

**XX-19XX [P-4201] Fidelity - Chess Challenger 7** in a wooden housing (self-construction)  
Collector Luuk Hofman was able to add this model to his collection at a bargain price thanks to his long-standing contact with a German collector who preferred to remain anonymous. This model with its beautiful luxury wooden body must have been a homebrew project. The German collector once bought this specimen on eBay, and the seller could not tell him who designed this chess computer. Thus, this little mystery continues to exist.



**Fidelity Chess Challenger 7 in a wooden housing (self-construction)**

(photo by Rob van Son) (photo copyright © by <https://www.schaakcomputers.nl/>)

The 'designer' of this specimen certainly had some knowledge of electronics, because the control buttons have an improved function compared to the original model. Also special is the logo that the maker wanted to develop. Was this his own label or did he try to copy the Fidelity logo? Was he perhaps inspired by the original Fidelity Decorator? Let's keep the answers to these questions in the middle.



**It remains a kind of addiction to watch the display over and over again...**

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### Could it be a Chess Challenger 'Super' 7?

Such a version was sold in Germany mainly in 1980, and had one of the latest updates on board, making it the most aggressive Chess Challenger 7 ever to be sold!



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Of course, it is not always wise to open up a unique model to inspect the board, as this might cause irreparable damage to the wooden casing or the board itself, for example. Sometimes, from a nostalgic point of view, it is better not to do this and just enjoy playing against this peculiar model with a chess program from the late 1970s or early 1980s.



**Luuk's collection never ceases to amaze. In my eyes, he is the absolute embodiment of someone who has experienced the rise of the chess computer in all its facets from the very beginning. This makes him unique himself and I hope he will be able to enjoy his hobby for a very long time! Let me leave it at that...**

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