

# Perkins Engineering

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January 1982

Dear fellow Arcadian:

Thank you for your interest in our products. They are designed to overcome some of the shortcomings of one of the best color graphics systems-- the Bally Arcade. Our ads have appeared in the *Arcadian* and many editorials and tutorials can be found in that newsletter.

The heart of our system is the Blue Ram itself. It is a small blue box with an edge connector that plugs onto the 50-pin expansion outlet on the back of the Arcade, or, of course, the Arcade Plus. It contains 4096 bytes of static read/write memory (RAM) that can be protected from accidental writing (ROM mode) either by a switch or with software. An additional 128 bytes of full-time RAM and two 8-bit parallel input/output ports are also provided. These ports are available at a 24-pin zero insertion force (ZIF) socket and are so versatile that each bit can be read (input) or written to (output) independently. The socket also provides power and other connections to the computer.

The Blue Ram comes with an operating manual, a power supply and two taped programs at 300 baud for use with the *Bally BASIC* cartridge. Some of the utilities on this tape are now included in *Astrovision BASIC* and *Blue Ram Extended BASIC*. The Blue Ram price is \$180.00 ppd (also available in a wire-wrap kit for *experienced* wire-wrappers).

Our keyboard is a 62 key typewriter style assembly mounted on wooden end blocks and fitted with a 3-foot cable to plug into the ZIF socket on the Blue Ram. All 62 keys are active-- most of them multi-function. Bally's words are added to the keyboard with attractive stickers. Wired and tested- \$89.95 Also available as a kit (saves about \$25.00).

The Blue RamModem/Printer interface connects the Blue Ram to a Star modem and to one of several good printers or both. Now your computer can "talk" to other computers or explore the world of the Source! The printer will automatically make hard copy. It also can become a typewriter and will reprint a page as often as you wish. Wired and tested....\$99.95

\* The *Blue RAM 8k Super Extended BASIC* cartridge \*

\* \* \* \* \*\*\*\*\* For use with Blue Ram and its' accessories \*\*\*\*\* \* \* \* \*

This language, in a standard Bally cartridge, has all of the features of *Bally BASIC*-- plus all of these additional features by Jay Fenton and (\*) Perkins Engineering:

4 colors on the screen at once  
Faster overall program execution  
5 additional graphics commands  
"Windowed" graphics and text  
2 character fonts (5x7 and 3x5)  
Changeable print number base  
"Trace" program debug aid  
Larger program area (3100 bytes)

14 new two-letter variables  
3 additional data set commands  
Program "bomb" recovery "  
Faster multiply and divide  
Built-in driver for the Blue Ram keyboard  
Built-in driver for the Blue Ram printer  
Full sound effects / music driver  
300 and 2000 baud tape interfaces

Full Boolean operations  
Negate operator  
Versatile program line editor  
User extensible command linkage

Extended Goto and Gosub formats with  
parameter passing  
8 modes controlled by mode flags  
5 service linkages in RAM

This cartridge comes complete with a 2000 baud interface cable and documentation defining the new language formats.

Price is \$49.95 ppd.

All of these products come with manuals-- some with taped programs. When ordering, please indicate whether you have a 300 baud interface or 2000 baud *Astrovision BASIC*.

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