

Chapter One. Introduction to the PC/KPR System.

What is PC/KPR?

The Xerox/Kurzweil PC/KPR (Personal Computer/Kurzweil Personal Reader) system is a combination of software and hardware designed to help visually impaired people read the countless number of printed documents that come into their lives each day. In addition to visually impaired people, PC/KPR can be an asset to anyone who has problems reading regular print text, such as dyslexics, or those for whom English is not their primary language.

The Xerox/Kurzweil PC/KPR system consists of three basic components: an optical scanner, a software package, and a co-processor circuit board that you install in your personal computer.

You combine the three PC/KPR components with your own speech synthesizer and screen reader program to read text aloud. PC/KPR also allows you to save the documents you scan to a computer disk file, which can later be converted into braille or read aloud at your convenience.

System Requirements.

Computer.

PC/KPR will run on IBM PC/XT and PC/AT computers, and true IBM compatibles. PC/KPR will also run on IBM PS/Two Model Twenty-Five, Model Thirty and Model Thirty/Two-Eighty-Six computers.

Disk Operating System.

To run PC/KPR, your system must have DOS version Three-Point-Zero or later.

Hard Disk.

To use PC/KPR, you must have an IBM PC/XT, PC/AT, or compatible computer with a hard disk that has at least five megabytes of free space. Note that if you plan on scanning particularly large documents - for example over forty pages at one time - your hard disk will need to have more free space.

Minimum RAM.

To run PC/KPR, it is recommended that your computer have at least six-hundred-forty kilobytes of RAM. It is possible to run PC/KPR with five-hundred-twelve kilobytes, but you may encounter problems related to insufficient memory when trying to save large documents with certain word processor formats.

For example, if you find that you are able to save a scanned file in ASCII format, but are not able to save it in MultiMate format, you probably have insufficient free RAM in your system.

The actual RAM required depends on the other RAM resident programs you have running, such as your screen reader, your speech synthesizer system, any networking software or hardware devices, et cetera.

Speech Synthesizer and Screen Reader.

You must provide your own screen reading program and speech synthesizer for use with PC/KPR. PC/KPR will run without a screen reader or speech synthesizer, but then you would not be able to hear the text that you are scanning read aloud.

How This Manual is Organized.

This manual is broken into ten chapters and four appendices as follows:

Chapter One, which you are reading now, provides an introduction to PC/KPR, including system requirements, the organization of this manual, and a telephone number to call in case you have any questions.

Chapter Two provides a physical description of the PC/KPR co-processor board and its parts. This chapter also explains how to install the co-processor board. All users of PC/KPR should read this chapter.

Chapter Three provides a physical description of the Model Thirty-Five scanner and its parts, including the optional automatic document feeder. This chapter also explains how to set up the Model Thirty-Five. If you own a Model Thirty-Five scanner, you will need to read this chapter.

Chapter Four provides a physical description of the Model Twenty-Five scanner and its parts, including the optional automatic document feeder. This chapter also explains how to set up the Model Twenty-Five. If you own a Model Twenty-Five scanner, you will need to read this chapter.

Chapter Five provides a physical description of the Model Fifteen scanner and its parts. This chapter also explains how to set up the Model Fifteen. If you own a Model Fifteen scanner, you will need to read this chapter.

Chapter Six explains how to install PC/KPR software on your system. If you are a new user of PC/KPR, you will need to read this chapter.

Chapter Seven explains how to do a quick scan using PC/KPR software. If you want to start scanning documents immediately, refer to this chapter.

Chapter Eight gives step-by-step instructions for the full range of PC/KPR software capabilities. Once you have become familiar with PC/KPR, refer to this chapter for complete details about the software.

Chapter Nine covers the more advanced software installation features and upgrade topics. In this chapter, you will find information on how to reconfigure your system for different hardware devices, how to install PC/KPR for use with different languages, how to upgrade to new versions of PC/KPR, and how to remove PC/KPR from your hard disk.

Chapter Ten provides handy scanner tips on how to place documents most easily and efficiently on the scanner.

Appendix A explains some common characteristics of printed pages that can reduce the accuracy of scanner recognition and create inconsistencies in word processor format conversions.

Appendix B lists every error message you can encounter while using PC/KPR software, including a detailed explanation of each message and ways you can remedy the error condition.

Appendix C lists every error message you can encounter when installing PC/KPR software, including a detailed explanation of each message and ways you can remedy the error condition.

Appendix D lists the PC/KPR co-processor board DIP-switch settings required for the available range of I/O (Input/Output) port addresses.

Cassettes, Diskettes and Braille.

In addition to standard print format, this manual is shipped to you on audio cassette tapes, on a floppy disk, and printed in braille.

The audio cassette tapes are located in a plastic holder on the inside of the front cover of this manual.

The single floppy disk is located in the box containing the program diskettes. The documentation disk is labeled and has the volume name "USER MANUAL". The ten chapters and four indices in this manual are contained in separate files on the disk. Note that this disk is in simple ASCII format, and can be imported into almost any word processor or read with the DOS TYPE command.

The braille version of this manual is located in the box containing your scanner. Depending on the exact configuration of the system you have, this braille manual may be located instead in a separate box containing this manual and the program disks.

Where to Call if You Have Questions.

Questions or comments about any aspect of the PC/KPR system should be directed to the following numbers:

Outside Massachusetts

Dial toll-free One-Eight-Hundred.
 Three-Four-Three.
 Zero-Three-One-One.

Inside Massachusetts

Dial Six-One-Seven.
 Eight-Six-Four.
 Four-Seven-Zero-Zero.

Ask for the PC/KPR customer support line.

End of Chapter One.