

### **"The legendary Chess Challenger 7 upgrade BCC"**

In December 2020, a very rare Chess Challenger 7 was offered for sale in Canada. The seller wrote the following on eBay: "The legendary Chess Challenger 7 upgrade BCC. An extremely rare machine, complete with all parts, manual, and case. In perfect condition."

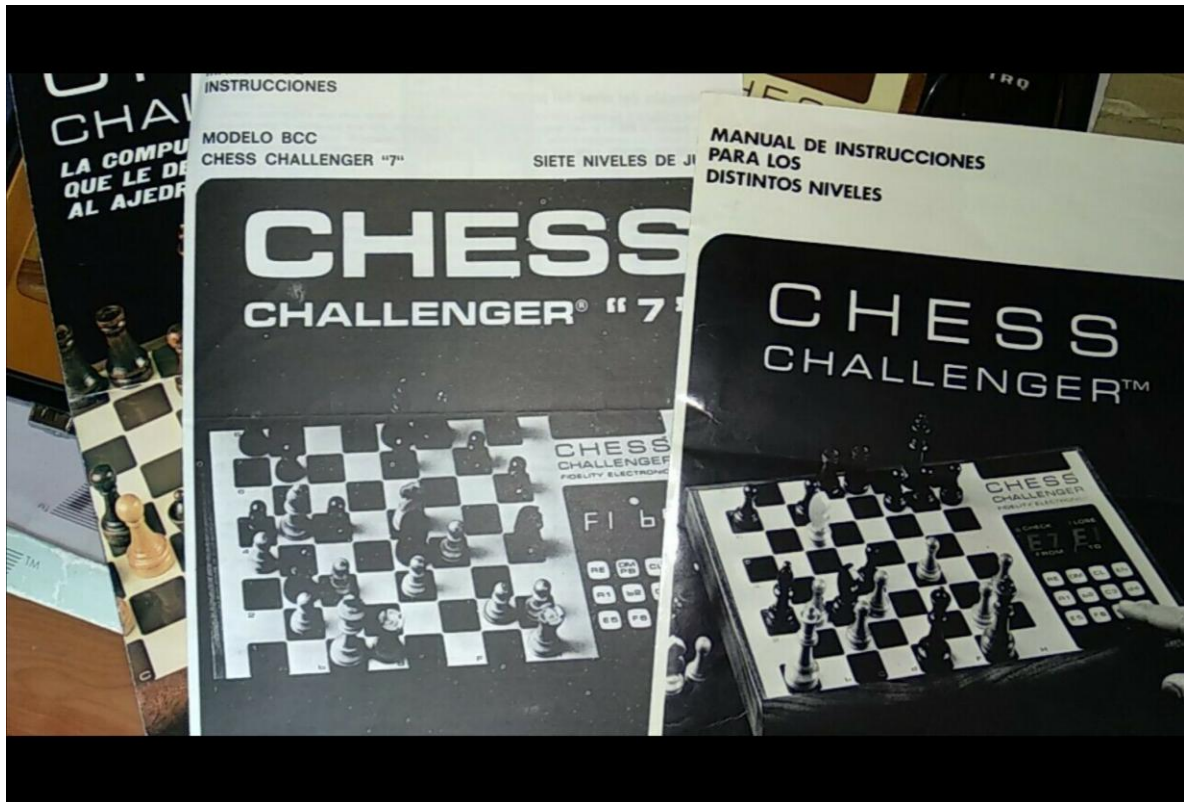
The seller asked a whopping \$1,037.23 for this exceptional specimen (approximately €879.40 now, in February 2026). The Spanish manual doesn't refer to a Chess Challenger 3, but to a "UCC7 - Upgraded Chess Challenger 7." What's striking about the photo in the manual is that it also features the double keys (DM - PB) we know from the Chess Challenger 10C. I suspect that Fidelity used the same photos in multiple manuals in the early days to save money.

Yet, the photo of the computer for sale is supposed to be a UCC7. And this is essentially the same story as with the big collector Nick Milicev (Spacious Mind). There's the exact same photo, but with Nick, it's a UCC10. It's still quite special to see a CC3 transformed into a UCC7.

My suspicion is that only Fidelity sold these kinds of upgrades. Apparently, Fidelity still needed to get rid of the CC3s (wooden cases) that were no longer saleable and fitted them with new hardware and software, making them a CC10C or UCC7. Fidelity likely produced and implemented such upgrades in very small numbers because the new standard cases for the CC10 and CC7 quickly replaced them. And of course, the seller is asking so much for them because of their rarity!



**This serial number (14880) was given this wooden casing when it was still an original Chess Challenger 3, and Fidelity was still in Chicago in 1977. The conversion to a UCC7 was likely carried out by Fidelity at its new location in Miami in 1979.**



**"The legendary Chess Challenger 7 upgrade BCC" The top photo shows a foldout of the Chess Challenger 3. The bottom photo (left) shows the Spanish manual for the UCC7, but with the wrong image because the double key (DM - PB) is missing on the UCC7. The bottom photo (right) shows the Spanish manual for the original CC3.**