

introduced his Sinclair

When Clive Sinclair

Executive in 1972, it was

3-MINUTE OVERVIEW

pocket calculator, until it beaten a path towards the

computers. was driven out by then calculating machine

the world seems to have

3-SECOND SURVEY

Abacus, slide rule and



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THE CALCULATOR

the 30-second history

the must-have tools of every executive in the Electronic pocket calculators were

a cheap and compact battery-powered device run on batteries made this transition possible. commercially viable counting machine – the engine, the forerunner of the computer. used geared wheels and could add and subtract by the philosopher Blaise Pascal in 1642 also abacus, the ancient world's hand-operated everyone from students to business people. It greatly expanding the maths capabilities of integrated microchips and electronics that could that would slip into a pocket. Innovations such as power, and cost more than a family car, became bulky, heavy desktop machine that ran on mains barely a decade the calculator was transformed; a dominated office life up until the 1960s. Yet in the US-patented push-button Comptometer, Arithmometer (manufactured until 1915) - and Mechanical calculators, such as the first Babbage produced what he called a difference by repetition. In the following century Charles two numbers directly and multiply and divide operated by a series of gears. A device invented mechanical adding/subtracting calculator invented the 'calculating clock' in 1623, a mechanical calculators. Wilhelm Schickard calculating board' using beads on rods, to 1970s. The invention transformed daily lives by had taken 2,000 years to progress from the

calculator. They sold for the first truly pocket-size

£80 each. By the end

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WILHELM SCHICKARD 3-SECOND BIOGRAPHIES

first calculator with being the creator of the and astronomer credited German-Hebrew professor 1592~1635

calculating machine French philosopher who developed the first working 1623-62 BLAISE PASCAL

1940 CLIVE SINCLAIR

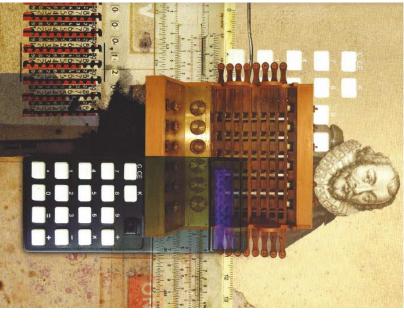
of the first pocket calculator British inventor and pioneer

personal computers. the development of about to be blown away by machines cost just £5 and of the decade, similar

the calculator industry was

David Boyle **30-SECOND TEXT**

evolved from the is hastening its demise. technological advance thousand years but abacus over four The pocket calculator



Source: 30-second Great Inventions by David Boyle