

AccessionIndex: TCD-SCSS-T.20121208.044

Accession Date: 8-Dec-2012

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Object name: Teletype Model 43

Vintage: c.1977

Synopsis: Teletype Model 43. S/N: 10716.

### **Description:**

The nouns ‘teletype’, also ‘teleprinter’, ‘teletypewriter’ or ‘TTY’, are defacto terms used for any electromechanical typewriter or printing terminal. They were used to transmit and receive text messages over the wired and radio links of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century communications networks.

From 1902 Joy Morton became interested in printing of telegraph messages, and consulted Charles Krum. In 1904, Krum filed a patent for a “type wheel printing telegraph machine”. In 1906 Morton and Krum established the Morkrum Company. The first commercial teletypewriters were installed on links between Boston and New York City in 1910, using machines made by the Morkrum Company, which was renamed Teletype Corporation in 1928, then taken over by AT&T in 1930. This company produced a widely-used series of models, for example the Teletype Model 15, introduced in 1930. Another early example was the Creed Model 3, introduced in 1927. Usually they included a paper tape punch and reader, the paper tape media representing basic data storage. They became widely used in military communications systems, and also in the worldwide public ‘telex’ network.

Even in the earliest computers, e.g. Colossus and ENIAC, teletypes were employed as a user interface for data input and output in text form. Over time the initial 5-bit modified Baudot data encoding (Murray code) was replaced by the 7-bit ASCII code, the printer was replaced by a display screen, paper tape was replaced by other forms of data storage, but the keyboard remains for text input even to this day (c.2015). And `"/dev/tty"` is still a device type in Unix/Linux systems.

One of the most widely used teletypes for computing was the Teletype ASR-33, introduced in 1963, a robust all-mechanical design, with many plastic parts, using a typewheel for printing, and transmitting and receiving 7-bit ASCII plus parity at 110 Baud. It became ubiquitous as a computer console.

The Teletype Model 43, introduced in 1977 to replace the ASR-33, was an electronic character-at-a-time teleprinter, transmitting and receiving 7-bit ASCII plus parity at 100 words-per-minute or 300 words-per-minute, selectable by the operator. Its printer could print up to 80 characters per line when fitted with a friction feed printer option or 132 characters per line when fitted with a 12-inch wide sprocket feed option.

Accession Index	Object with Identification
TCD-SCSS-T.20121208.044	Teletype Model 43. Manufactured under license by Data Dynamics Ltd, England. Spec: 9249, S/N: 10716

*Trivia 1: Bill Gates' first computing experience was using a Teletype ASR-33.*

*Trivia 2: Ray Tomlinson chose @ from the Teletype ASR-33 keyboard for email.*



*Figure 1: Teletype Model 43 three-quarter view*



*Figure 2: Teletype Model 43 front view*





*Figure 3: Teletype Model 43 keyboard*



*Figure 4: Teletype Model 43 left keyboard closeup*



*Figure 5: Teletype Model 43 middle keyboard closeup*



*Figure 6: Teletype Model 43 right keyboard closeup*

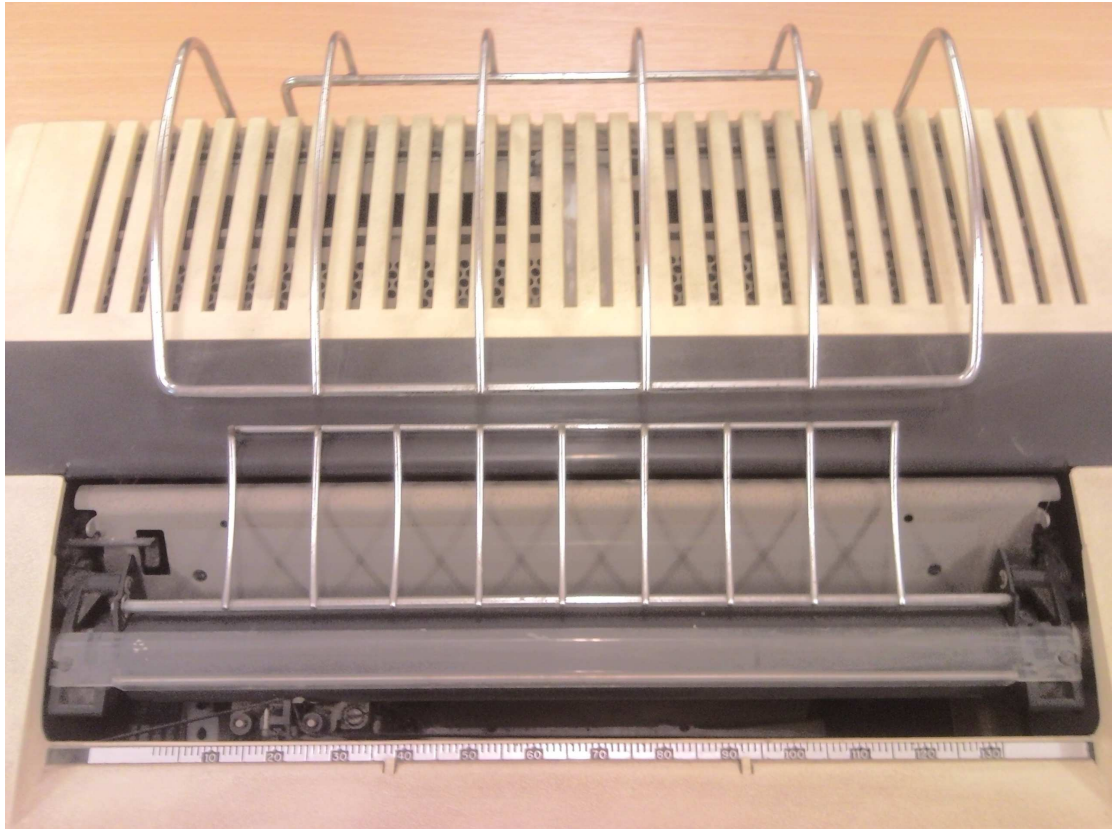




*Figure 7: Teletype Model 43 left function key closeup*



*Figure 8: Teletype Model 43 right function key closeup*



*Figure 9: Teletype Model 43 paper feed*



*Figure 10: Teletype Model 43 top rear view*





*Figure 11: Teletype Model 43 manufacturing label  
Manufactured by Data Dynamics Ltd  
Spec: 9249, ISS: 1, S/N: 10716  
Volts: 240, Amps: -, Freq: 50 Hz  
P.O.Reference No: M43, BPO: DATEL*



*Figure 12: Teletype Model 43 right rear connector view*



*Figure 13: Teletype Model 43 left rear connector view*