

Mike Sears
Right for today,
ready for tomorrow

IBM Personal System/2 Model 55 SX

Powerful performance at a practical price

Now there's a way to put the extra power of 386 personal computing technology within your reach—without paying top dollar. Thanks to an 80386SX™ chip, the new IBM Personal System/2® Model 55 SX can support the same advanced applications that today's leading 386-based personal systems do. Yet it's priced affordably—costing only as much as you'd expect to spend for less powerful 286-based machines.



That's not all. This new model offers the advanced features you'd expect to find on any other high-powered PS/2®—including Micro Channel™ Architecture and integrated VGA graphics. And it comes in two versions with either 30Mb or 60Mb of fixed disk storage.

Get superior value and price/performance. The 80386SX processor in this new PS/2 pays off in more than 386 compatibility at an economical cost to you. It pays off in enhanced performance—20 percent faster performance, in fact, than 286-equipped systems like the popular IBM PS/2 Model 50 Z.

Handle more than one task at a time. Ideal for use as a stand-alone system or a connected workstation, the 55 SX gives you plenty of computing power. Its 16 MHz 80386SX microprocessor and standard 2Mb of memory are among the reasons why. And with memory expansion capability up to 16Mb, you can apply the power of this PS/2 to support advanced productivity programs of every kind.

What's more, you're not confined to running single applications with this system. You can take advantage of IBM Operating System/2™ Standard and Extended Editions to handle more than one task at a time—and watch your productivity climb.

For example, you can write a report with a word processing program and easily switch back and forth to data base files. Keep several accounting files active in memory—and quickly move among them to compare bottom lines. Build graphics and text with two separate programs and view both programs onscreen at once.

Use company resources to your best advantage. With Model 55 SX, you can make maximum use of computing resources throughout your company. You can send a document to be printed on your network's printer while accepting data from a colleague across the hall. Or even hold communications sessions with more than one host computer at a time.

IBM

IBM Personal System/2 Model 55 SX at a glance

Machine number	8555-031	8555-061
80386SX microprocessor	16 MHz, 0-2 wait states	16 MHz, 0-2 wait states
Optional 80387SX Math Co-Processor	16 MHz	16 MHz
Memory (RAM)		
Standard	2Mb	2Mb
Maximum on system board	4Mb	4Mb
System maximum	16Mb	16Mb
Integrated functions	128Kb permanent memory (ROM), Video Graphics Array (VGA) and display port, serial port, parallel port, pointing device port, keyboard port, diskette controller, clock/calendar	
System expansion	Three 16-bit expansion slots	
Operating systems	DOS 3.3 or 4.0, IBM Operating System/2 Standard and Extended Editions, AIX PS/2 ²	
Storage		
1.44Mb 3.5-inch diskette drives	1	1
Fixed disk		
Standard	30Mb (39ms)	60Mb (27ms)
Optional	IBM 5.25" External Diskette Drive, IBM 3363 Optical Disk Drive, IBM 6157 Streaming Tape Drive	
Text/graphics support	VGA supports 640 x 480 graphics mode plus all CGA, EGA and MCGA modes and provides up to 256 colors (from a palette of over 256,000) and 64 shades of gray (monochrome)	
Display modes	All CGA, EGA and MCGA modes plus: 320 x 200 pels x 256 colors—all points addressable 640 x 480 pels x 16 colors—all points addressable 9 x 16 character box—16 colors (text)	
Keyboard	101 keys, including 12 function keys, 3 lighted mode indicators; 6-foot coiled cable	
Supported displays	IBM Personal System/2 Color Displays 8512, 8513 and 8514; IBM Personal System/2 Monochrome Displays 8503 and 8507	
Supported printers	IBM Proprinter™ family, IBM Personal Page Printer II, IBM Quickwriter™, IBM Quietwriter® Printers	
Communications support	IBM Token-Ring Network Adapter/A and 16/4 Adapter/A, IBM PC Network Adapter II/A, IBM PC Network Baseband Adapter/A, IBM 3270 Connection, IBM System 36/38 Workstation Emulation Adapter/A, IBM Dual Async Adapter/A, IBM Multi-Protocol Adapter/A, IBM 300/1200 Internal Modem/A, IBM Realtime Interface Co-Processor Multiport/2	
Power supply	90-watt worldwide	
Size	Approx. 4.0"H x 16"W x 15.6"D (102mm x 406mm x 397mm); 19 lbs. (8.6 kg)	



Superior analog displays offer you a choice of price and function. Whether you need crisp monochrome text or vivid, detailed color graphics, you'll find the right display to suit your work and budget.

Integrated functions give you significant capability from the start. Model 55 SX comes with VGA color graphics capabilities—plus built-in support for your display, printer, keyboard, even for a modem and pointing device. All these features are packed into just a few components right on the system board—making Model 55 SX streamlined and reliable.

Built-in Video Graphics Array (VGA) provides videolike clarity for business graphics, text, even digitized photos. These advanced capabilities result in a screen image that's brilliant and natural-looking. VGA also supports CGA, EGA and MCGA graphics and text.

DOS support allows you to run a full roster of DOS applications. And since Model 55 SX is designed to grow as your business grows, you can step up to the operating system of your choice—the full-function DOS 4.0, OS/2™ or AIX™ Personal System/2.²

Wide range of communications options makes Model 55 SX ideal for use within a number of networks and larger system environments.

Switchless setup means all you do is connect Model 55 SX and begin. Convenient ports and plugs keep things simple.

What you get

IBM Personal System/2 Model 55 SX is packaged in two cartons, one containing the system unit and the following:

- System unit power cord
- Keyboard cable
- Quick reference manual
- System reference diskette with tutorial and diagnostics
- Technical directory

The other carton contains the enhanced keyboard.

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- Power supply
 - 2Mb standard memory
 - Keyboard port
 - Pointing device port
 - Parallel port
 - Serial port
 - Display port
 - 16-bit expansion slots
 - Fixed disk (30Mb or 60Mb)
 - 1.44Mb 3.5-inch diskette drive
 - 80386SX microprocessor
 - 80387SX Math Co-Processor (optional)
 - LED indicators

Highlights

Here are some of the important features and functions that Model 55 SX offers.

Micro Channel Architecture provides efficient data paths for fast, balanced performance—especially when you're supporting multiple tasks and concurrent input/output operations. The Micro Channel provides a platform for expansion and growth as well.

386 compatibility puts you in the major leagues of computing power. That's because you've got the right instruction set to support 32-bit software programs like Microsoft® Windows 386.

Three 16-bit expansion slots let you customize Model 55 SX to suit changing needs. So as your business expands, you can easily connect your PS/2 to a local area network by using the appropriate adapter card. And you can just as

easily attach such devices as scanners and optical disks to support increasingly advanced applications.

2Mb user memory is standard whether you choose Model 55 SX with a 30Mb or 60Mb fixed disk. And every 55 SX system can support up to 16Mb with optional

16-bit memory expansion adapters and memory kits.

30Mb or 60Mb fixed disk provides ready-access storage for more than 15,000 or 30,000 pages¹ of information.

1.44Mb diskette drive lets you easily load files and programs stored on compact 3.5-inch diskettes. Each durable, high-density diskette can hold the equivalent of 720 pages¹ of information.

Options

Model 55 SX supports a wide array of optional features. What follows is a listing of some of the options available:

- IBM Personal System/2 80387SX Math Co-Processor (16 MHz)
- IBM Personal System/2 2-8Mb 80286 Memory Expansion Option
- IBM Personal System/2 0-8Mb Expanded Memory Adapter/A
- IBM Personal System/2 Mouse
- IBM Personal System/2 5.25" External Diskette Drive
- IBM Personal System/2 Data Migration Facility
- IBM 6157 Streaming Tape Drive
- IBM 3363 Optical Disk Drive
- IBM Personal System/2 Display Adapter 8514/A
- IBM Personal System/2 8514 Memory Expansion Kit
- IBM 300/1200 Internal Modem/A
- IBM Dual Async Adapter/A
- IBM Multi-Protocol Adapter/A
- IBM 3270 Connection
- IBM System 36/38 Workstation Emulation Adapter/A
- IBM Token-Ring Network Adapter/A
- IBM Token-Ring 16/4 Adapter/A
- IBM PC Network Adapter II/A
- IBM PC Network Baseband Adapter/A
- IBM 3117 Adapter/A
- IBM 3119 Adapter/A
- IBM High Speed Adapter/A
- IBM Personal Pageprinter Adapter/A
- IBM Realtime Interface Co-Processor Multiport/2
- IBM 4250 Print Adapter/A
- InfoWindow Attachment Kit

Warranty/Service

Every IBM product is built to meet high standards of quality and reliability. So you can count on Model 55 SX to perform smoothly year after year.

Model 55 SX is backed by a one-year limited warranty. And extended service terms are available from IBM Authorized Advanced Products Dealers.

With an IBM Maintenance Agreement, you can arrange for on-site service.

IBM Personal System/2 Model 55 SX features

Feature	Function	Benefit
16 MHz 80386SX microprocessor	Processes 386 instruction set; uses a 16-bit data path	Enhanced price/performance; ability to take advantage of 386 instruction set
2Mb of memory (RAM), expandable to 16Mb with memory expansion options	Provides electronic workspace for programs and files and/or for multiple applications	Rapid data processing; support for advanced applications, including multitasking
Micro Channel Architecture	Executes multiple input/output operations at the same time	Improved productivity; foundation for future growth
Integrated functions and streamlined design	Include 128Kb of permanent memory containing security features and Advanced BIOS functions; pack more capabilities into fewer components on the system board; reduce footprint; eliminate internal cables	Data and program security; support for concurrent operations; easy set-up, operation and expansion; better price/performance; enhanced reliability
Internal fixed disk drive	Provides 30Mb or 60Mb of storage for 15,000 or 30,000 pages ¹ of information; 39ms or 27ms average access, respectively; user-selectable software disk cache memory; 1:1 disk interleave factor	Faster, more convenient access to programs and data than with diskettes; support for advanced applications and data bases; enhanced throughput via reduced storage and retrieval time on fixed disk
1.44Mb 3.5-inch diskette drive	Protect media in hard plastic enclosure	Smaller, more portable; reliable storage
Built-in VGA capabilities	Include up to 256 colors (from a palette of over 256,000) plus 64 shades of gray (monochrome)	High-quality, high-detail graphics and text; improved on-screen readability
IBM PS/2 Enhanced Keyboard	Has 101 keys, including 12 function keys and three lighted mode indicators	Simplified command entry; less chance of accidental printing or erasing
Network and host emulation capabilities	With the appropriate hardware and software, offer network services and connection to larger systems	Shared hardware and software; electronic mail capability; workgroup productivity benefits; access to mainframe functions, files and applications
5.25-inch external diskette drive options	Provide capability to interchange data and software with systems that use 5.25-inch diskettes	Compatibility with IBM PC 360Kb and 1.2Mb diskettes
200Mb optical disk drive option	Writes once, reads many times; holds up to 100,000 pages ¹ of information on one cartridge	Fixed disk backup; large permanent storage; removable media for archiving
Tape drive options	Save/restore fixed disk data	Fixed disk backup and file restoration; removable media for archiving
IBM support and service	Assure parts and service nationwide; offer 12-month limited warranty	Customer purchase backed by IBM

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²Micro Channel, Operating System/2, OS/2, AIX, Proprinter and Quickwriter are trademarks of International Business Machines Corporation. 80386SX is a trademark of Intel Corporation.

¹8 1/2 x 11-inch, double-spaced typewritten pages.

²Model 8555-061 will be supported by a future release of AIX PS/2. Release availability will be announced in third quarter of 1989.



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