



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

Fujitsu FM-TOWNS

The Fujitsu FM-TOWNS is a series of computers developed by Fujitsu between 1989 and 1997. It was exclusively released in Japan.

FM stands for “Fujitsu Micro”, while the “Towns” was derived from the system's codename “Townes” (referring to Charles Townes, one of the winners of the 1964 Nobel Prize in Physics) used during development. The “e” was dropped to emphasize its pronunciation like “towns” rather than “tow-nes”.

The system was known for being technologically superior to its competitors at the time, the [NEC PC-98](#) and even some 4th generation videogame consoles, however it struggled to gain the same foothold as the PC-98 did. The ports of arcade games released for the FM-7 were usually the definitive version to have at the time, outside of playing the game on the original arcade hardware itself, making them highly sought after.

In 1993, the [FM Towns Marty](#) was released, which is a game console compatible with the existing FM Towns games.

Eventually, DOS/V support would be added to the computer system, allowing for the booting of other operating systems such as Microsoft's Windows. Over time, Fujitsu would shift its development focus from software coded specifically for the FM Towns and instead making more universally compatible DOS code.

Emulation of this system is still somewhat experimental and only recommended to advanced users, those who might already be familiar with assigned drive letters manually and working the FM Town's Japanese interface.

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



Quick reference

- **Emulator:** [tsugaru](#)
- **Folder:** /userdata/roms/fmtowns
- **Accepted ROM formats:** .bin, .m3u, .cue, .d88, .d77, .xdf, .iso

BIOS

MD5 checksum	Share file path	Description
8fa4e553f28cfc0c30a0a1e589799942	bios/fmtowns/FMT_DIC.ROM	
0585b19930d4a7f4c71bcc8a33746588	bios/fmtowns/FMT_DOS.ROM	
ac0c7021e9bf48ca84b51ab651169a88	bios/fmtowns/FMT_F20.ROM	
b91300e55b70227ce98b59c5f02fa8dd	bios/fmtowns/FMT_FNT.ROM	
86fb6f7280689259f0ca839dd3dd6cde	bios/fmtowns/FMT_SYS.ROM	

In case you don't have BIOS files, a free (albeit less compatible) set can be found at [their website](#) as well.

ROMs

Place your Fujitsu FM-TOWNS ROMs in /userdata/roms/fmtowns.

Emulators

Tsugaru

[Tsugaru](#) is a relatively new FM Towns emulation project (started in January of 2020) with a high level of compatibility. System requires are particularly demanding and certain components (notably sound chips) are still experimental.

Check out the compatibility list at the bottom of their [website](#).

Tsugaru configuration

Standardized features available to all cores of this emulator: `fmtowns.videomode`, `fmtowns.pad2keyboard`, `fmtowns.decoration`

ES setting name batocera.conf_key	Description ⇒ ES option key_value
Settings that apply to all cores of this emulator	
CD-ROM SPEED <code>fmtowns.cdrom_speed</code>	⇒ AUTO (DEFAULT) auto, 1X 1, 2X 2, 4X 4, 8X 8.
FORCE 386DX CPU <code>fmtowns.386dx</code>	Required by some games. ⇒ NO (DEFAULT) 0, YES 1.

Controls

Here are the default Fujitsu FM-TOWNS's controls shown on a [Batocera RetroPad](#):



Troubleshooting

Further troubleshooting

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

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Last update: **2021/12/21 02:04**

