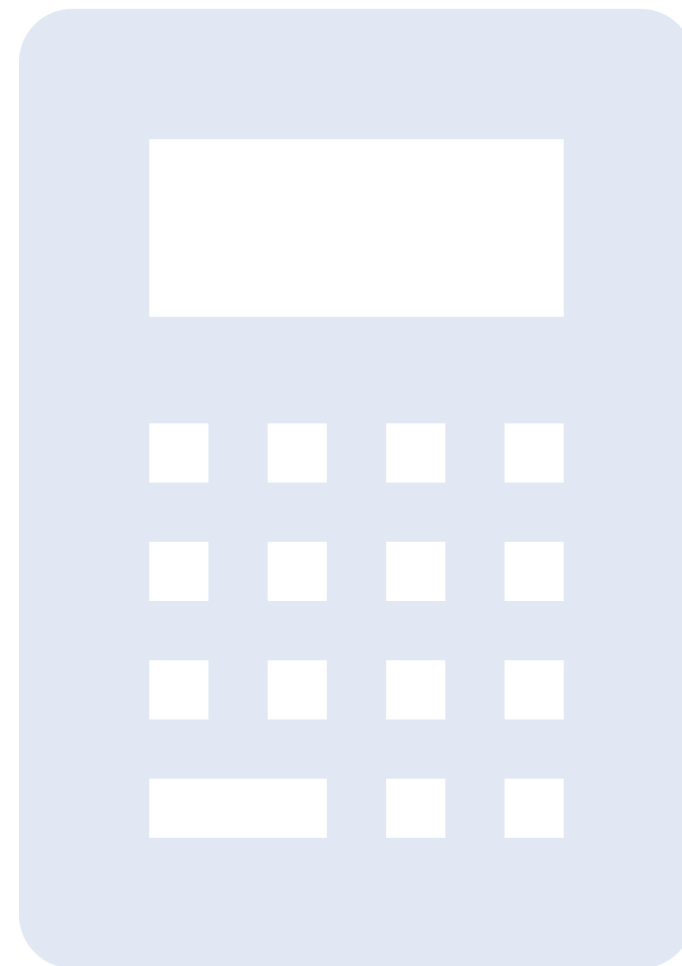


Photographing Calculators on a Budget

Alan Striegel

HP Handheld conference 2025
Orlando, FL

September 27-28, 2025



Why?

- Documenting
 - Collection
 - Insurance
 - Sharing online
 - Repair
 - Use
- Sale/Trade
- Teaching/Learning

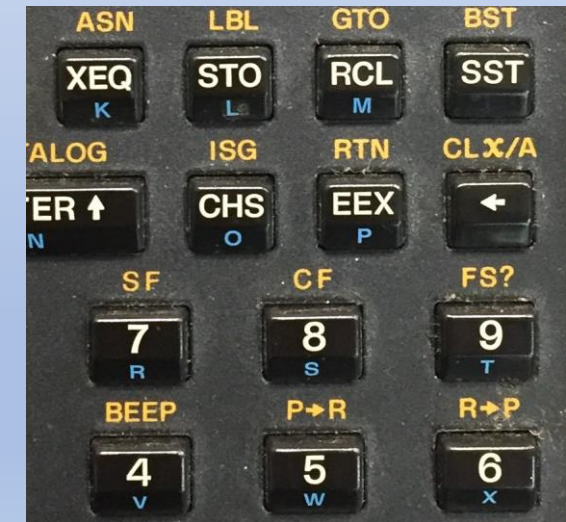
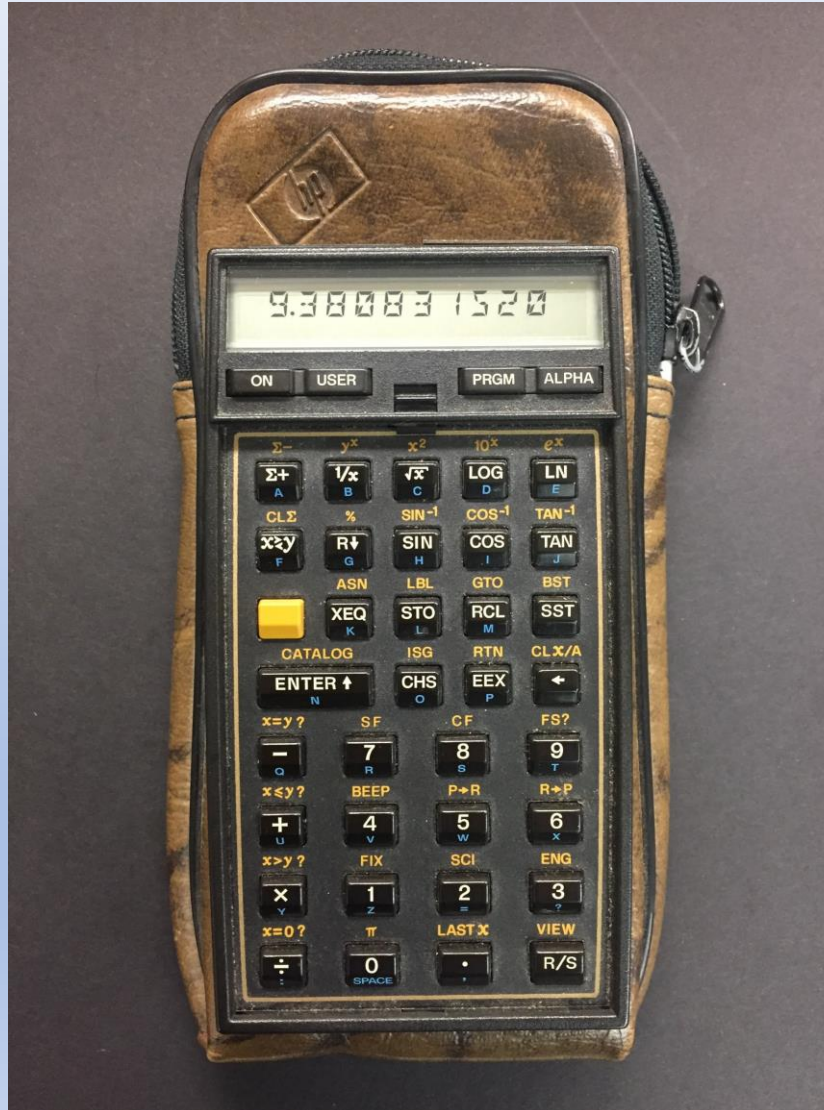
Tools

- Mobile phone
 - Remote trigger \$7.99 for 2 (Amazon.com)
- Digital camera
- Scanner
- Cleaning
 - Brush
 - Blower
 - Tweezers
 - Putty
 - Rodico
 - Green Clean Car Putty \$4.99 (Micro Center)
 - Cotton swabs
 - Water
 - Microfiber cloth



Technique

- Control:
 - Light
 - Shadows
 - Reflections



Technique

- Control:
 - Light
 - Shadows
 - Reflections



Technique



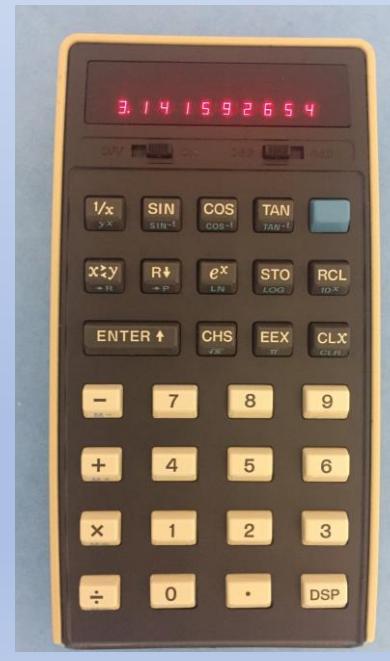
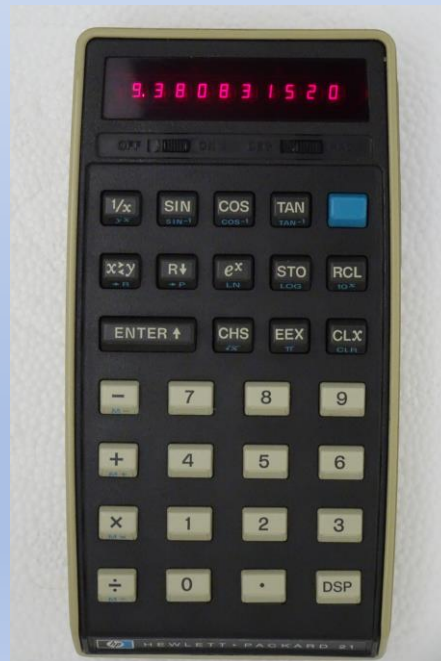
Bargain tools

- Translucent pans
 - Sterilite dishpan ~\$9.00 (Discount Drug Mart)
 - Stor-All \$2.99 (Discount Drug Mart)
- Translucent basket
 - Sterilite \$2.49 (Discount Drug Mart)
- Portable shooting tent
 - Glendan \$33.29 (Amazon)
- Backgrounds
 - Foamboard
 - Plastic folder



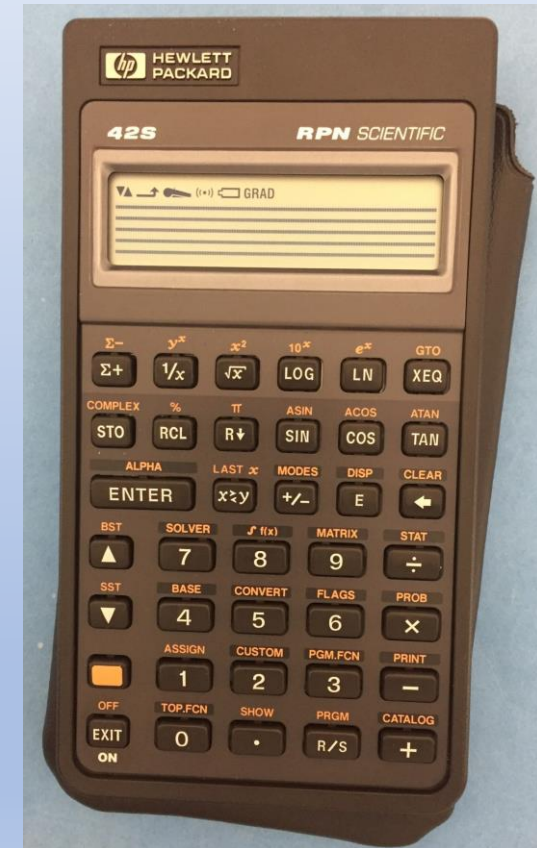
Calculator specifics

- Control:
 - LED



Calculator specifics

- Control:
 - LCD

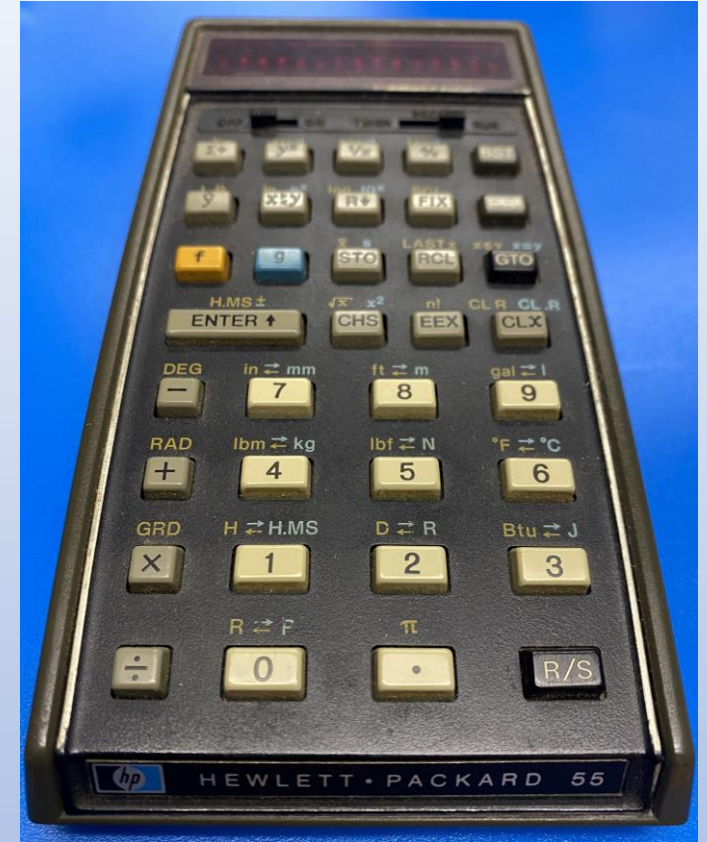


Calculator specifics

- Control:
 - Vacuum fluorescent

Close-ups

- Zoom
 - Digital
 - Optical
- Magnifiers



Close-ups

The same HP 17B II logo

Room lighting



Direct lighting

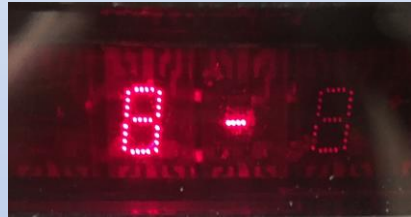


Through USB microscope

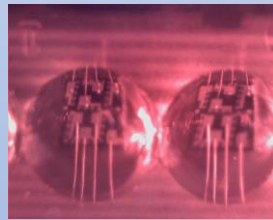


Close-ups

Red LED Display
segments lighted



Unlighted through
loupe



In general

- Resolution is not very important
 - Can you tell which of the preceding photos were taken with an iPhone 6?
- Simple setups save time and result in more good shots
- The more photos you take, the better you get
- Develop a way to manage the pictures you save
- No special lights required
- Tripods are optional
- Cheap and free stuff can be very effective

Thank you

Alan Striegel

