

# The manual for Z79FORTH

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# The Z79Forth board

Forth like it's 1979 all over again!

This platform is designed as a basis for self-education and further hardware development. The target Forth variant is the 79-STANDARD, an historic reference. The whole design is based on the Hitachi HD63C09E--a much improved implementation of the Motorola MC6809.



Main features are :

- 5 MHz CPU operation.
- 32 KB static RAM. Conceivably expandable to 48 KB.
- 8 KB EEPROM running a native 79-STANDARD Forth sub-set implementation.
- 6 spare IO device lines are decoded and available for further developments.
- USB powered. The current consumption is somewhere between 56 and 150 mA.
- Serial line console operating at 115200 bps.
- Mass storage support on SanDisk CompactFlash (up to 64 MB).
- Interrupt free design.

The software is licensed under the GNU General Public License version 3 and is available at <https://github.com/frenchie68/Z79Forth>

Kicad schematics are also provided over there.

Project status: working wire wrapped prototype. The software itself is believed to perform according to specifications. There are no known bugs at this time.

# Ressources

## Facebook

- **Z79FORTH**  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/505661250539263>

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## GitHub

- **Z79forth** is a journey into retro-computing that takes advantage of modern technology where appropriate (CMOS, USB and CompactFlash).  
<https://github.com/frenchie68/Z79Forth>

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