

cover disc

The cover disc is full to bursting point with great programs this month, so enjoy...

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Decisions, decisions. You're an avid gamer, but don't know which console is right for you. We take a look at the three main contenders – PlayStation2, Xbox and GameCube – and put them up against a top-of-the-range gaming PC.

78 Reader's choice: personal digital assistants

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COVER STORY

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Want to improve your PC for little or no cash? Then read our top tips for customising, upgrading and protecting your hardware and software and get a PC that'll make you the envy of your friends and colleagues.



144 Sale or rent

Everyone knows that IT hardware starts depreciating the moment you purchase it, so is there a more sensible option? We take a look at leasing office equipment to find out.

workshop



172 Broadband on a budget

Are you a veteran surfer fed up with slow, snail-like connection speeds? Our tutorial shows you how to install BTopenworld's broadband setup kit.



178 A click in time

Our timesaving tips and tricks will have you whizzing through dull and tedious computing tasks in no time at all.



Advanced Excel

Whether you're an Excel novice or a budding professional, there's something for everyone in this interactive tutorial. Learn the basics of workbooks, charts and tables then move on to simulation and macros.

helpline

Our experts tackle your PC problems, including those XP upgrade niggles, and offer a variety of solutions to get your PC running smoothly.

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150 Secret service providers

We examine the latest EU legislation that forces businesses to retain our personal electronic data and ask whether this Big Brother-style spying is good news.

156 Waste watchers

The IT rubbish mountain is the ever-growing headache of the PC industry and a threat to the environment, so what's being done to reduce or eradicate this blot on the landscape?



164 Handy hardware

Personal digital assistants are the PCs of the future, with manufacturers cramming more functionality into every new release. We tell you what to expect from the latest handhelds.

WIN!



16 Competition

Complete the *PC Advisor* Reader Survey 2002 to be in the running for a host of top-notch prizes, including a JVC digital camcorder and starter kit, Canon printers and scanners and a host of exciting animation software.

162 Brand Awareness 2002 winners

If you entered this year's Brand Awareness survey, then check now to see if you're one of the 20 lucky respondents who have won a number of prizes, including a PC and flat-panel display.



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