

How I Went Broke Saving Money With My Computer

A dismal tale in words and data.

MXT Microcomputer	\$ 900.00
Disk drives	700.00
Printer	500.00
Service contract	100.00
Computer course	350.00
Repeated course; did not understand instruction.	390.00
Balanced checkbook on computer; bank charges for writing checks on insufficient funds in account.	25.50
Purchased box of floppy disks	39.50
Purchased roll of paper for printer	32.75
Audit by IRS: miscalculations on tax form performed on microcomputer.	310.03
Purchased TV monitor for computer (kids wanted their TV back).	269.25
Spent evenings and worked late into the night learning how to use computer; as a result overslept, late for work and lost promotion.	5,000.00
Purchased additional computer instruction books and software.	85.95
Power failure after typing yearly budget on microcomputer and before it was saved on disk. (Paper documentation was discarded.) Cost of replacing budget data.	360.11
Purchased new chair (destroyed it while-drunk).	45.95
Joined local computer club.	25.00
Sued for copying after breaking code on copyrighted disk program.	157.37
Divorce settlement	28,543.04
Relocated to apartment (moved out of house).	<u>7,200.00</u>
Total first year's cost:	45,034.45
Savings on conventional methods of managing household budget.	<u>71.67</u>
Net cost first year's use of computer	\$44,962.78