers, etc.) certified to comply with the Class B limits may be attached to this computer. Operation with non-certified peripherals is likely to result in interference to radio and TV reception.

---

Published by  
SPECTRAVIDEO INTERNATIONAL LTD.

First Printing 1984

Printed in Hong Kong

Copyright © 1984 by Spectravideo International Ltd. All rights reserved.

Every effort has been made to supply complete and accurate information in this manual. Spectravideo International Ltd. reserves the right to change Technical Specifications and Characteristics at any time without notice.

No part of this publication may be stored in a retrieval system, transmitted, or reproduced in any way, including but not limited to photocopy, photograph, magnetic or other record, without the prior agreement and written permission from Spectravideo International Ltd.

US \$ 13.95

SVI 728 DM

---



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1
------------------------	---

<b>1</b>	<b>SYSTEM OVERVIEW . . . . .</b>	<b>5</b>
	■ Super MSX BASIC . . . . .	6
	■ Expandability . . . . .	7
	■ The SVI-728 System Peripheral Map . . . . .	8
	■ Unpacking the SVI-728 . . . . .	9
	■ System Installation . . . . .	10
	■ Ports, Sockets and Switches . . . . .	11
	■ Connection to a Monitor . . . . .	12
	■ Connection to the TV . . . . .	12
	■ Connection to the Standard Cassette Recorder . . . . .	13
	■ Connection to the Printer . . . . .	14
	■ Power Supply and Cable Connections . . . . .	15
	■ Turning on the Power . . . . .	16
	■ Power-On-Self-Test . . . . .	17
	■ Game Slot . . . . .	17

<b>2</b>	<b>THE KEYBOARD . . . . .</b>	<b>21</b>
	■ Ok . . . . .	22
	■ Cursor . . . . .	22
	■ Keyboard Layout . . . . .	25
	■ Function Key . . . . .	26
	■ Numeric Keypad and Cursor Control Key . . . . .	28
	■ Program Control Key . . . . .	30
	■ Miscellaneous Key . . . . .	31

<b>3</b>	<b>EASY EDITING . . . . .</b>	<b>41</b>
	■ Screen Editor . . . . .	43
	■ Insert Mode . . . . .	45

<b>4</b>	<b>A BASIC INTRODUCTION . . . . .</b>	<b>49</b>
	■ About this BASIC Tutorial Guide . . . . .	49
	■ What is programming? . . . . .	50
	■ One word before we begin . . . . .	51

<b>5</b>	<b>WRITE YOUR FIRST PROGRAM . . . . .</b>	<b>55</b>
	■ Getting Started . . . . .	55
	■ Grid and Coordinates . . . . .	56
	■ LIST . . . . .	58
	■ SCREEN . . . . .	60
	■ PSET . . . . .	61
	■ Let's add some COLOR . . . . .	62
	■ Border, Background and Foreground . . . . .	64
	■ GOTO . . . . .	65

<b>6</b>	<b>GOING THROUGH THE LOOPS . . . . .</b>	<b>69</b>
	■ INPUT . . . . .	69
	■ Containers and Variables . . . . .	70
	■ LET . . . . .	73

■ FOR/NEXT . . . . .	74
■ Some Time Saving Hints . . . . .	76
■ END . . . . .	77

<b>7</b>	<b>SETTING THINGS IN MOTION . . . . .</b>	<b>81</b>
	■ PRESET . . . . .	81
	■ Walking Backward . . . . .	83
	■ STEP . . . . .	85
	■ First Challenging Program . . . . .	85
	■ REM . . . . .	86

<b>8</b>	<b>DECISION MAKING . . . . .</b>	<b>91</b>
	■ IF/THEN . . . . .	91
	■ String Variable . . . . .	92
	■ Another Challenging Program . . . . .	93
	■ More Decisions . . . . .	95
	■ Print it the way you want . . . . .	97
	■ TAB . . . . .	98

<b>9</b>	<b>SOME RANDOM THOUGHTS . . . . .</b>	<b>101</b>
	■ RND, INT and - TIME . . . . .	102
	■ Jumping Around . . . . .	103
	■ GOSUB/RETURN . . . . .	104
	■ The Computer as a Calculator . . . . .	106
	■ Arithmetic Operations . . . . .	107
	■ Processing Information . . . . .	108
	■ READ/DATA . . . . .	109
	■ OUT OF DATA Message . . . . .	112
	■ CLEAR . . . . .	112
	■ RESTORE . . . . .	113
	■ Another Time Saver . . . . .	113
	■ AUTO . . . . .	113

<b>10</b>	<b>ARRAYS - A WAY OF ORGANIZING MANY CONTAINERS . . . . .</b>	<b>117</b>
	■ DIM . . . . .	118
	■ Working with a Larger Set of Containers . . . . .	119

<b>11</b>	<b>ON THE END OF A LONG STRING . . . . .</b>	<b>125</b>
	■ String . . . . .	125
	■ INPUT . . . . .	125
	■ LEFT\$, RIGHT\$, MIDS . . . . .	126
	■ LEN . . . . .	127

<b>12</b>	<b>ADVANCED GRAPHICS AND SOUND PROGRAMMING . . . . .</b>	<b>131</b>
	<b>PART ONE - ADVANCED GRAPHICS . . . . .</b>	<b>132</b>
	■ CIRCLE . . . . .	132
	■ PAINT . . . . .	133
	■ LINE . . . . .	137
	■ BOX (B) . . . . .	138
	■ BOX FILL (BF) . . . . .	139
	■ DRAW . . . . .	140
	■ SCALE . . . . .	141
	■ LOCATE . . . . .	142

■ BLANK MOVE . . . . .	143
■ SPRITES\$ . . . . .	143
<b>PART TWO-SOUND PROGRAMMING . . . . .</b>	<b>150</b>
■ PLAY . . . . .	151
■ O (OCTAVE) . . . . .	151
■ T (TEMPO) . . . . .	152
■ L (LENGTH) . . . . .	152
■ S (SHAPE) . . . . .	153
■ M (TONE) . . . . .	153
■ R (REST) . . . . .	153
■ V (VOLUME) . . . . .	154
■ Using 3 Channels of SOUND . . . . .	154

---

## APPENDICES

<b>Appendix A</b>	—	ASCII Character Codes . . . . .	157
<b>Appendix B</b>	—	Mathematical Functions . . . . .	158
<b>Appendix C</b>	—	Error Codes and Error Messages . . . . .	159
		DISK Errors . . . . .	162
<b>Appendix D</b>	—	MSX BASIC Reserved Words . . . . .	163
<b>Appendix E</b>	—	Memory Map & I/O Pinouts . . . . .	165
<b>Appendix F</b>	—	Notes on Screens . . . . .	170
<b>Appendix G</b>	—	Trouble Shooting Chart . . . . .	171
<b>Appendix H</b>	—	Programmable Sound Generator (PSG) . . . . .	172
<b>Appendix I</b>	—	Introduction to BASIC programming . . . . .	178
<b>Appendix J</b>	—	Glossary . . . . .	188

---

## INDEX

### SVI-728 MSX COMPUTER QUICK REFERENCE CARD

---

# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the world of tomorrow. You have just made a purchase that will reward you for a long time to come. The SVI-MSX 728 home Computer that you have purchased will open the doors to the future both today and in the future. The SPECTRAVIDEO family of personal computers contain features that will allow you to take advantage of all current computing technology and will also allow you to expand your horizons as new technology evolves.

The SVI-MSX 728 is the tool that will allow you to deal with the computer revolution of the 1980's and this is the manual for the operation of this tool.

Again, welcome to tomorrow. Make it what you want it to be with you SVI-MSX 728. Just keep one thought in mind as you progress on your journey: A computer is only as smart as you make it. Without you, it's only a rather complex bunch of wires, chips, metal and plastic. You are the most important component of your new computer system!

## SYSTEM OVERVIEW

# 1

---

## SYSTEM OVERVIEW

The terms in the following system overview might not be familiar to those of you who are just beginning to learn about computers. But don't worry. This manual was written especially for first time computer users to teach them the powerful MSX BASIC language that is built into the SVI-728. The overview is intended to give the beginner as well as the experienced user an appreciation of the power and beauty of the SVI-728: the first affordable and expandable personal computer.

Your SVI-728 computer contains 3 powerful processors that allow you to display exciting pictures, play music or sound effects and control a program all at the same time!

A Z80A 8-bit Microprocessor controls all the system components. It is responsible for storing, retrieving and executing programs. A video display processor (VDP) serves to generate all necessary video, control and synchronization signals. The VDP is capable of displaying 16 colors. It also supports manipulations of 32 sprites (shapes) and a maximum of 40 column text mode.

In addition, there is a programmable sound generator (PSG) which can produce music or a wide variety of complex sounds.

The MSX BASIC language is stored in the 32K bytes of Read Only Memory (ROM). Your instructions (or "programs" in computerese) to command the computer are stored in one

---

## SUPER MSX BASIC

64K bytes of Random Access Memory (RAM). The remaining 16K is strictly for use by the VDP to store information with which it creates colorful graphic displays.

The powerful MSX BASIC language written by Microsoft® is an extension of the same BASIC language that is available on computers costing three times as much as the SVI-728.

If you are new to programming, you will find MSX BASIC to be a versatile, easy to learn and easy to use language. Experienced programmers will appreciate its powerful features and the flexibility it permits when writing, editing, debugging and running programs.

The MSX BASIC has the following powerful built-in features:

- (a) Screen editor.
- (b) Full graphic and sound manipulation.
- (c) New SPRITE commands.
- (d) Default double precision math package for business application programs.
- (e) Special machine interrupt handling commands for real time BASIC programming.
- (f) Special function keys for often used commands (user programmable).
- (g) True upper and lower case display and printing.

### REMEMBER:

The secret to mastering the SVI-728's power is to take your time reading this book and trying out all the exercises on your computer. Like driving a car, you must learn by doing. By correcting your mistakes and learning not to feel bad about them, you will succeed and grow with the Spectravideo's line of expandable and affordable computer products.

---

---

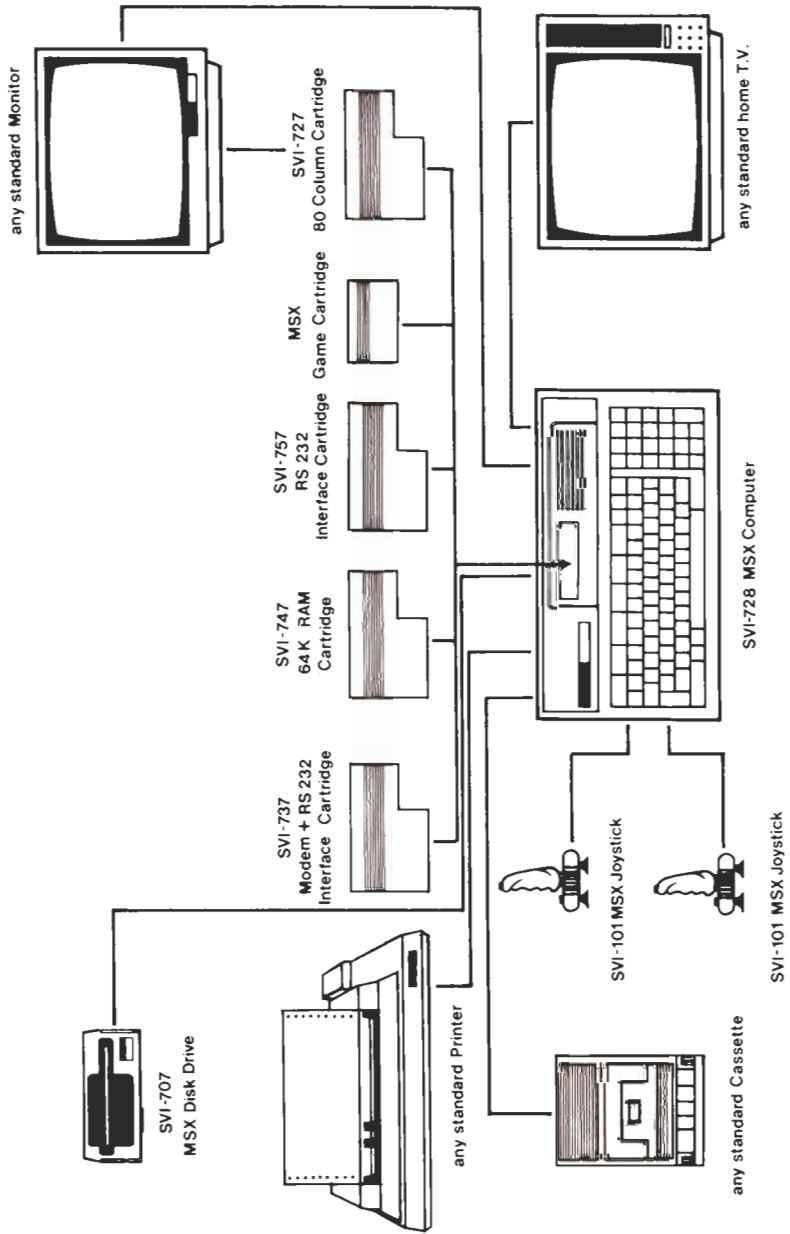
## EXPANDABILITY

To upgrade the computer, you can easily add more peripherals through the expansion module interface or game cartridge slot. You may install the SVI-707 MSX Disk Drive and the SVI-727 80 Column Video Cartridge to run CP/M programs; or else the speech synthesizer, the SVI-737 MSX 300 Baud Modem w/RS232. Besides, a wide variety of peripherals from other companies can also be used. Just name a few: music synthesizer, light pen etc.

MSX is a trademark of Microsoft Corporation  
Microsoft® is a trademark of Microsoft Corporation.  
CP/M is the trademark of Digital Research.

---



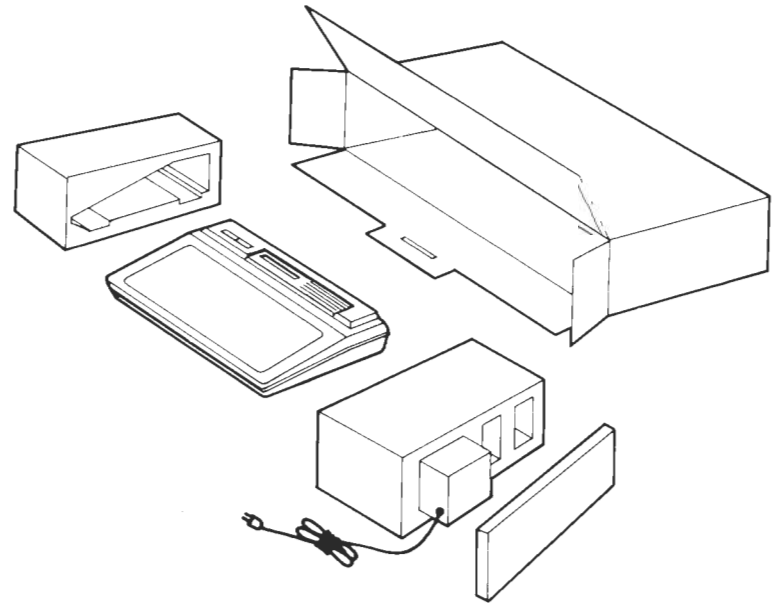


THE SVI-728 SYSTEM PERIPHERAL MAP

- UNPACKING
- SYSTEM INSTALLATION
- POWER SUPPLY AND CABLES
- POWER-ON SELF-TEST

### UNPACKING THE SVI-728

The SVI-728 computer, video and audio cables, power supply and switch box (for USA version only) are all securely packed in a foam cushioned carton. Please note: Save all packaging materials in case you must ship the unit for maintenance or repairs.





Check the contents of your SVI-728 package. You should find the following items:

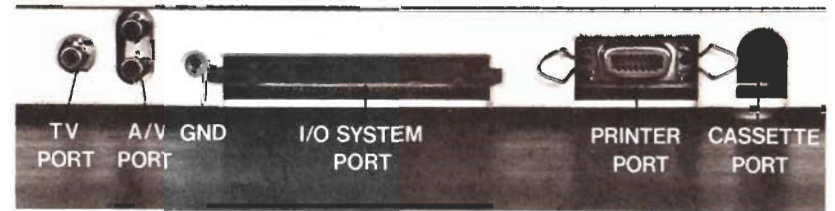
1. SVI-728 Home Computer
2. Video cable and audio cable
3. Switch box (for USA version)
4. Power supply
5. This instruction manual
6. Warranty registration card

If any items are missing, please check with your dealer immediately.

## SYSTEM INSTALLATION

To connect the system, you will need two proper electrical outlets for your SVI-728 Computer and monitor or television set. Choose a comfortable position for operation, away from any source of extreme heat (sunlight, heaters, etc).

Study the photos below carefully:



### TV PORT

Connects your TV to the SVI-728 computer.

### AUDIO/VIDEO PORT

This port connects your monitor to the SVI-728 computer.

### GND

Ground.

### I/O SYSTEM PORT

Connects the SVI-707 disk drive to the SVI-728 computer

### PRINTER PORT

Connects to a Centronics-type printer.

### CASSETTE PORT

Connects to a standard cassette recorder.

### GAME SLOT

For MSX game cartridge and other peripherals.

### POWER SUPPLY SOCKET

Connects the power supply unit to the SVI-728. The other end of the supply unit is connected to an electrical wall outlet.

### POWER SWITCH

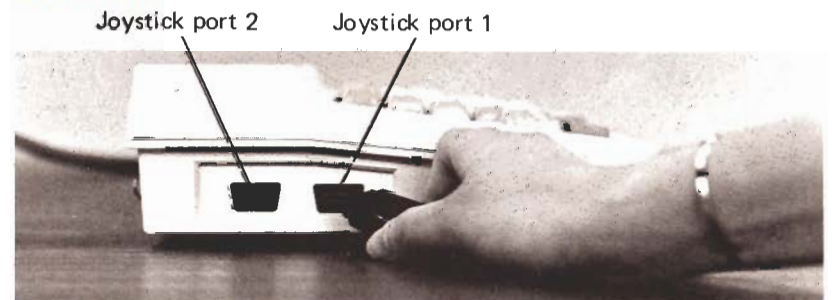
Turns on the power to the SVI-728

### JOYSTICK PORT 1

For connection to a joystick.

### JOYSTICK PORT 2

For connection to second joystick.





## CONNECTION TO A MONITOR

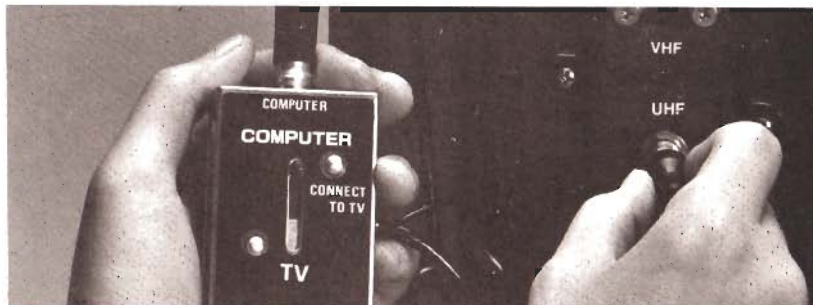
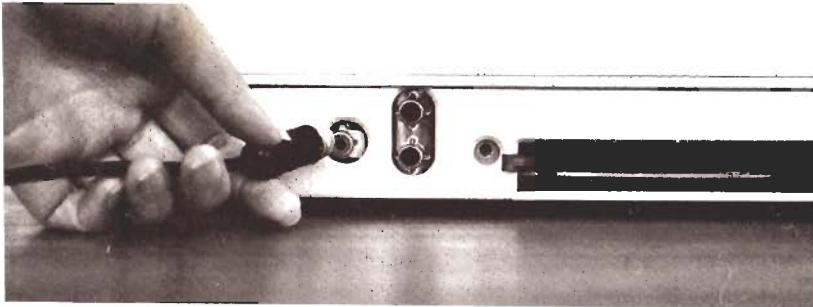
The video cable that is required in the SVI-728 computer system consists of 2 RCA phono plugs for video and audio on both ends.

1. Connect one end of the RCA plugs into the video and audio ports on the rear of the SVI-728.
2. Connect the RCA plug marked "video" to the video port and the RCA plug marked "audio" to the audio port on the rear of the monitor.

**NOTE:** Some monitors require an inexpensive adapter to add to the RCA plugs before connecting them to the monitor. That is available from your local electronics dealer. We recommend the Radio Shack RCA Mini-Adapter (Model # 274-330).

## CONNECTION TO THE TELEVISION

1. Connect one end of the RF Cable to the TV port at the rear of the computer, and the other end to the TV RF input.

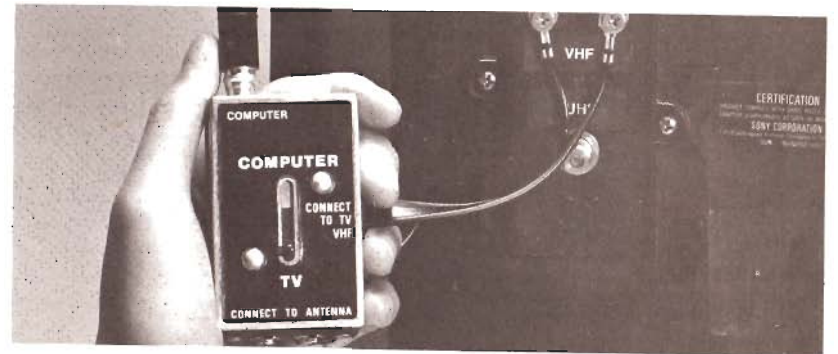


## FOR USA VERSION

2. Connect the other end of the shielded video cable to the TV switch box.

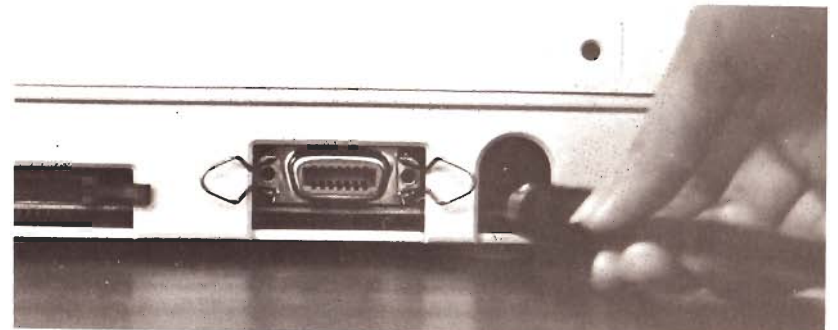


3. Disconnect the VHF TV antenna and reconnect it to the switch box's connector marked TV.

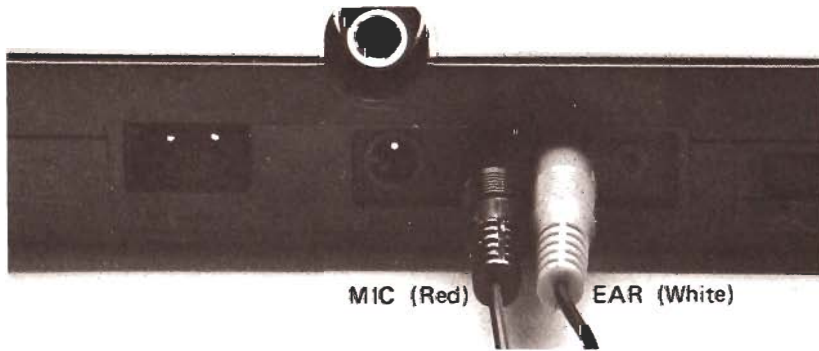


## CONNECTION TO THE STANDARD CASSETTE RECORDER

1. Connect one end of the cassette cable to the cassette port at the rear of the computer.

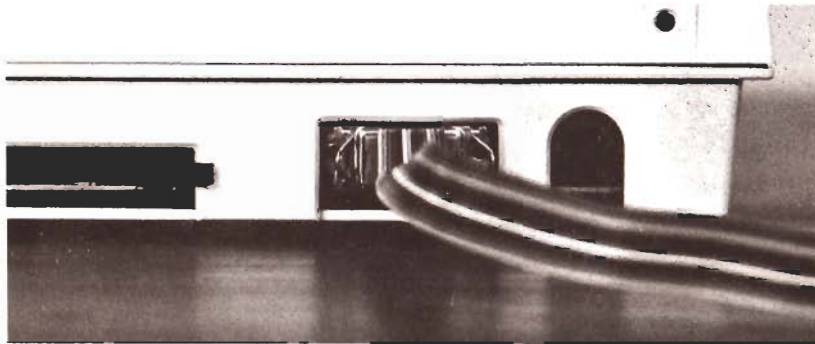


2. Insert the plugs on the other end of the cable to the corresponding jacks on the cassette recorder.

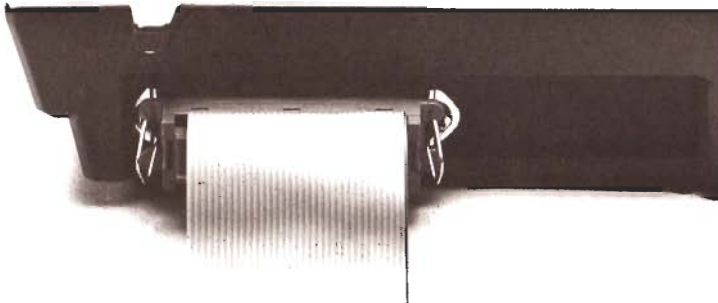


### CONNECTION TO THE PRINTER

1. Connect one end of the SVI-207 Centronics Interface Cable to the printer port at the rear of the computer.

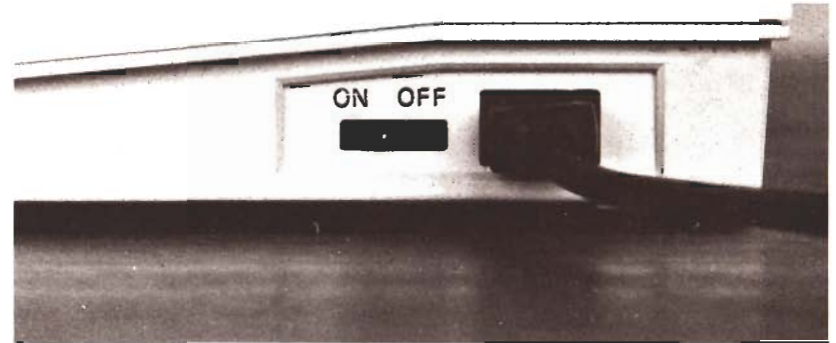


2. Connect the other end of the cable to the connector of the printer.

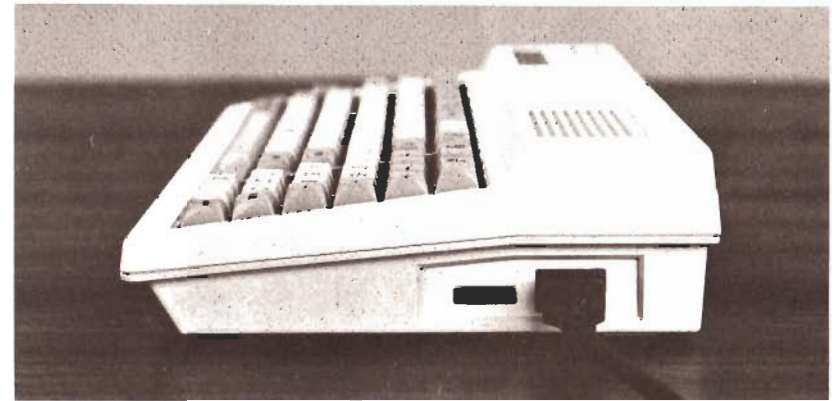


### POWER SUPPLY AND CABLE CONNECTIONS

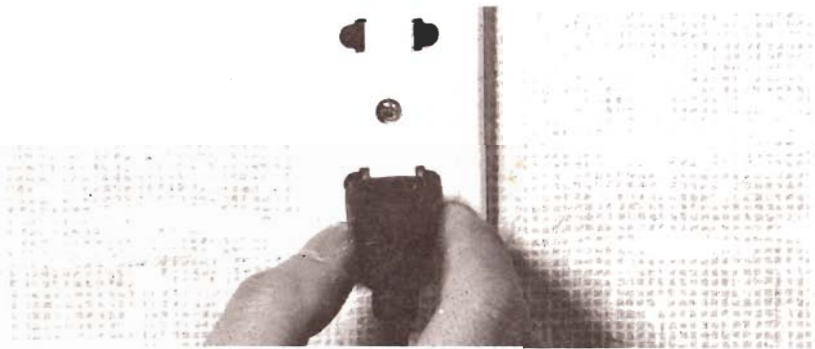
3. Plug the power cable of the printer to an electrical wall outlet.
1. Before connecting the power supply, please check and be sure the power switch on the right side of the unit is OFF.



2. Connect the cord coming from the power supply as shown.



3. Connect the other end of the power supply to any wall outlet.

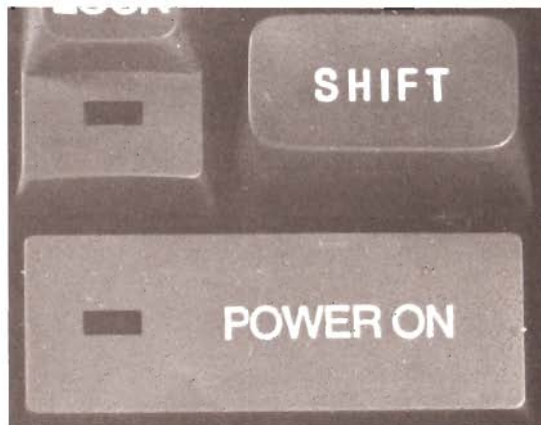


## TURNING ON THE POWER

After you have connected the SVI-728 to your power supply, first turn on your TV then turn the SVI-728 power switch to the "ON" position. There is a channel switch 3-4 located at the bottom of keyboard.



The POWER ON indicator will light up.



## POWER ON SELF-TEST

The SVI-728 has a built-in diagnostic check that will automatically check the function of the system.

If the system still does not start up properly, refer to the trouble shooting chart. (Appendix G)

## GAME SLOT

The MSX GAME SLOT is located conveniently on the upper middle position.

To insert or remove a MSX Cartridge, first be sure the power switch is in the OFF position.

Game Slot





# 2

## THE KEYBOARD

---

## THE KEYBOARD

Programming is generally done by sending instructions to the computer through the keyboard. Your instructions and the computer's responses are visible on a TV screen, which is connected to the keyboard. The computer's keyboard should look somewhat familiar to you because it resembles that of a typewriter. However, the keyboard contains additional keys that are necessary to effectively communicate with the computer.

Turn on your computer (remember, the ON/OFF switch is located on the right side of the computer). You are off to a good start if the screen looks like this when you turn the computer on.



If you do not see anything on the screen immediately after turning on the

power, turn to the trouble shooting chart in Appendix G for assistance.

After several seconds you will see the following information appear on the screen.



Ok

## CURSOR

The word "Ok" is the message to you from the computer that it is ready to accept your commands. The white square underneath the word "Ok" is called the "cursor." Its position on the screen informs you of the location of the next letter you type. Let's start typing and get acquainted with the SVI-728 and its special features that aid you in working with the computer.

Begin by pressing the following keys:

### PRINT

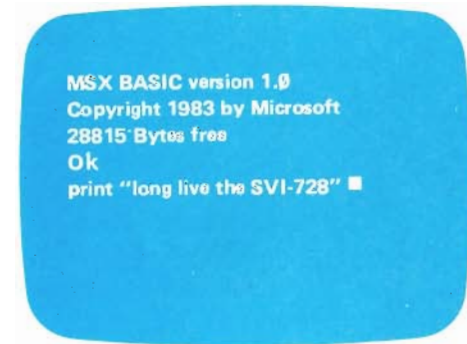
The cursor moves one position to the right every time you press a key.

Now find the **SHIFT** key (on the lower left side of the keyboard), and while holding it down, press the double quotation mark, **"** key. This should cause the quotation marks to appear as on a typewriter.

Type the following message:

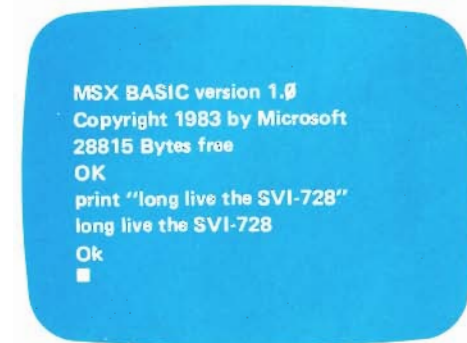
**" LONG LIVE THE SVI-728"**

Now make another double quotation mark at the end of the message by pressing **SHIFT** and **"**. The screen should now look like this:



If you ever make a mistake while typing - for example, you accidentally type the single quote mark instead of the double quotation mark - all you need to do is press the backspace key, and retype by pressing the **SHIFT** and while holding it down, press the double quotation mark, **"** key. The backspace key permits easy retyping by erasing the character immediately to the left of the cursor.

Now press the **ENTER** key and look at the screen. It will look like this:



When you press the **ENTER** key while in immediate mode, you are telling the computer that you have finished working and that you want the computer to begin working. The

your message on the screen. When it has finished obeying your instructions, it will display the Ok message to inform you that it is ready for more instructions.

If you wish to type using upper case letters, you should press the **SHIFT** key while pressing a letter key. Should you desire to type using only upper case letters for an extended period of time, you should press the **CAPS/LOCK** key, located on the lower left side of the keyboard.

The **CAPS/LOCK** key toggles between the upper and lower case letters. When you wish to return to lower case letters, press the **CAPS/LOCK** key a second time to unlock it.

Now it's your turn to enter other messages in immediate mode. Don't forget to press the **ENTER** key when you have placed the closing double quotation mark at the end of each message. If a message is longer than a single screen line, the computer will automatically advance to the next screen line, thus alleviating the need for a return key as on a typewriter (more on this last point later).

If you misspell a word that is a BASIC command, such as PRINT, the following message will appear on the screen:

```
PRINT "LONG LIVE THE SVI-728
LONG LIVE THE SVI-728
Ok
PRONT "I AM THE GREATEST"
Syntax error
Ok
```

The Syntax error message tells you that you spelled an instruction incorrectly. Don't worry, the computer is very forgiving and patient. We will explain how to correct this mistake in the next chapter.

You can clear the entire screen at once by pressing the **CLS/HM** key located at the top right hand corner and the **SHIFT** key simultaneously. The abbreviation "CLS" stands for ClearScreen.

When you have finished practising entering messages for the computer to print, please continue reading.

## KEYBOARD LAYOUT

So far we have introduced you to the following keys: letter and number keys, the backspace key, the **ENTER** key and the **CLS/HM** key. All keys are shown below.



The SVI-728 has many convenient features that are operated by certain keys. You will find these special keys to be both helpful and time saving. The remainder of this chapter will describe these keys, most of which will be new and some of which will be a review.



## FUNCTION KEY

Look at the top row of keys on the keyboard, the ones highlighted below.



These keys are called "function" keys and each one is marked with the letter "F". They are a labor-saving device because they allow you to instruct the computer to perform a frequently used function by pressing only one key instead of having to type many keys.

Here is a list of each key, the function it performs and a brief description of the function.

KEY	PRE-DEFINED FUNCTION
F1	color
F2	auto [ 10 , 10 ] <b>ENTER</b>
F3	goto
F4	list
F5	run <b>ENTER</b>
F6	color 15,4,7
F7	cload"
F8	cont <b>ENTER</b>
F9	list. <b>ENTER</b>
F10	<b>CLS</b> run <b>ENTER</b>

Function keys **F1** through **F5** are operated by pressing the appropriate key. Function keys **F6** through **F10** are operated by pressing the **SHIFT** key and holding it down while simultaneously pressing the appropriate key.

**F1** COLOR

The COLOR command is used to change the text, background and border colors on your TV or monitor.

**F2** AUTO

The AUTO command is used to make the computer generate program line numbers automatically. This command is used very often, since all programming statements must be preceded by line numbers.

**F3** GOTO

GOTO is a command which provides you with the ability to execute your program from any place (line number) you desire.

**F4** LIST

This command instructs your SVI-728 to print all of your immediately preceding program statements on the screen. LIST is probably the most often used computer command.

**F5** RUN

RUN tells the computer to take the program you have written and perform the commands you have indicated.

**F6** COLOR

This tells the computer to print white letters on a blue background with a cyan border. These colors are the colors of the screen when you turn the computer on.

**F7** CLOAD"

CLOAD instructs the computer to input (load) data from a cassette recorder (which can be easily connected to your SVI-728).

**F8** CONT

This command is used to tell the computer to "continue" program execution after the last executed line.

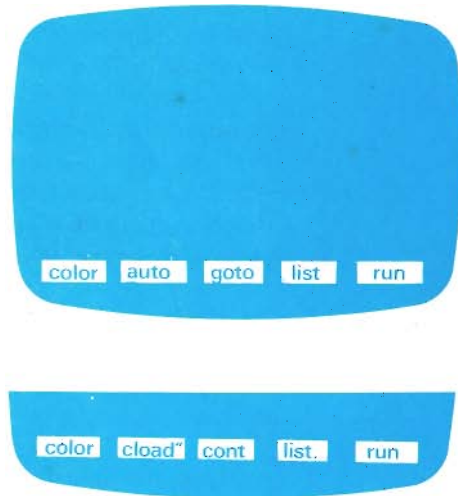
**F9** LIST.

With this LIST. (with a period next to it) only the last line you were working on (whether programming, editing, etc.) will be displayed on the screen.

**F10** RUN

This command is similar to the standard RUN command. However this command also clears the screen before it "runs" your program.

On the bottom of your TV screen, the SVI-728 lists the function that each key performs.



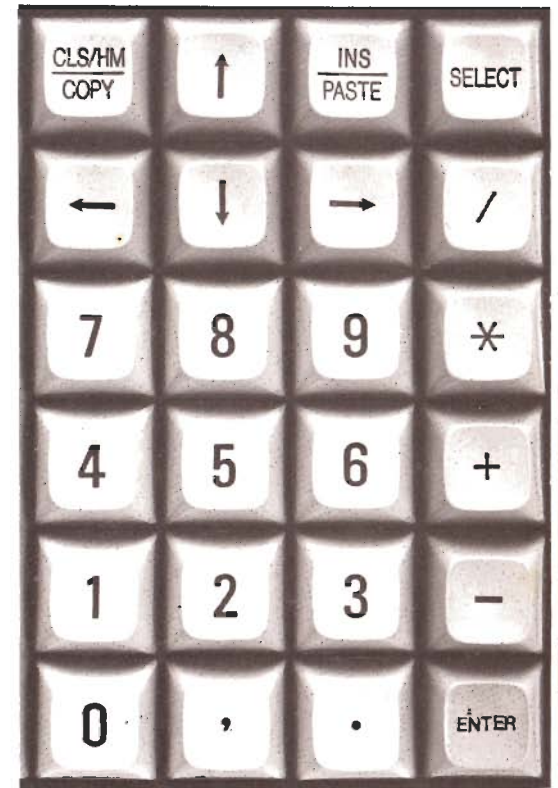
### SHIFT

The SVI-728 will normally display the function of keys F1 through F5, and whenever you press the **SHIFT** key it displays the function of keys F6 through F10.

Any of these pre-defined functions can be quickly changed for your own convenience to a function that you frequently use.

### NUMERIC KEYPAD and CURSOR CONTROL KEY

The numeric and cursor control keypad contains keys that are primarily used for simple numeric entry, word processing and cursor control. The followings are the commands that are accessed by this keypad.



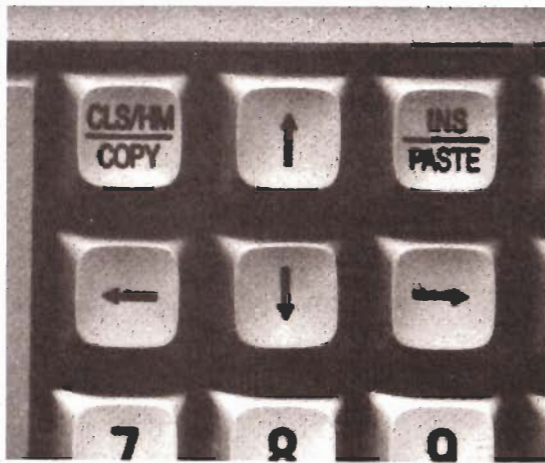
### Numeric Keypad

The numeric keys (0-9) are the same as the keys on the top of the regular keyboard. These are used when performing rapid entry of numeric data. This keypad also contains the mathematical functions keys (+, -, \*, /) which can be used to enter formulae and to perform quick calculations.

### SELECT and PRINT KEYS

The **SELECT** and **PRINT** keys are also included on this keypad to allow the advantage of using these functions that are often available in word processing and data entry software packages. These keys have no function in BASIC programming and are only accessed from programs such as those mentioned above.

## Arrow Keys (Cursor Control)



The arrow keys (**up, down, left & right**) control the movement of the cursor on the display screen. By pressing a combination of the up and left arrow keys, you will cause the cursor to move towards the upper left corner of the display screen. Other combinations will work in the same fashion giving you 8 directions of cursor movement using these keys.

The followings are the program control keys used to control the operation of computer programs.

The **STOP** key. Press this key to pause the computer after you have instructed it to run or to perform a function (which makes it begin working on your program). Press the **STOP** key a second time to instruct the computer to resume working on your program or a function.

The **CONTROL** key. This key is used in conjunction with the STOP key. In effect, this tells the computer to stop what it's doing and turn control back over to you (so that you can issue further instructions). Press the **CTRL** key while simultaneously pressing the **STOP** key.

## PROGRAM CONTROL KEY

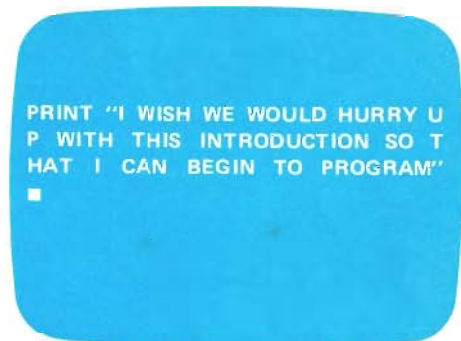
**STOP**

**CTRL**

**STOP**

**ENTER**

The **ENTER** key. Press this key at the end of each instruction you type. By pressing this key you are telling the computer to enter the instruction you just typed into its work space. As we previously mentioned, the **ENTER** key is not used to advance the cursor to the next screen line and therefore should not be confused with the return key on a typewriter. In the event that an instruction contains more characters than can fit on a single screen line, the computer will automatically advance the cursor to the next screen line. For example:



This long instruction cannot possibly fit onto a single screen line which has room for only 29 characters. Whenever this happens, the computer will automatically advance you to the next line. In the above example, the **ENTER** key should only be pressed after you have typed the closing double quotation mark that follows the word PROGRAM.

## MISCELLANEOUS KEY

**CAPS LOCK**

The **CAPS/LOCK** key – pressing this key will toggle the display characters from lower case to upper case or upper case to lower case.

**CLS/HM COPY**

The **CLS/HM** key – pressing this key will move the cursor to the upper lefthand corner of the screen. When pressed together with the



INS  
PASTE

DEL  
CUT

ESC



GRPH

CODE

The **SHIFT** key, it will move the cursor to the upper lefthand position (home) and clear the screen.

The **INS/PASTE** key — this key is used when you wish to insert characters within a line. Just move the cursor to the location where you wish to insert, then press this key and the text you type will be inserted.

The **DEL/CUT** key — press this key to delete the character under the cursor.

This key is often used in software application programs. Its usual function is to interrupt the operation of a program or to continue operation following an interrupt (Escape).

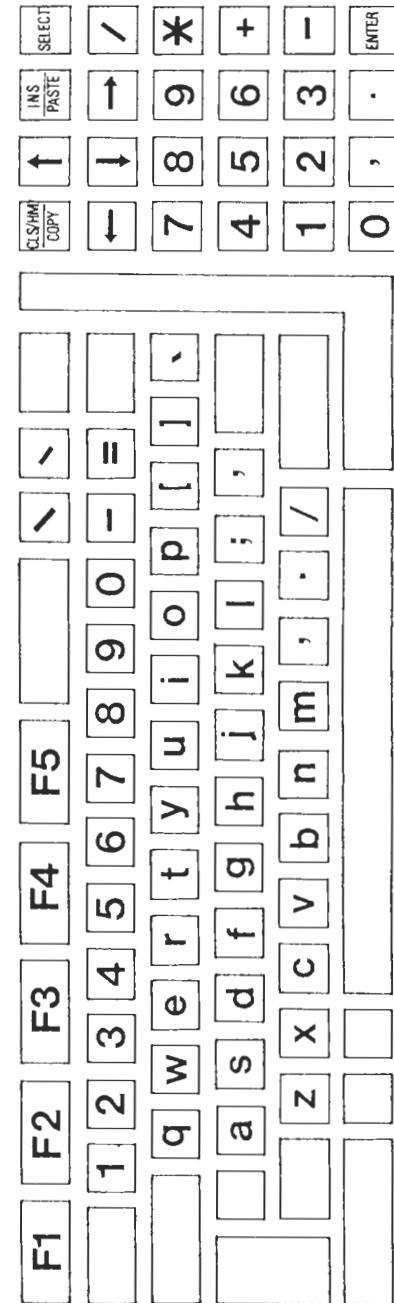
This key is not used in BASIC. It is often used in a word processor or similar application program to space forward 5 spaces to begin a paragraph.

This key backs up the cursor one space. It deletes the character immediately to the left of the cursor prior to the key press.

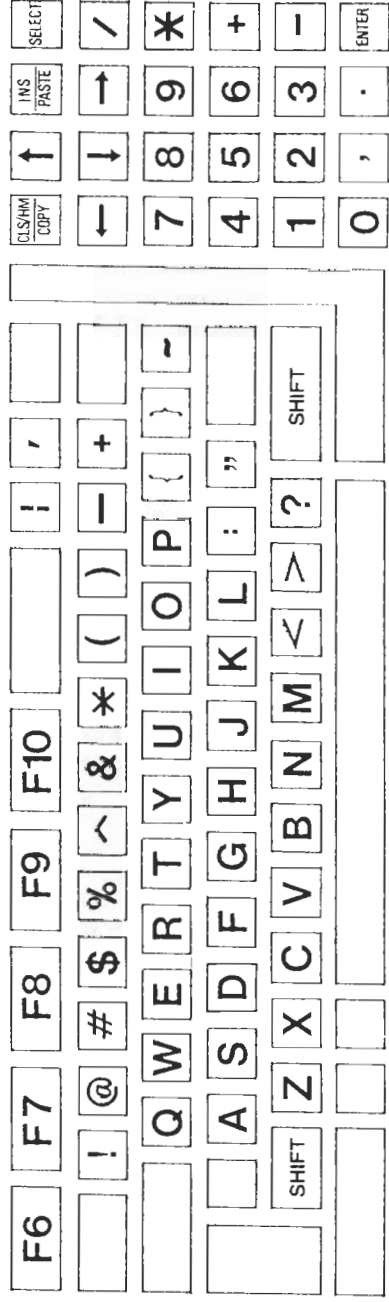
The **GRPH** key is used to select the graphic symbols that correspond to the keys. If you press the **GRPH** key and hold it down while simultaneously pressing one of the letter keys, the graphic symbol of the corresponding key displayed.

The **CODE** key is used to select the characters other than English that correspond to the keys. If you press the **CODE** key and hold it down while simultaneously pressing one of the letter keys, the different language character of the corresponding key will be displayed.

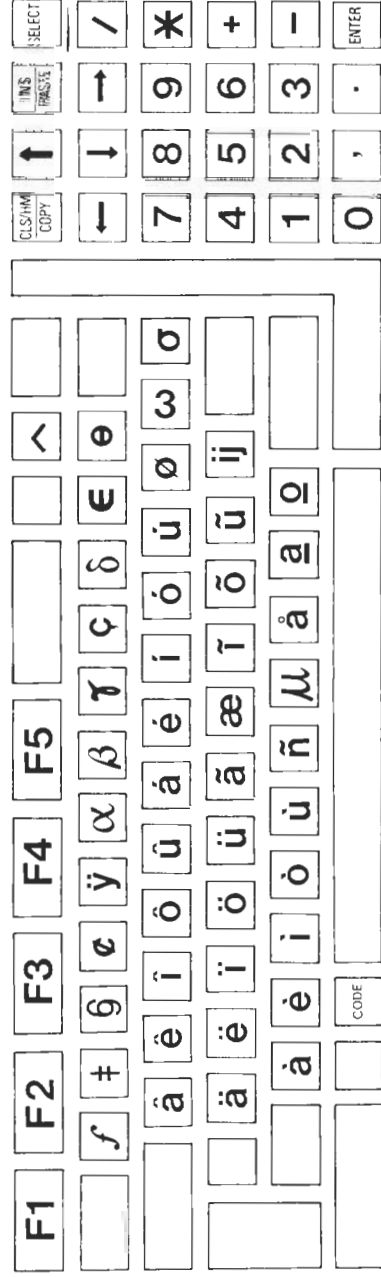
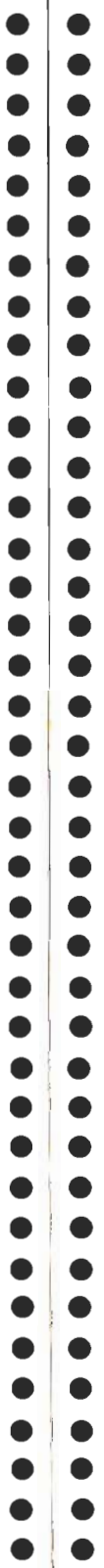
The details of the keyboard layout and templates are shown below:



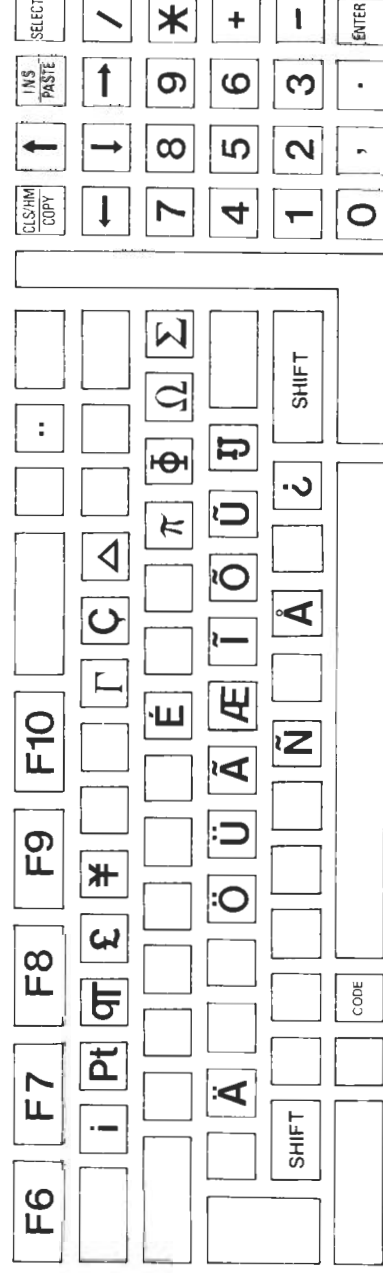
STANDARD KEYBOARD LAYOUT



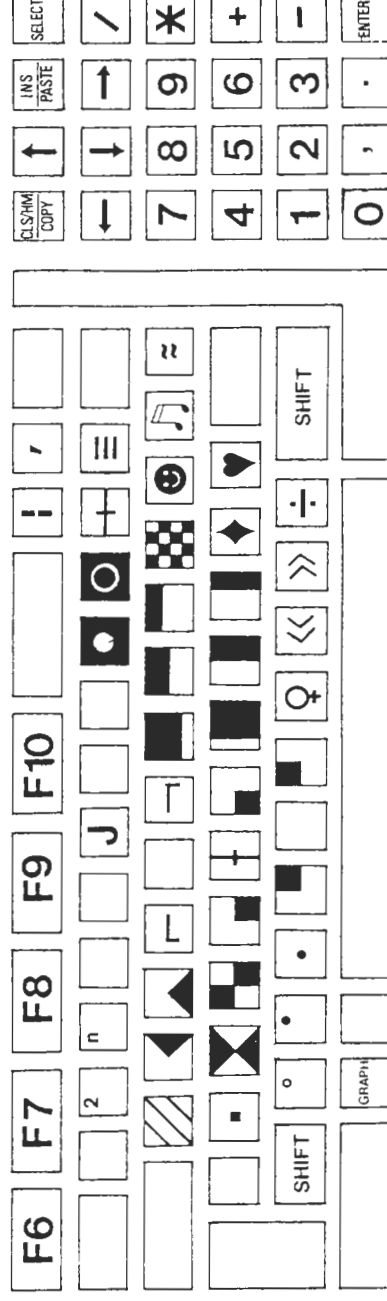
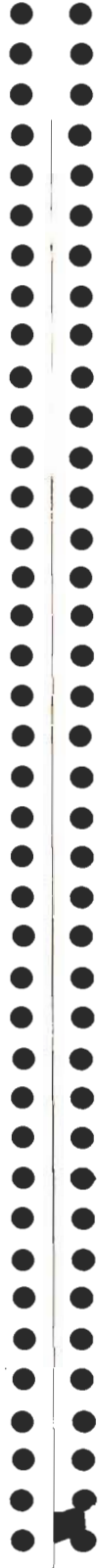
STANDARD KEYBOARD LAYOUT  
WITH SHIFT KEY PRESSED



STANDARD KEYBOARD LAYOUT  
WITH CODE KEY PRESSED

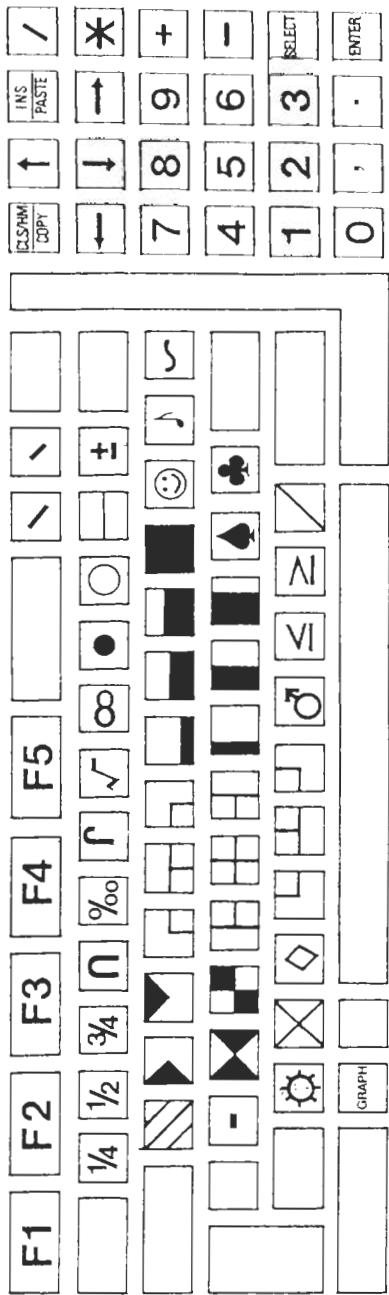


STANDARD KEYBOARD LAYOUT  
WITH SHIFT & CODE KEYS PRESSED

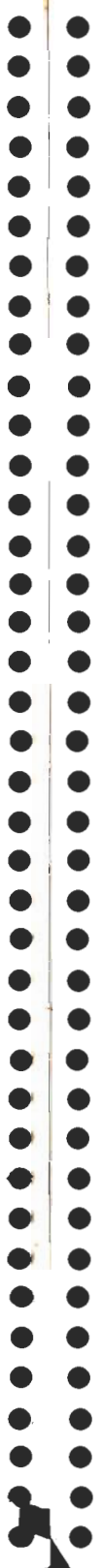


STANDARD KEYBOARD LAYOUT  
WITH SHIFT & GRAPH KEYS PRESSED





STANDARD KEYBOARD LAYOUT  
WITH GRAPH KEYS PRESSED



Now that you have learned how to hook up your computer and are familiar with the keyboard, you can proceed further in the manual. However, if you are anxious to begin using your computer, please turn to **Appendix I** for some simple demonstrations.

After completing these exercises, return to chapter 3 to continue.

## EASY EDITING

# 3

## EASY EDITING

### SCREEN EDITOR

The BASIC Screen Editor lets you change a line anywhere on the screen. You can change only one line at a time. The Screen Editor can be used after an Ok prompt appears and before a RUN command is issued. By using the Cursor Control keys and the editing keys, you can move quickly around the screen, making corrections where necessary.

Here is an example to show you how to use the Screen Editor.

Let's enter the following program.

```
10 REM SCREEN EDITOR DOMO   
20 PRINT "DEMONSTRATION OF"   
30 END 
```

Note: Remember that a program line must always begin with a line number. If you make a mistake, just press  and retype the line.

After you have finished, press the **CLS/HM** and **SHIFT** keys simultaneously, then type LIST or **F4** and press **ENTER**. You should see:

```
LIST
10 REM SCREEN EDITOR DOMO
20 PRINT "DEMONSTRATION OF"
30 END

Ok
```

Now correct the word DOMO in line 10. First use the cursor key's UP direction key to move to line 10 and then the RIGHT direction key to move the cursor to the top of the letter "O" of "DOMO".

```
10 REM SCREEN EDITOR DoMO
20 PRINT "DEMONSTRATION OF"
30 END

Ok
```

Press the letter "E" to change the word to "DEMO", then press **ENTER**. The line will be stored now as:

```
10 REM SCREEN EDITOR DEMO
```

You have just replaced the character "O" with the character "E". To verify this, press **SHIFT** and **CLS/HM** simultaneously, then **F4** (list), **ENTER**. You should see:

```
10 REM SCREEN EDITOR DEMO
20 PRINT "DEMONSTRATION OF"
30 END

Ok
```

The next step is to insert the two words SCREEN EDITOR into line 20. We do this by moving the cursor to the second quote of Line 20.

```
10 REM SCREEN EDITOR DEMO
20 PRINT "DEMONSTRATION OF"
30 END

Ok
```

### INSERT MODE

Now press the **INS/PASTE** key and the cursor will become half as tall as before. This means you are in the "INSERT" mode. Type "SCREEN EDITOR", bring the cursor back to the beginning of line 20, and press **ENTER**.



---

You have just inserted the words "SCREEN EDITOR". Follow the steps you used to verify line 10 and you will see:

```
10 REM SCREEN EDITOR DEMO
20 PRINT "DEMONSTRATION OF
  SCREEN EDITOR"
30 END

Ok
```

Besides using the Screen Editor, you can also change a line by entering a new one with the same line number. BASIC will automatically replace that line.

# 4

---

## A BASIC INTRODUCTION

### ABOUT THIS BASIC TUTORIAL GUIDE

To be able to control a computer, you must be able to communicate your instructions in a language that the computer understands. The SVI-728, like most personal computers, understands a language called BASIC (Beginner's All Purpose Symbolic Instruction Code). This language, which is built right into the SVI-728, is a set of English words with which you can instruct the computer to perform certain functions.

This manual differs in many ways from other manuals written to teach BASIC. One of the major differences is that most of the information presented in this tutorial has already been used successfully to teach BASIC in the classroom.

This guide begins by describing those BASIC commands which allow you to design simple pictures and see them displayed on the TV screen. Our reason for introducing you to BASIC through graphics is simple. Learning BASIC is like learning a foreign language. If we can relate the new words of BASIC to the knowledge that you already possess about drawing, you can move smoothly into the computer age and have fun at the same time.

In the next few chapters we will explain several commands which allow you to create pictures. But there is much more to learn about the SVI-728's graphic capabilities. It will be explained in greater depth in the latter chapters of this manual.

## WHAT IS PROGRAMMING?

Programming is the act of writing the instructions and information that must be given to the computer in order for it to perform a task. Programs differ from one another in that the instructions and information necessary for managing a household's checkbook, for example, are different from the instructions and information needed to control a video game.

Programs written in one computer language will not contain the instructions and structure that a program in another computer language possesses. That is why professional programmers generally must specialize in one or two languages. It is the rare individual who is even aware of all the different computer languages that have been developed in the past twenty years.

There are two different ways to type a BASIC instruction into your computer: In "program" mode or in "immediate" mode.

As its name implies, you are in "program" mode when you write a program. A BASIC program is a set of instructions typed one instruction after the other with a line number beginning each instruction line. For example:

```
10 PRINT "I AM"  
20 PRINT "STARTING TO"  
30 PRINT "LEARN BASIC"
```

## ONE WORD BEFORE WE BEGIN

Line numbers are generally in intervals of ten to allow for easy reference when corrections are required or when additional lines need to be inserted. The computer executes your program after you type the word RUN.

The second way of instructing the computer is called "immediate" mode, because after each instruction is typed and the **ENTER** key is pressed, the computer will immediately respond. Do not precede the single line of instruction with a line number when you are in "immediate" mode.

For most of the time spent with this tutorial, you will be in program mode. If you are serious about programming, then you will continue to write programs and very infrequently be in the immediate mode. The immediate mode is generally reserved for housekeeping details like saving programs on a cassette tape or disk, requesting a catalog of your programs stored on a disk and loading information from a cassette or disk into the computer.

We realize that these words and concepts are new for many of you, but don't worry. These ideas will become clearer as you continue reading.

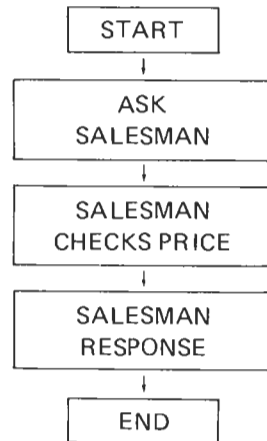
The model that we are about to present is critical to your fully understanding how a computer works and what it does with the program you type in.

Your interaction with the computer is similar to the following scenario.

If you were interested in buying a car you would probably call a car dealer for a price on a particular model. You might ask the salesman for a price on a Cadillac with power windows, power steering, leather seats, deep pile carpeting, and tinted windows. The

salesman will then proceed to check his price lists, write the numbers down on a worksheet, add the numbers together and quote you the total price.

Procedures to get information about a car.



By the same token, when you work with a computer, the computer is the salesman. You tell the computer exactly what you want just as you tell the salesman and in both cases you get an answer. Similarly, in both instances you do not see the many calculations that both the salesman and the computer perform before informing you of their answer. The instructions you give to the salesman or to the computer is the 'INPUT' they need to act on.

The calculations done on the salesman's worksheet are analogous to the work performed in the computer's erasable memory (called RAM or Random Access Memory), and the answer you get is called, the 'OUTPUT'.

By reading and practising the new language you have started to learn, you will be entering the ever expanding computer world. BASIC is only the beginning.

ENJOY.

# 5

## WRITE YOUR FIRST PROGRAM

### GETTING STARTED

The easiest way to draw pictures on the computer is similar to the way one plays the game Battleship™.

The goal of Battleship is to try to guess the positions of your opponent's ships. The game board for Battleship looks like this:

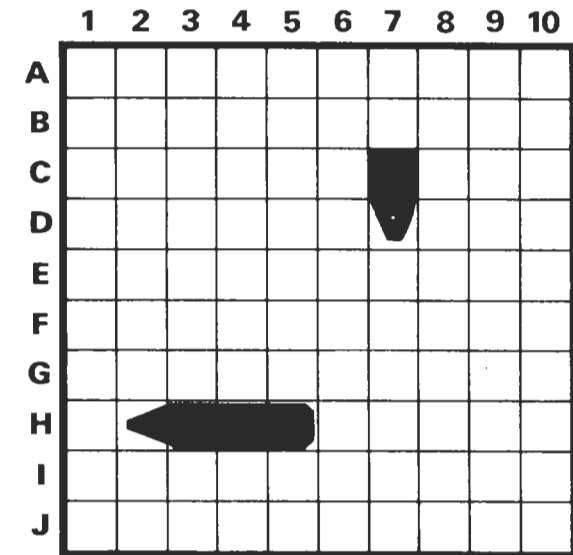


Figure 1 Battleship Game Board

Figure 1 shows how your opponent has his board set up. One of his ships is at positions H-2, H-3, H-4, and H-5. His other ship is at positions C-7 and D-7.



You must seek out his ships by calling the names of positions on the board. In this example, if you were to call H-2 he would reply that you hit his ship, but if you said H-1, he would have told you that you missed.

The important lesson to learn here is the way you give names to each of the positions on the board. In essence, each position on the Battleship game board is a point on a graph.

To draw on the SVI-728 you must also give a name to each box of the grid that is shown in Figure 2.

## GRID and COORDINATES

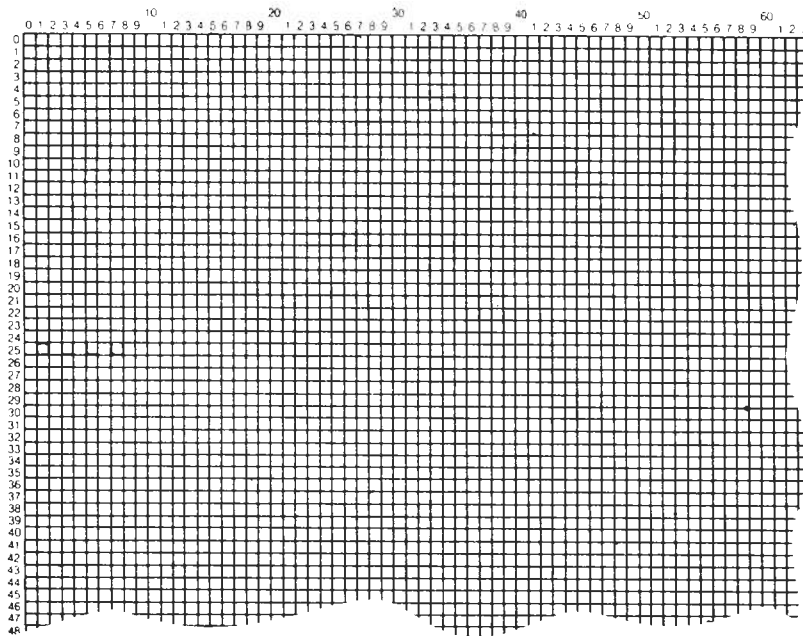
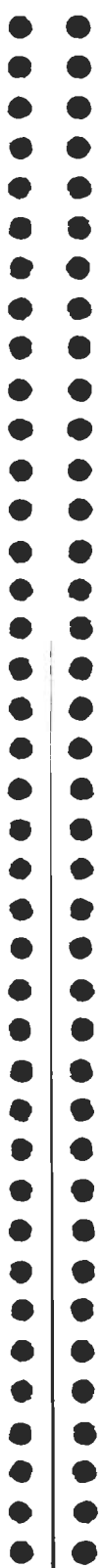


Figure 2

Each box has a name. The name is composed of two numbers: the number at the top of a column, and the number at the side designating each row. The first number is the horizontal location and the second number is the vertical location. These two numbers are called: the coordinate numbers of a point.



Understanding how to name boxes is very important for creating simple pictures. It is especially important because we are going to introduce through which pictures can be created. Spend a moment on the following exercise before proceeding to the next section.

In Figure 3, several boxes are darkened. This signifies that they have been lit. Do you know the names of these boxes? Write them down on a piece of paper.

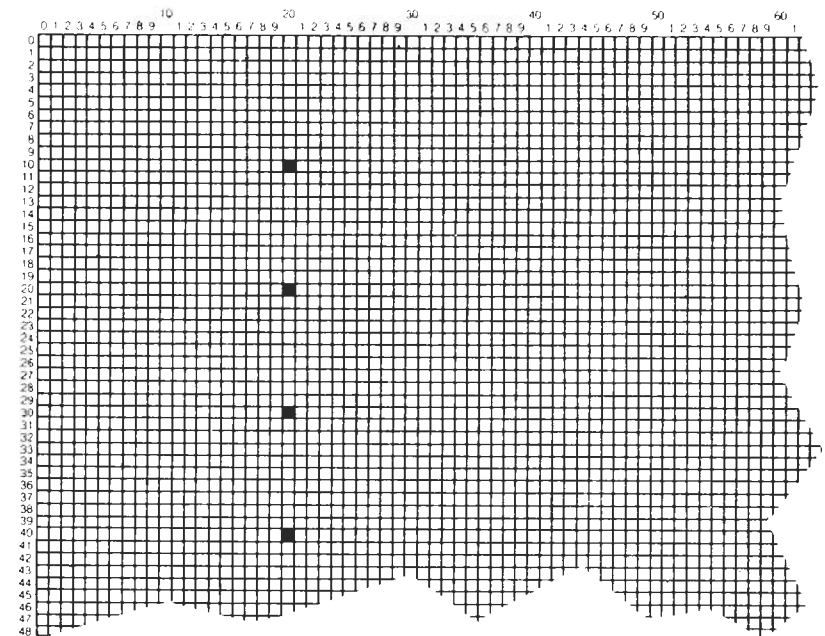


Figure 3

Your answers should have been

- A: (20, 10)
- B: (20, 20)
- C: (20, 30)
- D: (20, 40)

Now we will use these names in a program which will light the boxes in Figure 3. Type on the keyboard exactly what is listed below.

Don't forget to press **ENTER** at the end of each line. We will not always remind you from this point on. Pressing **ENTER** after each instruction should become second nature to you by the time you finish this book.

```
10 SCREEN 3
20 PSET (70,50)
30 PSET (66,54)
40 PSET (74,54)
50 PSET (62,58)
60 PSET (78,58)
70 PSET (66,62)
80 PSET (74,62)
90 PSET (70,66)
100 END
```

After you have checked to make certain that your program matches our program, type RUN.

What's the matter? Did the picture flash by too quickly? Don't worry we expected that little problem to occur. Do the following:

## LIST

1. Type :

```
LIST ENTER
```

Ok

Your program is displayed again on the screen. As its name implies, LIST will list your whole program from beginning line number to the last number you used. If you typed LIST when you were in *immediate mode* and not using the line numbers, you would not see a program listed.

2. Type in the following new line.

```
95 GOTO 95 ENTER
```

3. Type LIST **ENTER**

Notice that line 95 was inserted between lines 90 and 100 automatically by the computer. Remember what we had said earlier in this guide about line numbers and why we usually use numbers with an interval of ten between them. The insertion of additional lines is a natural occurrence when you write programs.

4. Type RUN **ENTER**

The computer not only draws the shape we want, but it also keeps the picture on the screen forever and does not allow you to type in anything at the keyboard. Try typing. The characters you type don't appear on the TV. Why? Because the machine is still RUNning your program and will continue to do so until you press the **CTRL** + **STOP** keys simultaneously. Let's look at the program again.

```
10 SCREEN 3
20 PSET (70,50)
30 PSET (66,54)
40 PSET (74,54)
50 PSET (62,58)
60 PSET (78,58)
70 PSET (66,62)
80 PSET (74,62)
90 PSET (70,66)
95 GOTO 95
100 END
```

Before we added line 95, the picture appeared momentarily and then disappeared because the program did exactly what it was supposed to do (very quickly) and then disappeared. By adding Line 95, we told the computer to stay right where it is. To stop the program, press the **CTRL** + **STOP** keys simultaneously.

The **CTRL** + **STOP** keys combination breaks the computer out of its continuous loop, and will stop the computer from whatever program happens to be RUNning.

You will see whatever you type appear on the TV. Remember to press **ENTER** after you finish each line.

```
10 SCREEN 3
20 PSET (10,20)
30 PSET (20,20)
40 PSET (30,20)
50 PSET (40,20)
60 GOTO 60
70 END
```

Line 10 tells the computer that you are going to draw a picture on SCREEN 3.

## SCREEN

There are 4 screens:

**SCREEN 0** - This screen allows you to enter 23 lines of text with a maximum of 39 characters on each line before the display starts to "scroll" or move up.

**SCREEN 1** - The screen the computer displays when you turn it on. This screen allows you to enter 23 lines of text with a maximum of 29 characters on each line before the display starts to "scroll" or move up.

Both of the two screens allows you to communicate with your computer and tell him what to do for you: type in your commands in the immediate mode, or type in your programs.

**SCREEN 2** - The High Resolution graphics screen which you use to draw High Resolution graphics.

**SCREEN 3** - The Low Resolution graphics screen which you use for drawing Low Resolution graphics.

(More about High and Low Resolution you will find in Appendix F)

Whenever you CTRL-STOP a RUNning program which uses SCREEN 2 or SCREEN 3, the computer will automatically return to SCREEN 0 or 1 (the previous text screen) program you by displaying the "Ok" message and the cursor. This will allow you to review (LIST) your program and make your modifications.

## PSET

Line 20 introduces the PSET instruction. PSET tells the computer to turn on the box that is named (10,20). Remember, the first number in parentheses refers to the column and the second number refers to the row of the box.

Lines 30-50 continue to turn on the boxes we see darkened in Figure 3. Line 60 will soon be explained.

Now type RUN **ENTER** and your picture will be displayed. When you finish viewing your work, press the **CTRL** and **STOP** keys simultaneously to stop the program.

What you typed into the computer was your first program. Giving several instructions to the computer at once is generally more efficient than giving the computer one instruction at a time in immediate mode. (Remember that in *immediate mode* the computer executes the command you type immediately after you press the **ENTER** key.) If we didn't use line numbers to signify that we were writing a program but rather told the computer to turn on one box at a time, it would be like going to a supermarket ten times in one day and each time buying only one item. That would be a terrible waste of gas and time.



After all this talk, it is time for you to practise what we have been preaching.

Type NEW **ENTER**

NEW tells the computer to forget about the program you had previously typed.

Try to write a program that draws the shape in Figure 4.

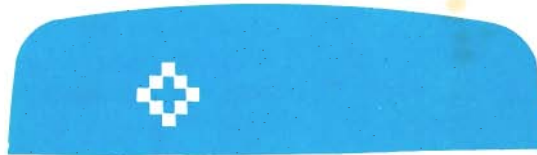


Figure 4

## LET'S ADD SOME COLOR

Each of the boxes you light up can be in one of 16 colors. Here is a list of the 16 colors the computer uses and the corresponding number for each color.

COLOR #	COLOR
0	TRANSPARENT
1	BLACK
2	MEDIUM GREEN
3	LIGHT GREEN
4	DARK BLUE
5	LIGHT BLUE
6	DARK RED
7	CYAN
8	MEDIUM RED
9	LIGHT RED
10	DARK YELLOW
11	LIGHT YELLOW
12	DARK GREEN
13	MAGENTA
14	GRAY
15	WHITE

Before describing how to add colors to your drawings we will first demonstrate your computer's vivid colors.

Press the **CLS/HM** and **SHIFT** keys to clear the screen and type the following:

COLOR 4, 15 **ENTER**

(Note that function key #1 **F1** can generate the word "color" for you)

The colors of the background and text are now reversed. The numbers 4 and 15 represent two of the 16 colors listed above.

Let's experiment with the COLOR command. Begin by typing:

COLOR 4, 4 **ENTER**

The text disappeared and the only thing you see is a blue screen. Now type your name. You should hear the clicking sound but no characters are displayed on the screen. Here is why:

The first number following the COLOR command is the color you are instructing the computer to use for the display of text while the second number is the color the computer will use for the background. Since you instructed the computer to use the same blue color (4) for both the text and the background the text seemed to disappear. In other words, what you type is printed on the screen, you just can't see it! In order to return to "visible" text you need to type a new COLOR command, but it would not be easy without seeing the cursor or what you typed.

**F6**

Now you could appreciate the usefulness of function key #6.

First make sure that the cursor (which you cannot see) is positioned at the beginning of a "clean" new line. You do this simply by pressing **ENTER**

You will still not see anything changed, but you will hear a beep. Since the last thing you typed was your name, by pressing the **ENTER** key you caused the computer to generate a "Syntax error" message which is always accompanied by a short "warning" beep. This of course, wouldn't happen if your name is a correct command in the BASIC language.

Now, press the **SHIFT** key and while holding it down press function key # (F6). The display returns to normal and you should see now all the words you previously typed plus the "Syntax error" and "Ok" messages.

Take a look at the last color command on the screen:

```
COLOR, 15,4, 4
```

this is the command you gave the computer by using **F6** (Note that you didn't have to **ENTER** this command, since **F6** ENTERs automatically. You see that there is a third number added to the color command. We already know that the first number (15) is the text color, and that the second number ( 4) is the background color. The third number (7) is the color the computer uses for the border of the screen. The border is usually not displayed in the text mode (screen 0 and 1). That's why the need to specify a border color exists mostly when you are using SCREEN 2 or SCREEN 3.

## BORDER BACKGROUND and FOREGROUND

We may think of the screen's display as of three layers, one on top of the other. At the bottom there is the **Border**, above it there is the **Background** which in the text mode, or SCREEN 0 or 1, covers the Border totally; and in the graphic screen (2 or 3) "grows down" in size and "exposes" the Border at the top and bottom of the screen .

Above the Background comes the **Foreground** which might be described as a clear acetate layer that "carries" all the images that appear

## GOTO

on the screen: on SCREEN 0 or 1 it's the text, and on SCREEN 2 or 3 it's the graphic image.

If you understood this concept you should feel comfortable with the following format description: the format of the COLOR command is

```
COLOR, <foreground color #> ,  
<background color #> ,  
< border color #>
```

Now, experiment with the numbers to get familiar with all the colors.

O.k. Let's get back to the PSET command

```
PSET (10,20) 3 ENTER
```

Now change the color,

```
PSET (10,20), 8 ENTER
```

The PSET command only scratches the surface of the almost unlimited graphic capabilities of the SVI-728. The majority of commands to create exciting pictures on your computer will be described after we have introduced you to the BASIC language.

Before we end this chapter, type in this popular little program that uses the GOTO command in a way that is easily understood.

```
First type NEW ENTER
```

and then

```
10 PRINT "I LOVE MY SVI-728  
COMPUTER"  
20 GOTO 10
```

now type RUN.

Press the **CTRL** + **STOP** keys combination to stop the runaway program. Do you understand why the machine printed "I LOVE MY SVI-728 COMPUTER" again and again? Here's why.

Line 10 tells the computer to PRINT the message between the parentheses on the screen. And Line 20 tells the computer to go back to line 10 and print the message again. After it is printed a second time, the computer reaches line 20 again and is sent back again to line 10 and then again and again . . . to infinity. Now try inserting other messages in between the parentheses in line 10. The quickest way to change line 10 is as follows:

First type LIST

to see your program. Don't forget to press

**ENTER**

Next retype

```
10 PRINT "
```

Now add any message you want, such as your name, and put a closing quotation mark at the end of your message. After you have finished retyping line 10 and pressed **ENTER**, the change has been entered in the computer's memory.

Now type RUN

and the revised message should appear on the screen. We will have more to say about the PRINT command in a later chapter.

We suggest that you read appendix F now for clarification on screen modes, before go to next chapter.

# 6

## GOING THROUGH THE LOOPS

After using the PSET command in the previous chapter, you probably thought: there has to be a way to turn on the lights of particular boxes that is quicker than having to name each box individually. Well there is! But before we show it to you, first type in the following program:

```
10 CLS
20 PRINT "TELL ME A NUMBER"
30 INPUT Y
40 SCREEN 3
50 PSET (30,Y)
60 PSET (45,Y)
70 PSET (60,Y)
80 PSET (75,Y)
90 GOTO 90
```

Now type RUN

Your program should have disappeared and the message "TELL ME A NUMBER" should suddenly appear on a cleared screen. The screen was cleared, thanks to the CLS command which stands for "ClearScreen", which is on line 10.

The message is output to the screen by the PRINT command in line 20, and the cursor should appear just after a question mark.

The question mark was put there by the command INPUT. INPUT tells the computer

In MSX-BASIC there is a nice shortcut that saves you from always having to type out the word command **PRINT**- just type in a **question mark (?)**-it serves the very same purpose!

**INPUT**

---

## CONTAINERS and VARIABLES

The type of a variable container discussed in this chapter is a numeric container. This is used for the storage of numeric values only. Non-numeric variables or Alpha-numeric variables will be discussed in chapter 8.

to wait and not go on to the next instruction of the program until you type something in at the keyboard. Whatever you type in is stored in a "container" in the computer's erasable memory.

The more technically oriented of our readers will recognize that the container we are referring to is a **variable**. The following explanation about the way a computer uses containers to store information is meant for those readers who aren't comfortable with the term "variable".

Before we continue with the description of containers, let's first observe a container in action. First type in a number between 0-191 and press **ENTER** . (If you press a number greater than 191, you will get a blank screen.)

If you typed in a number between 0-191 and pressed **ENTER** , a line should have been drawn on the screen. The location of that line depends on the number you typed in. Here is why.

The number you typed is stored in a container called "Y", as designated in line 30. Think of "Y" as a cup, and the number you typed as a mark on a piece of paper that is placed in the cup. When the computer reaches line 50 and it is time to turn on the box that is specified by the name (30,Y), the computer looks in the cup marked "Y" and substitutes the number you typed in for the letter Y wherever "Y" appears. So if you had typed in 27, the number 27 would be stored in the container "Y". When the computer reaches line 50 it will light up box (30, 27); at line 60 box (45, 27); at line 70 box (60, 27); and finally at line 80, box (75, 27).

---

## CONTAINERS IN THE COMPUTER'S MEMORY

It would be very difficult to store and retrieve information if we did not have a clear way of referring to the information we use. Thus we have chosen the term "container" to designate a particular location in the computer's erasable memory where information is stored. The letter "Y" is only one of many possible symbols we can use to "name" the containers.

A container's name can be thought of as the number part of the address of your home. If a friend mails a letter to you and the envelope bears only the name of the street you live on but not the specific number of your house, it is quite possible that your mail will be placed in the wrong box. Similarly, if we feed into the computer information that is not "correctly addressed", we will have a hard time finding the information we need later on. Our ability to communicate with the computer will then be severely limited.

---

## ONE LAST WORD ABOUT CONTAINERS

The SVI-728, like most personal computers, uses two different sets of containers. One set of containers holds only numbers, the second set holds both numbers and words.

A container whose name begins with the letters A-Z holds only numbers but when a dollar sign, "\$", is placed after the letters it can hold both numbers and words. A container name can be up to 2 characters in length-it can't be a word of BASIC Language-for example, SV, DL, HF, L1, etc, are legal containers names. Type:

```
10 CLS
20 PRINT "WHATEVER YOU TYPE IN
WHEN THE QUESTION MARK
APPEARS, I WILL REPEAT"
30 INPUT A$
40 PRINT A$
50 END
```



Type RUN

Then type a number in response to the dollar sign, and watch the computer echo whatever you typed (remember to press **ENTER** when you finish your input).

Then type RUN

again and this time type in a word or two in response to the question mark (and press **ENTER** ).

What happens when you mix both numbers and words in the same container? Is the mixture accepted? Try it by RUNning the program again.

You may store a maximum of 255 characters (letters) in any one container. Likewise, you can type a maximum of 255 characters on any one line of your BASIC program. Experiment to see what happens when you try typing more than 255 characters. RUN the program again, and this time type more than 255 characters after the question mark and then press **ENTER** . You should see that the extra characters were ignored.

There are various commands that tell the computer what information to put into a specific container. We have already seen that INPUT puts the information that you type into a container. Here is another way. Type,

```
10 CLS
20 LET A = 10
30 LET B = 20
40 LET C = A + B
50 PRINT C
60 END
```

## CONTAINER STORAGE AND RECALL

## LET

Now type RUN

The number 30 should have been printed out on the screen. This program illustrates how one assigns information to containers. The command LET prefixed the name of the container you wish to use and the container is placed on the left side of the equal (=) sign. The information you wish to place into the container is written on the right side of the equal (=) sign. After the number 10 has been placed in "A" and the number 20 has been placed in "B", the computer adds the numbers together and places the sum into container "C". Thus the computer's answer is found in container "C" and the contents of container "C" are printed on the screen. You do not have to use the command LET to assign information to a container. The following program does exactly the same thing:

```
10 CLS
20 A = 10
30 B = 20
40 C = A + B
50 PRINT C
60 END
```

The use of LET generally helps to improve the readability of your program. This is helpful when someone else looks at it, or when you look at it after not reading it for a long period of time.

Now we'll show you another way to use containers . . . one that allows you to draw quickly.

---

The following techniques will not only help you to draw quickly – they will also prove to be invaluable in almost any program you write. Type and RUN the following program:

```
10 CLS
20 FOR X = 0 TO 64
30 PRINT X
40 NEXT X
50 END
```

Surprised at the result? You really should not be. This program uses the same kind of loop and container that we have been discussing.

## FOR/NEXT

After line 10 clears the screen, line 20 instructs the computer to place all the numbers between 0 and 64 into the "X" container one at a time. The obedient computer begins by putting a 0 in the "X" container. The instruction to PRINT X on line 30 forces the computer to look up the number stored in the "X" container and display it on the TV. Then on line 40 the computer is instructed to take the next number after 0 and place that in the "X" container. Since a container can hold only one item at a time, the 0 is erased from the "X" location in the computer's erasable memory and the number 1 is now placed in the "X" container. Then the computer is sent back to line 20 to begin the process again.

Since the number 1 is one of the numbers designated to be placed in "X", the computer proceeds to line 30 where it finds the number 1 stored in "X", and proceeds to PRINT the number 1 on the screen. Line 40 causes the number 2 in the container and returns the computer to line 20 where the same events occur. This loop continues until the number 64 has been placed in "X" and has been displayed on the screen. Since 65 is not one

---

of the designated numbers on line 20, the computer sees the END command on line 50 and stops.

The FOR-NEXT commands are always a pair. Never use one without the other. The FOR-NEXT loop is fundamentally different from the loop we can create with the GOTO command. As your programming skills develop, you will learn when the use of each is appropriate.

Do you think you can change the program which printed out the numbers between 0-255 to draw a straight line across the whole screen? Before you read how it's done, try it yourself. Hint: Two lines have to be changed and lines added.

```
10 SCREEN 3
20 FOR X = 0 TO 255
30 PSET (X,25)
40 NEXT X
50 END
```

Type RUN and watch how effortlessly the computer draws that line!

The computer is told on line 20 to put all the numbers between 0-255 into "X" container one at a time. A 0 is placed in "X" in line 20. And when the instruction to turn on the box named (X,25) is given in line 30, the computer checks to see what number is stored in "X" and substitutes the 0 for the container name in the name of the box, so the first box lit is box (0,25).

NEXT X on line 40 places the number 1 in "X". Since 1 is a designated number, the

---

second box the computer lights up is box (1,25). The number one stored in "X" is substituted for the "X" in line 40. This loop continues until all 255 boxes in row 25 have been lit.

Now try changing the loop program which draws a horizontal line on row 25 to one that will draw a vertical line at column 30 from the top of the screen. Your program should look like this:

```
10 CLS
20 SCREEN 3
30 FOR D = 0 TO 191
40 PSET (30,D)
50 NEXT D
60 END
```

Notice that we use a different container name. "D" is the designated container that will hold all the numbers between 0-191. This looping program works exactly like the program above, that draws the horizontal line.

We have spent much time explaining to you how containers work in a non-technical way. This was important because the more you know about how the computer works and the precise cause-and-effect of every command in BASIC, the better use you can make of the SVI-728 features.

We have seen how loops can save you time. Another little time saving tip is this. You need not always place the END command at the end of every BASIC program. Although it is good practice to do so, you will quickly learn where END is necessary.

## SOME TIME SAVING HINTS

END

---

```
10 CLS
20 PRINT "I LOVE MY SVI-728"
30 GOTO 20
```

The END command is not needed at the end of this program because the way the program is structured the computer will never pass line 30. It will be caught in a continuous loop until you press the **CTRL** + **STOP** keys combination.

Similarly, you need not always precede your program with

```
10 CLS
```

You should decide when you have to work with a clear screen and when you don't.

When using the SCREEN command you do not need to use the CLS command because the SCREEN command automatically clears the screen.

## SETTING THINGS IN MOTION

# 7

## SETTING THINGS IN MOTION

Now that you know how to use containers to draw a line, let's add one line to the program you did in the previous chapter. This addition will cause a dot to move across the screen.

```
10 SCREEN 3
20 FOR X = 0 TO 255
30 PSET (X,25),11
40 PRESET (X,25)
50 NEXT X
```

RUN

Was that a bit too quick for you? Before we show you how to slow the bouncing ball down, let's review this program to learn how we create the illusion of motion.

### PRESET

The new command `PRESET` on line 40, acts just the opposite of `PSET`. `PSET` turns boxes on and `PRESET` turns boxes off. In our program above, `PRESET` turns off the very same box that `PSET` turned on. In line 30 we told `PSET` with what color to light the boxes. In line 40 we don't have to tell `PRESET` a color number. `PRESET` merely turns the box off to the background color of the screen.

How can we slow our bouncing ball down? Well, it makes sense to somehow slow down the computer so it will be delayed between line 30 and line 40, because the slower the



boxes get turned off, the longer they will stay on and the easier it will be for an observer to follow the path of the ball. We will add what is known in computer jargon as a time delay between line 30 and line 40.

Add the following lines:

```
35 FOR T = 0 TO 50
37 NEXT T
```

Now type LIST

and your program should look like this:

```
10 SCREEN 3
20 FOR X = 0 TO 255
30 PSET (X,25), 11
35 FOR T = 0 TO 50
37 NEXT T
40 PRESET (X,25)
50 NEXT X
```

Now type RUN.

Your program should now be considerably easier to your eyes because the dot will move more slowly across the screen. Lines 35 and 37 should look familiar to you. They are an example of your typical FOR-NEXT loop, with an important difference.

In the previous chapter we stuck a command (such as PSET or PRINT) between the FOR X and the NEXT X commands. In the bouncing ball program we did no such thing. Rather, by placing the FOR T and the NEXT T commands on consecutive lines, we caused the computer to wait a certain amount of time before proceeding to line 40. Lines 35 and 37

caused the computer to stop and count from 0 to 50. The computer merely placed the numbers between 0 and 50 into the container called "T" one after the other, and that took up time. Hence, this use of the FOR-NEXT loop is called a "time delay".

To speed up the moving dot, simply change the last number you want to be placed in the "T" container to a number less than 50. For example,

```
35 FOR T = 0 TO 25
37 NEXT T
```

To slow down the bouncing ball, simply increase the last number to be placed in the T container to a number greater than 50. For example,

```
35 FOR T = 0 TO 100
37 NEXT T
```

## WALKING BACKWARD

Now that you have mastered how to make the ball move forward, from left to right, it is time to make the ball move backward, from right to left. Add the following lines to the bouncing ball program:

```
60 FOR Q = 255 TO 0 STEP-1
70 PSET (Q,25), 11
80 FOR F = 0 TO 10
90 NEXT F
100 PRESET (Q,25)
110 NEXT Q
```

## STEP

The new addition to the revised bouncing ball program is the line 60. You are probably wondering where the STEP - 1 came from. Here's why.

The instruction

**FOR X = 0 TO 255**

means that the computer is instructed to place all the numbers between 0 and 256 into the "X" container one at a time. The "one at a time" instruction need not be written explicitly.

**FOR Q = 0 TO 255**

is equivalent to

**FOR Q = 0 TO 255 STEP 1**

Which means move from 0 to the next number, one at a time. When you do not specify how many numbers to STEP to, the computer automatically assumes you mean to advance by one number at a time. We could just as easily have instructed the computer to jump from 0 to 2 with the instruction,

**FOR Q = 0 TO 255 STEP 2**

Therefore, line 60,  
**FOR Q = 255 TO 0 STEP -1**

is interpreted by the computer to mean placing all the numbers between 255 and 0 into container "Q" one number at a time in descending order. That is how we get the ball to move backward.

By deleting just one line you can see a drastically different result. The present program bounces the ball back and forth across the screen. Try it. Delete line 100 by typing.

**100**

Now type LIST.

## FIRST CHALLENGING PROGRAM

To prove to yourself that line 100 was erased, type:

**RUN**

When you deleted line 100, the boxes that are lit up by line 70 are no longer turned off. Now change the program by adding one line which will make it get stuck in a continuous loop. Try it before you read on.

You should have added,

**120 GOTO 20**

This addition tells the computer to return to line 20 and start drawing the ball and the line again. It looks like a little yo-yo.

Using all the materials you have learned up to this point, try writing a program that will create a picture in which a ball tumbles down a staircase. This program is tricky, but remember we have placed it here to really challenge you. It should be easier to tackle if you first instruct the computer to draw a staircase and then concentrate on making a ball move down the stairs. The finished product should resemble the picture in Figure 5.

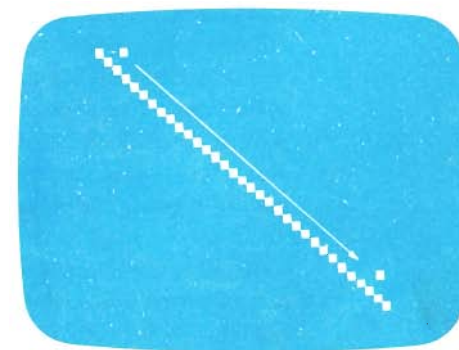


Figure 5

---

Our program to accomplish this task is listed below.

```
5  REM THIS SECTION OF THE
   PROGRAM DRAWS A
   STAIRCASE
10  SCREEN 3
20  FOR X = 0 TO 191
30  PSET (X,Y), 6
40  Y = Y + 1
45  NEXT
50  REM THIS SECTION OF THE
   PROGRAM DRAWS THE BALL
   TUMBLING DOWN THE STAIRS
60  Y = 0
70  FOR X = 4 TO 191
80  PSET (X,Y), 15
100 FOR T = 0 TO 100
105 NEXT T
110 PRESET (X,Y)
120 Y = Y + 1
125 NEXT X
135 CLS
140 Y = 0
150 GOTO 20
```

## REM

The above program does exactly what we had set out to do. The only new command introduced here is REM. REM is the abbreviated form of remark. When REM appears at the beginning of a program line, (in this program, lines 5 and 55), the computer understands that it should ignore whatever follows the REM command on the same line. REM statements are comments which are used to increase the readability of a program.

Lines 40 and 120 use containers in a way that is familiar to people who remember basic algebra. The instruction "Y = Y + 1" tells the computer to add 1 to the number that is

---

stored in the "Y" container and then place the new number back in the "Y" container.

If you were not able to complete the staircase program, do not be discouraged. As mentioned at the beginning of this guide, we differ from other tutorial texts in many ways. In addition to offering in-depth, non-technical explanations of the BASIC commands we also supply you with challenging exercises.

## DECISION MAKING

# 8

## DECISION MAKING

Up until now we have been introducing you to the BASIC language through graphics. Now we will begin to explore many other BASIC commands in different settings.

### IF/THEN

In order to program the computer to make decisions, we use the instruction known as the IF-THEN statement. (Note: this is the first time we have used the word "program" as a verb. Previously we used this word as a noun, but the verb for creating a program is programming and we will start using this official term.) Let's see how it works. Enter (this is the verb we will now be using alternatively for the word "type") the following program:

```
10 CLS
20 PRINT "TRY TO GUESS THE
NUMBER THAT I AM THINKING
OF. I'LL GIVE YOU A HINT. IT
IS BETWEEN 0 AND 100."
30 A = 50
40 INPUT X
50 IF X = A THEN GOTO 100
60 PRINT "SORRY, YOU DID NOT
GUESS IT. TRY AGAIN."
70 GOTO 40
100 PRINT "GREAT GUESS. YOU ARE
CORRECT, THE NUMBER I WAS
THINKING OF IS 50."
```



---

Now RUN the program. The INPUT command in line 40 will cause a question mark to appear on the screen. Enter your guess after the question mark. Line 50 of the program compares your guess that is stored in container "X" with the number that is stored in container "A". If you guessed the number 50 then the computer will jump to line 100. If you did not guess the number 50, and container "X" holds any other number, the computer automatically continues to line 60. There, it informs you of the result and sends you back to line 40 which places another question mark on the screen and waits patiently for your next guess. If you entered 50 as your guess, then the test on line 50 sends you to line 100 which prints out the appropriate message. Let's take a closer look at the IF-THEN statement. Like the FOR-NEXT loop, the IF-THEN command is used very frequently.

The IF-THEN statement performs a test. In our example the command meant: if X = A was true then the computer must jump to line 100. If the test proved to be false (the number stored in "X" did not equal the number stored in "A"), then no action was to be taken (e.g. do not jump to line 100). Instead the computer just continues with the next line in order.

In chapter 6 we mentioned that your computer uses 2 different types of containers: One kind stores only numbers and is called a "Numeric Variable," while the other store both letters (words) and/or numbers as long as they are placed between double quotation marks. This variable is called a "String Variable" (Because a word is a group of characters that are strung together).

To differentiate between the two types of variables a dollar sign (\$) is placed after the name you choose for the variable.

---

## STRING VARIABLE

## ANOTHER CHALLENGING PROGRAM

---

Example: A\$ = "VARIABLE"  
B\$ = "2 Variables"  
C\$ = "1234"

We will now challenge you to write a program that requires the use of a String Variable.

Listed below is the English description of a program that you should try writing and running. The three steps below describe the three major components of this program. The first two steps can each be translated into one line of BASIC command that the computer understands. Step 3 will require several lines of BASIC commands to ensure that the computer does what is described. The program you write should behave as described in the three steps.

STEP 1: The computer asks you (by displaying the message on the TV) whether it should list all the numbers between 0 and 100 for you on the screen.

STEP 2: The computer waits for your answer and stores it in the type of container that holds words.

STEP 3: The computer checks your response. If you type in the word "YES" it will proceed to print the numbers between 0 and 100 and if you type "NO" the computer will say "GOODBYE" to you rather than print the numbers.

Try writing and running this program. Remember that very few people ever get a program written 100% correct the first time. Part of the beauty of programming is that it continually allows you to learn from your mistakes. We provided several hints in the description of the three steps. Read the description carefully before you begin. Good

luck. Just in case you get stuck, we wrote our program to meet the requirements of steps 1-3.

```
5 CLS
10 PRINT "DO YOU WANT ME TO
LIST ALL THE NUMBERS
BETWEEN 0 AND 100? TELL
ME YES OR NO."
20 INPUT A$
30 IF A$ = "NO" THEN GOTO 100
40 FOR I = 0 TO 100
50 PRINT I
60 NEXT I
70 END
100 PRINT "GOODBYE"
```

We wrote END on line 70 so that if you type "YES" and the computer lists all the numbers between 0 and 100, it will not continue onto line 100. The END serves as a barrier to stop the computer from continuing to line 100.

What happens if you enter a word other than "yes" or "no" in response to the computer's question?  
Type RUN and find out.

If you just tried this experiment you should have found out that the computer lists all the numbers from 0-100 anyway, because as it stands now the program only checks for the presence of the word "no" in the A\$ container. If any other word is in there, the computer still continues to line 40. Try to repair this program. Here is what we suggest.

Add,

```
35 IF A$ = "YES" THEN GOTO 40
37 PRINT "YOU DID NOT TELL ME
YES OR NO, TRY AGAIN."
38 GOTO 20
```

If you type LIST, your revised program should resemble ours.

```
5 CLS
10 PRINT "DO YOU WANT ME TO
LIST ALL THE NUMBERS
BETWEEN 0 AND 100? TELL ME
YES OR NO:"
20 INPUT A$
30 IF A$ = "NO" THEN GOTO 100
35 IF A$ = "YES" THEN GOTO 40
37 PRINT "YOU DID NOT TELL ME
YES OR NO, TRY AGAIN."
38 GOTO 20
40 FOR I = 0 TO 100
50 PRINT I
60 NEXT I
70 END
100 PRINT "GOODBYE"
```

Now, if you type in any words other than "YES" or "NO", the computer will tell you that what you typed is not what it expected and will let you keep on trying until you type either "YES" or "NO".

Your computer is capable of making other kinds of decisions, beyond simple IF-THEN tests. Here is another one. Enter the following program:

## MORE DECISIONS

```

10 CLS
20 REM THIS PROGRAM WILL
   GATHER INFORMATION ABOUT
   FAMILIES
30 PRINT "DO YOU HAVE A
   BROTHER? TYPE YES OR NO."
40 INPUT A$
50 PRINT "DO YOU HAVE A SISTER?
   TYPE YES OR NO."
60 INPUT B$
70 IF A$ = "YES" AND B$ = "YES"
   THEN PRINT "THEN THERE ARE
   AT LEAST THREE CHILDREN IN
   YOUR FAMILY."
80 IF A$ = "YES" OR B$ = "YES"
   THEN PRINT "THERE ARE AT
   LEAST TWO CHILDREN IN YOUR
   FAMILY."
90 IF A$ <> "YES" AND B$ = "YES"
   THEN PRINT "AREN'T YOU
   LUCKY THAT YOU DO NOT HAVE
   ANY BROTHERS."
100 IF A$ = "YES" AND B$ <> "YES"
   THEN PRINT "AREN'T YOU
   LUCKY THAT YOU DO NOT HAVE
   ANY SISTERS."
110 IF A$ <> "YES" AND B$ <>
   "YES" THEN PRINT "YOU ARE
   AN ONLY CHILD."
120 END

```

Now RUN

and answer the questions. If you typed the program in Capital Letters make sure that when you respond to the question mark sign you type the words "YES" or "NO" in capital letters. If you typed the program in Lower case your "yes" or "no" response should also be typed in Lower case letters. Then RUN the program and again type in different responses to see the results.

## PRINT IT THE WAY YOU WANT

The program is very straightforward. The new commands AND, OR, <> (not equal) are used in BASIC the same way they are used in everyday speech.

We can have the PRINT command place information on different parts of the screen by adding a comma or semicolon to the word PRINT. Enter the following program.

```

10 FOR I = 0 TO 100
20 PRINT "HELLO"
30 NEXT I

```

Type RUN. You should recognize this form of the PRINT statement. This is what we introduced to you a few chapters ago. Now change line 20 to read

```

10 FOR I = 0 TO 100
20 PRINT "HELLO",
30 NEXT I

```

Now type RUN again and compare the results you get with those of the previous program.

Now change line 20 again as follows;

```

10 FOR I = 0 TO 100
20 PRINT "HELLO";
30 NEXT I

```

---

## TAB

There are three very distinct ways that output can be displayed. Later on, we will apply these different PRINT styles in our programs.

By using the TAB command, you can tell the computer where you want the information to be put. Enter the following lines in immediate mode (without a line number).

**PRINT TAB (20); "HELLO"**

and now enter,

**PRINT TAB (30); "GOODBYE"**

TAB starts the printing of the message at the column of text specified in the parentheses. The left most column of the text screen is 0, and the right most column is 39.

---

# 9

## SOME "RANDOM" THOUGHTS

Many games that people play involve an element of chance, from board games like monopoly to the game of craps played in casinos. The excitement and the high risk involved in these games occurs by rolling dice and getting a random, or unexpected number.

It is very easy for us to roll the dice and receive a random number. A random number is one that occurs as if you placed your hand in a barrel full of numbers and picked one out. Unless you were a prophet, you wouldn't know what number to expect, and would be surprised at the result.

Random numbers are important in computer programs especially in game or quiz programs, as well as some mathematic and scientific applications.

While it is easy for us to roll random numbers with dice, it is not so easy for your computer to simulate dice and pick a truly random number. Many microcomputers don't even afford you the opportunity to easily spin a truly random number. When you tell these other machines to pick a random number they will produce a fake random number. Their numbers are not truly random because each time they start picking a number they always begin with the same number. It's as if the barrel that they picked from only had one number in it.

However, your SVI-728 can pick truly random numbers. To do so, always insert the following line at the beginning of a program that calls for random numbers.



## RND, INT and -TIME

```
5 N = RND ( - TIME)
```

The new commands that are introduced are INT, RND and - TIME.

To pick a truly random number the SVI-728 takes a look at its internal clock, which measures the passage of time in microseconds. Each time that the computer receives the instruction - TIME, it looks at its internal clock and uses the time on the clock as the truly random number from which to pick more random numbers. Since time never stands still, each time the computer checks its clock it will report a truly random number.

Type the following short program to see how to use line 5 in a program and what the INT and RND instructions do.

```
10 REM THIS PROGRAM PICKS  
A RANDOM NUMBER  
20 N = RND ( - TIME)  
30 X = INT (RND (1) * 10)  
40 PRINT X
```

The new line here is line 30. The first instruction that the computer responds to on this line is RND (1). The number one in parentheses is called a dummy variable (container). Any number could have been used in the parentheses. In each case the computer picks a truly random number that is between zero and one, for example, .2345. The next instruction that the computer performs on line 30 is multiplying the decimal number (.2345) by 10. Since we want a whole number (one that doesn't have any numbers

to the right of the decimal point) we then use the INT instruction to chop off the numbers to the right of the decimal point leaving us with X = 2.

We can now present the program that simulates the spinning of dice to achieve truly random numbers.

```
10 REM THIS PROGRAM SIMULATES  
THE ROLLING OF DICE  
20 N = RND ( - TIME)  
30 X = INT (RND (1) * 6 + 1)  
35 IF X = 7 THEN GOTO 30  
40 Y = INT (RND (1) * 6 + 1)  
45 IF Y = 7 THEN GOTO 40  
50 R = X + Y  
60 PRINT R
```

Lines 30 and 40 pick the random numbers. Let's take an example. If the instruction RND (1) picks the number .9678, we then multiply this number by 6 and get 5.8068. The computer then adds 1 to 5.8068 and gets 6.8068. Finally it takes the INT of 6.8068 which is 6. So "X" dice spun a 6. The computer then repeats this process to get the number of the "Y" dice and then adds the "X" and "Y" die together and places the total in container "R" which is then printed. In all honesty, the explanation of random numbers is a little complicated and we suggest that you review the material a second time if you are not quite sure how the RND function works.

## JUMPING AROUND

The command GOTO was shown to cause the computer to jump from one line to another. Right now we will show you another way of jumping around in your program and then explain the difference between these two methods.

Enter the following program:

```

10 REM THIS PROGRAM
   CONVERTS YEARS TO MONTHS
20 CLS
30 PRINT "HOW MANY YEARS OLD
40 INPUT N
50 GOSUB 200
60 PRINT "HOW MANY YEARS OLD
   IS YOUR FATHER?"
70 INPUT N
80 GOSUB 200
90 PRINT "HOW MANY YEARS OLD
   IS YOUR MOTHER?"
100 INPUT N
110 GOSUB 200
120 END
200 PRINT N; "YEARS IS EQUAL TO";
   N * 12; "MONTHS"
210 RETURN

```

RUN the program and answer the questions. Do you understand how this program works? Let's review it.

After asking you the question on line 30 and accepting your answer on line 40, the computer encounters GOSUB 200, which means GOSUB subroutine 200. A subroutine is a section of a program, either one line or several lines, that is referred to frequently by the main part of the program. Therefore, it is called a SUBroutine, since it is subordinate, or secondary, to the bulk of the program.

When the computer sees GOSUB 200 on line 50, the computer jumps to line 200. When the computer completes the conversion of years to months on line 200 and prints it on the screen, the program continues to line 210. There, the command RETURN sends the computer back to the line that follows the one which contained the GOSUB 200. In our

## GOSUB/ RETURN

program above, that would RETURN the computer to line 60.

The same thing happens when GOSUB 200 is encountered on line 80 and line 110. That is, the computer RETURNS to line 90 and 120 respectively.

What is the difference between the GOTO command and the GOSUB-RETURN command? If we had used the command GOTO 200 instead of GOSUB 200, then line 210 would have had to say GOTO 60 to have the computer continue from where it stopped when it jumped to 200. But line 210 would have also had to say GOTO 90 and GOTO 120 if we had used GOTO 200 on lines 80 and 110. But the computer could not have understood a line 210 that would have said,

```
210 GOTO 60, GOTO 90, GOTO 120
```

This problem stems from the fact that when the computer listens to a GOTO command it does not remember the line that it stopped at before it jumped to the specified GOTO line number. On the other hand, the beauty of the GOSUB-RETURN command is that it remembers precisely the point from which it jumped. When it is finished with the subroutine and sees the command RETURN, it knows exactly where to return to without being told again.

The next program employs another command that is a variation of the GOSUB-RETURN statement. Enter,

```

10 REM THIS PROGRAM
   DEMONSTRATES A SIMPLE
   TELEPHONE BOOK HELPER
30 PRINT "IF YOU WANT TO FIND A
   PHONE NUMBER QUICKLY, JUST
   PICK ONE OF THE CHOICES
   BELOW AND I WILL DO THE
   REST."
40 PRINT "1. DOCTOR"
50 PRINT "2. POLICE"
60 PRINT "3. SPECTRAVIDEO"
70 INPUT N
80 ON N GOSUB 100, 200, 300
90 GOTO 10
100 PRINT "THE DOCTOR'S NUMBER
   IS 555-1234"
110 RETURN
200 PRINT "THE POLICE'S NUMBER
   IS 555-1245"
210 RETURN
300 PRINT "SPECTRAVIDEO'S
   NUMBER IS 555-1256"
310 RETURN

```

RUN the program and try it out. The variation of GOSUB-RETURN is on line 80. The command ON N GOSUB 100, 200, 300 means that if "N" (the container that is holding the number you have chosen) is the number 1, then the computer will jump to the subroutine on line 100. If "N" is holding the number 2, then the program jumps to the subroutine on line 200, and if "N" is holding the number 3, it jumps to the subroutine on line 300.

You can make the computer function as a calculator.

For addition enter  
PRINT 6 + 3

## THE COMPUTER AS A CALCULATOR

## ARITHMETIC OPERATIONS

and the computer will output  
9  
For subtraction enter  
PRINT 6 - 3  
and the computer will output  
3  
For multiplication enter  
PRINT 6 \* 3  
and the computer will output  
18  
For division enter  
PRINT 6/3  
and the computer will output  
2

If you forget to use the word PRINT when you use the computer as a calculator, the computer will not output the answer. The computer will have calculated the answer and placed it into a container in its memory automatically, but it will not inform you of its answer.

Most of you probably remember the basic rules of arithmetic from your elementary school days, so we will not dwell upon these types of calculations any further.

The following table lists the order of precedence for the mathematical and logical commands that your computer will calculate. That means if any of these signs or words are used in your programs, the order listed here is the order in which they will be executed

1. ( )
2. NOT
3. \* /
4. + -
5. > < = >= <= <>
6. AND
7. OR

If there is more than one operation listed on any line of BASIC commands, and these operations are both listed on the same level in the above table, then the operation closer to the left side of the screen will be performed first. For example, if you entered

```
PRINT 3 + 2 - 1
```

the computer will output,  
4

because it first added 3 + 2 and then did 5 - 1. Similarly, if you entered,

```
PRINT 3 - 2 + 1
```

the computer will output,  
2

because it first perform 3 - 2 and then did 1 + 1.

## PROCESSING INFORMATION

At the beginning of this tutorial we described a computer program as a set of instructions that processed (acted on) information. The information of the program needs to begin processing is called the **input** to the program and the result of the processing is called the **output**.

The following program demonstrates how to tell the computer the information you want it to process. Most of the commands in BASIC, like PRINT, FOR-NEXT, IF-THEN, PSET, etc. tell the computer what to do with information. We have already shown you some words that tell the computer what information to work on commands like INPUT and LET X = 20. Now we will introduce you to a new set of words, READ and DATA, which as the names imply, tell the computer that what follows is the information to be processed.

Enter the following program.



```
5 CLS
10 REM THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM
  WILL READ AND PRINT THE
  NAMES OF THE FIRST FIVE
  MONTHS OF THE YEAR
20 FOR X = 1 TO 5
30 READ F$
40 PRINT F$
50 NEXT X
60 DATA JANUARY, FEBRUARY,
  MARCH, APRIL, MAY
```

Type RUN.

Your program should have output the names of the first five months of the year. Now let's take a closer look and see how the program works.

## READ/DATA

Line 20 prepares a loop that will do something 5 times. That something is told to the computer in line 30, where we instruct the computer to READ some information and place it in container F\$. When the computer comes across the READ command, it immediately searches the whole program for the first line that begins with the command DATA. Since DATA appears on line 60, the computer READs the first word, "January" and places it in container F\$. Then the program continues to line 40 and PRINTs the word in F\$ (January). NEXT X on line 50 sends the computer back to line 20 to begin this process of READING and PRINTing again.

The second time around, the computer looks again for the DATA statement that tells the computer that on this line it will find the information it needs to READ. So the computer goes to the information listed on the DATA line after the place where it previously stopped and stores in F\$. When the computer



puts the word "February" into container F\$, it first erases the word "January", which was previously stored in F\$. So when the instruction PRINT F\$ is encountered on line 40, the only word in F\$ is "February" and so it is PRINTed on the TV.

The line that begins with the command DATA and contains the information we want the computer to READ, can be placed anywhere in the program. The READ command searches the whole program, starting at the beginning, for the first line in which the command DATA appears. Therefore, our READ/DATA program could have been written in the following way:

```
5 CLS
10 REM THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM
  WILL READ AND PRINT THE
  NAMES OF THE FIRST FIVE
  MONTHS OF THE YEAR.
15 DATA JANUARY, FEBRUARY,
  MARCH, APRIL, MAY
20 FOR X = 1 TO 5
30 READ F$
40 PRINT F$
50 NEXT X
```

OR

```
2 DATA JANUARY, FEBRUARY,
  MARCH, APRIL, MAY
5 CLS
10 REM THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM
  WILL READ AND PRINT THE
  NAMES OF THE FIRST FIVE
  MONTHS OF THE YEAR
20 FOR X = 1 TO 5
30 READ F$
40 PRINT F$
50 NEXT X
```

The information that is placed on the DATA line is separated by commas. The words or numbers between commas are treated as one piece of information. Enter and RUN the following program to see what we mean.

```
10 CLS
20 REM THIS PROGRAM READS
  AND PRINTS OUT THE NAMES
  OF FIVE STATES
30 FOR X = 1 TO 5
40 READ F$
50 PRINT F$
60 NEXT X
70 DATA NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY,
  NORTH DAKOTA, NEW
  HAMPSHIRE, NEW MEXICO
```

How does the following program, which reads and prints the name of 5 states, differ from the program that did the same thing above?

```
10 CLS
20 FOR X = 1 TO 5
30 READ F$: READ G$
40 PRINT F$, G$
50 NEXT X
60 DATA NEW, YORK, NEW, JERSEY,
  NORTH, DAKOTA, NEW,
  HAMPSHIRE, NEW, MEXICO
```

You should be able to tell the difference from just comparing the two programs without even having to enter the second version and running it.

The first program, which read and printed the names of 5 states, did so by reading each set of two words into one container, F\$. In the second program, the name of each state was

broken into two parts. The first half of the name was stored in container F\$ and the second half of the name was stored in container G\$.

## OUT OF DATA message

Enter the above revised program into the two containers F\$ and G\$, if you have not yet done so. Run the program. Now add line 70: **70 GOTO 20**

And RUN the program again. Did you get OUT OF DATA message? That error message resulted from the fact that you tried to READ information again but since the computer finished READING the list after you ran the program the first time, the computer did not find any more information on the DATA line after the name MEXICO. The way to fix that problem is to tell the computer to return to the beginning of the DATA before it is time to read the names again. The command you use to do this is RESTORE. Here is how the repaired program looks.

```
10 CLS
20 CLEAR 500
30 FOR X = 1 TO 5
40 READ F$: READ G$
50 PRINT F$, G$
60 NEXT X
70 RESTORE
80 GOTO 30
90 DATA NEW, YORK, NEW, JERSEY,
    NORTH, DAKOTA, NEW,
    HAMPSHIRE, NEW, MEXICO
```

## CLEAR

Here is how this program works. We have added another command called CLEAR on line 20. Whenever you use a READ-DATA command you should also use CLEAR, which CLEARs away a lot of room (e.g., 500 spaces) in the computer's memory. Then you can

## RESTORE

work with the containers that store words without running out of space, because the containers that store words and text generally take up much more room than the containers that store only numbers.

Then on line 70, the RESTORE command instructs the computer to return to the beginning of the list of information on the DATA line before the GOTO 30 command on line 80 sends the computer back to the beginning of the loop on line 30. The program should print out the names of the states without receiving an OUT OF DATA message.

## ANOTHER TIME SAVER

Our programs are beginning to get larger. That is we are writing more lines of instructions in each program. Some people like to tell the computer to automatically write the line number for each line of the program. This is accomplished by typing:

AUTO

## AUTO

In immediate mode, the computer will respond with the number 10 and it will wait for you to begin typing on line 10. When you have finished line 10 and pressed  the computer will automatically print line 20 and wait for you to continue.

You can make the computer start the automatic line numbers from a number other than 10, and it can increase the number for the next line by more than or less than 10. In other words, the AUTO command can be told what line number to start with and the increase for each subsequent line.

For example:

**AUTO 20, 40**

This will start the first line number at 20 and cause the second line number to be 60 and the third line number to be 100.

---

As with all the commands we have introduced to you in this tutorial guide, it is necessary for you to read the material in other parts of this manual to get a full understanding of each BASIC command.

---

# 10 ARRAYS-A WAY OF ORGANIZING MANY CONTAINERS

We hope that you are beginning to feel comfortable with the concept of containers and how your computer uses them to store and manipulate information. Previously, we have always used a container as an individual unit. That is, we have thought of each container as a distinct unit. "A", "B", "C\$" and "D\$" are examples of individual containers into which we put numbers and words. However, we did not have the need to group several individual containers into one set.

There are times when it is necessary to arrange a series of containers into a larger unit. If you wanted to keep track of 5 test scores for each of the 25 students in your class, it would make sense to organize the containers that hold the scores into a larger unit. Then you work with 25 sets of containers, rather than with 125 individual containers. (Each set would be a table with 5 lines of information.) Here is an example of what the table for a student named John might look like.

JOHN  
(1) 75  
(2) 82  
(3) 94  
(4) 68  
(5) 100

Thus if we had before us 25 different tables representing the scores of all 25 students, we

could then refer to John's first test score as John (1), his second test score as John (2) etc.

The following program demonstrates how we can instruct the computer to group John's 5 test scores into a table.

```
10 REM THIS PROGRAM
  ORGANIZES JOHN'S TEST
  SCORES INTO A TABLE
20 CLS
30 DIM J (5)
40 FOR X = 1 TO 5
50 READ J (X)
60 NEXT X
70 PRINT "WHICH TEST GRADE DO
  YOU WANT?"
80 INPUT Z
90 PRINT J (Z)
100 DATA 75, 98, 94, 68, 100
```

Enter this program and RUN it. This is how it works.

### DIM

Line 30 DIMensions a block of five containers for the set of containers called "J". That means the computer is instructed to set aside enough room to store 5 numbers in 5 different containers. "J" is the name for this group of containers. On line 50 the computer READs in one test score at a time from the data line and places it into one container.

When the program reaches line 70, it has already placed all 5 test grades into 5 different containers. This information is organized in the computer in a way that is similar to the table of John's test scores. So when we INPUT the test score that we want in line 80, the computer is told on line 90 to print that particular line of the table.

### WORKING WITH A LARGER SET OF CONTAINERS

Oh, we almost forgot to tell you: The official computer term for the set of containers that we just worked with is an "array".

It is a little trickier to work with a large set of containers that can store two items each than it is to work with the simple container we demonstrated above. If you wished to store the scores of 5 students for one test, you would need to have one set of containers that stores their names, and one that stores their respective grades. The table that represents this information looks like this:

TEST #1	
(1) JOHN	75
(2) BOB	81
(3) JOAN	65
(4) HARRY	96
(5) LINDA	98

Figure 7

The program that will READ and PRINT out a table just like the one in Figure 7 is listed below. Enter the program, RUN it and try to understand it before reading our explanation.



```

10 REM THIS PROGRAM
  ORGANIZES NAMES AND
  SCORES FOR ONE TEST
20 CLS
30 DIM V$ (5,2)
40 FOR N = 1 TO 5
50 FOR S = 1 TO 2
60 READ V$ (N,S)
70 NEXT S: NEXT N
80 REM THIS SECTION PRINTS OUT
  THE TABLE
90 PRINT "NAME", "GRADE":
  PRINT
100 FOR N = 1 TO 5
110 PRINT V$ (N, 1), V$ (N, 2)
120 NEXT N
130 DATA JOHN, 75, BOB, 81,
  JOAN, 65, HARRY, 96, LINDA, 98

```

Don't get discouraged. This is the most difficult program you will see in this tutorial! Let's take a closer look at it.

Line 30 DIMensions or sets aside 5 containers that will store the number corresponding to the student's names listed in Figure 7, and the 2 containers that correspond to each name or number.

Lines 100-120 PRINT the table on the TV screen in the same form as appears in Figure 7.

The computerese term for this extended container is a "double array", which is a fancy way of describing a two-column table.

Is there another way that we could have written this program? Yes, there is. Generally, almost all programs can be written in more than one way. Different people plan and program according to their own styles. Of course there are important differences among

the various styles. You will learn to discern which option to choose as your knowledge increases with practice.

Here is another way you could have written the program that reads and prints the table in Figure 7. This time we use two separate sets of containers: One to store the names, and one to store the grades. Each one uses a non-column array, not the double column array that we just used.

```

10 CLS
20 DIM A$ (5), B (5)
30 FOR I = 1 TO 5
40 READ A$ (I), B (I)
50 NEXT I
60 PRINT "NAME", "GRADE": PRINT
70 FOR K = 1 TO 5
80 PRINT A$ (K), B (K)
90 NEXT K
100 DATA JOHN, 75, BOB, 81, JOAN,
  65, HARRY, 96, LINDA, 98

```

RUN the revised program to make sure that it does what it is supposed to.

## ON THE END OF A LONG STRING

# 11

## ON THE END OF A LONG STRING

### STRING

Congratulations! You have made it this far and we trust you are doing well. We will now cover what is known in computerese as "String Manipulations". A string is a group of characters that usually is just a word. Accordingly, a word is considered to be a string of characters that can easily be changed and rearranged.

Enter the following program.

```
10 CLEAR 200
20 INPUT "TYPE IN A SENTENCE
   THAT IS NO MORE THAN 10
   WORDS LONG."; $$
30 PRINT "THIS IS THE NUMBER OF
   CHARACTERS IN THE SENTENCE
   THAT YOU JUST TYPED."
40 PRINT LEN ($$)
```

Now RUN the program. As its name implies, the LEN command calculates the number of characters in a string of characters. In this example, the whole sentence was stored in container \$\$.

### INPUT

We hope you have noticed that line 20 looks a bit unusual. This is because we used the INPUT command to print the message on the screen without the help of the PRINT command, and placed the container name at the end of the line. This line is a very good

**LEFT\$  
RIGHT\$  
MID\$**

example of a short cut in programming that combines several commands on one line.

The following commands manipulate character strings in various ways; RIGHT\$, LEFT\$ and MID\$. The programs below will introduce these commands and their use to you.

```
10 INPUT "TYPE A WORD THAT IS AT  
LEAST 6 LETTERS LONG"; W$  
20 PRINT "THE FIRST LETTER IS:";  
LEFT$ (W$,1)  
30 PRINT "THE LAST TWO LETTERS  
ARE:"; RIGHT$ (W$,2)  
40 GOTO 10
```

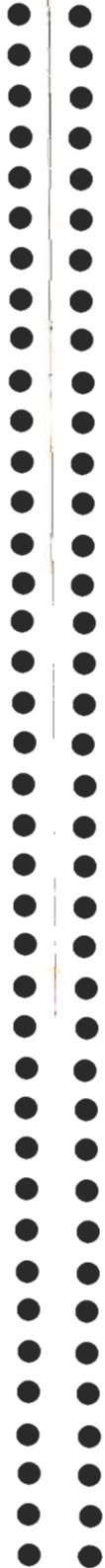
The LEFT\$ (W\$,1) command on line 20 told the computer to print the first character to the left of the string of characters stored in container W\$. If we had written LEFT\$ (W\$,3) then the computer would have printed the 3 characters closest to the left.

Similarly, the instruction RIGHT\$ (W\$,2) on line 30 causes the computer to print the 2 characters to the right, or the end of the string of characters to the right, or the end of the string of characters that is stored in container W\$.

The MID\$ is more powerful than the LEFT\$ and RIGHT\$ commands. Enter and run the following program.

```
10 W$ = "SPECTRAVIDEO"  
20 PRINT MID$ (W$,4,3)
```

This MID\$ command on line 20 started at the fourth character from the left of the word SPECTRAVIDEO (which was stored in container



W\$), and counted the next three characters and printed out these characters, i.e., CTR.

But the MID\$ command can also serve a very useful function.

If you wanted to search through a sentence for a specific word, you could use MID\$. It is demonstrated in the following program. Enter and run the program.

```
10 CLEAR 500  
20 INPUT "TYPE A SENTENCE THAT  
IS NO MORE THAN 10 WORDS  
LONG"; S$  
30 INPUT "TYPE A WORD THAT  
APPEARS IN THE SENTENCE  
YOU ENTERED"; W$  
40 X = LEN (W$)  
50 FOR T = 1 TO LEN (S$)  
60 IF MID$ (S$,T,X) = W$ THEN  
GOTO 100  
70 NEXT T  
80 PRINT "THE WORD YOU  
SEARCHED FOR IS NOT IN THE  
SENTENCE"  
90 END  
100 PRINT W$ "APPEARS IN THE  
SENTENCE AT CHARACTER  
NUMBER ";T
```

In this program, MID\$ is used to test various sized groups of characters to see if they are identical to the word we are searching for. The program calculated the LENGTH of W\$, and placed the number of characters in W\$, into the container called "X" (line 40). Then the computer starts at the left position of the characters in W\$ and counts the number of characters stored in "X". If a match is found, you are told that the word has been found in your sentence.

**LEN**

## ADVANCED GRAPHICS AND SOUND PROGRAMMING

# 12

---

## ADVANCED GRAPHICS AND SOUND PROGRAMMING

The material in this chapter will demonstrate the advanced graphics and sound capability that is built into the SVI-728 which separate it from its competitors. This power is not available and accessible from BASIC in any other personal computer.

This chapter is separated into two parts. The first part expands on the introduction to graphics that you have received earlier. The second part explains the simple approach to sound programming using the PLAY command. A more complicated approach to sound programming is possible using the SOUND command which is explained in Appendix H.



---

## PART ONE— ADVANCED GRAPHICS

### CIRCLE

To begin exploring the graphics capability of the SVI-728, type in the following lines, pressing **ENTER** after each is completed:

```
10 SCREEN 2
20 CIRCLE (128,80),60,11
30 PAINT (128,80),11
40 GOTO 30
```

Now, **RUN** the program and you will see the yellow circle appear on the screen and then it will be filled in by the SVI-728's yellow paintbrush. To understand how this happens, let's look at each line individually.

```
10 SCREEN 2
```

This line causes the computer to display its graphic screen.

```
20 CIRCLE (128,80),60,11
```

Here, you are telling the computer to draw a circle around a center point that is 128 columns from the left side of the screen, 80 rows down from the top of the screen, with a radius (distance from the center of the circle) of 60 points and using the yellow (the number 11) outline.

### PAINT

```
30 PAINT (128,80),11
```

This line introduces you the **PAINT** command. This command tells the computer to use its "paint brush" to fill certain areas. In line 30 the computer is instructed to fill the circle you have just outlined in line 20. In order to paint (fill) an object you must give the computer the coordinates numbers (in parentheses) which designate any point inside the object (as we just did giving the coordinates of the center point of our circle). If you had used coordinates which designate a point outside the object, the computer would have painted the whole background but not fill the object itself.

However, the fill color **MUST** be the same as the outline colour. In our case the number 11 is the same yellow color used for the circle outline from line 20. The **PAINT** "recognizes" outlines of objects as borders only if their color matches the **PAINT** color. A different **PAINT** color will "ignore" the outlines and will paint (fill) the whole screen-covering the object.

```
40 GOTO 30
```

The last line of this program causes the computer to repeat line 30 so the circle will not disappear. To stop the program press the **CTRL-STOP** keys combination.

You can experiment with the numbers in this program to vary the location, size or color of the circle being painted.

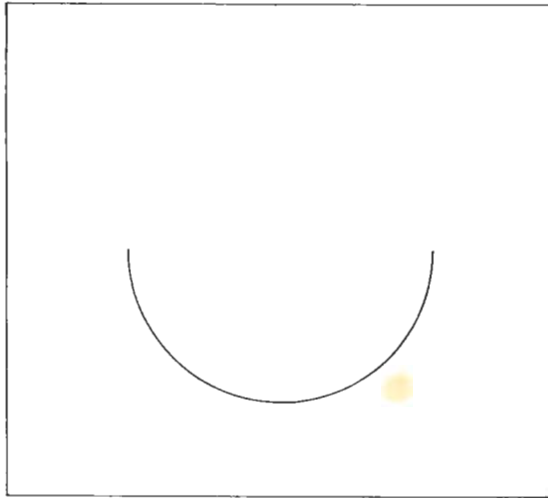
You can create a vast array of different sized circles and geometric shapes by adding a few more instructions to the **CIRCLE** command. We will give you another example of using the circle command.

---

Change the program to read:

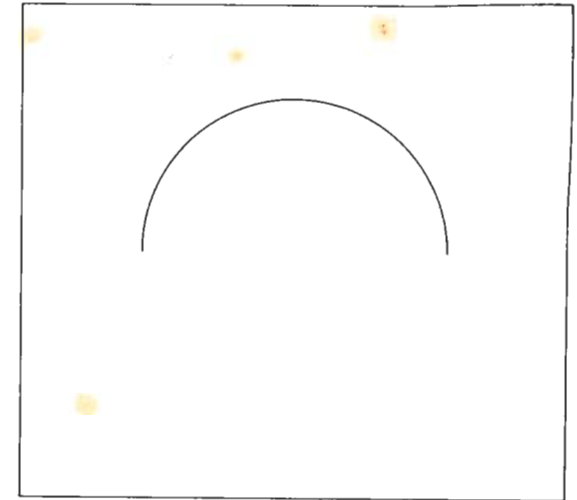
```
10 SCREEN 2
20 CIRCLE (128,96),80,13,3.14,6.28
30 GOTO 30
```

RUNning the program will give you the following result:



You should see the bottom half of the circle.  
Should you change line 20 to be:

```
20 CIRCLE (128,96),80,13,6.28,3.14
```



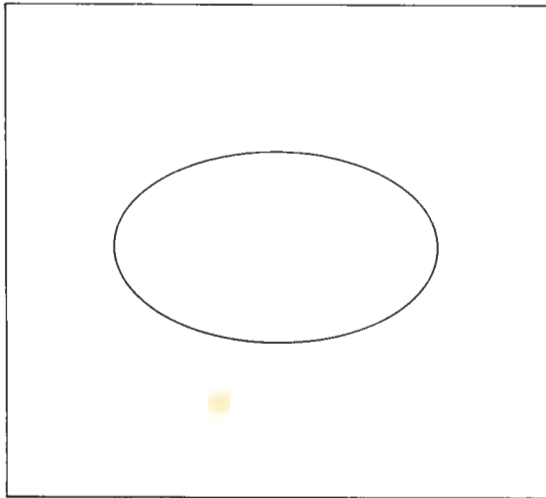
you will see that the top half of the circle is drawn. Another way of constructing a whole circle is with the following changes in line 20:

```
20 CIRCLE (128,96), 80,13,0,6.28
```

Those of you who remember your geometry will recall that 3.14 is pi and 6.28 is 2pi (approximate). The two pi numbers which follow the color number (#13) on line 20 tell the computer where you would like the computer to begin and end the circle (how much of the circle you want drawn).

You can also specify the kind of shape drawn. For example, you can draw an ellipse (a distorted circle for those of you unfamiliar with geometry) with the following added feature on line 20.

```
20 CIRCLE (128,96), 80, 13,,,1/4
```

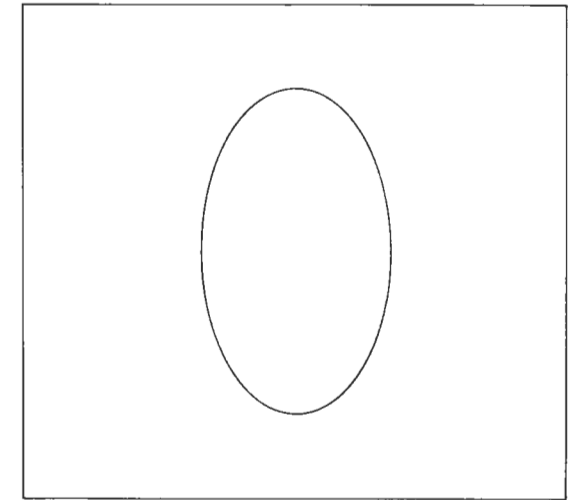


How did we get an ellipse? Well, the three commas after the number 13 are necessary to inform the computer that we will not be specifying the starting and ending points of the shape and are therefore leaving them blank. The computer knows what to do when we leave it blank. It assumes that we want the whole shape drawn. The 1/4 at the end of line 20 tells the computer the height/width ratio that we want.

Generally, the width of the circle is the same as the diameter you specify. However, if the ratio number at the end of the CIRCLE command line is less than one (1), the circle will be wider than it is high, as in the example above where the ratio is "1/4". If the ratio is greater than one (1), the circle will be higher than it is wide, as in the following example:

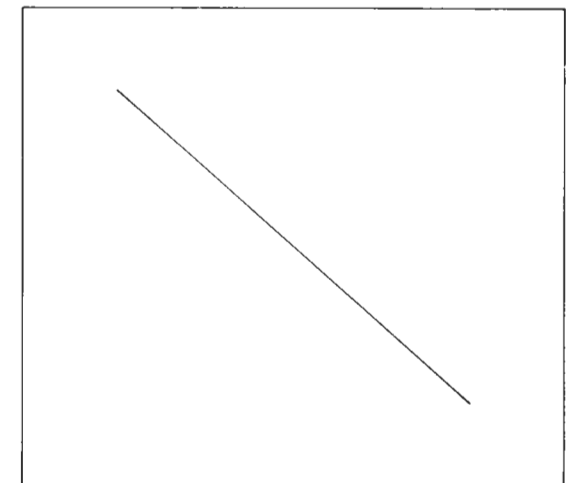
```
20 CIRCLE (128,96), 80,13,,,2
```

## LINE



Now that you have seen what your SVI-728 can do with circles and its paintbrush, we'll take a look at lines and boxes. The computer has the same simple method for drawing them as it does for circles. First, type NEW to clear the memory of the program we were using before. Now, enter the following

```
10 SCREEN 2  
20 LINE (50,40) -- (200,150),14  
30 GOTO 30
```



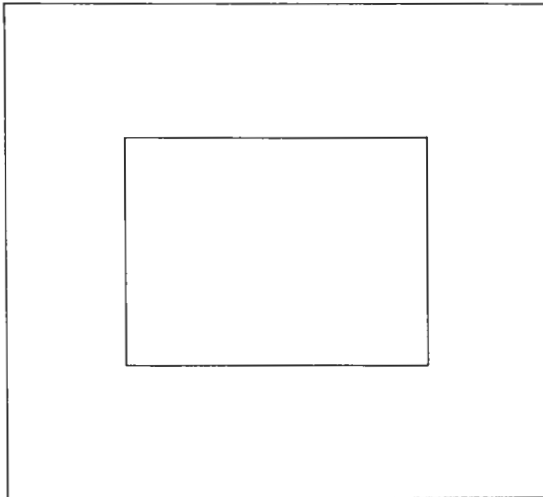
When you run this program, you will see that a line has been drawn from high on the left side of the screen to a low point on the right side of the screen. The line that causes this to happen is line 20:

```
30 LINE (50,40) - (200,150),14
```

This line tells the computer to draw a line from a position 50 points from the left margin on the screen and 40 points down from the top over to a position that is 200 points from the left margin and 150 points down from the top. The number 14 designates the color of the line to be white.

By simply adding the letter "B" following a comma to the end of line 20 you will convert this line into a box.

```
20 LINE (50,40) - (200,150),14,B
```



RUNning the program now, will show a box (outlined rectangle) on the screen. The "B" tells the computer to draw the box at the same coordinates as the line.

## BOX FILL (BF)

To tell the computer to use the paintbrush (fill the box) simply add the letter "F" immediately to the right of the "B" in line 20:

```
20 LINE (50,40) - (200,150),14,BF
```

Now, you will see that the program draws the same box and paints the inside with the same color as the outline.

As an interesting summary of the graphics commands you have learned so far RUN the following program:

```
10 COLOR, 1,9
20 SCREEN 2
30 CIRCLE (126,110),60,9,,,1.3
40 CIRCLE (110,96),10,2
50 PAINT (110,96),2
60 CIRCLE (142,96),10,2
70 PAINT (142,96),2
80 LINE (100,125) - (105,135),14
90 LINE (152,135) - (147,135),14
100 LINE (105,135) - (147,135),14
110 CIRCLE (74,110),25,11,,,5
120 CIRCLE (178,110),25,11,,,5
130 Y = 85: R = 50: C = 1
140 FOR Q = 1 TO 10
150 Y = Y - 5: R = R - 4: C = C + 1
160 CIRCLE (126,Y),R,C,,,2
170 NEXT Q
180 FOR T = 1 TO 500: NEXT T
190 N = RND (- TIME)
200 FOR T = 1 TO 30
210 X = X + 10: Y = 100
220 C = INT (RND(1)*15) + 1
230 LINE (X,Y) - (X + 35, Y + 35),C,BF
240 LINE (X,Y) - (X + 35, Y + 35),1,BF
250 NEXT T
260 GOTO 260
```

This program demonstrates all the concepts introduced thus far. We will continue with some more graphics commands.

## BOX (B)



## DRAW

The **DRAW** command is actually the door to an actual mini-language within BASIC called "Graphic Macro Language (GML)".

Start by clearing the computer's memory.

(Type: NEW then press ENTER)

Then type the following lines:

```
10 SCREEN 2
20 PSET (50,60), 1
30 DRAW "D50 R50 U50 L50"
40 GOTO 40
```

Line 20 positions your graphic cursor at the X, Y coordinates (50,60), and designates the color to be black (1).

Line 30 starts the line drawing at the point specified in the **PSET** command. It can move relative to the point, according to the distance and directional commands specified in the **DRAW** statement.

Example:

```
DRAW "U50R50"
```

This tells the computer to draw fifty units to the RIGHT.

Instructions are in quotes because the **DRAW** command acts on a character string. Remember, a character string is a variable (container) that holds characters. Therefore, we could have written the **DRAW** example used above in the following manner.

```
30 T$ = "U50R50D50L50"
40 DRAW T$
50 GOTO 50
```

This second way of **DRAW**ing first defines the object we wish to **DRAW**, and then places it in **T\$** and then **DRAW**s **T\$**.

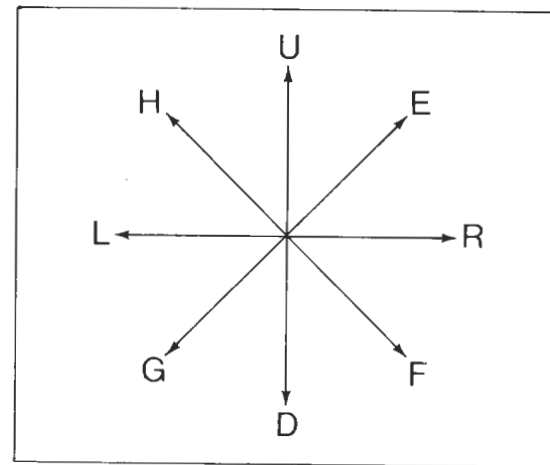
Please note you can draw diagonally using

**E** = diagonally up & right

**F** = diagonally down & right

**G** = diagonally down & left

**H** = diagonally up & left



Now we will look at several other additional graphic commands you can use to create exciting screen displays. They are **SCALE**, **LOCATE** and **BLANK MOVE**.

## SCALE

Type in and **RUN** the following program:

```
10 COLOR, 1, 1
20 SCREEN 2 : X = 14 : Y = 120 :
   CO = 2 : Z = 1
30 PSET (X, Y)
40 A$ = "S=Z;C=CO;F15R50E15
   U45H15L30H15U20E10R20F10
   R10U12H15L30G20D35F25R25
   F10D18G10L35H10L10D14S0"
50 DRAW A$
60 X = X + 16 : Y = Y + 8
   CO = CO + 1 : Z = Z + 1
70 IF Z > 10 THEN 20
90 GOTO 30
```

In this example, the variable **A\$** contains the statement **S = Z** which sets the command **SCALE** equal to **Z**. As the program continues, **Z** is raised by 1 each time line 60 is reached. This causes the scale to be raised by 1.

## LOCATE

Now try this program:

```
10 COLOR, 1, 1
11 CLS
12 REM LOCATE IS USED TO
   POSITION CURSOR
13 LOCATE 10, 170 : PRINT
   "THIS IS AN"
14 LOCATE 10, 180 : PRINT
   "EXAMPLE OF LOCATE"
15 FOR I = 1 TO 1000 : NEXT
20 X = 14 : Y = 120 : CO = 2 : Z = 1
25 SCREEN 2
30 PSET (X, Y)
40 A$ = "S = Z;C = CO;F15R50E15U45
   H15L30H15U20E10R20E10R20F10
   R10U12H15L30G20D35F25R25
   F10D18G10L35H10L10D14S0"
50 DRAW A$
60 X = X + 16 : Y = Y + 8 : CO = CO + 1
   : Z = Z + 1
70 IF Z > 10 THEN 20
90 GOTO 30
```

The command **LOCATE** is used to position the cursor displayed on the screen.

## BLANK MOVE

Now, type **NEW** and enter the following program:

```
10 REM DRAWING
20 SCREEN 2
30 A$ = "BM30,156C9F15R50 E15U
   45H15L30H15U20E10R20F10R
   10U12H15L30G20D35F25R25F
   10D18G10L35H10L10D14"
40 DRAW A$
50 PAINT (42,154),9
60 LINE (150,171) - (210,171),2
70 LINE (210,171) - (230,34),2
80 LINE (230,34) - (210,34),2
90 LINE (210,34) - (190,151),2
100 LINE (190,151) - (170,151),2
110 LINE (170,151) - (150,34),2
120 LINE (150,34) - (130,34),2
130 LINE (130,34) - (150,171),2
140 PAINT (165, 165),2
150 GOTO 150
```

In this example, line 30 contains the statement **BM30,156**. This is the command that causes the cursor to begin drawing at those specified **X** and **Y** coordinates. Without using this command, all draw statements will begin executing at the upper left corner of the screen.

## SPRITE\$

Now that we have learned how to deal with the simpler shapes, we will examine the more complex type of graphics generation called **SPRITE** generation. The best way to understand a sprite is to imagine it as a magic genie you can create and easily control.

Unlike the graphic commands we have encountered up till now which can only create one type of an object, like a line or circle – the manipulation of sprites is a lot more flexible.

---

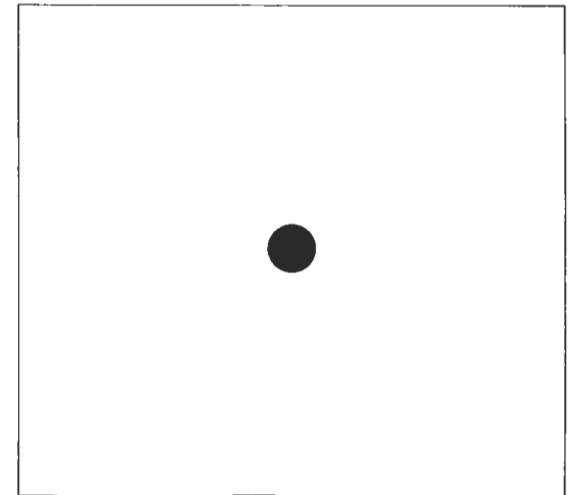
In order to see a sprite on the screen you must do the following:

- STEP 1: Pick one genie "to talk to." (There are 32 different genies available to do your bidding).
- STEP 2: You must tell the genie "what you want it to wear." In other words, what shape you want it to assume).
- STEP 3: You must tell it what color to take the shape that it will wear.
- STEP 4: You must tell it where to appear on the screen.

The importance of this genie metaphor cannot be overstated. Whenever you do not get the results you expected when commanding a genie it is probably because you did not provide all four pieces of information necessary to make the genie appear.

We will now demonstrate how to instruct a genie. Enter the following program and RUN it.

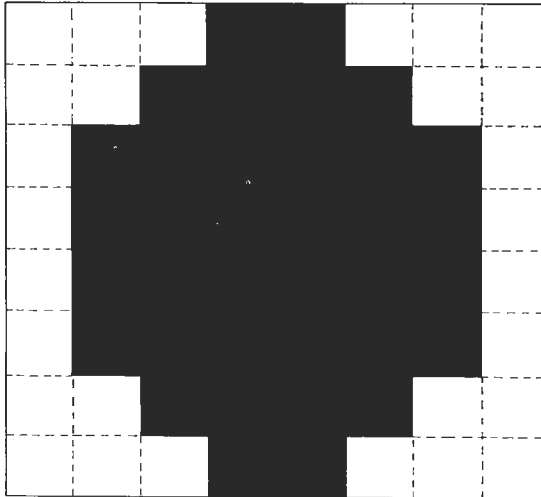
```
10 SCREEN 2
20 FOR T = 1 TO 8
30 READ A$
40 S$ = S$ + CHR$(VAL("&B" + A$))
50 NEXT T
60 SPRITE$(1) = S$
70 PUT SPRITE 0, (128,96),8, 1:
   GOTO 70
100 DATA 00011000
110 DATA 00111100
120 DATA 01111110
130 DATA 01111110
140 DATA 01111110
150 DATA 01111110
160 DATA 00111100
170 DATA 00011000
```



You should see a red ball appear at the center of the screen. This ball is the sprite that we created in the above program. Here is how it works.

Lines 100–170: These lines design the clothes that the genie will wear (or in straighter language, they contain the design of the sprite's shape). Each line of the data statement has eight characters on it. They represent the size of the sprite. The zeros are to make the display transparent at that point of the shape while the ones are the points of the display that are lit.

If we took an 8 by 8 grid , the shape would look like this:



Lines 20–50: These lines complete the design of the shape of the clothes. They set up a loop that will read the set of data lines, convert them into binary strings, append each one to the former and then store this one shape unit in S\$.

Line 60: This line picks the sprite that we will command (#1) and tells it to carry the shape contained in S\$.

Line 70: This line tells the sprite what color to make the shape, and where to appear on the screen. This line:

```
70 PUT SPRITE 0, (128,96), 8,1
```

is read like this (It's a long sentence, but you'll be able to follow it):

PUT the SPRITE that is specified at the end of line, which is #1, on plane (surface) 0, at position (128,96) which is the center of the screen, using color #8. The sprite to use is #1.

(Note: In the command, PUT SPRITE (sprite plane), (X,Y), (color #), (sprite pattern #), the use of different plane numbers allows the user to place more than one sprite on the screen at once.)

The way we create sprites is very logical. If you are familiar with any other computer's BASIC, you will immediately notice how much easier the sprite manipulation is on the SVI-728. That's because other systems force you to go PEEKing and POKing around their computer's memory.

Sprites are not limited to only 8 by 8 pixels. Sprites can also be placed within a 16 by 16 box. The sprite size after the screen mode determines the size of sprite. The sprite size should be set to 0 to select 8 X 8 pixels, 1 to select 8 X 8 pixels (magnified by 2), 2 to select 16 X 16 pixels, 3 to select 16 X 16 pixels (magnified by 2).

Hence, if sprite size 1 is selected the sprite becomes 8 X 8 pixels (magnified by 2); however, if sprite size 2 is selected, then the use of a 16 X 16 box is allowed. But, the computer fills the 16 X 16 box differently than it fills the 8 X 8 box. The following program should illustrate how this works:

```
10 screen 2, 2
20 for X = 1 to 32
30 read a$
40 restore
50 s$ = s$ + chr$(val("&b" + a$))
60 sprite$(0) = s$
70 put sprite 0, (128, 96), 1, 0
80 next x
90 goto 90
100 data 11111111
```

Notice tha the computer first fills a box  $8 \times 16$  and then fills another  $8 \times 16$  box alongside this one to make  $16 \times 16$  box.

Therefore, when making a  $16 \times 16$  sprite, careful manipulation of data statements (32 of them) is required.

This program demonstrates the use of the joystick to move sprites. When run, a small spaceship-like sprite will appear. This sprite can be moved anywhere within the confines of the screen and will also fire a bullet when the trigger is pressed.

```
10 Color 15, 1, 1
20 Screen 2,2
30 Rem This section reads in the sprites
40 For T = 1 to 8
50 Read A$
60 S$ = S$ + CHR$(VAL("&b" + A$))
70 Next T
80 SPRITE $ (1) = S$
90 For T = 1 to 8
100 Read B$
110 U$ = U$ + CHR$(VAL("&b" + B$))
120 Next T
130 SPRITE $ (2) = U$
140 Rem This section sets the initial
    location of the Sprite
150 X = 128 : Y = 96
160 Put SPRITE 1, (X,Y), 9,1
170 D = STICK (0)
180 F = STICK (0)
190 Rem This section takes the given
    joystick information and uses it
    to make the sprite move
200 If F <> 0 then GOSUB 460
210 If D = 1 then X = X : Y = Y - 1
220 If D = 2 then X = X + 1: Y = Y - 1
230 If D = 3 then X = X + 1: Y = Y
240 If D = 4 then X = X + 1: Y = Y + 1
250 If D = 5 then X = X : Y = Y + 1
260 If D = 6 then X = X - 1: Y = Y + 1
```

```
270 If D = 7 then X = X - 1: Y = Y
280 If D = 8 then X = X - 1: Y = Y - 1
290 GOTO 160
300 DATA 00111100
310 DATA 01000010
320 DATA 10000001
330 DATA 11111111
340 DATA 01000010
350 DATA 10000001
360 DATA 10000001
370 DATA 10000001
380 DATA 00010000
390 DATA 00101000
400 DATA 00101000
410 DATA 00111000
420 DATA 00000000
430 DATA 00000000
440 DATA 00000000
450 DATA 00000000
460 For I = Y - 3 to - 20 step - 2
470 Put Sprite0, (X,I),9,2
480 Next I
490 Return
```

If you have understood all of the previous graphics examples and concepts, you should be well on your way to creating exciting graphics to enhance the programs you create using your SVI-728.

That ends our introduction to BASIC graphics. Now it is time to move on to the extraordinary sound capabilities of the SVI-728.



## PART TWO— SOUND PROGRAMMING

There is also a very powerful music synthesizer built-in to the SVI-728 that is easily used by simple BASIC commands to produce music. In addition to the power of this synthesizer, it is most important to realize that it can do its work independently of the main microprocessor. What this means is that you can program the synthesizer to do one thing while the screen, printer, modem or other peripheral is doing something else.

The following figure represents the available musical scale that can be accessed by the SVI-728's synthesizer.



## PLAY

The command that opens the door to this synthesizer is the BASIC keyword **PLAY**. For example, Typing the BASIC statement:

```
PLAY "CDE"
```

followed by pressing the **ENTER** key, will produce musical tones from your SVI-728 through the speaker on your television or monitor. You could achieve the similar results by writing a BASIC program with the following lines:

```
10 PLAY "CDE"  
20 GOTO 10
```

There are numerous other things that can be done with sound using the synthesizer in your SVI-728. We will look at the simple ones in this section and progress to the more complex ones in later pages. We will continue to work with the BASIC program listed above and make changes in it as we go along.

## O (OCTAVE)

First, change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "O1CDE"
```

Now, when you run the program, you will hear that the sounds produced are at a very low pitch when compared with the first ones you made. This is because you have set the **OCTAVE** by adding the "O1" before the "CDE". This is the command that allows you to access 8 octaves with the synthesizer. Now add this line:

```
11 PLAY "O4CDE"
```

When the program is run, you will hear three low notes followed by three higher notes. The octaves you can access using the "O" command can range from 1 (lowest) to 8 (highest).

## T (TEMPO)

Now, change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "T32O1CDE"
```

The program will now play the same note you heard before but at a much slower rate. What you did by typing the "T32" before the "O1CDE" was to set the **TEMPO** or speed of the music. The values for "T" can range from 32 (slowest) to 255 (fastest).

You will also notice that the notes in line 11 also play at the slower pace. This is because the synthesizer will play at whatever tempo you set until you tell it to play at a different tempo. To see this in action, change line 11 to read:

```
11 PLAY "T255O4CDE"
```

Now, as you can hear, the notes from line 11 play at a much faster pace than those in line 10.

## L (LENGTH)

You can also control the length of each note individually. To see this, change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "T255O1CDL1E"
```

This change the "E" note to a much longer duration than "C" or "D" and also causes the notes in line 11 to play for a longer time. This length command can be placed in front of any note to control its length. The length of the notes can be varied from 1 (longest) to 64 (shortest).

Two other BASIC commands that can be applied to sound are the "S" command and the "M" command. These two commands determine the tonal qualities of the note being played. These are more commonly referred to as the "ENVELOPE" characteristics of a note. Everything that creates a sound has unique characteristics.

## S (SHAPE)

For example: the same note played on a piano and a trumpet may be at the same pitch but will have two distinctly different sounds. These two commands allow you to shape the notes you are creating in the same way.

The "S" command controls the shape of the note. As an illustration of this, change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "S1O4CDE"
```

and eliminate line 11.

Now, run the program to see the differences in the sounds you hear. These shape commands can be considered the voices of the synthesizer. There are 14 of them built-in to the SVI-728. This means that the numbers used to set the "S" command can range from 1 to 14.

## M (TONE)

The "M" command controls the tone period or to be more specific, the amount of time that you will hear each note based on its tonal qualities. To see how this works, change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "S10M5000O4CDE"
```

As you will hear, this changes the sound dramatically. The values used to set "M" can range from 1 to 65535.

## R (REST)

You can also insert pause between notes by using the "R" command. Change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "O4CR1DR10E"
```

This causes the "C" note to play and then silence is heard for a while then the "D" note plays, then a shorter period of silence, then the "E" note followed immediately by the "C" note again.

## V (VOLUME)

The final command we will examine in this section is the "V" command. This command is used to set the volume of the sound being produced. Change line 10 to read:

**10 PLAY "O4V5CV10DV15E"**

You will now hear that each note gets louder than the one before it. You can set the volume from 0 to 15.

## USING 3 CHANNELS OF SOUND

So far, we have only used one note at a time to demonstrate the use of the synthesizer. However, the SVI-728 has three separate channels of sound that can be programmed individually to play together to create chords. Change line 10 to read:

**10 PLAY "O1CDE", "O3EFC", "O5GAB"**

What you hear is three notes being played in combination to create a chord. You can also have each channel play something entirely different from the others to create a melody and harmony part in the music you create.

There are also other ways of addressing the sound and music generation capabilities of the SVI-728 and they will be covered in the appendix, which is called "USING THE PROGRAMMABLE SOUND GENERATOR".

## APPENDIX A ASCII CHARACTER CODES

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
0	BLANK (NULL)	+	BLANK (Space)	Ø	@	P	`	p	Ç	É	á	Ã		◀	α	≡
1	☺		!	1	A	Q	a	q	ü	æ	í	ã		◀	β	±
2	☹		"	2	B	R	b	r	é	Æ	ó	ĩ		◀	Γ	≥
3	♥		#	3	C	S	c	s	â	ô	ú	ĩ			π	≤
4	♦		\$	4	D	T	d	t	ä	ö	ñ	Õ	▪		Σ	∫
5	♣		%	5	E	U	e	u	à	ò	Ñ	õ			σ	∫
6	♠		&	6	F	V	f	v	å	û	a	Û			μ	÷
7	•		'	7	G	W	g	w	ç	ù	o	ũ		◀	τ	≈
8	◼		(	8	H	X	h	x	ê	ÿ	¿	Ɔ		Δ	Φ	°
9	○		)	9	I	Y	i	y	ë	Ö	Γ	ij		‡	θ	•
A	◉		*	:	J	Z	j	z	è	Ü	¬	¾		ω	Ω	•
B	♂		+	:	K	L	k	{	ï	ø	½	~			δ	√
C	♀	⊗	,	<	L	\			î	£	¼	◇			∞	<sup>n</sup>
D	♪	⊗	-	=	M	J	m	}	ì	¥	ì	‰			∅	<sup>2</sup>
E	♪	⊗	.	>	N	^	n	~	Ä	Pt	<<	¶			€	▪
F	☀	+	/	?	O	_	o		BLANK (DEL)	À	ƒ	>>	§	▶	∩	BLANK (FF)

## APPENDIX B

# MATHEMATICAL FUNCTIONS

### Derived Functions

Functions that are not available in MSX BASIC can be derived by using the following formulae:

Function	Microsoft BASIC Equivalent
SECANT	= 1/COS(X)
COSECANT	= 1/SIN(X)
COTANGENT	= 1/TAN(X)
INVERSE SINE	= ATN (X/SQR(-X*X + 1))
INVERSE COSINE	= -ATN (X/SQR(-X*X+1)) + 1.5708
INVERSE SECANT	= ATN (1/SQR (X*X - 1) + (SGN(X) - 1)* 1.5708
INVERSE COSECANT	= ATN (X/SQR (X*X - 1) + (SGN(X) - 1)*1.5708
INVERSE COTANGENT	= -ATN(X) + 1.5708
HYPERBOLIC SINE	= (EXP(X) - EXP (-X))/2
HYPERBOLIC COSINE	= (EXP(X) + EXP(-X))/2
HYPERBOLIC TANGENT	= (EXP(X) - EXP(-X))/(EXP(X) + EXP(-X))
HYPERBOLIC SECANT	= 2/(EXP(X) + EXP (-X))
HYPERBOLIC COSECANT	= 2/(EXP(X) - EXP(-X))
HYPERBOLIC COTANGENT	= (EXP(X) + EXP(-X))/(EXP(X) - EXP(-X))
INVERSE HYPERBOLIC SINE	= LOG(X + SQR(X*X + 1))
INVERSE HYPERBOLIC COSINE	= LOG(X + SQR(X*X - 1))
INVERSE HYPERBOLIC TANGENT	= LOG ((1 + X)/(1 - X))/2
INVERSE HYPERBOLIC SECANT	= LOG ((SQR(-X*X + 1) + 1)/X)
INVERSE HYPERBOLIC COSECANT	= LOG ((SGN (X)*SQR (X*X + 1) + 1)/X)
INVERSE HYPERBOLIC COTANGENT	= LOG ((X + 1)/(X - 1))/2

## APPENDIX C

# ERROR CODES AND ERROR MESSAGES

### Code Message

- 1 **NEXT without FOR**  
A variable in a NEXT statement does not correspond to any previously executed, unmatched FOR statement variable.
- 2 **Syntax error**  
A line is encountered that contains some incorrect sequence of characters (such as unmatched parentheses, misspelled command or statement, incorrect punctuation, etc.)
- 3 **RETURN without GOSUB**  
A RETURN statement is encountered for which there is no previous, unmatched GOSUB statement.
- 4 **Out of DATA**  
A READ statement is executed when there is no DATA statement with unread data remaining in the program.
- 5 **Illegal function call**  
A parameter that is out of the range is passed to a math or string function. An FC error may also occur as the result of:
  1. a negative or unreasonably large subscript
  2. a negative or zero argument with LOG
  3. a negative argument to SQR
  4. an improper argument to MID\$, LEFT\$, RIGHT\$, INP, OUT, PEEK, POKE, TAB, SPC, STRING\$, SPACES, INSTR\$ or ON . . . GOTO.
- 6 **Overflow**  
The result of a calculation is too large to be represented in BASIC's number format.

---

**7 Out of memory**

A program is too large, has too many files, has too many FOR loops or GOSUBs, too many variables or expressions that are too complicated.

**8 Undefined line number**

A line reference in a GOTO, GOSUB, IF . . . THEN . . . ELSE is to a nonexistent line.

**9 Subscript out of range**

An array element is referenced either with a subscript that is outside the dimensions of the array, or with the wrong number of subscripts.

**10 Redimensioned array**

Two DIM statements are given for the same array, or DIM statement is given for an array after the default dimension of 10 has been established for that array.

**11 Division by zero**

A division by zero is encountered in an expression, or the operation of involution results in zero being raised to a negative power.

**12 Illegal direct**

A statement that is illegal in direct mode is entered as a direct mode command.

**13 Type mismatch**

A string variable name is assigned a numeric value or vice versa; a function that expects a numeric argument is given a string argument or vice versa.

**14 Out of string space**

String variables have caused BASIC to exceed the amount of free memory remaining. BASIC will allocate string space dynamically, until it runs out of memory.

**15 String too long**

An attempt is made to create a string more than 255 characters long.

**16 String formula too complex**

A string expression is too long or too complex. The expression should be broken into smaller expressions.

---

**17 Can't continue**

An attempt is made to continue a program that:

1. has halted due to an error,
2. has been modified during a break in execution, or
3. does not exist.

**18 Underfined user function**

FN function is called before defining it with the DEF FN statement.

**19 Device I/O error**

An I/O error occurred on a cassette, disk drive, printer, or CRT operation. It is a fatal error; i.e., BASIC cannot recover from the error.

**20 Verify error**

The current program is different from the program saved on the cassette.

**21 No RESUME**

An error trapping routine is entered but contains no RESUME statement.

**22 Unprintable error**

A RESUME statement is encountered before an error trapping routine is entered.

**23 Unprintable error**

An error message is not available for the error condition which exists. This is usually caused by an ERROR with an undefined error code.

**24 Missing operand**

An expression contained an operator with no operand following it.

**25 Line buffer overflow**

An entered line has too many characters.

**26 Unprintable errors**

⋮ These codes have no definitions. Should be reserved for future expansion in BASIC.

**49**



## DISK ERRORS

- 50 FIELD overflow**  
A FIELD statement attempts to allocate more bytes than were specified for the record length of a random file in the OPEN statement. Or, the end of the FIELD buffer is encountered while doing sequential I/O (PRINT#, INPUT#) to a random file.
- 51 Internal error**  
An internal malfunction has occurred. Report to Microsoft the conditions under which the message appeared.
- 52 Bad file number**  
A statement or command references a file with a file number that is not OPEN or is out of the range of file numbers specified by MAXFILES statement.
- 53 File not found**  
A LOAD, KILL or OPEN statement references a file that does not exist in the memory.
- 54 File already open**  
A sequential output mode OPEN is issued for a file that is already open; or a KILL is given for a file that is open.
- 55 Input past end**  
An INPUT statement is executed after all the data in the file has been INPUT, or for null (empty) file. To avoid this error, use the EOF function to detect the end of file.
- 56 Bad file name**  
An illegal form is used for the file name with LOAD, SAVE, KILL, NAME, etc.
- 57 Direct statement in file**  
A direct statement is encountered while LOADING an ASCII format file. The LOADING is terminated.
- 58 Sequential I/O only**  
A statement to random access is issued for a sequential file.
- 59 File not OPEN**  
The file specified in a PRINT#, INPUT#, etc. hasn't been OPENed.
- 60 Unprintable error**  
: These codes have no definitions. Users may place their own error code definition at the high end of this range.
- 255**

## APPENDIX D

### MSX BASIC RESERVED WORDS

BASIC statements and function names are reserved. That is, the key words cannot be used in variable names. This appendix lists all of the MSX BASIC language words that are reserved. If you attempt to use any of the words listed below as the name of the variable, an error is indicated by the computer.

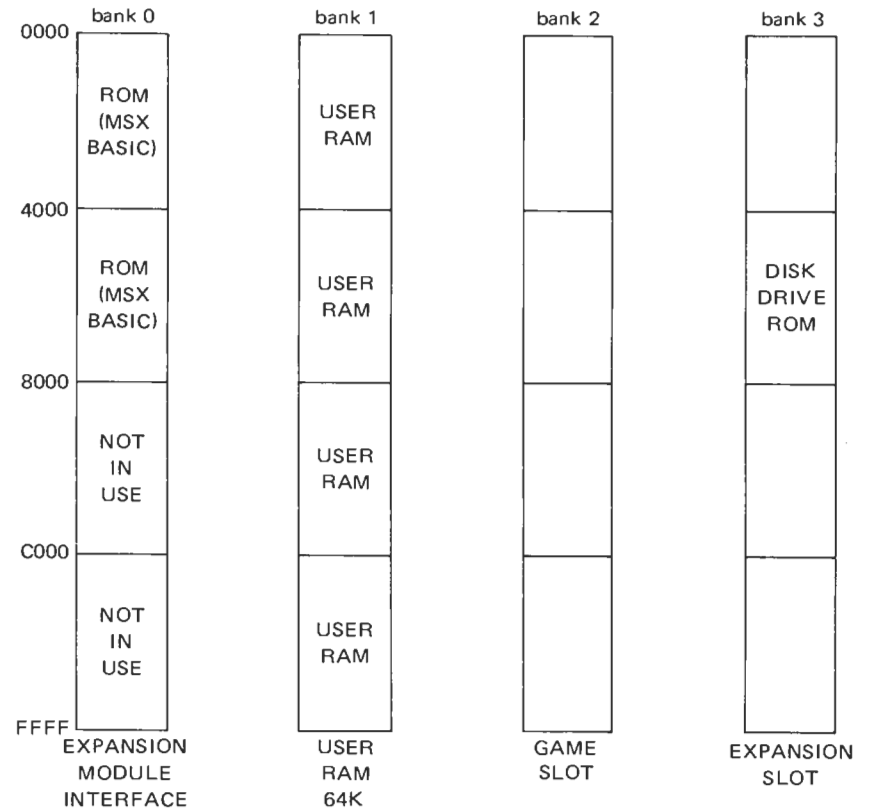
ABS	DEFDBL	INT	MOTOR ON
ASC	DEFSNG	INTERVAL ON	MOTOR OFF
ATN	DEFSTR	INTERVAL OFF	NEW
AUTO	DEFUSR	INTERVAL STOP	NEXT
BASE	DELETE	KEY	OCT\$
BEEP	DIM	KEY LIST	ON ERROR GOTO
BIN\$	DRAW	KEY (n) ON	ON GOSUB
BLOAD	END	KEY (n) OFF	ON GOTO
BSAVE	EOF	KEY (n) STOP	ON INTERVAL GOSUB
CALL	ERASE	KEY ON	ON KEY GOSUB
CDBL	ERL	KEY OFF	ON SPRITE GOSUB
CHR\$	ERR	LEFT\$	ON STOP GOSUB
CINT	ERROR	LEN	ON STRIG GOSUB
CIRCLE	EXP	LET	OPEN
CLEAR	FIX	LINE	OUT
CLOAD	FOR	LINE INPUT	PAD
CLOAD?	FRE	LINE INPUT#	PAINT
CLOSE	GOSUB	LIST	PDL
CLS	GOTO	LLIST	PEEK
COLOR	HEX\$	LOAD	PLAY
CONT	IF GOTO	LOCATE	POINT
COS	IF THEN	LOG	POKE
CSAVE	INKEY\$	LPOS	POS
CSNG	INP	LPRINT	PRESET
CSRLIN	INPUT	LPRINT USING	PRINT
DATA	INPUT\$	MAXFILES	PRINT USING
DEF FN	INPUT#	MERGE	PRINT#
DEFINT	INSTR	MID\$	PRINT# USING

PSET	SAVE	STR\$	TAB
PUT SPRITE	SCREEN	STICK	TAN
READ	SGN	STOP	TIME
REM	SIN	STOP ON	TROFF
RENUM	SOUND	STOP OFF	TRON
RESTORE	SPACE\$	STOP STOP	USR
RESUME NEXT	SPC	STRIG	VAL
RESUME O	SPRITE ON	STRIG ON	VARPTR
RETURN	SPRITE OFF	STRIG OFF	VDP
RIGHT\$	SPRITE STOP	STRIG STOP	VPEEK
RND	SPRITE\$	STRING\$	VPOKE
RUN	SQR	SWAP	WIDTH
			WAIT

## APPENDIX E

### MEMORY MAPS & I/O PINOUTS

#### MEMORY MAP



I/O EXPANSION MODULE INTERFACE AND GAME SLOT  
PIN LAYOUT

PIN NO.	NAME	I/O*	PIN NO.	NAME	I/O*
1	$\overline{CS\ 1}$	O	2	$\overline{CS\ 2}$	O
3	$\overline{CS\ 12}$	O	4	$\overline{SLTSL}$	O
5	reserved	—	6	$\overline{RFSH}$	O
7	$\overline{WAIT}$ (note 2)	I	8	$\overline{INT}$	I
9	$\overline{M\ 1}$	O	10	$\overline{BUSDIR}$	I
11	$\overline{IORQ}$	O	12	$\overline{MERQ}$	O
13	$\overline{WR}$	O	14	$\overline{RD}$	O
15	$\overline{RESET}$	O	16	reserved	—
17	A 9	O	18	A 15	O
19	A 11	O	20	A 10	O
21	A 7	O	22	A 6	O
23	A 12	O	24	A 8	O
25	A 14	O	26	A 13	O
27	A 1	O	28	A 0	O
29	A 3	O	30	A 2	O
31	A 5	O	32	A 4	O
33	D 1	I/O	34	D 0	I/O
35	D 3	I/O	36	D 2	I/O
37	D 5	I/O	38	D 4	I/O
39	D 7	I/O	40	D 6	I/O
41	GND	—	42	CLOCK	O
43	GND	—	44	SW 1	—
45	+ 5V	—	46	SW 2	—
47	+ 5V	—	58	+ 12V	—
49	SUNDIN	I	50	- 12V	—

Note: (1) Input & output is measured with respect to SVI-728.  
(2) Open collector output.

SVI-728 EXPANSION MODULE INTERFACE AND GAME  
SLOT SIGNAL DESCRIPTION

PIN NO.	NAME	DESCRIPTION
1	$\overline{CS\ 1}$	ROM 4000 ~ 7FFF select signal
2	$\overline{CS\ 2}$	ROM 8000 ~ BFFF select signal
3	$\overline{CS\ 12}$	ROM 4000 ~ BFFF select signal
4	$\overline{SLTSL}$	Slot selected signal signal. Fixed select signal for each slot.
5		Reserved for future use only
6	$\overline{RFSH}$	Refresh signal
7	$\overline{WAIT}$	Wait signal to CPU
8	$\overline{INT}$	Interrupt request signal
9	$\overline{M\ 1}$	Fetch cycle signal of CPU
10	$\overline{BUSDIR}$	This signal controls the direction of external data bus buffer when the cartridge is selected. It is low level when the data is sent by the cartridge.
11	$\overline{IORQ}$	I/O request signal
12	$\overline{MERQ}$	Memory request signal
13	$\overline{WR}$	Write signal
14	$\overline{RD}$	Read signal
15	$\overline{RESET}$	System reset signal
16		Reserved for future use only
17~32	A0~A15	Address bus
33~40	D0~D7	Data bus
41	GND	Ground
42	CLOCK	CPU clock 3579MHz
43	GND	Ground
44, 46	SW1, SW2	Insert/remove protect
45, 47	+ 5V	+ 5V power supply
48	+ 12V	+ 12 power supply
49	SUNDIN	Sound input (-5dbm)
50	-12V	-12V power supply

## CASSETTE

PIN	NAME	I/O	LAYOUT
1	GND	-	
2	GND	-	
3	GND	-	
4	CMTOUT	O	
5	CMTIN	I	
6	REM +	O	
7	REM -	O	
8	GND	-	

## PRINTER

PIN	NAME	I/O	LAYOUT
1	PSTB	O	
2	PDB $\phi$	O	
3	PDB1	O	
4	PDB2	O	
5	PDB3	O	
6	PDB4	O	
7	PDB5	O	
8	PDB6	O	
9	PDB7	O	
10	NC	-	
11	BUSY	I	
12	NC	-	
13	NC	-	
14	GND	-	

## KEYBOARD

PIN	NAME	I/O	PIN	NAME	I/O
1	INPUT 7	I	2	INPUT 6	I
3	INPUT 5	I	4	INPUT 4	I
5	INPUT 3	I	6	INPUT 2	I
7	INPUT 1	I	8	INPUT 0	I
9	OUTPUT 9	O	10	OUTPUT 8	O
11	OUTPUT 7	O	12	OUTPUT 6	O
13	OUTPUT 5	O	14	OUTPUT 4	O
15	OUTPUT 3	O	16	OUTPUT 2	O
17	OUTPUT 1	O	18	OUTPUT 0	O
19	CAPS	O	20	+5V	-
21	GND	-			

## JOYSTICK

PIN	NAME	I/O	LAYOUT
1	FORWARD/SCK	I	
2	BACKWARD/SI	I	
3	LEFT/CS	I	
4	RIGHT/SENCTR	I	
5	+5V	-	
6	TRIGGER 1	I/O	
7	TRIGGER 2	I/O	
8	OUTPUT	O	
9	GND	-	

## APPENDIX F

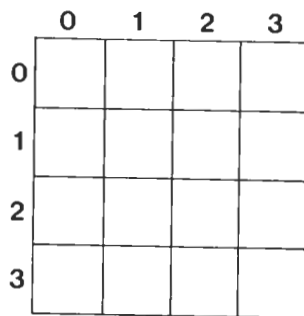
### NOTES ON SCREENS

#### TEXT

The screen 0 command allows the display of 39 characters per line; while the screen 1 command caters for 29 characters. Both screens hold 24 rows per screen. The default is 29 characters per line. If screen 0 is on, by means of the "WIDTH 40" command, 40 characters per line can be displayed.

#### HIGH AND LOW RESOLUTION

The 64 x 48 grid you see in figure 2-3 in Chapter 5 can be treated as a separate screen. The 64 by 48 grid is called a "low resolution graphics screen" and the 256 by 192 is called a "high resolution graphic screen." Every 4 boxes of the 256 by 192 grid is treated as one unit on the 64 x 48 grid. The box numbers in Figure 2 in Chapter 5 should be multiplied by 4 to appear in the proper places on the screens. This will maintain compatibility between the low resolution and high resolution screen.



Each of the four boxes is treated as an individual point on a high resolution screen.

The screen 3 command draws on the low resolution screen, and the screen 2 command draws on the high resolution screen. Thus if you PSET one of these four boxes on a high resolution screen, only that one will be lit up. But on a low resolution screen, if you turn on any one of these boxes all of them will be lit.

## APPENDIX G

### TROUBLE SHOOTING CHART

SYMPTOM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	REMEDY
NO POWER	Power Switch not turned ON.	Turn on power switch on the righthand side of the machine.
	Power cable not connected	Be sure the power cable is connected to the computer and the wall sockets.
	Blown fuse in the computer	Return the system to an authorized dealer for replacement.
NO SOUND OR PICTURE	Wrong TV hook up	Hook up the computer to the "VHF" antenna terminals.
	Loose video cable	Be sure all video cables are securely fastened.
NO SOUND	TV volume too low	Adjust the volume control of TV.
NO COLOR		Adjust TV Color level and fine tune the TV.



# APPENDIX H

## PROGRAMMABLE SOUND GENERATOR (PSG)

Other than the **PLAY** statement which allows you to create musical notes, you can use the **SOUND** statement to directly control the various capabilities of the Programmable Sound Generator which we will refer to as the PSG.

A PSG **SOUND** statement take the form of:

**SOUND** < Register of PSG > < value >

where < register of PSG > is one of the 13 available registers the PSG uses, and < value > is a number between 1 to 255. The function of creating a specific sound or sound effect logically follows the control sequence listed below:

OPERATION	REGISTER	FUNCTION
Tone generator control	R0-R5	Program tone periods
Noise generator control	R6	Program noise period
Mixer control	R7	Enable tone and or noise on selected channels
Amplitude control	R8-R10	Select "fixed" or "envelope variable" amplitudes
Envelope generator control	R11-R13	Program envelope period and select envelope pattern

### STONE GENERATOR CONTROL

The PSG has 3 tone channels A, B and C. The frequency for each channel is obtained by counting down the input clock by 16 times the value of the frequency wanted.

For example:

Desired value =  $3579545 / (16 * \text{frequency})$

Low register = <Desired value> AND 255

High register = <Desired value> / 256

The high and low registers correspond to the register pair used by each control.

Channel	Register
A	1,0
B	3,2
C	5,4

Program example follow:

```

10 INPUT "ENTER FREQUENCY";A
20 F = 3579545 / (16 * A)
30 H = 1 / 256
40 L = F AND 255
50 SOUND 0,L
60 SOUND 1,H
70 SOUND 8,15: PRINT" VOLUME CONTROL OF CHANNEL A"
80 SOUND 7,254 : PRINT" BINARY 11111110 TO ENABLE CHANNEL A"
90 END

```

### AMPLITUDE CONTROL

In the previous example program, you should notice we used register 8 to enable volume of channel A. The PSG has three separate registers to control the amplitude of the different channels.

Channel	Register
A	8
B	9
C	10

Each channel can have a volume from 0 to 15 with 15 being the loudest.

For example:

```

10 SOUND 0, 100
20 SOUND 1,0
30 SOUND 7,254 : REM TURN
  ON CHANNEL A (MIXER)
40 FOR I = 15 TO 0 STEP - 1
50 SOUND 8,1
60 FOR J = 1 TO 200 : NEXT J :
  REM DELAY
70 NEXT I
  
```

You will hear a high pitched sound fading away, because we changed the volume of channel A from 15 through 0.

The amplitude control register can also be used to direct the envelope period of each channel, by setting the amplitude channel to a value of 16, the amplitude of the corresponding channel would be controlled by register 11, 12 and 13. For more information on this, refer to Envelope Period Control Registers.

The **MIXER** register, register number 7, controls the three Noise / Tone channels. The Mixers, as previously described, combine the noise and tone frequencies for each of the three channels. The determination of combining neither, either or both noise and tone frequencies on each channel is made by the state of Bit 0 – Bit 5 of register #7. Bit 6 and 7 are for I/O ports connected through the PSG, and these are ignored by BASIC.

**MIXER CONTROL**

**REGISTER 7**

B7	B6	B5	B4	B3	B2	B1	B0
Not used		Noise channel			Sound channel		
/////		C	B	A	C	B	A

Bits logical value

1 if channel is disabled 0 if channel is enabled

**ENVELOPE PERIOD CONTROL REGISTER**

For example:

```

SOUND 7,&B11111110
  
```

will turn on tone channel A.

```

SOUND 7, &B11110110
  
```

will enable both noise and tone channel A.

The generation of fairly complex envelope patterns can be accomplished by two different ways in BASIC. First, it is possible to vary the frequency of the envelope using register 11 and 12 as a 16 bit register; and second, the relative shape and cycle of the envelope can be varied by using register 13.

For example:

$$\langle \text{Desired envelope freq} \rangle = 3479545 / (256 * \text{freq})$$

Program example:


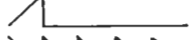

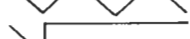
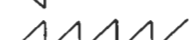
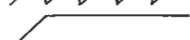


```

10 SOUND 0,100
20 SOUND 1,0 : REM Tone channel A
30 SOUND 7, &B11111110: REM Enable A
40 SOUND 8,16 : REM Value of 16 to
  enable E/P reg.
50 SOUND 13,14 : REM Shape select
60 S = .5 : REM .5 Hz
70 K = 3579545
80 L = K / (256*S) AND 255
90 H = K / (256*S) /256
100 SOUND 11,L
110 SOUND 12,H
120 END
  
```

NOTE: Register 13 is the shape register described next .

## SHAPE REGISTER

You can select 9 different shapes for the envelope period output, by programming the shape register #13.

Selected value	Shape
0,1,2,3,9	
4,5,6,7,15	
8	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	

→ ← Envelope Period

For example:

**SOUND 13, 14**

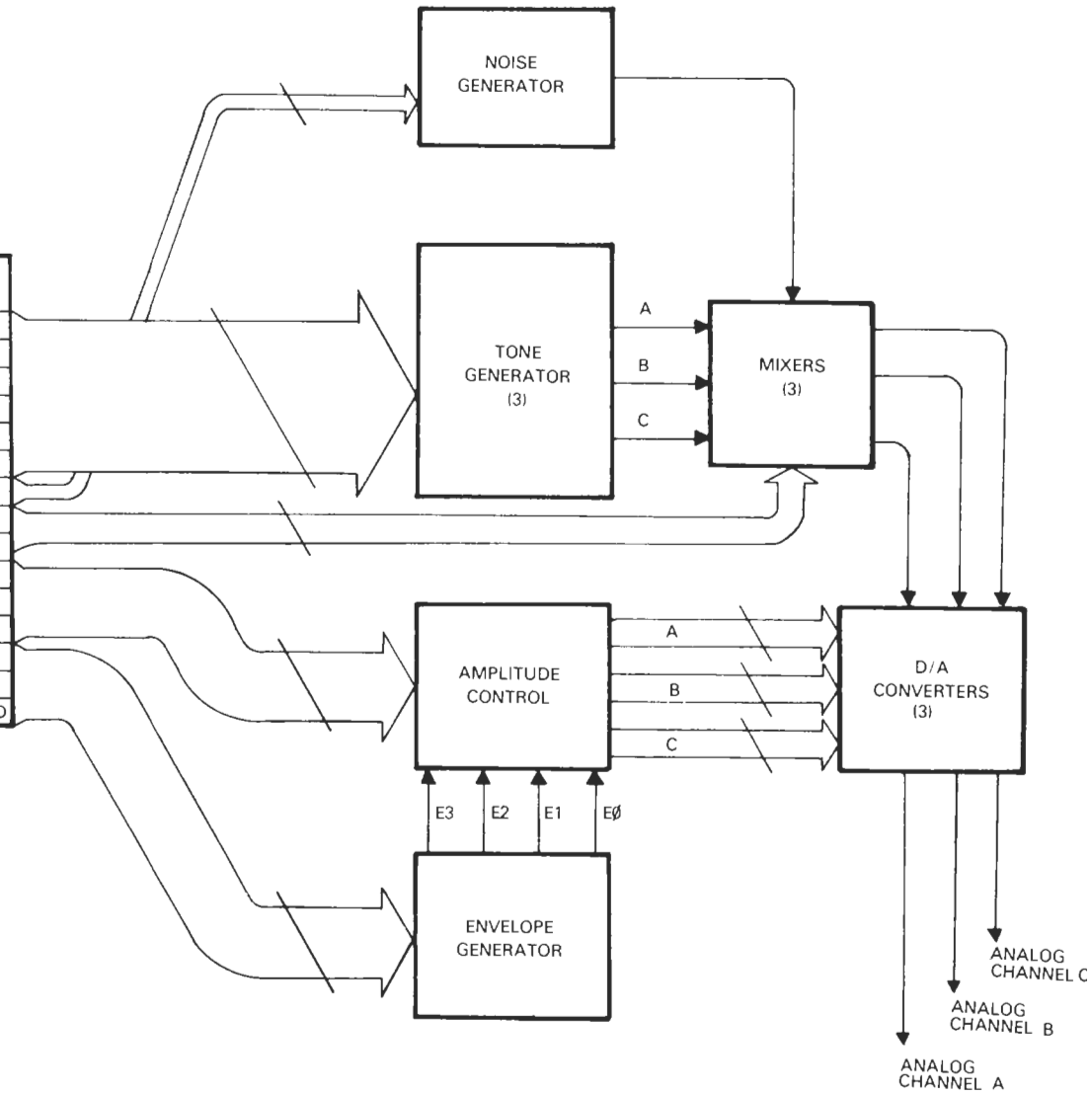
will create a tone modulating up and down according to the envelope period set in registers 11 and 12, when the enable bit 4 of register 8 (SOUND 8, 16) is set.

# PSG BLOCK DIAGRAM

REGISTERED ARRAY (14 READ/WRITE CONTROL REGISTERS)

REGISTER	BIT	B7	B6	B5	B4	B3	B2	B1	B0
R0	Channel A Tone Period	8 Bit Fine Tune A				4 Bit Coarse Tune A			
R1		8 Bit Fine Tune B				4 Bit Coarse Tune B			
R2	Channel B Tone Period	8 Bit Fine Tune C				4 Bit Coarse Tune C			
R3		8 Bit Fine Tune A				4 Bit Coarse Tune A			
R4	Channel C Tone Period	8 Bit Fine Tune B				4 Bit Coarse Tune B			
R5		8 Bit Fine Tune C				4 Bit Coarse Tune C			
R6	Noise Period	5 Bit Period Control							
R7	Enable	IN/OUT		Noise			Tone		
		I/OB	I/OA	C	B	A	C	B	A
R8	Channel A Amplitude	M			L3	L2	L1	L0	
R9	Channel B Amplitude	M			L3	L2	L1	L0	
R10	Channel C Amplitude	M			L3	L2	L1	L0	
R11	Envelope Period	8 Bit Fine Tune E							
R12		8 Bit Coarse Tune E							
R13	Envelope Shape/Cycle	CONT		ATT	ALT	HOLD			

Remarks: CONT = Continue  
 ATT = Attack  
 ALT = Alternate



---

## APPENDIX I

# INTRODUCTION TO BASIC PROGRAMMING (BASIC GRAPHICS and BASIC SOUND)

In learning to use your SVI-728 computer, you use many different commands and programming techniques. However, if you are like most people, you would like to be able to do something NOW to see your computer in action. To help you do this, we will guide you through some very simple examples to prepare you for the things you will be exposed to later in the user's manual.

We are going to assume that you have read the systems overview and set-up procedures in your SVI-728 owner's manual, and have set up your computer properly. First, turn the television or monitor on and then turn on you SVI-728. Watch and you will see that the SPECTRAVIDEO logo appears on the screen, changing colors 3 times. The screen then clears and displays the amount of memory available. When the square cursor appears below this information, it is your indication that the SVI-728 is waiting for your instructions.

The first command that we will explore is one that controls the color of the screen and the characters that appear on it.

## COLOR

---

This command allows you to vary the colors of the display in any manner you choose. You can choose from 16 colors, denoted by the numbers 0 to 15. As an example, type in the following line:

```
COLOR 6, 1
```

Now press the **ENTER** key. When you do this, you will see that the screen will change from its normal colors of blue background with white letters to a black screen with orange letters. You can explore the various colors that are available by varying the numbers you type after the "COLOR" command. When you have completed this exploration, turn the computer off and then back on. This will clear all the memory and return the system to its original or "default" condition. There are other ways of accomplishing this, by the way, and they are explained in greater depth in the user's manual.

Now, let's program a line in to the computer that will cause it to print your name on the top of the screen. Type in the following line:

```
10 CLS
```

Now, type RUN and press the **ENTER** key. You will see that the screen has cleared and that the word "Ok" is printed on line 1 with the cursor (white square) below. The command "CLS" (Clear Screen) is the command that clears the screen anytime the computer finds it in a program.

Now, type this line:

```
20 PRINT "SPECTRAVIDEO"
```

Type RUN and press **ENTER** again, and you will see that the word "SPECTRAVIDEO" now appears on the top line of the screen with the word "Ok" and the cursor below. What you



---

have just done is to write a two-line program! Now, we will edit that program. First, type LIST and press the **ENTER** key. This will cause the program that you just wrote to be displayed on the screen. Now, using the joystick cursor control, move the cursor so that it is placed on the "S" of "SPECTRAVIDEO." Press the **INS/PASTE** key on the keyboard and you will see that the cursor is now only half as tall as it was. This indicates that it is in the "INSERT" mode. To begin this edit, simply type in your name. The line should now look like this:

```
20 PRINT "YOUR NAMESPECTRAVIDEO"
```

The half-height cursor should still be located over the "S" in "SPECTRAVIDEO." Now, press the **DEL/CUT** key once and you will see that the "S" has disappeared and that the cursor is now located over the "P". You have deleted the "S". Do the same thing for all of the letters remaining until you get to the quotation mark. When the cursor is located over this mark, press the **ENTER** key.

Your edit is now completed. If you have followed all of the above steps, listing the program should cause the screen display to look like this:

```
10 CLS
20 PRINT "YOUR NAME"
```

"RUN" the program and you will see that your name is now at the top of the screen. Congratulations! You have created and edited a program using the built-in editor of your SVI-728.

---

---

## BASIC GRAPHICS

Another area that will allow you to quickly explore the power in your SVI-728 is that of graphics. To see this in action, type in the following line, pressing **ENTER** after each is completed:

```
10 CLS
20 SCREEN 2
30 CIRCLE (128,80), 60, 11
40 PAINT (128,80), 11
50 GOTO 40
```

Now, type RUN and you will see a yellow circle appear on the screen and then it will be filled in by the SVI-728's yellow paint brush. To understand how this happens, let's look at each line individually.

```
10 CLS
```

As explained above, this line clears the screen. It is a good idea to place this line near the beginning of any program, so that you begin with a clean screen.

```
20 SCREEN 2
```

This line causes the computer to display its graphics screen (#2). You always have a choice of four screens using BASIC and the screen you were using in the first example was screen 1. This is the screen that is always displayed when the computer is turned on (which is why you didn't have to add a line to the first program to use this screen).

```
30 CIRCLE (128,80), 60, 11
```

Here, you are telling the computer to draw a circle at a point that is 128 points from the left side of the screen, 80 points down from the top of the screen, with a radius (distance from the center of the circle) of 60 points and with a

---

## LINE & BOX DRAWING

yellow (the number 11) border.

```
40 PAINT (128,80), 11
```

This is the line that tells the SVI-728 to use its paintbrush to fill in the circle you have just outlined in line 30. You must use the same coordinates (128,80) and the same color (11) as used in the previous line.

```
50 GOTO 40
```

The last line in the program causes the program to repeat line 40 until you stop the program by pressing the **CTRL** and **STOP** keys at the same time. You will also notice that when you do this, the screen clears and the cursor moves to the top left hand corner. This is because the display has returned to screen 1 referred to above. You can experiment with the numbers in this program to vary the location, size or color of the circle being painted.

The first number following the "CIRCLE" command (the X axis) may range from 0 to 255 and the second number (the Y axis) may range from 0 to 191.

Now that you have seen what your SVI-728 can do with circles and its paintbrush, we'll take a look at lines and boxes. The computer has the same simple method for drawing them as it does for circles. First, type NEW to clear the memory of the program we were using before. Now, enter the following lines:

```
10 CLS  
20 SCREEN 2  
30 LINE (50,40) - (200, 150)  
40 GOTO 40
```

When you run this program, you will see that a line has been drawn from high on the left side of the screen to a low point on the right side of

the screen. The line that causes this to happen is line 30:

```
30 LINE (50,40) - (200, 150)
```

This line tells the computer to draw a line from a position 50 points from the left margin of the screen and 40 points down from the top over to a position that is 200 points from the left margin and 150 points down from the top.

Now, you can simply convert this same line into a box command by changing the line to read as follows:

```
30 LINE (50,40) - (200, 150), 10,B
```

By running the program now, you will see a box on the screen. By adding the ",10" following the parentheses, you defined the color of the box border and the "B" tells the computer to draw a box at the same coordinates as the line. To tell the computer to use the paintbrush, change the line to read:

```
30 LINE (50,40) - (200, 150), 10,BF
```

Now you will see that the program draws the same box and paints the inside with the same color as the border.

## PLAY

### BASIC MUSIC

There is also a very powerful music synthesizer built into the SVI-728 that can be easily used, through simple BASIC commands, to produce music. The key to this synthesizer is the BASIC statement:

```
PLAY "ABC"
```

followed by pressing the enter key. This will produce musical tones from your SVI-728 through the speaker on your television or monitor. You could achieve similar results by writing a BASIC program with the following lines:

```
20 PLAY "ABC"  
20 GOTO 10
```

There are numerous other things that can be done with sound using the synthesizer in your SVI-728. We will look at the simple ones in this section and progress to the more complex ones in later pages. We will continue to work with the BASIC program listed above, and make changes in it as we go along.

## O (OCTAVE)

First, change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "O1ABC"
```

Now, when you run the program, you will hear that the sounds produced are at a very low pitch when compared with the first ones you made. This is because you have set the OCTAVE by adding the "O1" before the "ABC." This is the command that allows you to access 8 octaves with the synthesizer. Now add this line:

```
11 PLAY "O4ABC"
```

## T (TEMPO)

When the program is run, you will hear three low notes followed by three higher notes. The octaves you can access using the "O" command can range from 0 (lowest) to 7 (highest).

Now, change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "T32O1ABC"
```

The program will now play the same note you heard before but at a much slower rate. What you did by typing the "T32" before the "O1ABC" was to set the TEMPO or speed of the music. The values for "T" can range from 32 (slowest) to 255 (fastest).

You will also notice that the notes in line 11 also play at the slower pace. This is because the synthesizer will play at whatever tempo you set until you tell it to play at a different tempo. To see this in action, change line 11 to read:

```
11 PLAY "T255O4ABC"
```

Now, as you can hear, the notes from line 11 play at a much faster pace than those in line 10.

## L (LENGTH)

You can also control the length of each note individually. To see this, change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "T255O1ABL1C"
```

This changes the "C" note to a much longer duration than "A" or "B" and also causes the notes in line 11 to play for a longer time. This length command can be placed in front of any note to control the length of the note. The lengths of the notes can be varied from 1 (longest) to 64 (shortest).

## S(SHAPE) & M(TONE)

Two other BASIC commands that can be applied to sounds are the "S" command and the "M" command. These two commands determine the tonal qualities of the note being played. As an example of this, the same note played on a piano and a trumpet may be at the same pitch but will have two distinctly different sounds. These two commands allow you to shape the notes you are creating in the same way.

The "S" command controls the shape of the note. As an illustration of this, change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "S1O4ABC"
```

and eliminate line 11 by typing 11 and pressing

```
ENTER
```

Now, run the program to see the differences in the sounds you hear. These shape commands can be considered the voices of the synthesizer. There are 14 of them built into the SVI-728. This means that the number used to set the "S" command can range from 1 to 14.

The "M" command controls the tone period or to be more specific, the amount of time that you will hear each note based on its tonal qualities. To see how this works, change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "S10M5000O4ABC"
```

As you will hear, this changes the sound dramatically. The values used to set "M" can range from 1 to 65535.

You can also insert pauses between notes by using the "R" command. Change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "O4AR1BR10C"
```

## V (VOLUME)

This causes the "A" note to play, followed by a brief period of silence. Then the "B" note plays, then a shorter period of silence, then the "C" note followed immediately by the "A" note again.

The final command we will examine in this section is the "V" command. This command is used to set the volume of the sound being produced. Change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "O4V5AV10BV15C"
```

You will now hear that each note gets louder than the one before it. You can set the volume from 0 to 15.

## USING 3 CHANNELS OF SOUND

So far, we have only used one note at a time to demonstrate the use of the synthesizer. However, the SVI-728 has three separate channels of sound that can be programmed individually to play together to create chords. Change line 10 to read:

```
10 PLAY "O1ABC", "O3CDE", "O5FAG"
```

What you hear now is three notes being played in combination to create a chord. You can also have each channel play something entirely different from the others to create melody and harmony parts in the music you create.

These are just a few of the exciting things that your SVI-728 Computer System can do for you. To begin exploring your machine in greater depth, read each chapter in this user's manual and follow the examples. Have Fun and Good Luck!!!

# APPENDIX J

## GLOSSARY

Although most of the words that appear in the glossary were not used in this manual, we have included them for your future reference:

<b>access time</b>	The time between the instant that an address is sent to a memory location and the instant data returns.
<b>accumulator</b>	One of several registers which temporarily store, or "accumulate" the results of various operations.
<b>address</b>	The digital number used by the CPU to specify a location in memory.
<b>ALU</b>	<i>Arithmetic Logic Unit.</i> The part of a CPU that adds, subtracts, shifts, ANDs, ORs and performs other computational and logical operations.
<b>alphanumeric</b>	A device or a system that includes both alphabetical and numerical characters.
<b>architecture</b>	The organizational structure of a computer system.
<b>array</b>	A list of values stored in a series of memory locations.
<b>ASCII</b>	<i>American Standard Code for Information Interchange.</i> Consists of 128 letters, numbers, punctuation marks, and special symbols. Each of which consists of a binary pattern that uses eight digits.

<b>assembler</b>	A software program which converts symbolic or mnemonic language into machine language.
<b>BASIC</b>	<i>Beginners All Purpose Symbolic Instruction Code.</i> A high level programming language designed for the beginning programmer.
<b>baud</b>	A unit by which signal speeds are measured. In microprocessing, the baud rate refers to the number of bits per second.
<b>binary</b>	A numbering system that has 2 as its base, and that uses only the digits 0 and 1. Used by digital computers to perform the tasks in data processing.
<b>bit</b>	<i>Binary digit.</i> Single element of a binary number with a value of either 0 or 1.
<b>boolean logic</b>	Mathematical logic processes based on a system of algebra developed in the early nineteenth century by an English mathematician George Boole.
<b>bootstrap</b>	A technique or device for loading the first instructions or words of a routine into memory. These instructions are used then to bring in the rest of the routine.
<b>branch</b>	A way of re-routing a program so that it branches to another set of instructions to perform another task.
<b>bug</b>	An error or defect in the hardware or software of the computer, causing a malfunction.
<b>bus</b>	A set of wires of conductors arranged in parallel, used to transmit data, signals or power between parts of a computer system.
<b>byte</b>	A group of eight bits, operated upon as a unit.
<b>clock</b>	A device or circuit that sends out timing pulses to synchronize the action of the processor.



---

<b>COBOL</b>	<i>Common Business Oriented Language.</i> A high level language used in many business applications.
<b>command</b>	An instruction to the computer that causes something to happen.
<b>compiler</b>	A program to convert a high level language into assembler or machine language (understood by the computer).
<b>controller</b>	An interface which allows the control of an I/O device by the central processing unit.
<b>CPU</b>	<i>Central Processing Unit.</i> The part of the computer that controls all execution of instructions and arithmetic operations.
<b>CRT</b>	Cathode Ray Tube. The display on which information is shown after program execution.
<b>cursor</b>	A symbol displayed on the screen indicating where the next character is to be displayed.
<b>data</b>	Essentially, information that is input to the computer.
<b>data bus</b>	An electrical path along which information passes.
<b>debug</b>	To delete any errors in program.
<b>DMA</b>	<i>Direct Memory Access.</i> The accessing of memory without intervention of the central processing unit.
<b>disk</b>	A plate resembling a record album with a magnetic surface used to store data or programs. Also known as "floppy disk".
<b>DOS</b>	<i>Disk Operating System.</i> The program used for implementation of a disk drive.
<b>dump</b>	The transfer of information from one piece of equipment to another.

---

---

<b>editor</b>	A program used for the creating and/or altering of text in another program.
<b>execute</b>	The final step in running a program. An execution will perform the operation specified in the program.
<b>expression</b>	A particular grouping of numbers, letters or variables that comprise a single quantity.
<b>fetch</b>	Refers to the reading out of an instruction/data from an addressed memory location.
<b>file</b>	A collection of organized records that are usually on one particular subject.
<b>firmware</b>	The programs that are built into the ROM of a microcomputer.
<b>floppy disk drive</b>	A peripheral device used to store data from and input data to the computer. It is an input/output device.
<b>flowchart</b>	A diagram used in the development of a computer program. A flowchart shows the sequence of steps to take.
<b>format</b>	The particular arrangement or layout of data on a data medium, such as a screen or a diskette.
<b>FORTRAN</b>	<i>FORmula TRANslation.</i> A high level language using algebraic notation.
<b>gate</b>	An electrical signal circuit, with two (or more) inputs and one output, that behaves as a switch to create a particular state (either a binary one or zero).
<b>hardware</b>	The physical components that make up a particular computer system include all the peripheral devices.

---

<b>hexadecimal</b>	A numbering system used in computers. Use the digits 0-9 and the letters A-F.
<b>high level language</b>	A programming language that is easier to understand and more convenient for the programmer. BASIC, FORTRAN, PASCAL and PL-1 are some examples of high level languages.
<b>I/O devices</b>	<i>Input/output devices.</i> These would include the disk drive, data cassette, keyboard, printer, TV/ monitor, etc.
<b>instruction</b>	A command telling the computer to perform a specific task.
<b>instruction set</b>	This is the set of instructions built into the firmware of the microcomputer. This instruction set is used by the programmer.
<b>interface</b>	This is the way in which peripheral devices are linked to the mainframe console of the microcomputer.
<b>interpreter</b>	A program that converts one instruction at a time into machine language understood by the computer.
<b>keyboard</b>	This is the console of the computer through which data is input to the CPU.
<b>kilobyte or K</b>	Equivalent to 1024 bytes.
<b>library</b>	A collection of files or records that a person can access easily.
<b>load</b>	To enter a program into a computer's memory.
<b>location</b>	The portion in memory in which a data word or an instruction is stored.
<b>logic</b>	A particular way of reasoning using thought processes.

<b>loop</b>	A series of instructions that allow the programmer to repeat a particular sequence of events in a program.
<b>LSI</b>	<i>Large Scale Integration.</i> An integrated circuit that has thousands of components packed in one chip.
<b>machine language</b>	This is the language of the computer that is the lowest level the computer itself can accept as a program. This language is used with either binary, octal or hexadecimal numbering systems.
<b>memory</b>	The part of the computer that stores data and instructions. Each instruction uses a particular address which tells the CPU where to fetch from.
<b>menu</b>	This is a list much like the one in your local restaurant, except this type of menu lists what the computer is ready to do for you.
<b>microprocessor</b>	This is also known as the Central Processing Unit. It is comprised of one or more LSI circuits that control all the processes of the computer.
<b>mnemonics</b>	These are abbreviated terms for instructions used so that the programmer can easily remember them.
<b>modem</b>	<i>MODulator DEModulator.</i> This is a device used to convert data to signals that can be transmitted over telephone lines and then back to data again at the receiving end.
<b>octal</b>	A numbering system used in computers employing the digits 0-7.
<b>on-line</b>	Whenever a peripheral device is interacting with its host computer, it is said to be "on line". For example, a printer is said to be "on-line" when it is doing a computer printout.

---

**operating system** The "OS" of a computer system is the program that directs such things as input/output, memory allocation, interrupt processing. It controls the overall operation of the computer.

**output** When data is said to be "output" it usually refers to the printout from a printer. Output may also be programs or data saved on a floppy diskette.

**page** A grouping of memory locations by higher order address bits. In an 8-bit microprocessor, a page usually has 256 bytes.

**peripheral** Any device external from the host computer but used in conjunction with the computer to perform operations such as printouts, data storage and retrieval, CRT displays, telecommunications, graphics, etc.

**pixel** The measurement of one dot on the display screen. The number and arrangement of pixels is what determines screen resolution.

**pointer** This is the register in the CPU that contains the memory address.

**program** The sequence of instructions that tell the computer what task to perform.

**program counter** This is the register in the CPU that specifies the address of the next instruction to be executed.

**prompt** This is the symbol on the screen which shows the user that the computer is ready to accept input from the keyboard.

**RAM** *Random Access Memory.* This is the portion of memory that can be written into and read from. When the computer's power is turned off, anything written will be lost.

---

**register** A circuit used to store or manipulate bits or bytes of data in the CPU.

**ROM** *Read Only Memory.* This is the part of memory that may only be read from. It is said to be "non-volatile", meaning that when power is turned off the ROM retains its information.

**routine** A specific program designed to do a particular function.

**software** Software pertains to the programs that are input to the computer by the user.

**source program** A program written in a language that is easily understood.

**sprite** This is a shape designed by the programmer when using a computer's graphic capabilities.

**subroutine** A routine in a program may be used again to perform a specific function.

**syntax** The rules governing a command line. If the command line is not in proper syntax, a "syntax error" message will occur.

**terminal** An input/output device usually consisting of a keyboard, CRT and printer used as a work station.

**time sharing** The process of (more than one user) sharing the use of a CPU via time robin.

**truth table** A truth table shows the different values that an AND, OR, NAND, NOR or other logic gate will have, according to two select inputs.

**utility program** This is a program that helps the user perform various specific utility functions, such as a debug program to find mistakes in programs.

---

---

**variable**

A variable is any number or set of numbers, assigned a particular value, that is to be operated upon in a program.

**volatile storage**

The type of storage which, when power is removed, the program or data in memory is lost. RAM is said to be volatile.

**windows**

Several smaller screens displayed on one CRT screen at the same time.

# INDEX

## A

Amplitude Control 173  
Arithmetic Operation 107  
Array 119  
AUTO 27, 113

## B

Blank Move 143  
Box 138  
Box Fill 139

## C

Channel 154, 187  
CLEAR 112  
CIRCLE 132  
CLOAD" 27  
CLS 31, 179  
COLOR 27, 62, 65, 179  
CONT 27  
Containers 70, 71, 72  
CTRL-STOP 30

## D

DATA 109  
DEL 32  
DIM 118  
DRAW 140

## E

END 77  
ENTER 31  
Envelope Period Control 175  
ESC 32

## F

FOR . . . . . NEXT 74

## G

GOSUB . . . RETURN 104  
GOTO 27

## I

IF . . . . . THEN 91  
Input 108  
INPUT 69, 125  
Insert 45  
INT 102

## L

LEFTS 126  
LEN 127  
Length 152, 185  
LET 73  
LINE 137  
LIST 27, 58  
LIST 27  
LOCATE 142

## M

MIDS 126  
Mixer Control 174

## O

Octave 151, 184  
Output 108

## P

PAINT 133  
PLAY 151, 184  
PRESET 81  
PRINT 97  
PSET 61

## R

READ 109  
Register 172  
REM 86  
Rest 152, 186  
RESTORE 113  
RIGHTS 126  
RND 102  
RUN 27

## S

SCALE 141  
SCREEN 60  
Shape 153, 176, 186  
SPRITES 143  
STEP 84  
STOP 30  
String 125

## T

TAB 98  
Tempo 152, 185  
TIME 102  
Tone 153, 186  
Tone Generator Control 172

## V

Variables 70  
Volume 154, 187



# SVI-728 MSX COMPUTER QUICK REFERENCE CARD

## FORMAT NOTATION

- The following rules apply to the format of a statement or command:
1. Items in capital must be input as shown
  2. Items in lower case letters enclosed in bracket < > are to be supplied by the user.
  3. Items in square brackets [ ] are optional
  4. All punctuation except angle brackets and square brackets (i.e., commas, parentheses, semicolons, hyphens, equal signs) must be included where shown.
  5. Items followed by an ellipse ( ) may be repeated any number of times (up to the length of line).
  6. "string" means a string expression
  7. "exp" means a numeric expression, either constant or variable
  8. "line" and "line number" both mean line number
  9. "n" means an integer
  10. "x, y" denotes x, y co-ordinates of the screen

## VARIABLE TYPE DECLARATION CHARACTER

Variable	Range	No. of Byte
\$ String	0 to 255 characters	3+No of characters
% Integer	-32768 to 32767	2
! Single precision	7 to 1 digit floating integer	4
= Double precision	16 to 8 digit floating point	8

## Others:

BB	Binary figure
BH	Hexadecimal figure
BO	Octal figure

## CHARACTER SET

Apart from the alphabet (A to Z, a to z) and numeric (0 to 9) characters, other special characters are tabulated:

Character	Action
=	Blank
=	Equal sign or assignment symbol
+	Plus sign
-	Minus sign
*	Asterisk or multiplication symbol
/	Slash or division symbol
^	Up arrow or exponentiation symbol
(	Left parenthesis
)	Right parenthesis
%	Percent
#	Number sign or double precision declaration character
\$	Dollar or string variable sign
!	Exclamation point or single precision declaration
[	Left bracket
]	Right bracket
,	Comma
.	Period or decimal point
'	Single quotation mark (apostrophe) or same as REM
;	Semicolon
:	Colon or used to separate statements typed on the same line
&	Amperсанд
>	Question mark or command PRINT
<	Less than
>	Greater than
@	At sign
_	Underscore
←	Delete last character typed
ESC	Escape
→	Move print position to next tab stop (TAB stops are set every eight columns)
ENTER	Terminate input of a line
HM	Move cursor to home position
CLS	Clear screen and move cursor to home position
DEL	Delete character at cursor
INS	Toggle insert/overwrite mode
STOP	Toggle pause/resume program execution

## JOYSTICK/CURSOR CONTROL PAD

There are eight possible movements for both joystick and cursor keys



For directions 2, 4, 6 and 8, a combination of two cursor keys should be pressed.

## PROGRAMMABLE FUNCTION KEY

Key Number	Initial Definition
F1	color
F2	auto [10, 10]
F3	goto
F4	list
F5	run [ENTER]
F6	color 15, 4, 7 [ENTER]
F7	load
F8	cont [ENTER]
F9	list [ENTER] [CLS] run [ENTER]

## CONTROL CHARACTER

The ASCII control key is entered by pressing the key while holding down the [CTRL] Key.

Hex. Code	Control Key	Special Key	Function
01 *	A		Ignored
02 *	B		Move cursor to start of previous word
03 *	C		Break when BASIC is waiting for input
04 *	D		Ignored
05 *	E		Truncate line (clear text to end of logical line)
06 *	F		Move cursor to start of next word
07 *	G		Beep
08 *	H	←	Delete characters passed over
09 *	I	→	Move to next TAB stop
0A *	J		Line feed
0B *	K	HM	Move cursor to home position
0C *	L	CLS	Clear screen
0D *	M	ENTER	Enter current logical line
0E *	N		Append to end of line
0F *	O		Ignored
10 *	P		Ignored
11 *	Q		Ignored
12 *	R	INS	Toggle insert/overwrite mode
13 *	S		Ignored
14 *	T		Ignored
15 *	U		Clear logical line
16 *	V		Ignored
17 *	W		Ignored
18 *	X	SELECT	Only function for word processor
19 *	Y		Ignored
1A *	Z		Ignored
1B *	[	ESC	Ignored
1C *	]		Cursor right
1D *	←		Cursor left
1E *	↑		Cursor up
1F *	↓		Cursor down
7F	DEL	DEL	Delete character at cursor

Note: Those keys marked with asterisk cancel insert mode when editor is in insert mode.

## BASIC COMMAND

**AUTO** [ < line number > ] [ < increment > ]  
Generate line numbers automatically.

**BEEP**  
Make a beep sound.

**BLPAD** " [ < device descriptor > ] [ < filename > ] " [ , R ]  
[ < load address > ]

Load a machine language program into memory from the specified device.

**BSAVE** " [ < device descriptor > ] [ < filename > " , < start address > , < end address > ] [ < execution address > ]"  
Save a memory image at the specified memory location to the device.

**CLEAR** [ < string space > ] [ < highest location > ]  
Set all numeric variables to zero, all string variables to null and close all open files and optionally, set the end of memory

**CLOAD** [ " < filename > " ]  
Load a BASIC program file from the cassette

**CLOAD?** [ " < filename > " ]  
Verify a BASIC program on cassette with one in memory

**COLOR** [ < foreground > ] [ < background > ] [ < border > ]  
Set colors for the screen display.

**CONT**  
Continue program execution after break or stop.

**CSAVE** " < filename > "  
Save a BASIC program currently resided in memory to the cassette tape.

**DELETE** [ < line number > ] [ - < line number > ]  
Delete program lines.

**KEY** < function key # > , " < string > "  
Set a string to a function key.

**KEY LIST**  
List the contents of all the programmable function keys.

**KEY ON**  
Turn on function key display on the 24th line of text screen.

**LIST** [ < line number > ] [ - < line number > ]  
List all or part of the program on the screen.

**LLIST** [ < line number > ] [ - < line number > ]  
List all or part of the program on the printer.

**LOAD** " [ < device descriptor > ] [ < filename > "  
Load a BASIC program (an ASCII file) from the device.

**MAXFILES** = n  
Specify the maximum number of files opened at a time.

**MERGE** " [ < device descriptor > ] [ < filename > "  
Merge the lines from an ASCII program into the program currently in memory.

**MOTOR ON/OFF**  
Turn cassette motor on or off.

**NEW**  
Delete entire program from working memory and reset all variables.

**RENUM** [ < new number > ] [ < old number > ]  
[ < increment > ]  
Renummer program lines

**RUN** [ < line number > ]  
Execute a program.

**SAVE** " < device descriptor > < filename > "  
Save the program in memory with name filename as an ASCII file.

**SOUND ON/OFF**  
Turn sound of the cassette audio on or off.

**TRON**  
Turn on trace for program execution

**TROFF**  
Turn trace off.

**WIDTH** n  
Set the display width on screen during text mode. n may be 1 to 40

## BASIC STATEMENT

**CLOSE** [ # ] [ < filename > ] [ < filename > ]  
Close the channel and release the buffer associated with it.

**DATA** < list of constants >  
Store the numeric and/or string constants that are accessed by the READ statements(s).

**DEF FN** < name > [ < parameter list > ] = < function definition >  
Define and name an arithmetic or string function

**DEFUSR** n = < address >  
Define the entry address for the nth machine language routine.

**DEFINT** < ranges of letters >

**DEFSNG** < ranges of letters >

**DEFSTR** < ranges of letters >  
Declare variable type as integer, single precision, double precision or string.

**DIM** < list of subscripted variables >  
Specify the maximum values for array variable subscripts and allocate storage accordingly.

**DRAW** [ < string > ]  
Draw a figure according to the Graphic Macro Language.

**END**  
Terminate program execution, close all files and return to command level

**ERASE** [ < list of array variables > ]  
Eliminate arrays from a program.

**ERROR** n  
Generate error message of code n.

**FOR** < variable > = x TO y [ STEP z ]

**NEXT** [ < variable > ]  
Allow a series of instructions to be performed in a loop a given number of times

**GOSUB** < line number >  
**RETURN** [ < line number > ]  
Branch to a subroutine and then return from it. If < line number > after RETURN is not specified, return routine to the statement following the last GOSUB executed

**GOTO** < line number >  
Branch out of the normal program sequence to the specified line number.

**IF** < exp > THEN < statement/line > [ ELSE < statement/line > ]  
Make a decision regarding program flow based on the result returned by an expression.

**LET** < variable > = < exp >  
Assign value of an expression to a variable. LET may be omitted.

**INPUT** [ " < prompt string > " ; ] < list of variables >  
Allow input from keyboard during program execution.

**INPUT** # < filename > . < variable list >  
Read data items from the specified channel and assign them to program variables.

**INPUT** \$ ( n , [ # ] < filename > )  
Return a string of n characters, read from the file.

**LINE INPUT** [ " < prompt string > " ; ] < string variable >  
Input an entire line (up to 254 characters) to a string variable.

**LINE INPUT** # < filename > . < string variable >  
Read an entire line (up to 254 characters) from a sequential file to a string variable.

**PRINT** [ < list of exp > ]  
Print data at the printer.

**PRINT USING** " < string > " ; < list of exp >  
Print data at the printer using a specified format.

**MID** \$ ( < string > , # [ , m ] ) = < string >  
Reserve a portion of the first string exp with the second string exp starting in the first string's nth character with n number of characters.

**OPEN** " < device descriptor > < filename > " FOR < mode > ]  
**AS** [ # ] < filename >  
Allocate a buffer for I/O and set the mode that will be used with the buffer.

**OUT** [ < port > , < byte > ]  
Send a byte to a machine output port.

**PLAY** [ < string for voice 1 > ] [ < string for voice 2 > ] [ < string for voice 3 > ]  
Play music according to Music Macro Language.

**POKE** < memory address > , < byte >  
Write a byte into a memory location

**PRINT** [ < exp > ]  
Output data to the terminal

**PRINT** # < filename > . < exp >  
Write data to the specified channel.

**PRINT USING** " < string > " ; < list of exp >  
Print numeric or string expression using a specified format

**PRINT** # < filename > . USING " < string > " ; < list of exp >  
Write data to the specified channel using a specified format.

**READ** < list of variables >  
Read values from a DATA statement and assign them to variables.

**REM** < remark >  
Allow explanatory remark to be inserted in a program.

**RESTORE** [ < line number > ]  
Allow DATA statements to be reread from a specified line.

**RESUME** [ 0 ]  
Resume execution at the statement causing an error.

**RESUME** < line number >  
Resume execution at the specified line number.

**RESUME NEXT**  
Resume execution at the statement immediately following the one causing an error.

**SOUND** < register of PSG > , < value >  
Put a value into a register to control the Programmable Sound Generator

**STOP**  
Terminate program execution and return to command level. The "Break in < line number >" message is printed.

**SWAP** < variable > , < variable >  
Exchange the value of two variables.

**WAIT** < port > , < mask > [ < select > ]  
Suspend program execution read input at port until [ < input bit > XOR < select > AND < mask > ] returns a non-zero value.

## INTERRUPT CONTROL COMMAND AND STATEMENT

**INTERVAL ON/OFF/STOP**  
To enable, disable, or terminate the BASIC timer interrupt trapping.

**KEY** n ON/OFF/STOP  
To enable, disable, or terminate interrupts caused by a function key.

**ON ERROR GOSUB** < linenumber >  
Define the line number of the subroutine to execute when an error has been detected.

**ON ERROR GOTO** < linenumber >  
Enable error trapping and specify the first line of the error handling subroutine.

**ON** < exp > GOTO < list of linenumbers >  
**ON** < exp > GOSUB < list of linenumbers >  
Branch to one of several specified line numbers, depending on the value returned when an expression is evaluated.

**ON INTERVAL** = < exp > GOSUB < list of linenumbers >  
Set the line number to execute at every other machine interrupt cycle (60 per second) specified by < exp >

**ON KEY** (n) GOSUB < list of linenumbers >  
Specify the line number corresponding to the line offset n in the statement to execute whenever a function key number n has been depressed.

**ON STRIG GOSUB** < linenumber >  
Define the starting line of the subroutine employed when any of the joystick button is depressed. (0 for space bar, 1 for Joystick 1 or 2 for Joystick 2)

**ON SPRITE GOSUB < linenumber >**  
Define jump address when sprites collision occurs.

**ON STOP GOSUB < linenumber >**  
Define jump address when the CTRL + STOP keys are pressed.

**STOP ON/OFF/STOP**  
To enable, disable or terminate CTRL + STOP trapping

**STRIG ON/OFF/STOP**  
To enable, disable, or terminate joystick button or space bar trapping

**SPRITE ON/OFF/STOP**  
To enable, disable, or terminate the interrupt generated when two or more sprites collide

**GRAPHIC COMMAND AND STATEMENT**  
**CLS**  
Clear graphic screen

**CIRCLE (x, y), < radius > [, < color > [, < start > , < end > ] [, < aspect ratio > ]**  
Draw an ellipse with a center, radius, foreground color, starting and ending angles, height to width ratio as specified

**COLOR [ < foreground > ], [ < background > ], [ < fillmax > ]**  
Set colors for the screen

**DRAW < string >**  
Draw figure on the screen according to the Graphic Macro Language

**GET [(x1, y1) - (x2, y2)] [, < color > ] [ B | F ]**  
Read points from the graphic screen or from defined area of the graphic screen. Array must be dimensioned large enough to hold the data

**LINE [(x1, y1) - (x2, y2)] [, < color > ] [ B | F ]**  
Draw straight line connecting the two coordinate pairs specified or if B | F is present draw or fill rectangle

**LOCATE: x, y**  
Position the graphic cursor to the starting coordinate pointed to by x, y, can used with LINE, POINT, PRINT

**PAINT (x, y) [, < color > [, < low res mode border attribute > ]]**  
Fill in an arbitrary graphic figure of the specified fill color. Paint must not have border for high res, while border must be specified in low res

**POINT (x, y)**  
Read the color of a pixel in the graphic mode

**PSET (x, y) [, < color > ]**  
Draw a dot at the assigned position on the screen using the foreground color or < color > if specified

**PRESET (x, y) [, < color > ]**  
Same as PSET except draw in background color if < color > not specified

**PUT (x, y) [, < arrayname > ], < operation >**  
Output graphic patterns in the array to assigned position on the screen, operation can be:  
PSET: output pattern as is  
PRESET: reverse pattern foreground/background color  
AND: combine graphic pattern color with screen pattern  
OR: graphic pattern overlapping the screen data  
XOR: perform XOR with screen data; if the matching pixel from the array and the screen are the same then that pixel will be displayed in background color else it will be displayed in the foreground color

**PUT SPRITE < sprite plane > [, (x, y) [, < color > ] [, < pattern.no. > ]**  
Set up sprite attribute, when a field is omitted, the current value is used, see SPRITES.

**SCREEN [ < exp 1 > ], < exp 2 >**  
Use < exp 1 > to select graphic mode: 1 for high res., 2 for low res., < exp 2 > selects the size of sprite (if used)

**SPRITES: (n) := < string >**  
Define a pattern as sprite, the number of string character depends on the sprite size, n must be less than 256 when size of sprite is 0 or 1 (8 bytes), less than 64 when size of sprite is 2 or 3 (32 bytes)

**SPRITES: (n)**  
Return either an 8 byte character string or 32 byte character string of the same number n depending on the size of sprite selected

**VPEEK ( < vram address > )**  
Return byte value from the specified location in video ram

**VWRITE: < vram address > ,, < byte >**  
Put a byte into video ram address specified.

**GRAPHIC: MACRO LANGUAGE (GML)**

The followings are used in conjunction with DRAW command "n" is a number

U n Move up  
D n Move down  
L n Move left

R n Move right  
E n Move diagonally up and right  
G n Move diagonally down and right  
H n Move diagonally down and left  
S n Set scaling factor  
B n Move without plotting  
M x, y Move absolute or relative distance. If x has a plus sign (+) or a minus sign (-) in front of it, it is relative. Otherwise it is absolute. Move and return to original position  
Set the angle n

n	0	1	2	3
deg	0	90	180	270

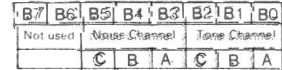
C n Set color number  
X <string> Execute string, must be terminated by a semicolon

**SOUND COMMAND AND STATEMENT**

SOUND statement is used to directly control the various capabilities of the Programmable Sound Generator (PSG); it takes the form of  
SOUND <register of PSG > <value >

The functions of the 13 PSG registers are given below

PSG Register	Function
0, 1	Tone of channel A
2, 3	Tone of channel B
4, 5	Tone of channel C
6	Noise generator
7	Mixer



Bit logical value 1 to disable and 0 to enable

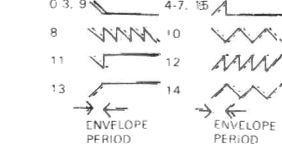
R Bit 0 to 3: amplitude control of channel A  
Bit 4 fixed amplitude control

9 Bit 0 to 3: amplitude control of channel B  
Bit 4 fixed amplitude control

10 Bit 0 to 3: amplitude control of channel C  
Bit 4 fixed amplitude control

11, 12 Envelope period control range

13 Envelope cycle/shape control



**MUSIC: MACRO LANGUAGE:**

The PLAY command is used in conjunction with the following character string to play a melody

**String:**  
A to G [ # or + | - ]

Function:  
Play the indicated note in the current octave. A number sign (#) or plus sign (+) afterwards indicates a sharp, a minus sign (-) indicates a flat

l n Set the length of the note n may range from 1 to 64.  
M n Modulation sets period of envelope n may range from 1 to 65535  
N n Play note n n may range from 0 to 96 in 7 octaves. 7 n = 0 means rest  
O n Octave. Set the octave of the notes to be played. Default is 4  
Pause or rest n may range 1 to 64  
S n Set shape of noise output n can be 0 to 15  
T n Tempo. Set the number of quarter notes in a minute n ranges from 32 to 255. Default is 120  
V n Volume. Set the volume of output n may range from 0 to 15. The default is 8  
Dot or period after each note causes it to be played 3/2 times the period determined by l times 1  
X Execute specified string

**PRINT USING FORMAT FIELD SPECIFIER**

String or numeric expression can be printed using a specified format.

Specifier	Possible Digit	Field Character	Definition
<b>NUMERIC</b>			
#	1	1	Numeric field
.	0	1	Decimal point

+ 0 1 Print leading or trailing sign. Positive numbers will have "+", negative numbers will have "-".  
- 0 1 Trailing sign. Print "-" if negative, otherwise blank.  
\*\* 2 2 Leading asterisk.  
\$\$ 1 2 Floating dollar sign. \$ is placed in front of the leading digit.  
\*\*\$ 2 3 Asterisk and floating dollar sign.  
1 1 Use comma every three digits in front of decimal point only.  
^^^ 0 4 Exponential format. Number is aligned so leading digit is non-zero.  
\_ 0 1 Next character literal

STRING	Action
	Single character
/ /	< 2 + number of spaces > character field
h	Variable length field

**BASIC FUNCTION**

Function: Action

ASC ( < string > ) Return the ASCII value of the first character of string.

BIN\$ ( n ) Return a string which represents the binary value of n

CHR\$ ( i ) Return a character having the ASCII code i.

FRE ( < exp > ) Returns remaining memory free space.

HEX\$ ( < exp > ) Convert a number to a hexadecimal string.

INKEY\$ Return a one character string input from keyboard or null string if no input.

INPUT\$ ( length [, #] m ) Return a string having specified length read from the console or a file.

LEFT\$ ( < string > < length > ) Return a length of leftmost characters of the string expression

LEN ( < string > ) Return the number of characters in string.

MID\$ ( < string > < start > [, < length > ] ) Return characters from the middle of the string starting at the position specified to the end of the string or for the specified length.

OCT\$ ( < exp > ) Convert a number to an octal string.

RIGHT\$ ( < string > < length > ) Return rightmost characters of the string expression

SPACES ( i ) Return a string of i spaces.

STR\$ ( < exp > ) Convert a numeric expression to a string.

STRING\$ ( < length > < string > ) Return a string with specified length containing first character of string.

STRINGS ( < length > ) Return string with specified length containing first character with ASCII code i.

VAL ( < string > ) Convert the string representation of a number to its numeric value.

CVI ( < string > ) Convert a 2-character string to an integer.

CVS ( < string > ) Convert a 4-character string to a single precision number.

CVD ( < string > ) Convert an 8-character string to a double precision number.

MKIS ( < value > ) Convert an integer to a 2-character string.

MKSS ( < value > ) Convert a single precision value to a 4-character string.

MKDS ( < value > ) Convert a double precision value to an 8-character string.

BASE ( n ) Current base address for each table.

CSRLIN Return the vertical coordinate of the cursor

EOF ( < filenameumber > ) Return (-1) if the end of a sequential file has been reached. Otherwise, return (0)

ERL Error line number.

ERR Error code number.

PAD ( n ) Return various status of touch pad.

PEEK ( i ) Return a byte from memory location i.

POS ( n ) Return the current horizontal position of cursor. n is a dummy argument

SPC ( i ) Print i blanks on the screen

STICK ( n ) Return the direction of a joystick.

STRIG ( n ) Return the status of a trigger button of a joystick

TAB ( i ) Space to position i on the console

TIME An unsigned integer generated from the system internal timer

USR [ < digit > ] ( argument ) Call the user's machine language subroutine with the specified argument.

VARPTR ( < variable > ) Return the address of the first byte of data identified with < variable >

VARPTR ( # < filenameumber > ) Return the address of the first byte of data identified with < filenameumber >

VDP ( n ) For n = 0 to 7, this specifies the current value of VDP's write only register. For n = 8 it specifies the status register of VDP

**OPERATOR**

Symbol: Function

= Assignment or equality sign  
- Negation or subtraction  
+ Addition or string concatenation  
\* Multiplication or asterisk  
/ Division (floating point result)  
^ Exponentiation symbol  
/ Integer division  
MOD Integer modulus  
NOT One's complement  
AND Bitwise AND  
OR Bitwise OR  
XOR Bitwise exclusive OR  
EQV Bitwise equivalence  
IMP Bitwise implication

< > < > Relational tests (result is either true (-1) or false (0))  
> = < < > > <

The precedence of operators is

(1) Expressions in parentheses	(8) Relational operators
(2) Exponentiation	(9) NOT
(3) Negation	(10) AND
(4) Multiplication or Division	(11) OR
(5) Integer Division	(12) XOR
(6) MOD	(13) IMP
(7) Addition or Subtraction	(14) EQV

**ARITHMETIC FUNCTION**

Function: Action

ABS ( < exp > ) Absolute value of expression.

ATN ( < exp > ) Arctangent of the expression.

DBL ( < exp > ) Convert the expression to a double precision number.

FIX ( < exp > ) Convert the expression to an integer

COS ( < exp > ) Cosine of the expression (in radians).

CSNG ( < exp > ) Convert the expression to a single precision number

EXP ( < exp > ) Raise the constant e to the power of expression.

FIX ( < exp > ) Return truncated integer of expression.

FRE ( < exp > ) Give memory free space not used by BASIC.

INT ( < exp > ) Evaluate the expression for the largest integer calculated.

LOG ( < exp > ) Give the natural logarithm of the expression.

RND ( [ < exp > ] ) Generate a random number  
[ < exp > ] < 0 Seed new sequence  
[ < exp > ] = 0 Return previous random number  
[ < exp > ] > 0 or omitted Return new random number

SGN ( < exp > ) 1 if expression > 0  
0 if expression = 0  
-1 if expression < 0

SIN ( < exp > ) Sine of the expression (in radians)

SQR ( < exp > ) Square root of expression

TAN ( < exp > ) Tangent of the expression (in radians)

Angle is expressed or returned in radians.

# SVI-728 MSX COMPUTER

## QUICK REFERENCE CARD

### FORMAT NOTATION

The following rules apply to the format of a statement or command:

- Items in capital must be input as shown
- Items in lower case letters enclosed in bracket < > are to be supplied by the user
- Items in square brackets [ ] are optional.
- All punctuation except angle brackets and square brackets (i.e., commas, parentheses, semicolons, hyphens, equal signs) must be included where shown.
- Items followed by an ellipse ( . . . ) may be repeated any number of times (up to the length of line).
- "string" means a string expression.
- "exp" means a numeric expression, either constant or variable
- "line" and "line number" both means line number.
- "n" means an integer.
- "x, y" denotes x, y co-ordinates of the screen

### VARIABLE TYPE DECLARATION CHARACTER

Variable	Range	No. of Byte
\$ String	0 to 255 characters	3+No.ofcharacters
% Integer	-32768 to 32767	2
! Single precision	7 to 1 digit floating integer	4
# Double precision	16 to 8 digit floating point	8

Others:

GB	Binary figure
GH	Hexadecimal figure
GO	Octal figure

### CHARACTER SET

Apart from the alphabet (A to Z, a to z) and numeric (0 to 9) characters, other special characters are tabulated:

Character	Action
=	Blank
=	Equal sign or assignment symbol
+	Plus sign
-	Minus sign
*	Asterisk or multiplication symbol
/	Slash or division symbol
^	Up arrow or exponentiation symbol
(	Left parenthesis
)	Right parenthesis
%	Percent
#	Number sign or double precision declaration character
\$	Dollar or string variable sign
!	Exclamation point or single precision declaration
[	Left bracket
]	Right bracket
,	Comma
.	Period or decimal point
'	Single quotation mark (apostrophe) or same as REM
:	Semicolon
:	Colon or used to separate statements typed on the same line
&	Ampersand
?	Question mark or command PRINT
<	Less than
>	Greater than
@	At sign
_	Underscore
␣	Delete last character typed
ESC	Escape
→	Move print position to next tab stop (TAB stops are set every eight columns)
ENTER	Terminate input of a line
HM	Move cursor to home position
CLS	Clear screen and move cursor to home position
DEL	Delete character at cursor
INS	Toggle insert/overwrite mode
STOP	Toggle pause/resume program execution

### JOYSTICK/CURSOR CONTROL PAD

There are eight possible movements for both joystick and cursor keys.



For directions 2, 4, 6 and 8, a combination of two cursor keys should be pressed.

### PROGRAMMABLE FUNCTION KEY

Key Number	Initial Definition
F1	color
F2	auto [10, 10]
F3	goto
F4	list
F5	run [ENTER]
F6	color 15, 4, 7 [ENTER]
F7	cloud"
F8	cont [ENTER]
F9	list [ENTER] [CLS] run [ENTER]

### CONTROL CHARACTER

The ASCII control key is entered by pressing the key while holding down the [CTRL] Key.

Hex. Code	Control Key	Special Key	Function
01 *	A		Ignored
02 *	B		Move cursor to start of previous word
03 *	C		Break when BASIC is waiting for input
04 *	D		Ignored
05 *	E		Truncate line (clear text to end of logical line)
06 *	F		Move cursor to start of next word
07 *	G		BEEP
08 *	H		Delete characters passed over
09 *	I		Move to next TAB stop
0A *	J		Line feed
0B *	K	HM	Move cursor to home position
0C *	L	CLS	Clear screen
0D *	M	ENTER	Enter current logical line
0E *	N		Append to end of line
0F *	O		Ignored
10 *	P		Ignored
11 *	Q		Ignored
12 *	R	INS	Toggle insert/overwrite mode
13 *	S		Ignored
14 *	T		Ignored
15 *	U		Clear logical line
16 *	V		Ignored
17 *	W		Ignored
18 *	X	SELECT	Only function for word processor
19 *	Y		Ignored
1A *	Z		Ignored
1B *		ESC	Ignored
1C *	^		Cursor right
1D *	_		Cursor left
1E *	~		Cursor up
1F *	—		Cursor down
7F	DEL	DEL	Delete character at cursor

Note: Those keys marked with asterisk cancel insert mode when editor is in insert mode.

### BASIC COMMAND

**AUTO** [ < line number > ] [ , < increment > ]  
Generate line numbers automatically.

**BEEP**  
Make a beep sound.

**BLOAD** " [ < device descriptor > ] [ < filename > ] " [ , R ]  
[ , < load address > ]  
Load a machine language program into memory from the specified device.

**BSAVE** " [ < device descriptor > ] < filename > " . < start address > , < end address > [ , < execution address > ]  
Save a memory image at the specified memory location to the device.

**CLEAR** [ < string space > [ , < highest location > ] ]  
Set all numeric variables to zero, all string variables to null and close all open files and optionally, set the end of memory.

**CLOAD** [ " < filename > " ]  
Load a BASIC program file from the cassette.

**CLOAD?** [ " < filename > " ]  
Verify a BASIC program on cassette with one in memory

**COLOR** [ < foreground > ] [ , < background > ] [ , < border > ]  
Set colors for the screen display.

**CONT**  
Continue program execution after break or stop.

**CSAVE** " < filename > "  
Save a BASIC program currently resided in memory to the cassette tape.

**DELETE** [ < line number > ] [ - < line number > ]  
Delete program lines.

**KEY** < function key # > , " < string > "  
Set a string to a function key.

**KEY LIST**  
List the contents of all the programmable function keys.

**KEY ON**  
Turn on function key display on the 24th line of text screen.

**LIST** [ < line number > ] [ , - < line number > ]  
List all or part of the program on the screen.

**LLIST** [ < line number > ] [ , - < line number > ]  
List all or part of the program on the printer.

**LOAD** " [ < device descriptor > ] < filename > "  
Load a BASIC program (an ASCII file) from the device.

**MAXFILES** = n  
Specify the maximum number of files opened at a time.

**MERGE** " [ < device descriptor > ] < filename > "  
Merge the lines from an ASCII program into the program currently in memory.

**MOTOR ON/OFF**  
Turn cassette motor on or off.

**NEW**  
Delete entire program from working memory and reset all variables.

**RENUM** [ < new number > ] [ , < old number > ]  
[ , < increment > ]  
Renumber program lines.

**RUN** [ < line number > ]  
Execute a program.

**SAVE** " < device descriptor > < filename > "  
Save the program in memory with name filename as an ASCII file.

**SOUND ON/OFF**  
Turn sound of the cassette audio on or off.

**TRON**  
Turn on trace for program execution.

**TROFF**  
Turn trace off.

**WIDTH** n  
Set the display width on screen during text mode. n may be 1-40.

### BASIC STATEMENT

**CLOSE** [ # ] < filename > [ , < filename > . . . ]  
Close the channel and release the buffer associated with it.

**DATA** < list of constants >  
Store the numeric and/or string constants that are accessed by the READ statement(s).

**DEF FN** < name > [ < parameter list > ] = < function definition >  
Define and name an arithmetic or string function.

**DEFUSR** n = < address >  
Define the entry address for the nth machine language routine.

**DEFINT** < ranges of letters >  
**DEFSNG** < ranges of letters >  
**DEFSTR** < ranges of letters >  
Declare variable type as integer, single precision, double precision or string.

**DIM** < list of subscripted variables >  
Specify the maximum values for array variable subscripts and allocate storage accordingly.

**DRAW** < string >  
Draw a figure according to the Graphic Macro Language.

**END**  
Terminate program execution, close all files and return to command level.

**ERASE** < list of array variables >  
Eliminate arrays from a program.

**ERROR** n  
Generate error message of code n.

**FOR** < variable > = x TO y [ STEP z ]  
**NEXT** [ < variable > ]  
Allow a series of instructions to be performed in a loop a given number of times.

**GOSUB** < line number >  
**RETURN** [ < line number > ]  
Branch to a subroutine and then return from it. If < line number > after RETURN is not specified, return routine to the statement following the last GOSUB executed.

**GOTO** < line number >  
Branch out of the normal program sequence to the specified line number.

**IF** < exp > THEN < statement/line > [ ELSE < statement/line > ]  
Make a decision regarding program flow based on the result returned by an expression.

**LET** < variable > = < exp >  
Assign value of an expression to a variable. LET may be omitted.

**INPUT** [ " < prompt string > " ; ] < list of variables >  
Allow input from keyboard during program execution.

**INPUT** # < filename > , < variable list >  
Read data items from the specified channel and assign them to program variables.

**INPUT** \$ ( n . [ # ] < filename > )  
Return a string of n characters, read from the file.

**LINE INPUT** [ " < prompt string > " ; ] < string variable >  
Input an entire line (up to 254 characters) to a string variable.

**LINE INPUT** # < filename > , < string variable >  
Read an entire line (up to 254 characters) from a sequential file to a string variable.

**LIST** [ < list of exp > ]  
data at the printer.

**LPRI** " < string > " ; < list of exp >  
data at the printer using a specified format

**MIDS** ( < string > , n [ , m ] ) = < string >  
Replace a portion of the first string exp with the second string exp starting in the first string's nth character with m number of characters.

**OPEN** " < device descriptor > < filename > " [ FOR < mode > ]  
**AS** [ # ] < filename >  
Allocate a buffer for I/O and set the mode that will be used with the buffer.

**OUT** < port > < byte >  
Send a byte to a machine output port.

**PLAY** < string for voice 1 > [ , < string for voice 2 > ]  
[ , < string for voice 3 > ]  
Play music according to Music Macro Language.

**POKE** < memory address > , < byte >  
Write a byte into a memory location.

**PRINT** [ < exp > ]  
Output data to the terminal.

**PRINT** # < filename > , < exp >  
Write data to the specified channel.

**PRINT USING** " < string > " ; < list of exp >  
Print numeric or string expression using a specified format.

**PRINT** # < filename > , USING " < string > " ; < list of exp >  
Write data to the specified channel using a specified format.

**READ** < list of variables >  
Read values from a DATA statement and assign them to variables

**REM** < remark >  
Allow explanatory remark to be inserted in a program.

**RESTORE** [ < line number > ]  
Allow DATA statements to be reread from a specified line.

**RESUME** [ 0 ]  
Resume execution at the statement causing an error.

**RESUME** < line number >  
Resume execution at the specified line number.

**RESUME NEXT**  
Resume execution at the statement immediately following the one causing an error.

**SOUND** < register of PSG > , < value >  
Put a value into a register to control the Programmable Sound Generator.

**STOP**  
Terminate program execution and return to command level. The "Break in < line number >" message is printed.

**SWAP** < variable > , < variable >  
Exchange the value of two variables.

**WAIT** < port > , < mask > [ , < select > ]  
Suspend program execution read input at port until [ < input bit > XOR < select > AND < mask > ] returns a non-zero value.

**INTERRUPT CONTROL COMMAND AND STATEMENT**  
**INTERVAL ON/OFF/STOP**  
To enable, disable, or terminate the BASIC timer interrupt trapping.

**KEY** n ON/OFF/STOP  
To enable, disable, or terminate interrupts caused by a function key.

**ON ERROR GOSUB** < linenumber >  
Define the line number of the subroutine to execute when an error has been detected.

**ON ERROR GOTO** < linenumber >  
Enable error trapping and specify the first line of the error handling subroutine.

**ON** < exp > GOTO < list of linenumbers >  
**ON** < exp > GOSUB < list of linenumbers >  
Branch to one of several specified line numbers, depending on the value returned when an expression is evaluated.

**ON INTERVAL** = < exp > GOSUB < list of linenumbers >  
Set the line number to execute at every other machine interrupt cycle (60 per second) specified by < exp >.

**ON KEY** (n) GOSUB < list of linenumbers >  
Specify the line number corresponding to the line offset n in the statement to execute whenever a function key number n has been depressed.

**ON STRIG GOSUB** < linenumber >  
Define the starting line of the subroutine employed when any of the joystick button is depressed. (0 for space bar, 1 for Joystick 1 or 2 for Joystick 2)

**ON SPRITE GOSUB < linenumber >**  
Define jump address when sprites collision occurs.

**ON STOP GOSUB < linenumber >**  
Define jump address when the CTRL + STOP keys are pressed

**STOP ON/OFF/STOP**  
To enable, disable, or terminate CTRL + STOP trapping

**STRIG ON/OFF/STOP**  
To enable, disable, or terminate joystick button or space bar trapping.

**SPRITE ON/OFF/STOP**  
To enable, disable, or terminate the interrupt generated when two or more sprites collide

**GRAPHIC COMMAND AND STATEMENT**  
**CLS**  
Clear graphic screen.

**CIRCLE (x, y), < radius > [, < color > [, < start > , < end > ] [, < aspect ratio > ]**  
Draw an ellipse with a center, radius, foreground color, starting and ending angles, height to width ratio as specified.

**COLOR [ < foreground > ] [, < background > ] [, < border > ]**  
Set colors for the screen.

**DRAW < string >**  
Draw figure on the screen according to the Graphic Macro Language.

**GET [ (x1, y1) - (x2, y2) ] [, < color > ] [, B [ F ]]**  
Read points from the graphic screen or from defined area of the graphic screen. Array must be dimensioned large enough to hold the data.

**LINE [ (x1, y1) ] - [ (x2, y2) ] [, < color > ] [, B [ F ]]**  
Draw straight line connecting the two coordinate pairs specified or if B [ F ] is present draw or fill rectangle

**LOCATE x, y**  
Position the graphic cursor to the starting coordinate pointed to by x, y; can used with LINE, POINT, PRINT

**PAINT (x, y) [, < color > [, < low res mode border attribute > ]]**  
Fill in an arbitrary graphic figure of the specified fill color. Paint must not have border for high res, while border must be specified in low res.

**POINT (x, y)**  
Read the color of a pixel in the graphic mode.

**PSET (x, y) [, < color > ]**  
Draw a dot at the assigned position on the screen using the foreground color or < color > if specified.

**PRESET (x, y) [, < color > ]**  
Same as PSET except draw in background color if < color > not specified.

**PUT (x, y), < arrayname > [, < operation > ]**  
Output graphic patterns in the array to assigned position on the screen, operation can be:  
PSET: output pattern as is  
PRESET: reverse pattern foreground/background color  
AND: combine graphic pattern color with screen pattern  
OR: graphic pattern overlapping the screen data  
XOR: perform XOR with screen data; if the matching pixel from the array and the screen are the same then that pixel will be displayed in background color else it will be displayed in foreground color

**PUT SPRITE < sprite plane > , (x, y) [, < color > ] [, < pattern no > ]**  
Set up sprite attributes, when a field is omitted, the current value is used, see SPRITES.

**SCREEN [ < exp 1 > ] [, < exp 2 > ]**  
Use < exp 1 > to select graphic mode: 1 for high res.; 2 for low res. < exp 2 > selects the size of sprite (if used).

**SPRITES (n) = < string >**  
Define a pattern as sprite, the number of string character depends on the sprite size, n must be less than 256 when size of sprite is 0 or 1 (8 bytes), less than 64 when size of sprite is 2 or 3 (32 bytes).

**SPRITES (n)**  
Return either an 8 byte character string or 32 byte character string of the sprite number n depending on the size of sprite selected.

**VPEEK [ < vram address > ]**  
Return byte value from the specified location in video ram.

**VPOKE < vram address > , < byte >**  
Put a byte into video ram address specified.

**GRAPHIC MACRO LANGUAGE (GML)**  
The followings are used in conjunction with DRAW command. "n" is a number.

U n Move up  
D n Move down  
L n Move left

R n Move right  
F n Move diagonally up and right  
G n Move diagonally down and right  
H n Move diagonally down and left  
I n Move diagonally up and left  
S n Set scaling factor  
B n Move without plotting  
M x, y Move absolute or relative distance. If x has a plus sign (+) or a minus sign (-) in front of it, it is relative. Otherwise, it is absolute.  
N n Move and return to original position  
A n Set the angle. n

n	0	1	2	3
deg	0	90	180	270

C n Set color number  
X <string> Execute string, must be terminated by a semicolon.

**SOUND COMMAND AND STATEMENT**  
SOUND statements is used to directly control the various capabilities of the Programmable Sound Generator (PSG). It takes the form of:  
SOUND < register of PSG > < value >

The functions of the 13 PSG registers are given below

PSG Register	Function
0, 1	Tone of channel A
2, 3	Tone of channel B
4, 5	Tone of channel C
6	Noise generator
7	Mixer

B7	B6	B5	B4	B3	B2	B1	B0
Not used		Noise Channel			Tone Channel		
		C	B	A	C	B	A

Bit logical value: 1 to disable and 0 to enable

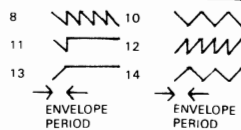
8 Bit 0 to 3: amplitude control of channel A  
Bit 4: fixed amplitude control

9 Bit 0 to 3: amplitude control of channel B  
Bit 4: fixed amplitude control

10 Bit 0 to 3: amplitude control of channel C  
Bit 4: fixed amplitude control

11, 12 Envelope period control range

13 Envelope cycle/shape control



**MUSIC MACRO LANGUAGE**  
The PLAY command is used in conjunction with the following character string to play a melody.

String	Function
A to G [# or + ] [-]	Play the indicated note in the current octave. A number sign (#) or plus sign (+) afterwards indicates a sharp, a minus sign (-) indicates a flat
L n	Set the length of the note. n may range from 1 to 64.
M n	Modulation sets period of envelope n may range from 1 to 65535.
N n	Play note n. n may range from 0 to 96 in 7 octaves. 7, n = 0 means rest.
O n	Octave. Set the octave of the notes to be played. Default is 4.
R n	Pause or rest n may range 1 to 64.
S n	Set shape of noise output n can be 0 to 15.
T n	Tempo. Set the number of quarter notes in a minute. n ranges from 32 to 255. Default is 120.
V n	Volume. Set the volume of output n may range from 0 to 15. The default is 8.
X	Dot or period after each note causes it to be played 3/2 times the period determined by L times T.
X	Execute specified string.

**PRINT USING FORMAT FIELD SPECIFIER**  
String or numeric expression can be printed using a specified format.

Specifier	Possible Digit	Field Character	Definition
NUMERIC			
#	1	1	Numeric field
.	0	1	Decimal point

+ 0 1 Print leading or trailing sign. Positive numbers will have "+", negative numbers will have "-". Trailing sign. Print "-" if negative, otherwise blank. Leading asterisk

\*\* 2 2 Floating dollar sign. \$ is placed in front of the leading digit. Asterisk and floating dollar sign. Use comma every three digits (left of decimal point only).

\$\$ 1 2 Exponential format. Number is aligned so leading digit is non-zero

\*\*\$ 2 3 Next character literal.

^^^ 0 4

\_ 0 1

STRING	Function
	Single character
/ /	< 2 + number of spaces > character field
g	Variable length field.

**BASIC FUNCTION**

**Function Action**  
ASC (< string >) Return the ASCII value of the first character of string.

BIN\$ (n) Return a string which represents the binary value of n.

CHR\$ (i) Return a character having the ASCII code i.

FRE (< exp >) Returns remaining memory free space.

HEX\$ (< exp >) Convert a number to a hexadecimal string.

INKEY\$ Return a one character string input from keyboard or null string if no input.

INPUT\$ (length [, #] m) Return a string having specified length read from the console or a file.

LEFT\$ (< string > , < length >) Return a length of leftmost characters of the string expression.

LEN (< string >) Return the number of characters in string.

MID\$ (< string > , < start > [, < length > ]) Return characters from the middle of the string starting at the position specified to the end of the string or for the specified length.

OCT\$ (< exp >) Convert a number to an octal string.

RIGHT\$ (< string > , < length >) Return rightmost characters of the string expression.

SPACES (i) Return a string of i spaces.

STR\$ (< exp >) Convert a numeric expression to a string

STRING\$ (< length > , < string >) Return a string with specified length containing first character of string.

STRINGS (< length > , < string > , i) Return string with specified length containing first character with ASCII code i.

VAL (< string >) Convert the string representation of a number to its numeric value.

CVI (< string >) Convert a 2-character string to an integer.

CVS (< string >) Convert a 4-character string to a single precision number.

CVD (< string >) Convert an 8-character string to a double precision number.

MKIS (< value >) Convert an integer to a 2-character string.

MK\$S (< value >) Convert a single precision value to a 4-character string.

MK\$D (< value >) Convert a double precision value to an 8-character string.

BASE (n) Current base address for each table.

CSRLIN Return the vertical coordinate of the cursor.

EOF (< filenameumber >) Return (-1) if the end of a sequential file has been reached. Otherwise, return (0).

ERL Error line number.

ERR Error code number.

PAD (n) Return various status of touch pad.

PEEK (i) Read a byte from memory location i.

POS (n) Return the current horizontal position of cursor. n is a dummy argument.

SPC (i) Print i blanks on the screen.

STICK Return the direction of a joystick.

STRIG Return the status of a trigger button of a joystick

TAB (i) Space to position i on the console

TIME An unsigned integer generated from the system internal timer.

USR [ < digit > ] (argument) Call the user's machine language subroutine with the specified argument.

VARPTR (< variable >) Return the address of the first byte of data identified with < variable >

VARPTR (# < filenameumber >) Return the address of the first byte of data identified with < variable >

VDP (n) For n = 0 to 7, this specifies the current value of VDP's write only register. For n = 8, it specifies the status register of VDP

**OPERATOR**

Symbol	Function
=	Assignment or equality sign
-	Negation or subtraction
+	Addition or string concatenation
*	Multiplication or asterisk
/	Division (floating point result)
\	Integer division
MOD	Integer modulus
NOT	One's complement
AND	Bitwise AND
OR	Bitwise OR
XOR	Bitwise exclusive OR
EQV	Bitwise equivalence
IMP	Bitwise implication
= < , > , > = , < , >	Relational tests (result is either true (-1) or false (0))

The precedence of operators is  
(1) Expressions in parentheses (8) Relational operators  
(2) Exponentiation (9) NOT  
(3) Negation (10) AND  
(4) Multiplication or Division (11) OR  
(5) Integer Division (12) XOR  
(6) MOD (13) IMP  
(7) Addition or Subtraction (14) EQV

**ARITHMETIC FUNCTION**

Function	Action
ABS (< exp >)	Absolute value of expression.
ATN (< exp >)	Arctangent of the expression.
COBL (< exp >)	Convert the expression to a double precision number.
CINT (< exp >)	Convert the expression to an integer.
COS (< exp >)	Cosine of the expression (in radians).
CSNG (< exp >)	Convert the expression to a single precision number
EXP (< exp >)	Raise the constant e to the power of expression.
FIX (< exp >)	Return truncated integer of expression.
FRE (< exp >)	Give memory free space not used by BASIC.
INT (< exp >)	Evaluate the expression for the largest integer calculated.
LOG (< exp >)	Give the natural logarithm of the expression.
RND ([ < exp > ])	Generate a random number [ < exp > ] < 0 Seed new sequence [ < exp > ] = 0 Return previous random number [ < exp > ] > 0, or omitted Return new random number
SGN (< exp >)	1 if expression > 0 0 if expression = 0 -1 if expression < 0
SIN (< exp >)	Sine of the expression (in radians)
SQR (< exp >)	Square root of expression
TAN (< exp >)	Tangent of the expression (in radians)

Angle is expressed or returned in radians.