

This article needs some TLC. Read at your own risk.



Commodore VIC-20

The Commodore VIC-20 is an 8-bit home computer developed by Commodore. It was released in 1980.

In Germany, it was known as the “VC-20” instead, due to the rather unfortunate similarity between the pronunciation of “VIC” with another certain German word...

The VIC-20 was succeeded by the Commodore 64 two years later.

This system scrapes metadata for the “c64” group and loads the c20 set from the currently selected theme, if available.



Quick reference

- **Emulator:** [VICE](#)
- **Core:** [VICE: xvic](#)
- **Folder:** /userdata/roms/c20
- **Accepted ROM formats:** .a0, .b0, .crt, .d64, .d81, .prg, .tap, .t64, .m3u, .zip, .7z

BIOS

This needs confirmation.

No Commodore VIC-20 emulator in Batocera needs a BIOS file to run.

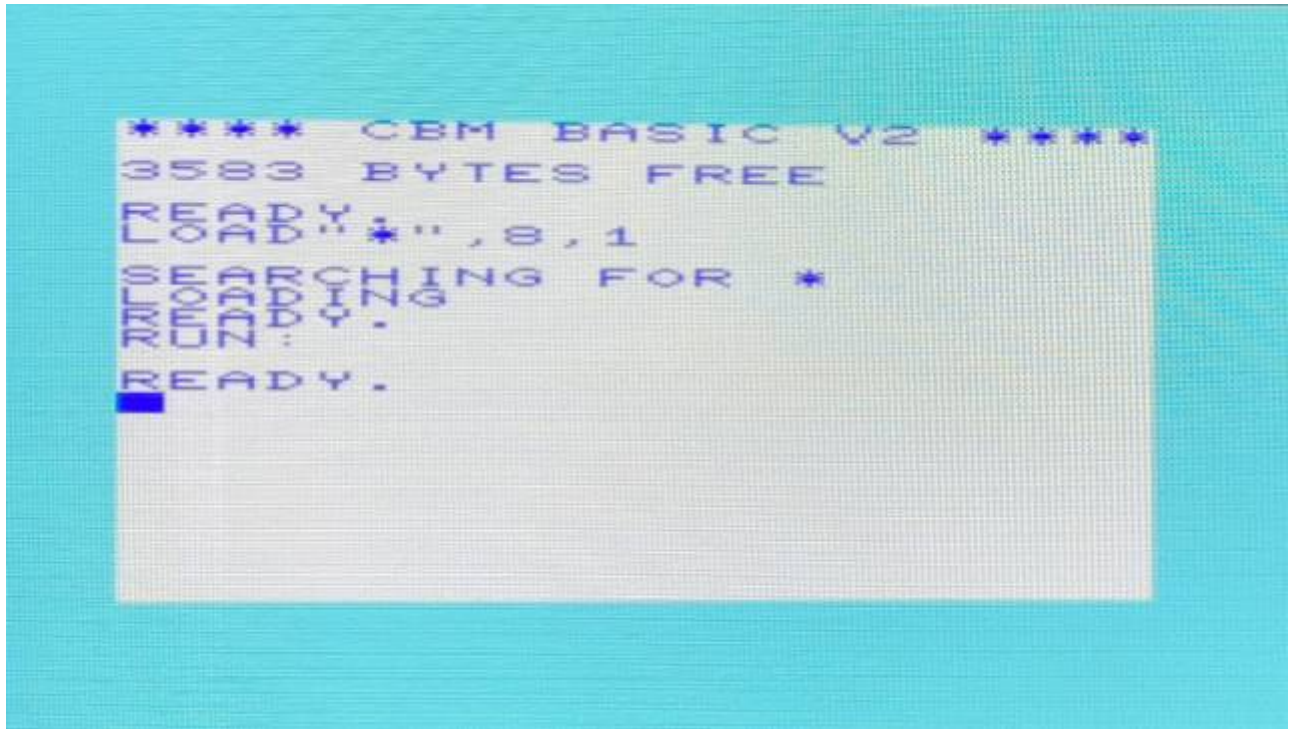
ROMs

Needs polish/alternatives/automated script(?)

Place your Commodore VIC-20 ROMs in /userdata/roms/c20.

For now, ROMs must be manually specified in VICE in order to use them with its VIC-20 emulator.

1. Launch the game, and you will be greeted with the following screen



2. Open VICE's menu with [START].
3. Select **Add to generic cartridge**.
4. Choose the cartridge type appropriate to your ROM ("4/8KiB" is fine for most).
5. Select your intended ROM.

Put the rom in the C20 folder

start(menu)⇒ Cartridge⇒Add to generic cartridge

```
Cartridge
Attach generic cartridge image
Attach Behr Bonz image
Attach Mega-Cart image
Attach Final Expansion image
Attach UltiMem image
Attach Vic Flash Plugin image
```

Add to generic cartridge →

(select bank)

```
Add to generic cartridge
Smart-attach cartridge image
Attach 4/8/16KiB image at $2000
Attach 4/8/16KiB image at $4000
Attach 4/8/16KiB image at $6000
Attach 4/8KiB image at $A000
Attach 4KiB image at $B000
```

(select rom)

```
Select cartridge image (<-)
/userdata/roms/c20
Cosmic Cruncher-fixed-A000.prg
_info.txt
gamelist.xml
```

ESC key or

Exit the menu with the start button



6. Exit the menu with [START].

Programs (PRG)

A “program” is a C64 executable file that you would LOAD and then RUN on a real C64. Using it with an emulator usually bypasses the loading process, injecting the file directly into the memory, and then automatically runs it (so there is no tape, disc or cartridge inserted). Emulators can also run programs that could not work on a real C64 because they use memory that can not be accessed during the real loading process. The most famous example is the “Oneload” collection of C64 games, which are very emulator friendly as they bypass all loading and unpacking times.

Most PRGs are “crunched”, meaning they have been optimized to use the least possible amount of disk space in order to fit more games on one disk or reduce loading times. Decrunching usually takes up to 20 seconds and is identified by wildly flickering color bars in the border area.

Cartridges (CRT)

The C64 has a cartridge port and .crt files emulate these cartridges.

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Enter VICE's menu with [START], then **Cartridge → Attach CRT image → Set current cartridge as default**. Back out to the main menu, **Settings Management** and finally **Save current settings**.

Tapes (TAP)

Loading from tapes is a long process and if you want the full experience, there are .tap images for many games that are representations of the audio on the tape and therefore you enjoy the same load times of several minutes for one game. As many later C64 games actually include extra music and graphics during the load, these large (several 100 KB) files are important for digital preservation. If a tape file is smaller than roughly 40KB most likely it is actually just a PRG file hiding inside a wrapper that can be loaded instantly.

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Disks (D64, D81)

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Multi Disk Games (ZIP, M3U)

Many games use two sided disks or more than one disk. A two sided disk must be flipped manually on a 1541, so you would eject the disk, flip it around and re-insert it. The standard naming convention for such disks is Disk 1 - Side A and Disk 1 - Side B, followed of course by Disk 2 - Side A and so on.

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Emulators

VICE

VICE configuration

Standardized features available to all cores of this emulator: `c20.videomode`, `c20.ratio`, `c20.padtkeyboard`, `c20.decoration`

ES setting name batocera.conf_key	Description ⇒ ES option key_value
Settings that apply to all cores of this emulator	
ZOOM (HIDE BORDERS) c20.noborder	Hides borders on many games. Some games used the borders. ⇒ NO (DEFAULT) 0, YES 1.

Border Graphics and Zoom Mode

todo

Controls

Here are the default Commodore VIC-20's controls shown on a [Batocera RetroPad](#):



Troubleshooting

Further troubleshooting

VICE itself has [an extensive user manual](#).

For further troubleshooting, refer to the [generic support pages](#).

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