

Commodore VIC-20 Chronology

1978

- 6560 VIC1 Chip developed, intended for game consoles to be manufactured by OEM's (read: not Commodore)
-

1980 April

- Jack Tramiel announced at a strategy meeting in London, England. The intention is to build a US\$300 home computer.

1980 June

- VIC-1001 Announced as the worlds first Colour Computer for less than \$300 and sold in Japan's Seibu Department Store. The machine would later be rebranded VIC-20.
-

1981 Jan – Feb

- First VIC's delivered to retailers
 - Bally Arcade licenses Commodore to manufacture its arcade games into cartridges for the VIC-20
-

1982 Jan

- VIC Modem, a 300 Baud Cartridge, is released for \$110

1982 Fall / Winter

- [Commodore 64](#) announced
 - Commodore has shipped 750,000 VIC-20 computers by the end of 1982. Apple Computer has shipped 600,000 Apple II computers by the end of 1982. Timex has shipped 600,000 Timex/Sinclair 1000 computers by the end of 1982. Texas Instruments has shipped 575,000 TI 99/4 computers by the end of 1982.
-

1983 January

- Commodore's sales of VIC-20s exceeds 1,000,000 units!
-

1984 January

- January 13th – Commodore shows off prototype [264 and 364](#) at CES and indicates they should be in production by June
 - January 15th – Commodore's founder, visionary and CEO, Jack Tramiel quits Commodore with secret plans to buy the near bankrupt Atari
 - Commodore shows a Golden Jubilee version of the 64 to commemorate the 1,000,000 C64 to be produced in the US
-

1985 January

- Commodore shows off the [C128 Personal Computer](#) at CES. This new machine has three modes: 64, [CP/M](#) and the new 128KB mode
- Last VIC is produced and shipped
- Total lifetime sales are about 2,500,000 units