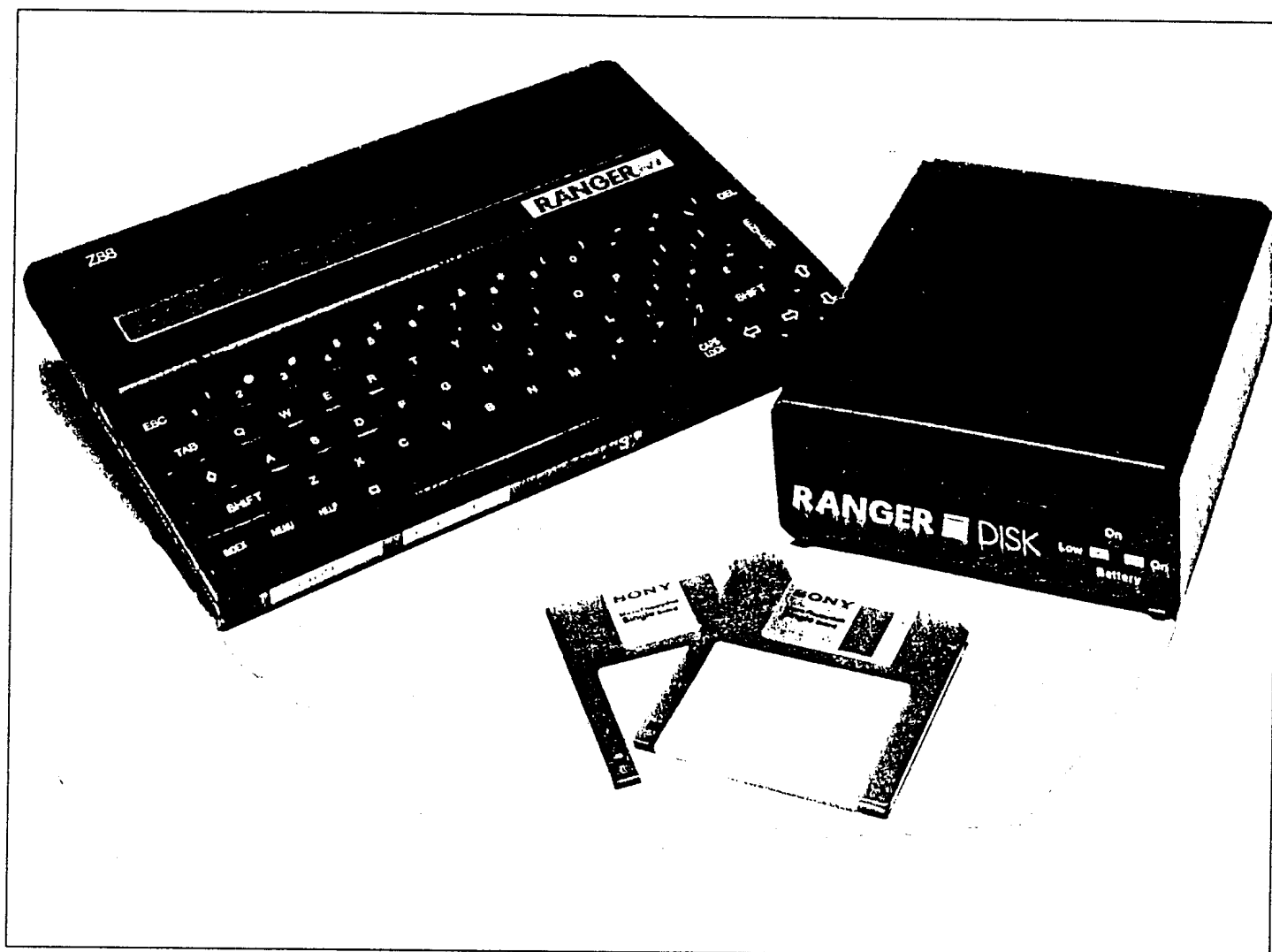


RangerDisk for the Z88



**PC-COMPATIBLE
BATTERY OPERATED
3.5", 720 K
DISK DRIVE
FOR THE Z88**

RangerDisk

Battery operated PC-
Compatible disk drive
for the Z88.

Complimenting the Z88, the
world's smallest and most
practical notebook computer,
RangerDisk provides IBM-PC
compatible floppy disk facilities
for the storage and transfer of
text, data and programs.

RANGER 

MASS STORAGE AND PC COMPATIBILITY FOR THE Z88

About Rangerdisk

RangerDisk is a battery operated, 3.5" IBM-compatible floppy disk drive for the Cambridge Computer Z88 Portable Microcomputer.

The Z88 is unique in offering powerful computer facilities and a full-size keyboard in a package that is small and light enough to carry anywhere. Because it is so easy to use, Z88 users tend to produce large volumes of data for transfer into PC's or for archive purposes. However, the lack of a floppy disk drive has greatly handicapped serious Z88 users. A further complication is that the Z88's operating system is not IBM-PC compatible, so data transfer to other computer systems involves special procedures.

RangerDisk effectively addresses all of these issues by providing the Z88 with IBM-PC compatible disk facilities, without requiring any modification to the Z88. The disk drive itself contains an IBM-PC compatible operating system, and is able to read and write 3.5" floppy disks in the 720K format under control of a Z88 application which mimics the computer's own Filer utility. Files up to 0.5mb can be saved for archive purposes, or transferred to any IBM-PC compatible system. Of course, data can be transferred back to the Z88 as well.

A unique combination

In many cases, the combination of Z88 and RangerDisk can be regarded as a highly flexible alternative to the use of a "laptop" PC, with the RangerDisk remaining at home, in the car or hotel room while the slim and silent Z88 is carried by the user wherever he or she goes. Because data transfer between Z88 and RangerDisk is fast and efficient, a whole day's work can be transferred to disk in a matter of moments by a few simple commands.

For the corporate user

Many businesses provide their staff with Z88 computers for the preparation of reports, correspondence and other routine data. This data is generally transferred to desk-top PC's using a direct connection to the Z88, tying up the PC while the transfer takes place. The inconvenience of this process is often compounded by the difficulty in locating the PC serial port at the back of the machine and disconnecting any network or other equipment already connected.

In this environment, RangerDisk can easily avoid the need to provide a virtually dedicated PC for Z88 data exchange. Also, because RangerDisk data transfers are much quicker and more reliable than direct connection, less time is wasted. RangerDisk's "Diskfiler" application in the Z88 can be operated by anyone, so mistakes are far less likely.

In education, too

Like the corporate user, schools and colleges can benefit from RangerDisk as a "central station" for a number of users. In the classroom, another important benefit is clear: with RangerDisk, individual students can transfer their personal files to low-cost floppy disk and restore them again in moments later on. This method is far more economical than the use of Z88 EPROM cartridges, while far simpler to use than direct connection to PC's or other computers.

RangerDisk's robust metal case ensures that it will survive the rigours of classroom life, while the fast data transfer makes it easy to share with other users. And because of its dedicated function, RangerDisk is not likely to be used for inappropriate purposes!

Technical Data

RangerDisk is data transparent and can handle all types of Z88 file, as well as PC files that can be stored, but not used, on the Z88. The disk drive connects to the PC via a serial RS-232 interface using a simple command

protocol, details of which are available separately. The connecting cable and Diskfiler application EPROM are supplied in the RangerDisk/Z88 package.

Text and data files created on the Z88 in "plain text" format can be transferred directly to IBM-PC application programs without any modification. Files can be selected for transfer between disk drive and Z88 either singly or in batches.

Files saved in the Z88's "Pipedream" format can be converted to be compatible with popular PC applications like Lotus 1-2-3 using optional 'PC Link' and 'Mac Link' packages, available separately.

Specifications

Disk Format: MS-DOS 2.1

Compatible

Capacity: 720K Bytes

Type: 3.5" IBM PS/2 compatible hard jacket floppy disk

Physical: Size 185mm (L) x 146mm (W) x 67mm (H)

Weight approx 1.6Kg

Battery:

Type: 6 x 'AA' (MN1500) Alkaline cells

Life: Continuous seeks 20 mins

Continuous read/writes 1.3 Hrs

Quiescent no read/writes 4.5 Hrs

Software:

DiskFiler utility (supplied on plug-in EPROM cartridge) provides:

Catalogue Disk	Copy to Disk
Catalogue Z88	Fetch from Disk
Change Disk	Erase Disk file
Select Z88 Device	Rename Disk file
Select Z88 Directory	Format Disk

Accessories

Nylon woven carrying case.

Technical Manual.

'PC Link' and 'Mac Link' for file format conversion.

Mains adaptor.

Ranger Computers Limited reserve the right to alter the specification, price or conditions of any product or service without prior notice. Information contained in this brochure is not to form the basis of any contract or be regarded as representation relating to the product or services concerned.

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