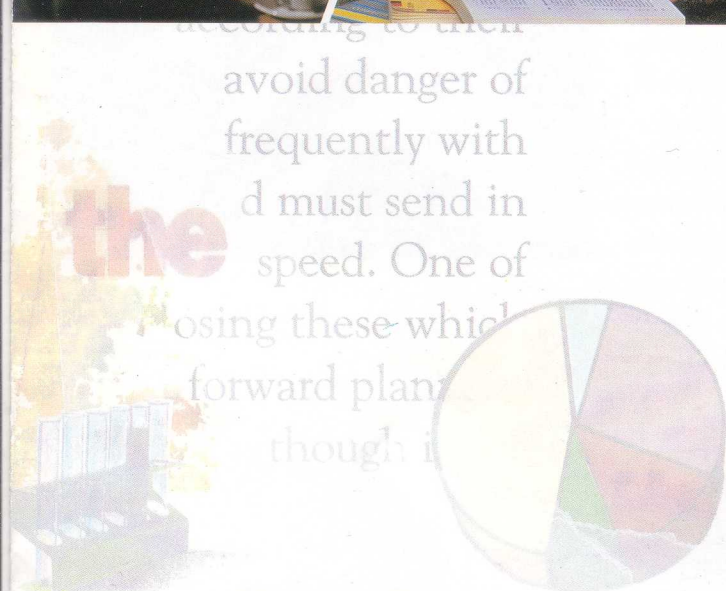


The Acorn A4

The Portable Solution



Acorn 

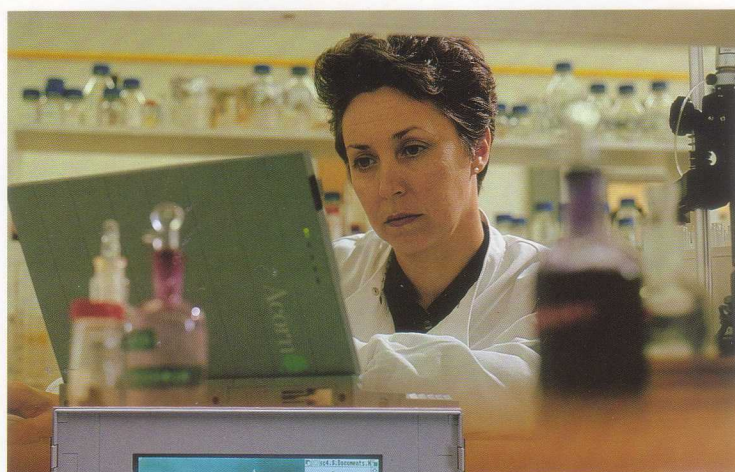
portable

The Acorn A4 is a complete computer system in a portable format. It is light, compact and easy to carry around, either on its own, in a briefcase, or in one of a choice of customised carrying bags.

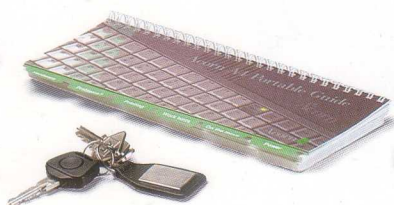
Perhaps more importantly, however, is the freedom it will introduce to your working day. No longer will you be restricted to one choice of working environment. The A4 will put you in control of where you work and when you work.

Imagine the benefits of being able to take it with you from home to work, from room to room, on or off site. Very quickly it will establish itself as an indispensable companion to your personal and working life.

The flexibility of the A4 also makes it the perfect travel companion. Equipped with an auto-ranging mains adaptor, it is just as comfortable being used abroad as in this country.



It comes with a sturdy, easily replaced, rechargeable battery pack which under normal use will provide 2.5 - 3.5 hours of uninterrupted use with additional battery packs being available to accommodate longer periods away from a mains supply.



powerful

Powerful and productive, the A4, like all Acorn products, is easy to learn and easy to use.

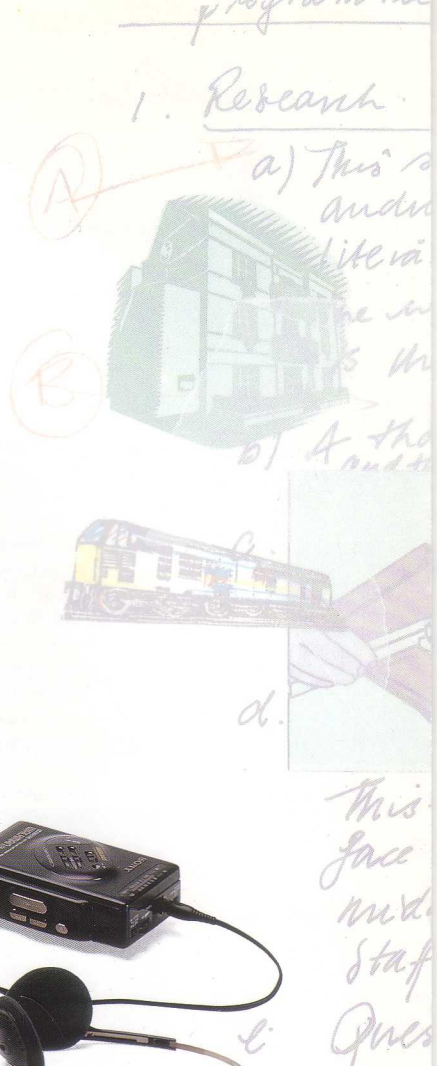
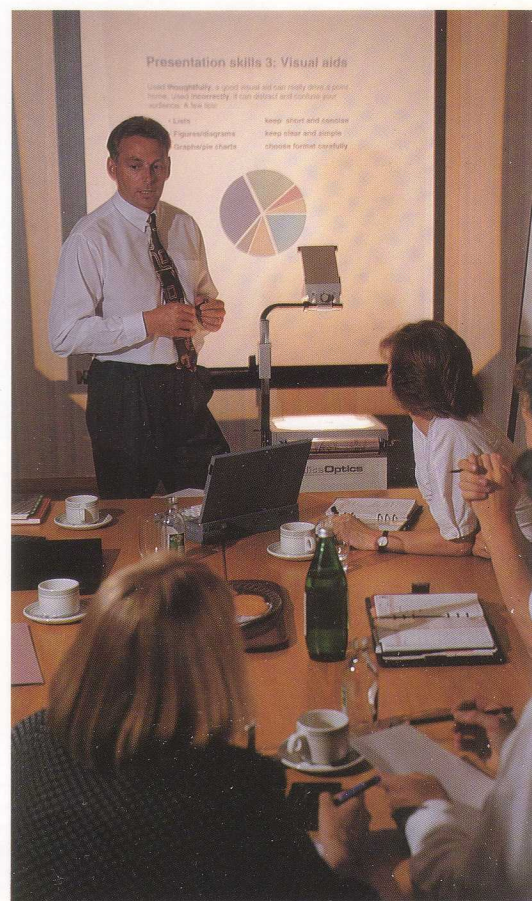
In common with all the current generation of Acorn computers, the A4 is window-based and multi-tasking, making software easy to operate, and allowing you the facility to run and interact with several programs at the same time.

The A4 runs RISC OS software, which means having access to a wide variety of competitively priced titles, in addition to many DOS software titles under emulation, collectively giving access to a huge catalogue of software.



The A4 comes complete with a suite of resident applications, including a versatile text editor, a drawing package and scalable fonts, all rapidly available on the screen.

The A4 is driven by 32-bit RISC, a technology pioneered by Acorn in desktop computers. RISC technology has become synonymous with speed, power and performance, and is now utilised by major manufacturers around the world.





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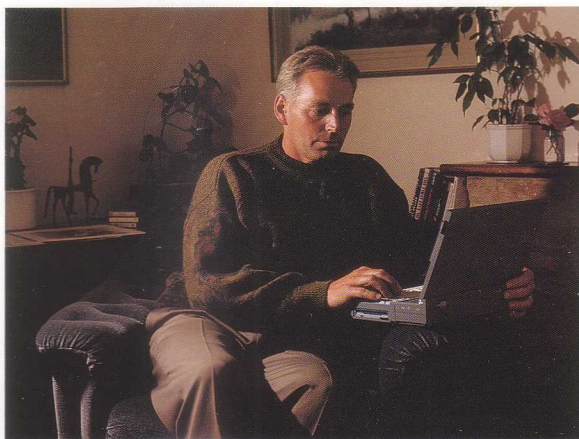
and practical

The Acorn A4 is the same size as an A4 sheet of paper and only 53 mm deep. Its size allows it to be stored conveniently when not in use.

Being small and light means it is easy to connect the power supply and mouse quickly. The connection of other peripheral equipment, eg. PC colour VGA monitor, PC keyboard and a range of printers is equally as simple.

The A4 shoulder bag has been designed to hold the computer, mouse, a mouse mat and power supply, and has additional room for floppy discs and an A4 pad of paper.

The mouse supplied is the standard means of operating the window-based system of the A4. When it is inconvenient to use the mouse its operation can be emulated from the keyboard.



The 3 1/2" floppy disc drive allows easy access to software and accommodates the transfer of information to and from the machine.

If required, the A4 can be linked into an Econet network.

The screen has a wide viewing angle and can be adjusted for brightness, contrast and tilt. This ensures a comfortable operating position and a good visible display irrespective of the environment or light level available.



The Acorn A4: 12 key features

1. RISC Processing Power

- 32-bit ARM 3 processor.
- RISC OS 3 operating system synonymous with power and performance.
- ARM 3 delivers 12 VaxMIPs of performance (12 million instructions per second).

2. Multi Voltage Mains Adaptor

- Automatically charges battery while it is running from mains.

3. Full Size (640 x 480) Screen

- With 'supertwist' LCD display, for pin sharp text and graphic display.

6. 60 MB Internal Hard Disc

(When fitted)

- Stores all your software and information.

7. Mouse

- For operating the GUI (graphical user interface).

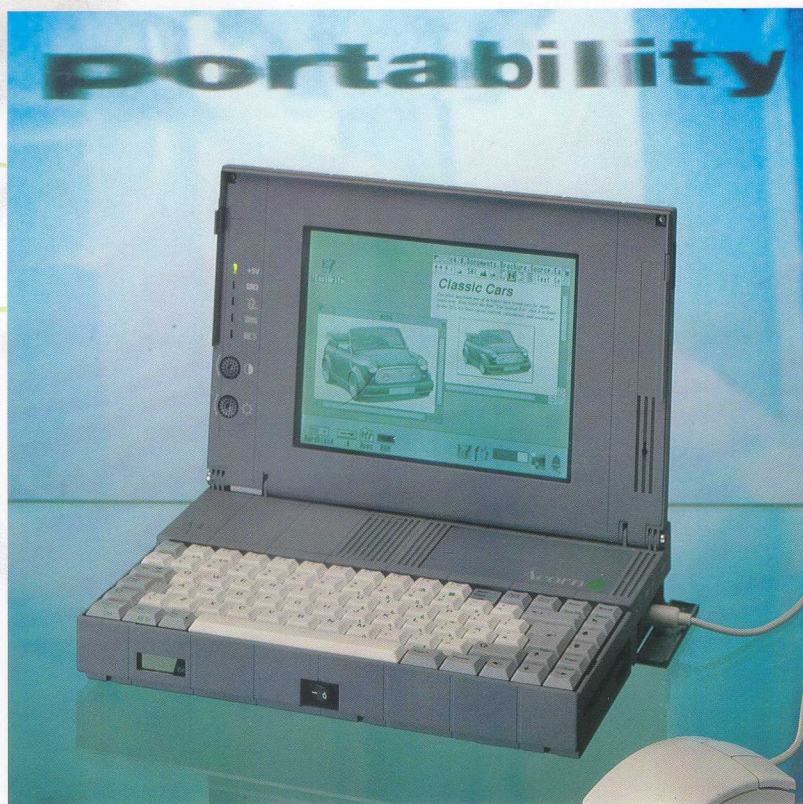
8. Applications Software

- Access to a comprehensive range of RISC OS software titles.

9. PC Emulator Software

(option)

- Allows the use of DOS software titles.



4. Battery Pack

- Robust.
- Provides between 2.5 - 3.5 hours of normal use.

5. Parallel Port

- For connection to standard printers.

10. 2MB Floppy Disc Drive

11. RISC OS Desktop

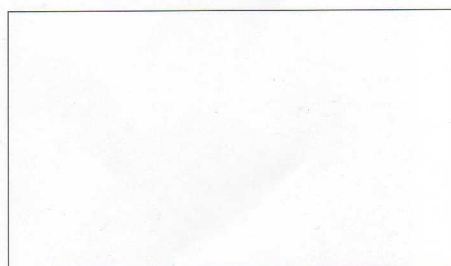
- RISC OS is multi-tasking, enabling you to run a number of programs at once, while the graphical user interface (GUI) makes running your software easy.

12. Standard RS232 Serial Port

- For connecting to a modem.

Specification

Central Processing Unit	ARM3 32-bit RISC processor with integrated 4KByte cache. Clock rate 24MHz (6MHz in powersave mode).		
Memory	2MByte OS ROM. 2MByte or 4MByte RAM. (depends on configuration). 32-bit datapath throughout; all memory directly addressable. Clock rate 12MHz (3MHz in automatic powersave mode).		
Floppy Disc Drive	3 1/2" 2MByte (unformatted). 1.6 MByte, 800KByte and 640KByte ADFS formats. 1.44 MByte and 720KByte DOS formats.		
Hard Disc Drive (when fitted)	2 1/2" 60MByte formatted capacity internal hard drive (IDE Interface). Automatic parking. Automatic powersaving with software-configurable spindown delay.		
Parallel Interface	Industry standard, Centronics® compatible (25-pin D-type female). Low level bi-directional capability via OS interface.		
Serial Interface	Industry standard RS232 (9-pin D-type male, AT pinout). 75-9600 baud via OS interface, rate selectable in software.		
Sound System	Twin channel 7position 8voice full stereo sound system. Compact internal mono speaker. Stereo jack socket (32Ω 3.5mm, for headphones or amplifier).		
Display System	Twin layer Formulated Twisted Nematic (FTN) LCD display panel. Cold cathode fluorescent edge light with brightness adjustment. 640 x 480 (VGA) pixel resolution. 228mm diagonal viewing area (182 x 137mm, 4:3 aspect ratio). 15 grey scale shading via Acorn's unique greyscaling system*. Industry standard video interface (15-pin VGA D-type female). VGA, VGA+ (256 colour) and SuperVGA (800 x 600). Automatic monitor detection and identification.		
Keyboard	Internal 83-key UK PC layout with embedded numeric keypad. Full 3mm travel with tactile feedback response curve. External AT protocol keyboard port (6-pin miniDIN).		
Mouse	Three button ergonomically engineered mouse; 200 edge/inch resolution.		
Battery pack	1800mAh 14.4V rechargeable Nickel Cadmium; solid block construction.		
Mains Supply / Charger Unit	Dual-purpose power adaptor/charger unit. Quick and trickle charge rates under control of the power management system (around seven hours for full recharge). Recharge time independent of system operation. Auto-ranging mains input (100-240Vac); IEC320 inlet connector.		
Power Management System	On-board independent microprocessor management of battery charging and power utilisation enables battery life of between 2 1/2 and 3 1/2hrs (dependent on use). Minimises system power consumption. Provides user-configurable powersave settings for display blanking and hard disc spindown delay. Separate LCD five segment indicator reflects battery charge state. Iconbar battery monitor provides symbolic display of charge status.		
Networking	Optional Econet network interface module (ALA66). Full Econet network filing system included in RISC OS ROM.		
Operating System (2 MByte ROM, plus applications suite on disc)	RISC OS 3.10 the second generation of the RISC OS co-operative multi-tasking operating system, executing directly from ROM. Fully integrated graphical WIMP user interface. Almost instant availability (no loading from disc). Secure (far harder to corrupt than disc-based operating systems). Uses substantially less RAM and disc space than disc-loaded alternatives. Key base applications, outline font manager and three font families, integrated multi-tasking file management system and interactive help application – all in ROM. Multiple character sets (ISO8859 Latin1 to Latin4 and Greek). Additional applications suite (pre-installed on hard disc model).		
Manuals (included)	Comprehensive Welcome Guide (including RISC OS tutorial). Portable Guide (for ready reference to key aspects when on the move). RISC OS 3 User Guide. RISC OS 3 Applications Guide.		
Physical	Robust polycarbonate main unit enclosure, sub-micron copper plated with nickel overplate inside and out; 'suedecoat' epoxy resin bonded paint on external surfaces. Computer unit: 297 x 210 x 53mm, weight 2.3kg (excluding battery). Mains supply unit: 147 x 74 x 44mm, weight 420g (excluding 2m mains lead). Battery pack: 140 x 111 x 25mm, weight 720g. Mouse: 100 x 60 x 30mm, weight 120g (including 1.8m lead). Tote bag (for computer only) supplied with system.		
Environmental	Operating: +5 to +35°C, 10 to 80% RH, up to 2500m altitude. Non- Operating: -10 to +60°C, 5 to 95% RH, up to 10000m altitude.		
Standards Compliance	Designed, manufactured and type-tested to EN60950 (BS7002). Manufacturing facility QAS registered to BS5750 part 2.		
Options (Available from your Acorn supplier)	ALA67 Shoulder bag ALA65 Additional battery pack. ALJ22 Acorn A4 Technical Reference Manual. ALA62 60 MByte internal Hard Disc upgrade.	ALA60 2MByte RAM upgrade. AKJ20 BBC BASIC Reference Manual. AKA70 PC Emulator (v1.8).	AKJ03 RISC OS 3 Programmer's Reference Manual. SKB75 Desktop C, SKB76 Desktop Assembler: developer's integrated desktop compiler and programmer's editor.



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*Patent pending under GB 2245743 A.

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