VIDEO COMPUTER SYSTEM



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ASTEROIDS



Plan Maria

ASTEROIDS

game program[®] ADVENTURE



h Joystick Controllers

HAVE YOU BUILT ATARI® TODAY?

Unveiled in 1977, the ATARI[®] Video Computer System brought the realistic thrills of the arcade into the home and would go on to become one of the most popular gaming systems in history with 30 million units sold. This LEGO[®] version of the ATARI[®] Video Computer System is the iconic four-switch CX-2600A from 1980. It's full of authentic details and hidden gems that will take you back in time to the halcyon days of classic gaming. Enjoy.



THE GAMING ICON

As incredible as it sounds, the four-switch CX-2600A – the most popular version of the ATARI® Video Computer System – celebrates its 42nd anniversary in 2022. It set the standard for console gaming in its day and remains the starting point for all retro console design from ATARI® today.





50 YEARS OF FUN

Founded in 1972 ATARI[®] remains one of the most iconic names in the gaming world, and more than half a century later the brand continues to resonate with fans and those looking for the thrill of vintage gaming. Namechecked widely in countless TV shows, movies and in pop culture, ATARI[®] has also become an authentic cultural reference point reaching far beyond its computer gaming origins.

← The cartridge system allowed players to immerse themselves in many different games

↓ Advertisement for the ATARI® Video Computer System

ATARARI THERE'S NO OMPARING IT WITH ANY OMPARING IT WITH ANY OMPARING OGAME.

Only ATARI makes the games the world wants most. Games that are innovative. Intense. Incredibly involving.

And totally original. The most games, the best games are only from ATAR! Atari makes more video game cartridges than anyone else. Today ATAR! Missile Command and Asteroids are the fasters selling home video games in the country.

ATARI

COLOR

B.W

MORE GAMES. MORE FUN.

Unlike many earlier gaming systems that only offered a single integrated game, ATARI[®] used a cartridge system that allowed a virtually limitless selection of games. A total of 527 games would be published for the ATARI[®] Video Computer System and hits such as *Asteroids, Ms. Pac-Man*, and *Pitfall* established it as the must-have gaming system in the late '70s and early '80s.

1980 **ADVENTURE**

ASTEROIDS

VIDEO COMPUTER SYSTEM[™]

In a game that would inspire a whole generation of quest adventures, the wicked wizard has stolen your castle's magical chalice and you must lead your brave knight through terrible dangers to ensure its safe return!

1981 ASTEROIDS

The highly addictive object of this game is to gain the highest score by shooting down waves of asteroids, satellites and UFOs. Once shot, the asteroids break into smaller, faster pieces that fly off in unpredictable directions!

1982 **CENTIPEDE**

Use the wand at the bottom of the screen to destroy as many bugs as you can. Your nemesis is a long and winding centipede that invades each level. To proceed in the game, you must exterminate each segment of the centipede in every level!

BUILDING AN ICON

This 2,532-piece LEGO[®] model is a close 1:1 representation of the iconic four-switch ATARI[®] Video Computer System (Model CX-2600A). As well as a replica joystick that plugs into the back of the console, it also has four functioning switches on the front. Three

cartridges of famous VCS games are included, and each game is represented by a buildable LEGO vignette visualising the gaming experience offered. All the games can be stored in a cool '80s-style cartridge holder when not in use!





THE ATARI® VIDEO COMPUTER SYSTEM

There were various versions of the ATARI® Video Computer System launched between 1977 and 1992, mostly differentiated by weight, number of switches or the finish of the console itself. The technology, while impressive in its day seems inconceivable today, with a limited processor speed of 1.19 MHz, a total capacity of 128 bytes of onboard RAM and a game cartridge capacity of only 4 kilobytes!

FROM THE DESIGN TERM

As an avid fan of classic console gaming and a proud owner of an original ATARI® Video Computer System, working on this project in time for ATARI's 50th anniversary was a dream come true! Once we decided on the overall scale and features of the model, it was all about getting the little details just right: designing switches that can be toggled up and down, building a joystick that both looks and

feels like the original and creating a brick-built version of the classic woodgrain for the front of the console. Of course, we couldn't recreate the actual games themselves, but we decided to include three buildable vignettes to bring fans closer to the gameplay experience of these classic games.

LEGO[®] Designer, Chris McVeigh



The hidden pop-up scene is full of details that will feel instantly recognisable to anyone who grew up playing video games in the '80s

































































Many of the first ATARI[®] Video Computer System game cartridges used just 2k of data. That's roughly equivalent to a single page of text.



11























































The Adventure vignette includes a small nest with egg at the back of the castle. This is a nod to the fact that Adventure features the first-ever Easter egg in a video game.





























































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All cartridge artwork has been abstracted to include LEGO® elements, but the Asteroids artwork is particularly special because it features the new LEGO 10497 Galaxy Explorer.





















12x

























ASTEROIDS



























































































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ATARI® was incorporated as a company on 27 June 1972.










































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3 1:1






















































































































The ATARI® Video Computer System joystick is so iconic that its shape and bright red button is often used in graphical icons to represent gaming.















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The ATARI® Video Computer System debuted on 11 September 1977, for a price of \$189.95 US (over \$800 in today's money!)









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