

IBM 4691 Programmable Cash Terminal

Models 1 and 2



The IBM 4691 Programmable Cash Terminal was specially developed in the UK for retail outlets in the UK leisure industry. The terminal is more than just a cash register. It provides the basis for a management system for organisations with multiple retail outlets. The system includes the programmable terminal, software, and interfaces for other attachments such as customer monitors and printers.

The terminal can give greater control at the point-of-sale, reducing the risk of human error. It can be programmed to record each transaction automatically, adjust stock levels, and restrict access to the data.

The IBM 4691 Programmable Cash Terminal has high-level communications facilities that enable it to form part of a corporate management information network, giving rapid access to point-of-sale data, and contributing to operational responsiveness and flexibility. The network can also be used to help run and maintain the system remotely.

Each terminal in the system has its own independent processor and does not depend on a separate controller for its selling operations—a feature that gives greater availability in individual outlets. However, for administrative functions the terminals can be linked together on a Local Area Network to give consolidated information.

The programmable keyboard offers the flexibility to meet the different and changing requirements of the leisure industry. It has 126 keys with an underlay that can be changed to suit different rooms in the same outlet, such as bars, restaurant, or a cocktail lounge.

The IBM 4691 Programmable Cash Terminal is designed for reliable operation. It is spill-proof, filtered, and pressurised against the environment.

With its combination of security, high-level communications, reliable operation and flexibility, the IBM 4691 Programmable Cash Terminal is designed for the special conditions of the leisure industry.

Highlights

The system approach

The IBM 4691 Programmable Cash Terminal is specially designed for retail outlets in the leisure industry. The hardware system comprises of the IBM 4691 Programmable Cash Terminal (Models 1 and 2), and interfaces for other attachments.

A programmable processor

The IBM 4691 Programmable Cash Terminal is based on proven IBM hardware, and can be programmed for a wide variety of applications. The terminal has a memory of 640K bytes, and up to 1.4 megabytes of direct access storage.

It can operate with or without a mainframe and is a peer-to-peer unit. It does not depend on a controller for its selling operations. For administrative functions the terminals within an outlet can be linked together using a Local Area Network (LAN). The peer-to-peer architecture of the system provides the outlet with a high degree of customer availability.

Versatile, programmable keyboard

The keyboard has 126 keys which can be programmed, and is supplied with a standard, grid-pattern underlay which allows the customer to define the key functions. Both tactile and audible (controllable) feedback are provided by the keyboard.

Cash drawer

A deep cash drawer is provided as standard. It has a delayed 'drawer-open' alarm, which operates under program control, and a keylock. The cash drawer can be separate from, or integrated with, the terminal.

Operator's monitor

The 5-inch monochrome CRT monitor has a 40x13 character display. It tilts for ease of viewing, has a brightness control, and is designed to reduce glare.

Attachments

Various devices can be attached using industry standard interfaces—for example, a range of printers:

- A journal printer
- A local printer
- A remote printer

Up to two of these can be attached to each terminal, and a customer monitor may also be attached to either model. Additionally, a modem may be attached to a 4691 Model 1 terminal.

Environmental design features

- Unit is pressurised and incoming air filtered to protect the terminal against the environment
- Equipment is spill-proof
- It has an easy-to-clean, textured finish
- Keypad has a standard overlay with a textured, washable finish.

Features for availability

- Peer-to-peer operation
- Battery-protected CMOS memory.

Data security

The data is secure. A four-position keylock can be programmed to restrict access to certain functions and levels of data.

Local Area Networks

A number of IBM 4691 Programmable Cash Terminals can be linked together in a Local Area Network (LAN) using cable attachments provided by IBM. The terminals can pass data to each other, and data can be consolidated for communication to head office.

High-level communications

The 4691 Model 1 terminal uses IBM Synchronous Data Link Control (SDLC) to communicate across a PTT network. Although the system is not host-dependent, an IBM host computer at head office can be used to collect data from terminals using the IBM Advanced Data Communications for Stores (ADCS) program product. The same network facilities can be used to transmit data and file updates to the terminals.

Technical specifications

IBM 4691 Programmable Cash Terminal Model 1

- SDLC host communications
- RS232 interface (voltage or current loop)
- Parallel printer interface
- Local Area Network interface
- Customer monitor interface (composite video)
- 1.4Mb DASD
- 640Kb DRAM
- 32Kb CMOS battery-protected memory
- Cash drawer.

Model 2

- RS232 interface (voltage or current loop)
- Parallel printer interface
- Local Area Network interface
- Customer monitor interface (composite video)
- 1.4Mb DASD
- 640Kb DRAM
- 32Kb CMOS battery-protected memory
- Cash drawer.

Cash drawer

- Point-of-sale interface
- Drawer-open, time-based alarm
- Deep cash drawer insert.

Modem

- A line speed of 2,400 bits per second (bps) is supported. (Customer provides.)

Customer monitor

- Monochrome. (Customer provides.)

Keyboard

- 126 keys
- Tactile feedback
- Audible (controllable) feedback.

Monitor

- 5 in. CRT
- Tilt facility: -5 degrees to +35 degrees
- Anti-glare display screen
- Manual brightness control.

Cables

- Cash drawer
 - Signal cable length 2m (6.5 ft)
- Point-of-sale terminal
 - Mains cable length 3m (9.8 ft)

Memory

- DRAM 640Kb
- CMOS 32Kb, battery-protected.

Physical specifications—Models 1 and 2

Dimensions

- Point-of-sale terminal
 - Height 347mm (13.7 in.)
 - Width 460mm (18.0 in.)
 - Depth 460mm (18.0 in.)
- Cash drawer
 - Height 148mm (5.8 in.)
 - Width 460mm (18.0 in.)
 - Depth 460mm (18.0 in.)

Air temperature

- System on 10°C–35°C (50°F–95°F)
- System off 10°C–51.7°C (50°F–125°F)
- Relative humidity 8%–80%
- Wetbulb temperature 26.7°C (80.1°F)

Power input

- 200–260V, single phase, 47-55Hz.



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