

# BS-DOS

The name BS-DOS stands for Business System - Disc Operating System. It consists of a 16K chip packed with efficient machine code, which fits inside your BBC Microcomputer. The user is allowed the freedom of choice to have the existing Acorn type Disc Filing System resident in the machine with the New BS-DOS running alongside. By doing this, the Computer Users Club has recognised that the majority of owners prefer the proven reliability of the existing single density system. BS-DOS was designed to provide a far more efficient system together with a much greater ease of use.

Amongst the many features provided by BS-DOS, a single 80 track double sided disc drive will allow 400k storage to be used without the constraints of single sided operation. Both sides of the disc are treated as one continuous surface. The user is allowed up to 256 filenames per disc and BS-DOS collectively provides all available and unused space on the disc for economical file use, banishing forever those "can't extend" messages. Commands such as \*COMPACT are thus made redundant as is the DIR (directory) argument. The \*CAT command gives by default a SLP (Status, Length, Protection) read out of all files, together with a true reading of the remaining free space remaining on the disc! and much more besides.

BS-DOS allows the following advantages:

1 CAN BE USED WITH:

- a) Any Acorn type DFS. Toggling between the two using \*DISC or \*DOS.
- b) Acorns 6502 second processor. Allowing any Pascal programs to be read and compiled by either 6502 or Torch Z80 processors.
- c) Wordwise or Wordwiset. Allowing up to 256 letters per disc. ASCII files are transparent to all processors.
- d) Almost all Acorn peripherals and add-ons at present in existence for the BBC 'B'.
- e) Torch CPN/MCP systems. Acorn and CPN files can exist freely on the same disc. ASCII can be read from the torch format without a 2nd processor being present. This latter point includes Torch picture files.

2 Utilities discs are not required, Format and Verify are built into BS-DOS. The format is

compatible with both Torch and 6502 second processors. The format may be used on 40 track or 80 track disc drives and on either single or double sided drives.

- 3 Invisible directories and user protection is implemented with user numbers from 0 to 255.
- 4 Up to 256 filenames are allowed per disc, using standard CPM filename conventions and with full support of CPN ambiguous filenames in UPPER case.
- 5 Operating system calls OSFIND, OSFILE, OSARGS, OSBGET, OSBPUT, OSFCS, OSGBPB are implemented, together with OSWORD (A = &7F) allowing direct disc controller handling. The user manual gives a demonstration file transfer program using OSGBPB.

BS-DOS has been designed to facilitate the use of business software on the BBC microcomputer. The Computer Users Club are releasing a series of new and exiting programs for use with your BS-DOS. As an example the BS-DOS allied to a new approach to program writing has led to the inception of databases for the 32K model B which can be infinite in length, operating at speeds well in excess of those previously attainable on many larger business computers.

Purchasers of the DOS are automatically registered to receive all updates and program information free of charges other than the cost of the disc and postal costs.

When used with prestel, up to 256 pages can be downloaded onto each disc.

Please contact:  
THE COMPUTER USERS CLUB  
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Telephone 01-311-2555. BS-DOS price £39.50

postage and packing add extra £1. Visa excepted.