



### **Game Systems**

By the Whizz

For the past year the Atari Lynx and the Nintendo Game Boy have been the only handheld games in town. Well, the neighborhood just got

and it can convert into a portable color TV! The \$249 price tag is hefty



The TurboExpress is 4.3 Inches wide by 7.3 inches long by 1.8 Inches thick, just slightly larger than the Game Boy. The sharp-looking black platter resin case houses a 2.7 inch color, backlit LCD screen built by Epson. Below that are the standard controls, which duplicate the TG-16's right down to the variable furbo. Other controls include volume and brightness dilao nt he side of the unit. The Express also features a mi-phono plug and a comilink port for two person head-to-head game-play.



Naturally, the Express packs the le 8-bit NEC HuC6280 processor

same 8-bit NEC HuC6280 processor and the same 16-bit graphics processor as the TurboGrafx-16. The TurboChips simply slide into a slot at the top of the unit. The third building the simple of the small screen doesn't diminish the impact of the color or intensify the overall difficulty of the game, however, you may have trouble quickly identifying dinky dangers. And forget about following game scores, lives, and other onscreen information in the hear of battle if it soo small. How-

ever, the backlit screen makes the on-screen action stand out in any light-ing environment.

Six AA batteries power the Tur-boExpress for 3 hours, according to NEC. Power source options include an AC adaptor and an automobile (agaretic lighter adaptor. Need a break from the gameplay-ing? No problem. The optional 590 TurhoVision TV Tuner snaps on to the right side of the TE and turns it into a portable color set. Additional-ly, the tuner can function as a cam-corder or a VCR monitod!

This is a great, although pricey, extra for TurboCrafx-16 fans.

### Sega Game Gear

Sega is literally "Gear-ing" up for handheld action; it's about to make the Game Gear color handheld a major part of its video game operations in the U.S. At press time, Sega wany't ready to talk about this newest addi-

in the U.S. At press time, Sega wasn't ready to talk about this newest addition to the family except to say that the Game Gear would be ready by Christmas, but it was already beefing up its staff to take on the project.

The Game Cear is a re-tooled vessel of the project vessel vessel of the project vessel

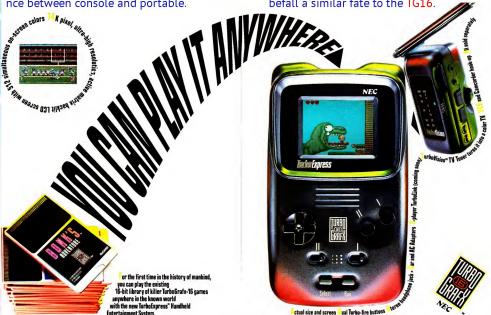
oular spane Gear gets its pro-cessing muscle primarily from a Z-80A processor much like the Sega Master System. It gets its juice from six AA batteries.

The Game Gear's a neal little

The Game Gears a neat fittie rectangular package (8.1 inches long by 4.3 inches wide by 1.5 inches high) that features smooth, curved styling that keeps it in the same groove as the Genesis and the new SMS. The unit has a 3.3 inch backlit color LCD mounted in its center with a directional pad and two

NEC to develop a handheld system, named the TurboExpress, which could use HuCard's a person already owned, providing a unified experience between console and portable.

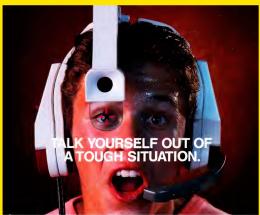
difficult, and a hefty pricetag (\$249 1990 US dollars) and poor battery life meant it was not terribly attractive to consumers. It would befall a similar fate to the TG16.





The first hand-held Mario game, Super Mario Land was similar to Super Mario Bros. on the NES, but monochrome and resized to fit the smaller screen.

Game Boy owners were eager to get Mario on-the-go, and the game sold over 18 million copies, more than Super Mario Bros. 3!



Introducing LaserScope" from Konami.

The amazing voice activated firing system for Nintendo.

The Konami LaserScope was a head mounted light-gun that allowed the wearer to aim it through a gun-sight mounted in front of their right eye. You were meant to fire it by saying the word "fire", but apparently any word woul do the job, including "parakeet" or "labridoodle". You could lose your voice if you played with it too much!



Released in North America in 1990, Super Mario Bros. 3 returned back to its roots after a disappointing second outing. Plumbers Mario and Luigi must embark on a quest to save Princess Toadstool and the rulers of seven different kingdoms from Bowser and his offspring, the Koopalings.

New features included a map that allowed the player to choose which level to attempt next, and a "racoon" suit that allowed Mario or Luigi to fly. You could also climb up vines, slide down ropes and with the "Tanooki" suit, temporarily turn into stone to avoid being killed by enemies.

Super Mario Bros. 3 sold extremely well, and is the highest grossing non-bundled console game to date selling over 17 million copies worth \$1.7 billion, adjusted for inflation.

Super Mario Bros. 3 is widely considered one of the top three NES games to own.

Alex Kidd was Sega's unoff -icial mascot prior to Sonic the Hedgehog. The character was the protagonist in a number of arcade and console games, including Alex Kidd in Miracle World (which was built-in to the Sega Master System) and Alex Kidd in Sh nobi world (a parody of Sega's successful Shinobi arcade ga-me.) Alex Kidd appears as a short boy with large ears and hands, and other monkeylike features, wearing a red and yellow jumpsuit.



Initially a computer game developed by Jay Geertsen, Columns was a Tetris-inspired game purchased by Sega and released for a number of Sega consoles, including the Genesis / Megadrive.

Both an arcade platform and a home console, SNK's Neo Geo was a 16-bit 68000-based system whose arcade hardware allowed a player to choose from up to six different games (typically fighting games) in a single machine, popular with convenience store



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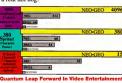
Tough talk, but think it over. Why dick around with limp, underpowered 16 bit systems when NEO-GEO Lough talk, but think it over. Why dick around with limp, underpowered 16 bit systems when NEO-GEO now offers the hottest, most advanced video entertainment system in the world!

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It's simple. Would you rather be a cold weenie?

Or a real hot dog!





## **MOVE TO A NEW CITY.**



SIM CITY

CITY LIMITS















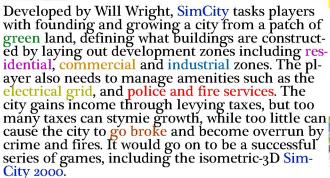








## INFOGRAMES



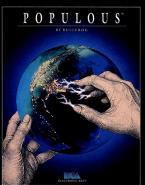
Populous took SimCity a step farther, with the player acting as a god whose task is to aid their followers and enable them to destroy their enemies (an opposing god's followers). As the number of the player's followers grows, so does their mana, which gives them additional capabilities to assist their followers and attack the other side, including earthquakes and floods.

The game initally had no firm ending, and games cou-

ld theoretically go on forever, but this was seen ás undesirable by playtesters and a feature was introduced which causes the followers on both sides to leave their homes and move to the center of the world to wage a

Populous won several awards.

### "Unquestionably the GAME OF THE YEAR"



YOU HAVE ALWAYS WANTED TO PLAY GOD. ADMIT IT.

Now you can."

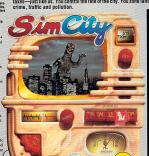


## POPULOUS





## BUILDROMEIN A DAY DESTROY IT IN AN HOUR!



The City Simulator

ed sound effe

THE GODS ARE BACK AND ALL HELL IS ABOUT TO BREAK LOOSE

BULLFROG ELCTR



POPULOUS POINTERS



You get the picture: it was mind-numbingly awful. Not something you wanted for Xmas.

cross between a standard platform and a puzzle game, the player must navigate Marty from place to place repeating tedious "mini-games". Yawn.

Atari Games' 1989 arcade racer S.T.U.N Runner featured a futuristic speed bike capable of reaching speeds of over goomph, travelling through roads and tunnels that run through various environments.

An evolution of the Hard Drivin' 3D polygon-style graphics, was able to render them much faster, creating an extremely fast-paced, visually impressive game that was state-of-the-art for its time.

Unfortunately, because of this, conversions to home systems just couldn't live to the source material. C'est dommage.



In a world that changes economic systems overnight, can we really afford personal computer systems that take weeks to set up, months
to learn, and
years to deliver
on their promises? No. But, fortunately, now everybody can afford a Macintosh.

In the 1980s, American companies invested nearly \$90 billion in PCs, yet office productivity has shown disappointing gains

Not everybody was disappointed, however. According to a new independent study by Diagnostic Research, Inc.\*, companies that invested in Macintosh\*computers are enjoying dramatic results. Managers gave Macintosh pro ductivity ratings that were 37% higher than for MS-DOS systems and 32% higher than for PCs running Windows. Which is like getting back 17 extra weeks a year.

In a global economy of snowballing competition, the story behind those figures may be of interest.

In 1984, Apple introduced Macintosh on the simple premise that computers should work the way people do.

Now, as others rush to market with Macintosh lookalikes, Apple turns out to have been the practical, dependable, results-oriented computer company all along.

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Our three new personal computers were designed to rectify the one flaw that still exists in Macintosh. Namely, some people still don't have one

So now, starting at \$999," there is a Macintosh at a price that almost everyone can afford.

The Macintosh Classic."

This one has everything that makes a Macintosh a Macintosh. Built-in networking. A SuperDrive\* disk drive, which reads both Macintosh and MS-DOS files. And a \$999\* price that includes the built-in monitor, IMB of



RAM, keyboard, mouse, and system software. A 40MB hard disk is optional. Its processor is an 8 MHz 68000 chip. And it outperforms the popular Macintosh SE. The Macintosh LC.

The new, low-cost Macintosh LC introduces exquisite

Macintosh color and graphics to a wider world With its 16 MHz 68020 processor, it runs all the thousands of Macintosh programs at impressive speed And, with the optional Apple" He Card, it will run thousands more Apple II applications as well.

The Macintosh LC expands by adding a card to its slot. A 40MB internal hard drive is standard. A built-in video chip runs an Apple monochrome or low-cost color monitor — without adding a video card. And the Macintosh LC, like the Mac\*IIsi, lets you record your voice and other sounds into the computer. Which will make oice-annotated software a standard Macintosh feature

The Macintosh IIsi Running a 20 MHz 68030 microprocessor, the new Macintosh Ilsi delivers serious number-crunching at the most attractive possible price.

Into its sleek package are compressed the powerful essentials of the Mac II line. Including an optional 32-bit NuBus" slot for high-performance graphics and accelerator cards. Along with advanced networking systems like Ethernet and Token-Ring. Plus a 40 or 80MB hard drive. Built-in video chips drive four different Apple monitors.

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INSIDE THE MACINTOSH LC



The high price of the Macintosh II put off many potential non-commercial customérs including schools, many of which had stuck with the Apple IIGS.

Looking in-part to retire the Apple II platform and respond to criticisms regarding the high price of earlier Macintosh models, Apple developed a lowcost colour Macintosh, the Macintosh

Half the price of the Macintosh II with similar performance, the LC was introduced in October of 1990 along with a low-cost "compact Mac" known as the Macintosh Classic.

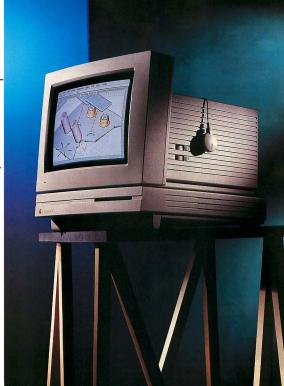
Apple released an add-on card for the LC as well that provided Apple IIe compatibility, to encourage schools with large amounts of Apple II software to upgrade.

Apple would go on to manufacture a number of other low-cost computers with the LC and Performa designations, including both desktop and all-in-one machines, until the mid-1990s, when Apple discontinued them in favour of the iMac.

> Intended as a more "stylish" replacement for Amstrad's existing CPC computer line, the "plus" models featured a redesigned case and a console-style gamepad.



The Sam Coupé was a low-cost version of the Sinclair ZX Spectrum that had additional graphics modes and enhanced sound capabilities. It also had an expanded BASIC dialect. Its fortunes were mixed: original developer Miles Gordon missed the 1989 Christmas season with a late launch of the Coupé and went out of business by mid-1991. A successor company survived until 1992 after lowering the cost, a third until 1994.











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Difficulty: Average
Number of Players: 1 to 4
Available: December '90

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**HERO** 

.TURTLES ON THE MOVE

the import Game by version is known as Ninja Turtles, when the official version arrives it'll



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Originally an American comic-book series, the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles became a line of toys and then a TV series before becoming an arcade game and a subsequent series of home computer and console games. In the UK and Ireland, censors deemed the word "Ninja" to be too violent, forcing a change to Hero which flowed through to games released in all PAL regions.





Thanks to you, pools to coming...

Content for this special mini-issue came from the following formally copyrighted sources:

Advanced Computer Entertainment December 1990
Amazing Computing December 1990
Amiga World December 1990
Commodore User December 1990
Computer Gaming World December 1990
Computers and Video Games December 1990
Crash December 1990
Electronic Gaming Monthly December 1990
GamePro December 1990
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