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PCT720B Atari Drive

Power Computing

PC720B Atari Drive

Owners Manual

IMPORTANT NOTE

FOR THOSE WHO REALLY DON'T WANT TO READ
THE MANUAL

MAKE SURE THAT YOU ONLY SWITCH THE DRIVE TO
BLITZ MODE WHEN THE BLITZ SOFTWARE IS ACTIVE
OTHERWISE YOU MAY CORRUPT YOUR EXTERNAL
DISKS!

The PC720B Drive

Thank you for choosing Power Computing for your new floppy drive. Our PC720B drive is the latest in floppy drive technology for the Atari computer and is a product of high quality and reliability. It comes with our own personal guarantee for a year. The drive boasts these features:

• Power from External PSU or from Atari joystick port
• Blitz copier hardware built in (switchable)
• Virus Blocker built in (switchable)
• Boot from drive B (switchable)

Connecting the PC720B

1. Switch off your Atari and all its peripherals.

2. If you have not purchased an external power supply then plug the supplied power lead into your joystick port. This lead serves to pick up the power for your drive, and the joystick may still be plugged into the through port.

3. Connect the disk drive's connector to the drive socket on the back panel of your Atari. The plug will only fit one way into the socket.

4. The drive has two switches on the back. One is labled A/0/B. Switch this position to 0. The other is labelled 1/0/X. Switch this to position 1.

5. Switch on your computer. The drive may now be treated in the same way as your internal drive, only it will be accessed through the B: drive icon.

Note: NEVER remove a floppy disk from the drive while the drive light is on – you may damage the disk or lose the information on it.

Using the extra features

The drive has two switches on the back. The first of these is marked 1/0/X.

Position 1: Drive is on and operates normally.

Position 0: Drive is off.

Position X: Drive is on and booting from drive B: is enabled

The second switch is marked A/0/B.

Position A: Drive is in Virus Blocker mode. All write accesses to either drive are blocked (so drives are effectively write protected).

Position 0: Drive operates normally as a standard ST drive.

Position B: Drive is in Blitz mode and can be used with the supplied Blitz software to back up disks.

Special note – Booting from Drive B

We have tested this feature on most Atari computers but we cannot guarantee that it will work on all machines. You must not have a disk in the internal drive while booting from drive B.

For users who have an incompatible internal drive we are now able to offer a cable to solve this problem. Phone our sales department for more information.

Blitz Turbo Atari

Most St owners use the Power Computing "Blitz" cable to back up their disks. The hardware from this cable is now built into our PC720B drive and comes with a new improved version of the Blitz software.

To run the Blitz software, click on the "BLITZ.TOS" icon, to be found on the supplied disk.

When the software has loaded, put the (write–protected) source disk in your internal drive, and the destination disk in your PC720B. Then switch the drive into Blitz mode. The light should illuminatee on the drive to show you that the Blitz mode is activated.

Click on the START box to start copying.

The OPTIONS box allows you to change the way that Blitz copies, including the number of tracks copied and the number of sides copied (these are normally determined automatically).

Tips for using Blitz Atari

• Blitz is a bit like a tape to tape copier, as more sequential copies are made, the copy quality deteriorates. We recommend that you do not copy with Blitz a disk that has itself been produced with Blitz.

• It may be possible to backup disks that were otherwise impossible by using high density disks for your destination. We recommend that you experiment to find out what produces the best results for you.

• Don't copy with Blitz while the PC720B is in "Boot from drive B" mode – unpredictable things may happen.

General tips for use

• Don't switch the external drive to Blitz mode during normal use. It enables writing to the external drive and may corrupt the disks that you have in there. Blitz mode should only be used when the Blitz software is loaded.

• The drive light will come on when the drive is in Blitz mode. This is normal, and should act as a warning.

• When the drive is in "Boot from drive B" mode, you can use EITHER your internal drive or your external drive as drive A. You must only have a disk in one drive at a time, otherwise the computer will try to access both drives at once and will give you a disk error.

Technical Data

STORAGE CAPACITY	DOUBLE DENSITY
UNFORMATTED	1 MBYTE
FORMATTED	720K BYTES
TRANSFER RATE	250K BIT/SEC
TRACK DENSITY	135 TPI
NO CYLINDERS	80
TOTAL NO CYLINDERS	160
DC POWER SUPPLY	5V
DIMENSIONS	230×104×30mm