Specifications of the IBM 5150 PC

- **Released:** September 1981.
- **Processor:** Intel 8088 running at 4.77 MHz. Optional Intel 8087 math coprocessor.
- **Language:** IBM Basic (written and licensed to IBM by Microsoft).
- **Keyboard:** 83 Keys, 10 function keys, numeric key pad.
- **Removable Storage:** zero, one or two Full Height 5.25” 160Kb floppy disk drives. Optional tape drive or hard drive (the machine seen here has a 10Mb hard drive).
- **RAM Memory** (Random Access Memory): Anywhere between 16 and 256Kb. (The very first ones shipped with 16Kb and supported a maximum of 64Kb).
- **ROM Memory** (Read Only Memory): 64 Kb.
- **Graphics Capabilities:** Depends on installed Graphics card. Typically: Text mode 40 / 80 character X 40 lines) Graphic mode: Monochrome CGA was common (320 X 200 or 640 X 200). This particular computer has a colour Hercules VGA card in it (640 X 480), which would have been considered optional and very high end.
- **Tone generator:** Built in Speaker
- **Internal Expansion Slots:** 5 Internal 8-bit ISA slots.

**Major Successors to the IBM PC 5150:**

- **IBM 5160 PC/XT** (short for "eXtended Technology"). Launched March 8, 1983. It possessed more expansion slots, a better power-supply and lacked the cassette-port.
- **IBM 4860 PC Junior.** Launched November, 1983. It was IBM's first attempt at a cheap consumer-PC. It retained a cassette-port. It was not very successful.
- **IBM 5155 Portable PC.** Arrived February 29, 1984. It had an integrated monochrome monitor.
- **IBM PS/2 Series.** Introduced April 2, 1987. It had MCGA-graphics, 3.5” floppy disks drive and something new called the "Microchannel bus". Hailed as a solution to the inadequacy of the ISA bus, IBM's MCA bus had problems of its own: it was prohibitively expensive, and the MCA bus was not backward compatible with the ISA bus. It never really caught on.

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