

SIGNWRITER

instant display lettering by computer

SIGNWRITER prints letters, numbers, punctuation, symbols, etc, any size, anywhere on paper. It calculates the outline of each character as a series of straight lines and circle arcs, accurate to the nearest dot position that your printer can print. So the quality of SIGNWRITER's characters improves with size and approaches that of typesetting, but it is much quicker and uses your existing low-cost equipment.

SIGNWRITER is easy to use: with an Epson-type dot-matrix printer connected to a personal computer (IBM, Apricot, Amstrad PCW, BBC), you can have your first sign printing out within minutes of receiving your disk. But SIGNWRITER is also very flexible, with many advanced features for ambitious artists or programmers; it can be set up to work with many printers and you can design new characters freely.

SIGNWRITER contains three main programs:

- 1) SIGNIN helps you input signs. It works like a specialized text editor, treating a sign as a series of lines of characters. For each line you choose the size of the characters, its distance down the sign, and whether it is to be centered, or left- or right-justified, etc. SIGNIN takes care of proportional spacing (though you can overrule it), tells you how long each line is, lets you edit lines, warns if two lines overlap, lets you underline, etc. SIGNIN outputs an intermediate file; so advanced users can bypass it with their own special-purpose inputting programs.
- 2) SIGNOUT prints out the sign quickly (3 to 10 minutes for a typical sign). It can print across the paper (like the example overleaf) or sideways-on (for extra long lines), and can put signs in a box or generate various print enhancements.
- 3) DESIGN is a specialized computer-aided-design program that allows you to examine character outlines on the screen and modify an existing one or create a new one. With a little practice you can create quite complex characters, such as a company logo, special technical symbols, or even a whole foreign alphabet.

SIGNWRITER runs on many types of computers and printers. The master version for IBM PC compatibles (with DOS version 2, at least 128K of memory, and any standard display adapter) costs £80 (plus VAT in Britain). Versions are also available for all Apricots (£80 plus VAT), Amstrad PCW (£49.95 inc. VAT), and BBC (£29.95 inc. VAT). The prices include delivery and reflect the differences in capacity, speed, and convenience of the versions. One ready-to-use font of over 120 characters is provided and extra fonts are available at £5 each. SIGNWRITER may be obtained from many dealers or direct from:

Wight Scientific, 44 Roan Street, London SE10 9JT
Telephone (01)858-2699

The poster printed on the other side of this sheet is one of a series illustrating features of SIGNWRITER. It was printed on an Epson RX-80 dot-matrix printer and is reproduced here actual size so that you can see the quality of the font and how well the dots delineate the outline of each character. This particular example, showing some relatively small upper-case letters from the ordinary font centered in a box, is a relatively undemanding use of the program. It took only a few minutes to type in and print out. Just think what you can produce with these programs and a little imagination -- public notices, instant advertizing, captions and tickets, pamphlets and newsletters, slogans and stickers, ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics and complex technical formulae. SIGNWRITER can print with any ribbon on any material that goes through a printer. e.g. for cutting stencils or iron-on lettering for T shirts.

FOR SERVICE

RING BELL

WHISTLE

SHOUT

SCREAM

WHIMPER

BEG

THREATEN

GROVEL

WHINE

**IF NONE OF THE
ABOVE WORKS,**

GO AWAY