NEC PC-8001

The NEC PC-8001 is a home computer developed by NEC. It was released in 1979 in Japan and became one of the most popular personal computers in the country during the early 1980s. It featured a Zilog Z80-compatible NEC uPD780C CPU running at 4 MHz, 16-32 KB of RAM, and Microsoft N-BASIC in ROM. The PC-8001 series includes the original PC-8001 (1979), PC-8001 mkII (1983), and PC-8001 mkII SR (1985).

This system scrapes metadata for the “pc80” group(s) and loads the `pc80` set from the currently selected theme, if available.

Quick reference

- **Emulator:** MAME
- **Folder:** `/userdata/roms/pc80`
- **Accepted ROM formats:** `.d77`, `.d88`, `.1dd`, `.dsk`, `.n80`, `.bin`, `.zip`, `.7z`

BIOS

MD5 checksum	Share file path	Description
	`bios/pc8001mk2sr.zip`	MAME BIOS ROM set for PC-8001 mkII SR

The `pc8001mk2sr.zip` BIOS file must match the version of MAME used in your version of Batocera. You can verify your BIOS files from the Batocera menu: **GAME SETTINGS > MISSING BIOS CHECK**.

ROMs

Place your NEC PC-8001 ROMs in `/userdata/roms/pc80`.

Most PC-8001 software comes as disk images (.d88, .d77) or tape images (.n80). After booting, software on disk may auto-load, or you may need to type commands in BASIC (e.g. CLOAD for tape images or RUN for disk images).

Emulators

MAME

MAME (Multiple Arcade Machine Emulator) is a multi-purpose emulation framework that aims to preserve decades of software history. In Batocera, MAME can be used as either a standalone emulator

or as a libretro core in RetroArch.

Since PC-8001 emulation uses MAME, the specific machine variant can be selected:

- **pc8001** - Original PC-8001 (1979)
- **pc8001mk2** - PC-8001 mkII (1983)
- **pc8001mk2sr** - PC-8001 mkII SR (1985)

MAME configuration

ES setting name `batocera.conf_key`	**Description ⇒ ES option `key_value`**
Settings that apply to all cores of this emulator	
EMULATOR `pc80.emulator`	Choose the MAME variant to use. ⇒ MAME `mame`, libretro: MAME `libretro:mame`.

RetroArch

RetroArch (formerly SSNES), is a ubiquitous frontend that can run multiple “cores”, which are essentially the emulators themselves. The most common cores use the libretro API, so that's why cores run in RetroArch in Batocera are referred to as “libretro: (core name)”. RetroArch aims to unify the feature set of all libretro cores and offer a universal, familiar interface independent of platform.

RetroArch configuration

RetroArch offers a **Quick Menu** accessed by pressing `[HOTKEY]` +  which can be used to alter various things like RetroArch and core options, and controller mapping. Most RetroArch related settings can be altered from Batocera's EmulationStation.

libretro: MAME

The libretro version of MAME can also be used to emulate the PC-8001. It uses the same MAME BIOS and ROM sets as the standalone version.

Controls

The NEC PC-8001 is a computer system, so it primarily uses a **keyboard** for input. A physical USB keyboard is strongly recommended for the best experience.

Action	**Key/Button**
Type text / input commands	Physical keyboard
MAME menu	Tab

Troubleshooting

Black screen on boot

Make sure the correct BIOS file (`pc8001mk2sr.zip`) is in the `/userdata/bios/` folder and matches the MAME version used in Batocera. Use **GAME SETTINGS > MISSING BIOS CHECK** to verify.

Software won't load

Try a different machine variant (pc8001 vs pc8001mk2 vs pc8001mk2sr) as some software is only compatible with specific models.

No keyboard input

Ensure your USB keyboard is connected before launching the game.

Further troubleshooting

For further troubleshooting, refer to the generic support pages.

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Last update: **2026/03/27 10:05**