



Glossary

accumulator: The register in the 65C02 microprocessor where most computations are performed.

ACIA: Acronym for *Asynchronous Communications Interface Adapter*. A single **chip** that converts data from parallel to serial form and vice versa. An ACIA handles serial transmission and reception and RS-232-C signals under the control of its internal registers, which can be set and changed by firmware or software.

acronym: A word formed from the initial letters of a name or phrase, such as ROM (from *read-only memory*).

address: A number that specifies the location of a single **byte** of memory. Addresses can be given as decimal integers or as hexadecimal integers. A 64K system has addresses ranging from 0 to 65535 (in decimal) or from \$0000 to \$FFFF (in hexadecimal).

algorithm: A step-by-step procedure for solving a problem or accomplishing a task.

American Simplified Keyboard: See **Dvorak keyboard**.

analog: Varying smoothly and continuously over a range, rather than changing in discrete jumps. For example, a conventional 12-hour clock face is an analog device that shows the time of day by the continuously changing position of the clock's hands. Compare **digital**.

analog data: Data in the form of continuously variable quantities. Compare **digital data**.

analog signal: A signal that varies continuously over time, rather than being sent and received in discrete intervals. Compare **digital signal**.

analog-to-digital converter (ADC): A device that converts quantities from analog to digital form. For example, computer hand controls convert the position of the control dial (an analog quantity) into a discrete number (a digital quantity) that changes stepwise even when the dial is turned smoothly.

AND: A logical operator that produces a true result if both its operands are true, and a false result if either or both of its operands are false. Compare **OR**, **NOT**, **exclusive OR**.

ANSI: Acronym for *American National Standards Institute*, which sets standards for many technical fields and is the most common standard for computer terminals.

Apple I: The first Apple computer. It was built in a garage in California by Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak.

Applesoft BASIC: The Apple II dialect of the BASIC programming language. An interpreter for creating and executing Applesoft BASIC programs is built into the firmware of computers in the Apple II family. See also **BASIC**, **Integer BASIC**.

Apple III: An Apple computer; part of the Apple II family. The Apple III offered a built-in disk drive and built-in RS-232-C (serial) port. Its memory was expandable to 256K.