Bally Arcade/Astrocade Cartridge Releases FAQ

Compiled by Kevin Bunch, with introduction by Adam Trionfo

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This is a list of the cartridges released for the Bally Arcade that has been compiled by Kevin Bunch. Kevin has been trying to narrow-down the order that the Bally Arcade cartridges were released as well as, when possible, the dates on which they were released.

Kevin sent me this listing on Thursday, April 23, 2020. He says:

"Yeah, I'm fine with you posting up what I have so far on the [Bally Alley] website. Here's my current list along with sources. 1978 (and into 1979) are the big difficulties. I haven't been able to find much to narrow those down, as even the Arcadian did not note cartridge releases outside of BASIC for that first year and JS&A only seems to note those initial five advertised games in their catalogs early on."

I haven't made any changes to Kevin's list except to add this introduction.

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Astrocade releases - 35 games total

March 19, 77 announced

1978: (9 releases)

Last 2 weeks of Dec 77 into January - System started shipping after orders started coming in fall of 77, launched w/ **dealer democart** and 3 others + 3 more later in Jan? (from tv digest 12-26-77) (6-77 Merchandising insert said launch games to be Panzer Attack, 280 Zzzap, Baseball/Tennis, Elementary Math, Sea Wolf)

January: **Dealer Democart (sold broadly in 83 via arcadian)**,

May: **Baseball/Tennis, Elementary Math** (advertised as launch games in 9-19-77 tv digest, but Arcadian notes on shelves in May issue)

August: Sea Wolf? (or earlier - advertised in JS&A catalogs from 77/early 78; nov 5 baltimore sun)

Early Fall?: 280 Zzzap, Panzer Attack (advertised in JS&A catalogs from 77/early 78, nov 5 baltimore sun),

October: **Tiny BASIC** (Arcadian 2-1)

Late Fall?: Clowns/Brickyard, Blackjack/Poker (appears November 5 baltimore sun)

1979: (6 releases)

January: **Amazing Maze**(Arcadian 1-03, though advertised as being available in the fall in volume 00), **Football** (Late Dec to early Jan)

February: **Star Battle** (Arcadian 1-05)

October: **Bally Pinball** (rereleased 1981 as Astrocade Pinball), **Space Invaders** (later Astro Battle w/ Astrocade, appears in ad Dec 11 Daily Herald Suburban Chicago) - 1-11 arcadian

?: Letter Match (by august via ad in 1-09 arcadian),

1980: (1 release) - Bally announces sale of home division at Jan CES to Fidelity Electronics (1-14-80 TV Digest) sale falls through in March (arcadian); Astrovision agrees to buy license to system in August

October: **Dog Patch**(last Bally labeled release),

1981:(7 releases, 2 of them homebrew)

August: **Galaxian**(Galactic Invasion) - Arcadian 3-10

September: **Biorhythm, Grand Prix/Demolition Derby, Astrovision BASIC** (Arcadian 3-12)

October: **Space Fortress** (arcadian 3-12, def out by Jan CES)

November: **Blue RAM Extended BASIC** (4-1 arcadian)

December: **Machine Language Manager** (Arcadian 4-2)

1982: (5 brand new releases, 2 3rd party/homebrew)

March: Galactic Invasion? (Galaxian in 1981, 4-4 arcadian indicates was available by jan ces)

May: **Blue Ram 8K Extended BASIC** (Arcadian 4-7)

August: **Incredible Wizard (Computer Entertainer August 1982)**

September: **Pirate’s Chase (Computer Entertainer Sept 1982)**

October: **Artillery Duel (Computer Entertainer Sept & Oct 1982)**,

?: ICBM Attack (Mentioned arcadian 4-9, July issue)

1983: (8 releases, 6 3rd party/homebrew)

March 6: **Muncher** (5-5 Arcadian, orders opened Jan - technically unofficial unreleased Pac-Man game)

April: **Treasure Cove(May in CE? But April in Arcadian 5-6)**

July: **Blast Droids** (Arcadian 5-9)

August: **Solar Conqueror**(Sept 83? Appears in Sept 83 CE review), **Cosmic Raiders** (Arcadian 5-10, appears in Oct 83 CE review)

September: **Ms. Candy Man**(Arcadian 5-11)

Sept. 24: **Sneaky Snake (Astro Bash release)**

December: **Sea Devil** (Ad Arcadian 6-2)

1984: (1 release, homebrew/3rd party)

March: Maze Man (ad in Arcadian 6-5)

1985:(9 releases, all homebrew releases of prototypes or third party games)

May: **Life** (Ad in Arcadian 7-1)

December: **Soccer, Bowling, Checkers, Conan, Music Maker** (Arcadian 7-2), also available are **Songs (by Moses), Video Story Book, Missile Attack(ICBM modded for standard controls)**

Unreleased/prototype: Drag Race, Chess, Creative Crayon, Fawn Dungeon