



GAME MANUAL



LIBRARY
SEP 1 1973
ARMY AVIATION
WAR COLLEGE

U.S. ARMY AVIATION SCHOOL
FORT RUCKER, ALABAMA

MAY 1973

Introduction

Welcome to Atari Party Panic, an interactive text adventure that catapults a fun Atari computer enthusiast meet-up into an unexpected retro thriller! Set in the historic Quakertown Train Station, what starts as a friendly computer swap meet becomes a test of your technical knowledge and problem-solving skills when you discover the station's secret past- and work to unravel its deadly secrets.

System Requirements

- Atari 8-bit computer (400/800/XL/XE series)
- 48K RAM
- One Disk Drive (810 or 1050)
- Display Monitor or TV

Getting Started

1. Power OFF your Atari computer
2. Remove any cartridges from the computer
3. Insert the Atari Party Panic disk into Drive 1
4. Hold down the OPTION key (800XL only)
5. Power ON your computer while continuing to hold the OPTION key
 - This step disables the built-in BASIC language
6. Release the OPTION key once you see the initial loading screen
7. The game will auto-boot and display the title screen - start playing!

Story Overview

You're attending an Atari computer club meeting at the historic Quakertown Train Station. Everyone has brought vintage computer parts for a swap meet, eager to trade and share their collections. However, the evening takes an unexpected turn when:

1. A mysterious external event causes a widespread power outage or other disaster.
2. The station's secret backup power system activates.
3. All exits are sealed!
4. You discover the building is controlled by a 1980s-era tech
5. You must find a way to override the system and free everyone

Game Objectives

Your primary goals are to:

1. Explore the train station to locate a control room
2. Investigate why the security system was activated
3. Figure out how to bypass or deactivate the lockdown
4. Locate and collect specific computer parts from party attendees
5. Successfully modify the control system without damaging it

Key Game Mechanics

Inventory System:

- Collect and use various Atari computer parts
- Keep track of which party members have specific chips
- Carefully document chip specifications and compatibility

Technical Puzzles

During game play there will be puzzles to solve in order to setup the sequence of events to win the game. You may need to have certain things in your inventory in order to perform tasks. You may need to perform tasks in proper sequences- but everything should be normal tasks- the game will not ask you to do something that isn't rational.

- Identify potential replacement parts for systems
- Solve problems related to the Atari 800 8bit computer
- Navigate the vintage computer interface

Important Commands

There are quite a few commands to try in the game. Below are some core commands - but they are not the only commands. If using these don't work for you try other variations of things- especially verbs. For example you could say:

"Put the disk into the drive"

Or

"Insert the disk into the drive"

Type these commands followed by ENTER / RETURN:

- LOOK or L: Examine your surroundings
- INVENTORY or I: Check your collected parts
- TALK TO [person]: Interact with party attendees
- EXAMINE [item/computer]: Inspect objects closely
- GET [item]: Pick up an item
- USE [item] WITH [object]: install items
- SAVE: Save your current game
- RESTORE: Load a saved game
- QUIT: End the game

Technical References

Throughout the game, you'll want to know a bit about:

- Atari 8-bit hardware architecture
- Common Atari chip names and their functions
- Basic military computer protocols

Tips for Success

- Document all system specifications you discover
- Talk to everyone - each person has unique knowledge
- Examine everything in the rooms carefully
- Consider the compatibility of different computer versions
- Save your game often
- Look for clues about the station's military past
- Read any notebooks or papers for information

Warning

Incorrect installations or improper system modifications may result in:

- System crashes
- Tighter security lockdown
- Loss of vital functions
- Game over scenarios (instant death)!

Remember: Your technical knowledge of Atari systems and careful attention to detail are key to escaping the station safely!

Quakertown Train Station

15 Froth Street, Quakertown, Pennsylvania 18951, United States



Storage Room

Ticket Office

Lobby

Platform

Tracks

