

# cover disc



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Turn yourself into a scorchingly fast work unit using only the power of our fantastic freebies. We've a great database package to get you organised, a web design tool to help put your site together fast, and utilities for speeding up your PC and saving you money



## Alpha Five 4.5

## EXCLUSIVE FULL PROGRAM

**A**lpha Five 4.5 is a relational database program that offers sophisticated, custom application-design ability through its easy menu-driven coding. It combines power with ease of use, making it ideal for both novices and experts.

The package is equipped with full text indexing which enables you to search your entire database instantaneously, no matter how many records you have.

Other key features include Script Recorder, Network Optimisation, ODBC Support and Alpha Five Documentor.

Script Recorder is a huge productivity boost and the perfect way for novice users to learn Alpha Five's powerful Xbasic programming language. It watches all your actions and records them as Xbasic

commands. It even allows you to cut and paste from the Script Recorder into your own scripts. Using it, hundreds of lines of error-free Xbasic code can be created in minutes.

Network Optimisation dramatically improves performance by copying layouts, field rules, scripts and other application files to your hard drive, while continuing to access live data from the shared network hard drive. Less network traffic equals better performance, so databases, forms and reports all load significantly faster.

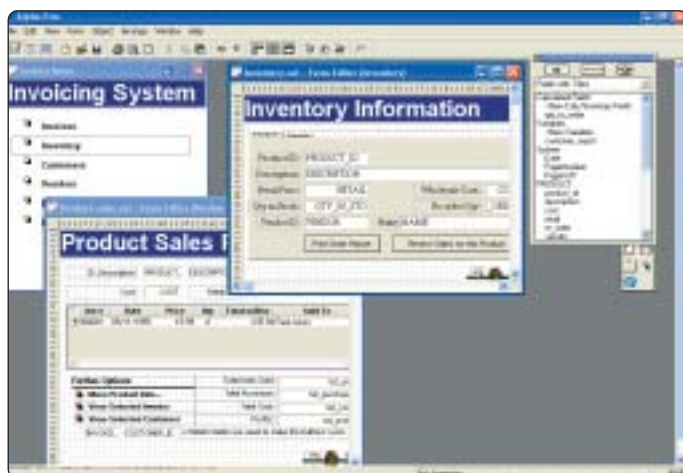
The ODBC support means that Alpha Five can directly access data stored in Oracle, SQL Server, Microsoft Access and any other data source for which there's an ODBC driver available.

The Alpha Five Documentor creates hard copy documentation of your Alpha Five applications, including table structures, set designs and Xbasic scripts. It creates a searchable database that you can use for research.

Existing databases can be transferred easily to Alpha Five and you can import files from Microsoft Access, Excel, Outlook and Visual FoxPro, as well as files in the DBF and ODBC formats.

As if this weren't enough, the simple export procedure saves time by allowing users to use the print-to-file option for creating files in HTML, PDF, plain text and rich text in a couple of clicks.

Alpha Five's rich feature set makes it a great piece of kit for experienced database application developers, while keen beginners will get a guiding hand from the extensive help menus. See below for registration details. ■



← Keep track of invoices, inventory, sales, costs and more with the easy-to-use Alpha Five 4.5

To install: 95 98 Me 2000 NT XP

Alpha Five 4.5

**Alpha Five 4.5 should autorun from the CD menu. If not, go to Start, Run. Type d:\alpha5v4\alpha5trialalph.exe (where D is the letter of your CD-ROM drive).**

System requirements

**Pentium PC; Windows 95 or higher; 16MB RAM; 50MB hard disk space.**

## £50,000 software giveaway

**T**he copy of Alpha Five 4.5 on the cover CD will time-out after 30 days unless you register it on the Alpha Five website. Registration is free and will provide you with an unlock code to make the software a fully working version. In addition, 250 readers who register their software will receive the latest version – Alpha Five 5.0 – absolutely free!

Register your copy of Alpha Five 4.5 now

1. Click the link from the cover disc to go to Alpha's site.
2. Fill in your details.
3. Your unlock code will arrive by email. If you're one of the lucky 250 readers you'll also receive details of how to download your free copy of Alpha Five 5.0.



## PC Booster 1.0



Everyone wants their PC to run faster but knowing how to manually tweak a system is a bit of a mystery to most. One alternative is to buy component upgrades but this option takes up the two things most people are short of: time and money.

← PC Booster makes optimising your PC a breeze. Simply check the actions you want to perform and click Optimize

Where does that leave the average user who wants the best performance from their system without expending too much effort into the bargain? Step forward PC Booster, an excellent tool for maximising performance while minimising the work involved.

PC Booster is suitable for both novice and experienced users. An Autotune feature has been implemented for beginners. Simply choose this option and PC Booster will analyse your machine, testing nine different system modules to report and recommend improvements that can be applied to enhance the performance and stability of your computer.

## FULL PROGRAMS

But before you optimise your system PC Booster tells you what changes it will make so all you have to do is click one button to agree to them.

For experienced users, there is a Manual Tweak section so you can get your hands dirty, manipulating each adjustment to alter Windows' appearance or push your system to the limit. PC Booster will recommend how to apply each change for separate systems. ■

To install: 95 98 Me 2000 NT

PC Booster 1.0

**PC Booster 1.0 should autorun from the CD menu. If not, go to Start, Run. Type d:\pcbooster\pcb10.exe (where D is the letter of your CD-ROM drive).**

System requirements

**Pentium PC; Windows 95/98/Me/2000/NT; 16MB RAM; 50MB hard disk space.**



## Xara Webstyle 2.0

How often have you looked at web pages and thought you could do a better job if only you had the technical savvy to produce them? Well, we have Webstyle 2.0 on the cover disc and it really is a no-experience-necessary package. You'll pick up how to use it in no time at all.

Xara's Webstyle offers a quick and easy way to produce custom web graphics for your site. Its well implemented menu system is simplicity itself to use, which helps set it apart from the crowd. Webstyle's graphic template design system couldn't be easier to navigate – all you have to do is click through from the main menu to decide what you'd like to do.

There are 2D or 3D templates on offer, including a variety of page elements ranging from headings, animated banner ads and button bars to bullets, dividers, logos and web page backgrounds. Once you've chosen which graphic suits your needs you can manipulate and edit fonts, sizes and colours until you're happy with the end result.

→ Customising logos for your website is easy thanks to Webstyle's simple menus

↓ To create a graphic, first choose which type you want from the main menu



The template graphics are vector drawings, which mean that they lose no quality when you modify them. So whether you change text, style, size or colour, the quality of your chosen graphic will remain pixel perfect. ■

## FULL PROGRAM

To install: 95 98 Me 2000 NT XP

Xara Webstyle 2.0

**Xara Webstyle 2.0 should autorun from the CD menu. If not, go to Start, Run. Type d:\webstyle2\webstyle2(idg).exe (where D is the letter of your CD-ROM drive).**

System requirements

**Pentium PC; Windows 95/98/Me/2000/NT/XP; 32MB RAM; 20MB hard disk space.**



**FOR HELP USING THE COVER DISC CALL 0870 739 7630**



## EnergyScout 1.0

## FULL PROGRAM

Cutting costs through unnecessary expenditure at work is a prerequisite for keeping overheads down and there are many avenues businesses can explore to rein in the yearly budget. A utility such as EnergyScout can help cut costs by monitoring PC power usage and producing a report analysing energy waste.

It's estimated that 50 percent of office electricity is consumed by PCs. This convenient tool calculates the amount used by PCs as well as their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. EnergyScout tracks whether PCs are powered down, idle or suspended and also keeps tabs on monitors. It runs in the background so the end user isn't

interrupted while working and information is automatically exported to a Microsoft Access database for presentation in a summary report.

Once the costs have been calculated it's easier for managers to see where savings can be made and determine which systems don't need to be on. ■



← Who's sapping your energy? Pinpoint the cost of the electricity wasters in your office with EnergyScout

To install:

2000 XP

EnergyScout 1.0 should autorun from the CD menu. If not, go to Start, Run. Type d:\energyscout\energyscout.msi (where D is the letter of your CD-ROM drive).

System requirements  
Pentium PC; Windows 2000/XP; 16MB RAM.

## Subscribe to *PC Advisor* for only £11.99



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Provides a comprehensive collection of office materials. From the office suite OpenOffice.org 1.1 and the ThumbsPlus 3.33 image-editing suite to the great Times Brain Teasers vol 1.

### ☐ *PC Advisor* 2000-2002 Issue Archive CD

No more rifling through your back issues to find an article, phone number or price – with this CD you can access all the information you want in seconds. It's a fully searchable magazine archive, covering 36 issues. It also contains a PDF reader.

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☐ Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive details of other products and services from companies that have been carefully screened by PC Advisor. Offer ends 30 April 2003. Source code: CDPG91.

## Voucher page

## SPECIAL OFFERS

If you've enjoyed the contents of our cover disc this month then our excellent range of deals on software packages are sure to grab your attention. With great reductions, you'd be mad to go shopping without our voucher page

### Alpha Five 5.0

upgrade and save 25%

If you weren't lucky enough to get a free copy of Alpha Five 5.0 in our amazing £50,000 giveaway, you can still get a great deal on a single-user copy of Alpha Five 5.0. Phone the number below for a 25 percent discount – that's the latest version of Alpha Five for £149 plus VAT and delivery (RRP £199 plus VAT and delivery).

Call Guildsoft on 0800 289 041, quoting the code 302GUPAD or click the link on the cover disc

Special upgrade  
offer on  
Alpha Five 4.5 –  
save £50

### PC Booster 2.0

PC Booster is the easy-to-use computer system optimiser that gives your PC extra speed and stability while ensuring that your computer is kept in tip-top condition.

Upgrade to PC Booster 2.0 for £14.99 plus postage and VAT and get Modem Booster for £17.95 plus VAT.

Call this number to order now  
01959 578 346

### Xara Webstyle 3.0

For a limited period, you can upgrade from Webstyle 3.0 (CD version) for the offer price of just \$54 (around £35 plus VAT). Simply register your copy of Xara Webstyle 2.0 by following the Register links within the program and on the cover disc or go to [www.xara.com/ws2offer.asp?p=idg](http://www.xara.com/ws2offer.asp?p=idg).

Still not sure? Try out the 15-day trial version of Webstyle 3.0 on the cover disc first. This special upgrade offer expires 31 March 2003.

Register now to get 20 percent off  
the normal price of Webstyle 3.0

### VirtualDrive and GameDrive

VirtualDrive and GameDrive let you run programs without their CDs. *PC Advisor* readers can buy the full versions of these CD-ROM emulators for the offer prices of £25.90 and £12.90 respectively by logging on to the website below.

[www.farstone.com/home/en/shtml/sales\\_eur.shtml](http://www.farstone.com/home/en/shtml/sales_eur.shtml)

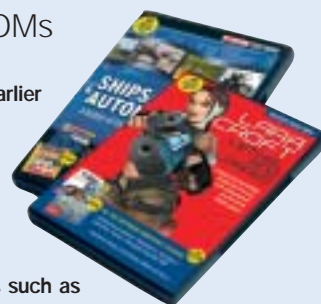
### PC Advisor offers

#### Back issue DVD-ROMs

Did you miss out on a DVD cover disc from one of our earlier 2002 issues of *PC Advisor*?

If so, fear not, you can buy the DVD-ROM discs separately for just £2.99 inc p&p (UK only).

Take your pick from titles such as *UFO Diaries: The Hidden Truth*, *Nobel's Greatest Hits* and many more. To order a copy using your credit card, call 01795 414 939 and select the DVD you want, or click the link from the cover disc to order online.



#### Issue archive CD-ROM

The *PC Advisor* 2000-2002 Issue Archive CD is just £9.99 inc p&p. This fully interactive CD contains all the 36 issues in a searchable and printable PDF (portable document format) – all for under £10.

To order your copy of this reference disc, telephone 01795 414 836 with your credit card details and quote BACK3. Alternatively, if you are thinking of subscribing to *PC Advisor* or want to renew your subscription, you could get this CD free – simply call the same number.

Call *PC Advisor* on  
01795 414 836



## EXCLUSIVE VIDEO

## British Pathe's Incredible Inventions

Ever wondered how on earth some things were thought up? Watch our DVD to find out where such ideas as a glass car, singing washing machine and musical computer came from

This DVD looks at some of the most important inventions throughout the ages from the creation of the TV to the beginning of the electrical railway, all told in classic BBC English, which adds an air of amusement. The DVD is split into three sections. Please note that some of the earlier clips are silent.

- **Communications** As a nation of mobile phone users, we take it for granted that we can pick up our handsets and use them pretty much anywhere – even on the train or in the car. But have you ever thought exactly how your mobile works or where the technology inside it came from?

This section looks back to the days when we used telephonists to connect our calls and charts the development of some of today's modern technologies. The television phone, as it was then called, marks the first stages of videophones where users could for the first time see who they were speaking to.

It's hard to believe the huge TV-sized box and the large accompanying phone, which filled the users' desk, were once cutting-edge devices. See how pictures were transmitted to the television and understand what communications were like around 50 years ago.

- **Inventions** Find out about some of the wackiest inventions ever made, from the hilarious buffer belt designed to "keep your partner at bay" to the humming washing machine which sings as it works.

Perhaps the coolest and funniest invention is the glass car. A square box on wheels which provides near-perfect all-round vision. It's sort of a cross between a milk float and a double-glazed Popemobile. Its top speed of 50mph is pretty impressive all things considered, plus the voiceover really helps set the tone of the era to give you an idea just how groundbreaking these inventions were for their time.



← People in glass cars shouldn't throw stones: perhaps fear of high-speed shattering incidents stopped this vehicle going into mass production



↑ The precursor to the Segway human transporter?

↑ Back in the 40s, sonic cleaning was all the rage among washerwomen

← The first TV-phones were large and clunky but they paved the way for today's state-of-art video-conferencing systems

Footage of the rocket jetpack is not to be missed, either. The video offers a fair few laughs as the inventor hadn't quite got the technology right.

- **Crazy computers** Anyone interested in computers will be amazed at just how far the humble PC has come. The digital PDP computer is a musical masterpiece. Its sheer size gives it a striking resemblance

to today's most powerful supercomputers but its only function was to compose and play music. The electronic music is pretty hilarious, but in its day this was considered a 'supercomputer'.

Railways also feature in this section, with a look at how the control of modern trains went electronic, thanks to a few clever computers.

### To install:

To watch the video, load your desktop DVD player and press Play to bring up the chapter menu. To load the *PC Advisor* software interface, follow these instructions.

Go to Start, Run. Then type d:\master.exe (where D is the letter of your DVD drive). Or go to Start, Programs, Windows Explorer to locate the relevant EXE file. Follow the onscreen instructions to install the program you want. Please read the licence and any Read Me files for any special instructions that may relate to the individual products.

If you are unable to access the DVD contents even manually or experience problems with the disc, call our DVD helpline on 0870 739 7630.

## Games domain

From James Bond to car racing, there's something to please every gaming enthusiast among these demos.

- Toca Race Driver Take newcomer Ryan McKane's racing car to victory, changing him from rookie to touring car champion. Graphics and handling are second to none, and skids and crashes are pretty good fun too.
- The Gladiators Forget the Romans, think Martians. Okay, so you do have the Colosseum as your battleground but your weapons are a bit more advanced than Spartacus' sword and net.
- James Bond 007: Nightfire Armed with a variety of enviable gadgets, Bond flits between exotic women and hot locations in his mission to stop yet another evil criminal mastermind who is, of course, bent on taking over the world.
- Knight Rider Journey back to the 1980s – that decade that style forgot – and help the bouffant-haired Michael Knight and his buddy Kitt, a talking



Pontiac Trans-Am, fight the baddies and keep the streets clean.

- Medal of Honour: Allied Assault Experience the final months of World War II excitement as you rewrite history. Play as the allies, Germans or Russians each with their own set of missions.

← Defy gravity in Kitt, Michael Knight's flying Trans-Am

↘ Hug those corners in Toca Race Driver

↓ That ball was in! You cannot be serious!



- Earth 2150 The Earth is on a crash course with the sun so it's time to leave and set up a colony on Mars. Fantastic 3D graphics make this game easy on the eyes.
- Tennis Masters Feel the thrill of playing in a real tennis stadium without leaving your PC... you know the score. ■

## How to buy the DVD-ROM and subscribe

### DVD-ROM cover disc for just £2.99

There's no need to buy a second copy of *PC Advisor* just because you've read about all the extras on the DVD edition and want to enjoy them. Buy the Spring 03 DVD-ROM separately for just £2.99, including postage and packing (UK only). To order a copy using your credit card call 01795 414 939 or complete this coupon.

### DVD-ROM upgrade

If you're an existing *PC Advisor* subscriber, you can upgrade to the DVD edition. Either:

1. call 01795 414 939 for a personal quotation, or
2. email your personal quotation request with your name and address details to [pcadvisordvd@galleon.co.uk](mailto:pcadvisordvd@galleon.co.uk).

### Subscription offer

Subscribe to the DVD edition of *PC Advisor* for just £19.99, saving more than 44 percent on the normal price. Call 01795 414 939, quoting PCADVD91, or complete this coupon.

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DVD for Spring 03	£2.99		
6 issues of <i>PC Advisor</i> with DVD	£19.99		
12 issues of <i>PC Advisor</i> with DVD	£39.99		

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 Offer ends 30 April 2003. Source code: PCADVD91.