THE KITCHEN COMPUTER

Background and Information

The Kitchen Computer appeared in the 1969 Neiman Marcus Christmas Catalog. For $10,600, you could buy the computer and a two-week programming course.

A Honeywell computer was covered under the counter-like console. This was one of the first computers marketed for use in the home. Computers had lots of business and research applications, but people were still unsure of home applications.

But storing recipes might be a great reason to keep a computer in your home!

Programmed in binary[1]—what is binary? Does anyone know how to read binary?

No one bought a kitchen computer—why not?

Now we all have computers in our home. The problem was not that people didn't have a use for computers. The problem was that engineers did not consider the needs of this audience and why people might want or need a computer in their home.

It is very important to keep the audience in mind when designing a product!

NOTES

1. Binary number system. Retrieved from
   https://www.britannica.com/science/binary-number-system