

# FCR Tech Tips



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## The IBM PC Turns Thirty Years Old



On August 12, 1981 IBM introduced the first personal computer. Larry Magid, a technology journalist for [The Huffington Post](#) and former employee of Information Unlimited Software, happened to be involved in a small way by writing the manual for the EasyWriter which accompanied the word processing program designed for the original IBM PC.

In Magid's [article](#) he cited the original specifications for the IBM PC. A bare-bones computer came standard with only 16 kilobytes (KB) without a monitor or diskette drive for \$1265! A full blown system with a monitor, printer, and memory upgrade would have set you back \$4345! That is equivalent to \$9275 today.

What's really amazing is that in the thirty years since the PC's release, most of the cell phones we use today have bigger hard drives and memory and they can perform hundreds more functions than the original IBM PC from 1981.

## Stop Cyberbullying!

As a victim of bullying in Jr. High and High School myself, I can relate to what millions of kids go through on a day to day basis. I was scared to death of my bullies and would sometimes skip classes because I knew they would be there waiting for me. It got so bad that when I had the opportunity to move out of state, I left. What I went through was scary but not as bad as what bullied kids go through these days.



Today, kids can't simply go home and feel safe. Bullies have the internet, interactive digital technologies, and cell phones as tools to do their dirty work with. If a child has access to technology, then bullies can gain access to him/her. Bullying has become so bad that many kids have committed suicide like [Phoebe Prince](#), a 15 year old Irish immigrant who moved to Massachusetts with her parents and was bullied by classmates after only living there for two years.

It is up to us as parents to teach our kids what to do if they encounter a bully of any type. An excellent resource for parents and children is [www.StopCyberbullying.org](http://www.StopCyberbullying.org). On this site you can find information such as: What is it? How it works, prevention, how to take action, and more. They teach kids how to block the accounts of bullies and to tell a parent or trusted adult right away if they feel uncomfortable in any situation.

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