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bncdoc.id	FT8
bncdoc.year	1993
bncdoc.title	What personal computer: the ultimate guide to choosing and using.
bncdoc.info	What personal computer: the ultimate guide to choosing and using. Sample containing about 54962 words from a periodical (domain: applied science)
Text availability	Worldwide rights cleared
Publication date	1985-1993
Text type	Written books and periodicals
David Lee's classification	W_pop_lore

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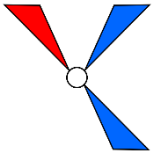

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you in the right direction. Your elderly machine was made by Triumph Adler. Give them a bell on for more information. A: Thanks for the copious documentation - bad news for trees but good news for The Voice of the Anorak. While it is straightforward to create High RAM or Upper memory on a 386, it isn't so easy with 286-based PCs. Luckily, there is a back doorway with some machines and QRAM used this loophole to produce Upper memory blocks. The PCs need to have a suitable support chipset, typically a NEAT or LEAP chipset. This enables them to turn to Extended memory into Expanded memory. The BIOS and the PC must be capable of shadowing - that is copying the contents of slow ROM, such as the BIOS or VGA BIOS, into faster RAM, thus speeding up the system. QRAM can exploit these capabilities and give you access to **the unused RAM that sits between 640Kb and 1,024Kb**. You're right to want **more Conventional RAM** as it will allow you to run bigger programs - some games won't run with less than 610Kb of **free RAM**. But by and large you're putting yourself through hell just to squeeze out that last drop of **RAM** that you won't actually use: you run programs like WordPerfect 5.1 which can run in 512Kb, so memory isn't important here. The first thing to do is make sure you're not wasting Conventional memory, I note from the supplied listings that you're loading a mouse driver twice - once in CONFIG.SYS and again in AUTOEXEC.BAT. I'd also look to trim **RAM** consumption by ditching things like SHARE and ANSI.SYS. As you're using SMARTDrive, you can save 2,5Kb by reducing your BUFFERS statement from 15 to 10. The Stacker device driver is pretty big - 40Kb - and unless this can be loaded high, it's going to take a big chunk of Conventional memory. I would have thought that you could have got more than 32Kb of Upper memory from QRAM. You'll lose 64Kb to the EMS page frame, which is located at address C800, and your 32Kb sits on top of that, at D800. Normally **the whole of the 'E' segment** is for grabs - that is, from E000 to EFFF - which would add another 64Kb to your Upper memory. You can use the DESQview utility, Manifest, to examine **this area** to see if it's usable. MSD, the Microsoft Diagnostics program that comes with Windows 3.1, also does a good job. Assuming QRAM is like QEMM386, you can most likely add an Include statement to your QRAM line in CONFIG.SYS, which forces it to use

this area of RAM

. It would look like this: I=E000-EFFF You'll then be able to load Stacker high, plus things like Keyb. At best I estimate that you'll be able to reduce the hit on **conventional RAM** to around 33Kb, leaving you with over 600Kb to play with. MSD, the diagnostics program that comes with Windows 3.1, will scrutinize your machine and tell you which areas of memory are usable THE LAST SYMPHONY Q: I have a copy of Lotus Symphony, supplied by a rival mag. Generally it works OK, apart from two problems. First, I can't get the word processor, or anything else, to print correctly. The printer (Panasonic KX-P2123) simply continues overprinting on the same line without any attempt to line feed. Other programs which I run, like WordStar, work K. My printer is defined as an Epson LQ. Secondly, whenever I go

	into the window mode, the system freezes and even Ctrl=Break won't work, although I have did set BREAK=ON before running the software. Then I have to reboot the PC. Bearing in mind that I'm still finding my way around Symphony, I fear that every next step might lock the processor. Can you offer any suggestions? I'd even scrap Symphony and buy MS Works if it's more reliable. The processor I use is an unbadged 386SX IBM clone with a SuperVGA display. A: I congratulate you on your choice of problem page. As you so rightly say, the printer isn't issuing a line feed at the end of each line, causing the paper to stay still. There are two ways to crack this nut. The first involves altering the printer configuration. Dot matrix printers usually give you a choice between CR+LF (Carriage Return and Line Feed), just CR which moves the print head from right to left, or just LF which rolls the paper up one line. Some application software only issues a CR at the end of the line, expecting the printer to perform the LF without being told; that is, it's set to CR+LF. In this case the printer issues a Line Feed every time it receives a Carriage Return. And some applications prefer to control the printer explicitly, by issuing separate CR and LF commands. So, you should be able to fix this problem at either end - either adjust the software or the printer. If both printer and application are set to CR only, this would cause your problem. The screen hanging is a curious problem. Symphony is such an old program that I'd be surprised if it has any bugs in it. This is a tricky one