

K2GE
TECHNICAL
REFERENCE
MANUAL

CONFIDENTIAL: DEVELOPERS ONLY

FOR GENERAL DEVELOPMENT

Revision History

Ver	Date	Revision	In Charge	Requested
0.02		Initial Release	Takeda	-
1.00	1998.11.18	Official Release	Takeda	-
				-
				-

Table of Contents

1. OUTLINE	5
2. FEATURES	5
3. DISPLAY SPECIFICATION	5
3-1. COORDINATES AND DISPLAY AREA	5
4. GRAPHIC ENGINE	6
4-1. MEMORY LAYOUT	6
4-2. MEMORY MAP	7
4-3. SPRITE CONTROL	8
4-3-1. <i>Specification for Sprite Control</i>	8
4-3-2. <i>Display Function for Sprite Control</i>	8
4-3-3. <i>Data Format for Sprite VRAM</i>	8
4-3-4. <i>Sprite Position Offset Function</i>	12
4-3-5. <i>Data Format for Sprite Characters</i>	13
4-4. SCROLL CONTROL	14
4-4-1. <i>Specification for Scroll Control</i>	14
4-4-2. <i>Display Function for Scroll Control</i>	14
4-4-3. <i>Relationship of VRAM Address and Scroll Plane</i>	14
4-4-4. <i>Data Format for Scroll Plane VRAM</i>	15
4-4-5. <i>VRAM Address and the Relationship to the Position on Screen</i>	16
4-4-6. <i>Priority Levels of Scroll Planes</i>	16
4-4-7. <i>Register to Change Priority Level of Scroll Planes</i>	17
4-4-8. <i>Scroll Offset Register</i>	18
4-4-9. <i>Scroll Character Data Format</i>	19
4-5. WINDOW REGISTER	20
4-5-1. <i>Relationship of Vint and Screen Setup</i>	21
4-5-2. <i>Relationship of Hint and Screen Setup</i>	21
4-6. BACKGROUND COLOR REGISTER.....	21
4-7. FRAME RATE REGISTER.....	21
4-8. RASTER POSITION REGISTER.....	22
4-9. MODE SELECTION REGISTER S	22
4-10. 2D STATUS REGISTER.....	23
4-11. 2D CONTROL REGISTER	24
4-12. PALETTE LUT FOR SPRITES	25
4-12-1. <i>Color Change and Bit Weight</i>	26
4-13. PALETTE LUT FOR SCROLL PLANE 1	27
4-14. PALETTE LUT FOR SCROLL PLANE 2	28
4-15. COLOR PALETTE RAM S	29
5. K1GE→K2GE EXPANDED FUNCTION SUMMARY ♣.....	31

5-1. SUMMARY.....	31
5-2. K2GE MODE COLOR PALETTE RAM ADDRESS CALCULATION	32
5-3. K1GE UPPER PALETTE COMPATIBLE MODE COLOR PALETTE RAM ADDRESS CALCULATION	33
5-4. BACKGROUND COLOR PALETTE RAM ADRESS CALCULATION	34
5-5. WINDOW COLOR PALETTE RAM ADDRESS CALCULATION	34
6. OPERATION TIMING FIGURE.....	35
7. COLOR PALETTE TABLE.....	36
8. REGISTER TABLE.....	37

1. OUTLINE

This manual is for the “K2 Graphics Engine” (noted as K2GE from this point on), a modified K1 Graphic Engine with color capability. (Functions enhanced or added is noted with ♣.)

2. FEATURES

1. Double line buffer method
2. Character RAM method
3. ♣ K1GE upper palette compatible mode
4. ♣ Color LCD compatible
5. ♣ Maximum output color

In K1GE upper palette compatible mode = 20 out of 4096 colors simultaneous output
(18 colors + 1 background color + 1 window color)

In K2GE mode = 146 out of 4096 colors simultaneous output
(144 colors + 1 background color + 1 window color)

3. DISPLAY SPECIFICATION

SCREEN SIZE	160[dot]x152[dot] ¹
COLOR LEVEL	♣ K1GE upper palette compatible mode: maximum 20 out of 4096 colors (simultaneous display) ♣K2GE mode: maximum 146 out of 4096 colors (simultaneous display)
FRAME RATE	60[F/S]
INTERFACE	♣ Color LCD interface
SPRITE CONTROLLER	64 8[dot]x8[dot] character displayable
SCROLL CONTROLLER	2 dot scrollable background displayable

3-1. COORDINATES AND DISPLAY AREA

VIRTUAL DISPLAY AREA	256[dot]x256[dot] cyclical structure
DISPLAY AREA	160[dot]x152[dot]

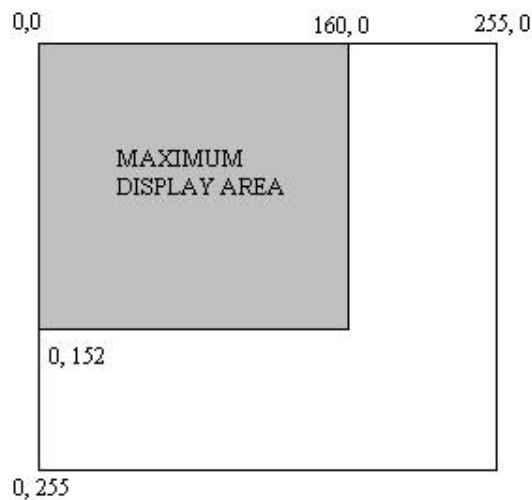


FIGURE 1. WORLD COORDINATES AND DISPLAY AREA

¹ DOT ASPECT IS ALWAYS 1:1

4. GRAPHIC ENGINE

4-1. MEMORY LAYOUT

The memory of K2GE is divided into character RAM, VRAM, color palette RAM, and line buffer. They are included in the K2GE block. Character RAM, VRAM and color palette RAM are unified memory all accessible from the 900/H CPU. The layout and amount of memory is as follows:

Character RAM	
Size	: 8KB (actual on board memory [2048x8]x4 sets)
Layout	: $512 \times \{(8 \times 8) \times 2\} = 65.536 \text{Kb} = 8.192 \text{KB}$ characters x {(dots vertically x dots horizontally)} x bits necessary for gradation display }
VRAM	
Size	: ♣ 4384 Bytes (actual on board memory = {[1024x8]x4sets}+[64x8]x4sets)
Layout	: $1024 \times 16 \times 2 = 32.768 \text{Kb} = 4.096 \text{KB}$ (scroll control only) maximum characters(1 screen) definable in RAM x parameters necessary to describe 1 character x scrollable plane numbers ♣ $64 \times 32 = 2.304 \text{Kb} = 288 \text{Bytes}$ (sprite control only) maximum characters (1 screen) definable in RAM x parameters necessary to describe 1 character
♣Color Palette RAM	
Size	: 312 Bytes (actual on board memory = [256x12]x1 set)
Layout	: $(144+48+8+8) \times (4+4+4) = 2496 \text{b} = 312 \text{Bytes}$ number of palettes x (R[4bits]+G[4bits]+B[4bits])
Line Buffer	
Size	: ♣ 360Bytes (actual on board memory = {[16x24]x6}x2 sets)
Layout	: ♣ $\{20 \times (9 \times 8)\} \times 2 = 360 \text{Bytes}$ {number of horizontal display characters x (number of bits necessary to describe 1 dot x number of dots horizontally for a character)} x 2

4-2. MEMORY MAP

0X8000		There areas are not used currently, but PLEASE DO NOT ACCESS these areas. (Future expansion)
0X81FF	Control Registers	
0X8200	♣ Color Palette RAM	There areas are not used currently, but PLEASE DO NOT ACCESS these areas. (Future expansion)
0X83FF		
0X8400	Control Registers	There areas are not used currently, but PLEASE DO NOT ACCESS these areas. (Future expansion)
0X87FF		
0X8800	Sprite VRAM	There areas are not used currently, but PLEASE DO NOT ACCESS these areas. (Future expansion)
0X88FF		
0X8900	Vacant	PLEASE DO NOT ACCESS. (Future expansion).
0X8BFF		
0X8C00	♣ Sprite VRAM	PLEASE DO NOT ACCESS. (Future expansion).
0X8C3F	(color palette code)	
0X8C40	Vacant	PLEASE DO NOT ACCESS. (Future expansion).
0X8FFF		
0X9000	Scroll VRAM	PLEASE DO NOT ACCESS. (Future expansion).
0X9FFF		
0XA000	Character RAM	PLEASE DO NOT ACCESS. (Future expansion).
0XBFFF		

FIGURE 2. K2GE MEMORY MAP

4-3. SPRITE CONTROL

4-3-1. Specification for Sprite Control

# of sprites displayable in one frame	64
# of sprites displayable in one line	64 ²
maximum characters definable in VRAM	64
maximum character definable	512 characters ³
# of color usable	K1 upper palette compatible mode: 6 colors out of 4096 + clear color Each character contains 4 colors of which one is clear K2GE mode: 48 colors out of 4096 + clear color Each character contains 4 colors of which one is clear
character size	8[dot]×8[dot] fixed

4-3-2. Display Function for Sprite Control

function available to whole screen	Position correction function
function available to each sprite	Flip function
	Defining priority with scroll screen
	Character position chain function

4-3-3. Data Format for Sprite VRAM

VRAM data format is as follows.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X8800	C.C(8+1Bit)							
0X8801	H.F	V.F	P.C	PR.C		H.ch	V.ch	C.C
0X8802	H.P(8Bit)							
0X8803	V.P(8Bit)							

+

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0x8C00	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. During read the value is fixed as "0" in K2GE mode)				♣ C.P.C (Only exists in K2GE mode)			

*Start address for VRAM is 0X8800. The above example shows the first set of parameters, 4 bytes each. Since there are memory space for 64 sprites, there are 256 bytes available.

The K2GE has an additional byte per character starting from 0X8C00 for the color palette code. This color palette is only valid in K2GE mode and does not exist in K1GE upper palette compatible mode.

(Example: First sprite = 0X8800 ~ 0X8803 + 0X8C00, Second sprite = 0X8804 ~ 0X8807 + 0X8C01)

² Except, there is a possibility of "character over." Explanation on page 23.

³ Common with scroll character.

Table 1. Parameters and Definitions

V.P											
V position	Y coordinate for the character.										
H.P											
H position	X coordinate for the character.										
C.C											
Character code	Setting character code.										
H.F											
H Flip	Character display status.										
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>H.F Logic</th> <th>Display status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>Normal</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Horizontally mirrored</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	H.F Logic	Display status	0	Normal	1	Horizontally mirrored				
	H.F Logic	Display status									
	0	Normal									
1	Horizontally mirrored										
V.F											
V Flip	Character display status.										
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>V.F Logic</th> <th>Display status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>Normal</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Vertically Mirrored</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	V.F Logic	Display status	0	Normal	1	Vertically Mirrored				
	V.F Logic	Display status									
	0	Normal									
1	Vertically Mirrored										
P.C											
Palette Code	Specifies palette code. ♣ (Valid for K1GE upper palette compatible mode.)										
PR.C											
Priority Code	Priority level with respect to scroll screen.										
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Value of PR.C</th> <th>Priority</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>00</td> <td>Character not shown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>01</td> <td>Furthest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>Middle</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>Front</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Value of PR.C	Priority	00	Character not shown	01	Furthest	10	Middle	11	Front
	Value of PR.C	Priority									
	00	Character not shown									
	01	Furthest									
10	Middle										
11	Front										
H.ch											
H Position Chain	Value defined becomes the offset value with respect to the previous character.										
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>H.ch Logic</th> <th>Display status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>Normal Coordinates</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Offset Coordinates</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	H.ch Logic	Display status	0	Normal Coordinates	1	Offset Coordinates				
	H.ch Logic	Display status									
	0	Normal Coordinates									
1	Offset Coordinates										
V.ch											
V Position Chain	Value defined becomes the offset value with respect to the previous character.										
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>V.ch Logic</th> <th>Display status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>Normal Coordinates</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Offset Coordinates</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	V.ch Logic	Display status	0	Normal Coordinates	1	Offset Coordinates				
	V.ch Logic	Display status									
	0	Normal Coordinates									
1	Offset Coordinates										

(Continued)

(Continued)

C.P.C (exists only in K2GE mode)					
	Value defined becomes the color palette code for the sprite				
♣ Color Palette Code	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Value of C.P.C</th> <th>Color Palette Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0 ~ 15</td> <td>Selection of Sprite Palette 0 ~ 15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Value of C.P.C	Color Palette Code	0 ~ 15	Selection of Sprite Palette 0 ~ 15
	Value of C.P.C	Color Palette Code			
0 ~ 15	Selection of Sprite Palette 0 ~ 15				
D.C					
Do not care	This register value has no effect.				

4-3-3-1. VRAM Address and Character Sprite Priority

Priority for sprites on screen is dependent on the VRAM address. The hardware reads the values from the VRAM 0 address and writes to the line buffer. During the write to the line buffer, the hardware checks the priority as follows to avoid writing over previously written data.

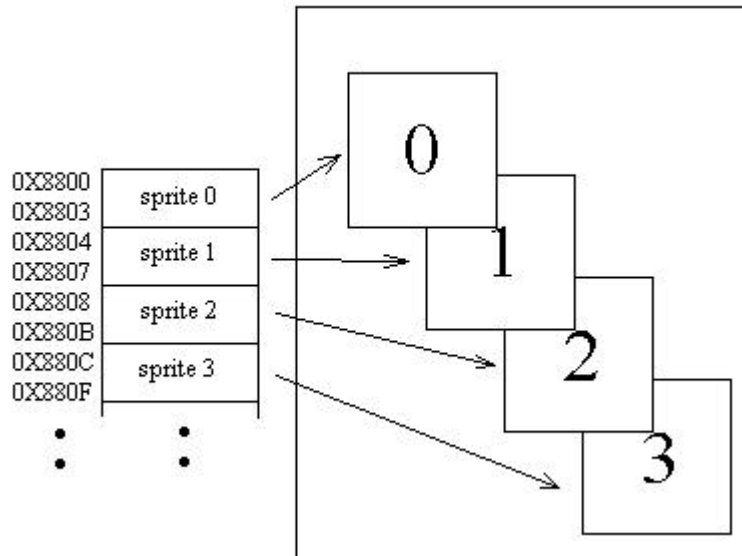


FIGURE 3. VRAM ADDRESS AND PRIORITY RELATION

4-3-3-2. Scroll Screen and Sprite Priority

Figure 4 shows the P.R.C value and the priority.

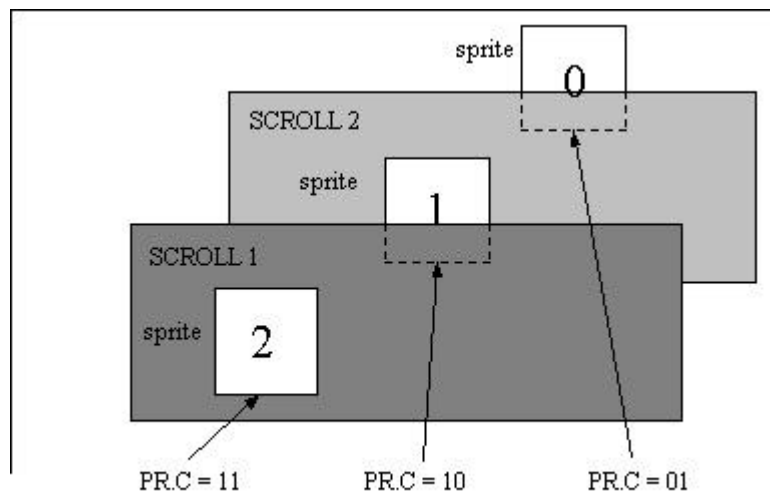


FIGURE 4. SCROLL SCREEN AND SPRITE RELATIONSHIP

4-3-4. Sprite Position Offset Function

The value inside this register is added as an offset to the sprite position. The relationship between sprite position and offset is as follows:

$$H' = H + PO.H$$

$$V' = V + PO.V \text{ (over flow ignored)}$$

Because a value over 256 is ignored, over flow values are ignored and a value is set to 256. Since this value is always added to the sprite position, please initialize with 0X00 if offset is not required.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X8020	PO.H(8Bit)							
0X8021	PO.V(8Bit)							

Caution: When the value in this register is set, it is reflected in the following line drawn on screen.

Table 2. Parameters and Definitions

PO.H	
H Position offset	Value to be added to the X value of the sprite. After reset, the initial value is 0X00.
PO.V	
V Position offset	Value to be added to the Y value of the sprite. After reset, the initial value is 0X00.

4-3-5. Data Format for Sprite Characters

Each dot of the sprite character has 4 color codes available (2Bits). Bits are positioned as in Figure 5. Address bus above A4 corresponds with the character code.

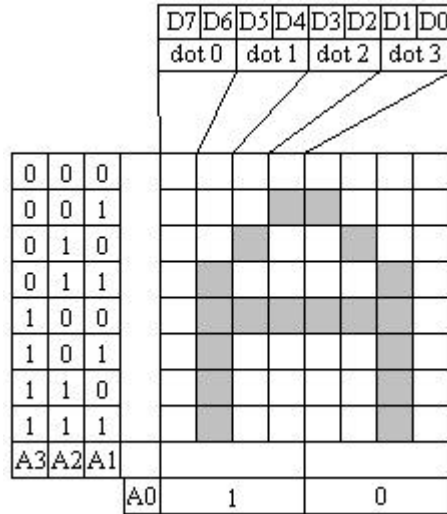


FIGURE 5. SPRITE CHARACTER RAM DATA FORMAT

4-3-5-1. Relationship Between Sprite Character Data and Address

The relationship between character dot data and its address is as follows. The table below shows data and address for one character. 1 row of data represents 1 line on screen.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0XA000	Dot 4		Dot 5		Dot 6		Dot 7	
0XA001	Dot 0		Dot 1		Dot 2		Dot 3	
0XA002	Dot 4		Dot 5		Dot 6		Dot 7	
0XA003	Dot 0		Dot 1		Dot 2		Dot 3	
0XBFFC	Dot 4		Dot 5		Dot 6		Dot 7	
0XBFFD	Dot 0		Dot 1		Dot 2		Dot 3	
0XBFFE	Dot 4		Dot 5		Dot 6		Dot 7	
0XBFFF	Dot 0		Dot 1		Dot 2		Dot 3	

4-4. SCROLL CONTROL

4-4-1. Specification for Scroll Control

Scrollable planes	2 planes
Virtual screen size	256[dot]x256[dot]
Maximum VRAM definable characters	2048 ⁴ characters
Maximum definable characters	512 ⁵ characters
Usable colors	K1 upper palette compatible mode: (6 colors out of 4096 + clear color) x 2 planes Each character contains 4 colors of which one is clear K2GE mode: (48 colors out of 4096 + clear color) x 2 planes Each character contains 4 colors of which one is clear
Character size	8[dot]x8[dot]fixed

4-4-2. Display Function for Scroll Control

Function applicable to screen	Changing priority of scroll planes Function to read raster position Screen control such as forced blanking
Function applicable to each character	Flip(mirroring) function
Other functions	Scan line interrupt(Hint) Frame interrupt(Vint)

4-4-3. Relationship of VRAM Address and Scroll Plane

Figure 6 shows VRAM address and scroll plane relationship.

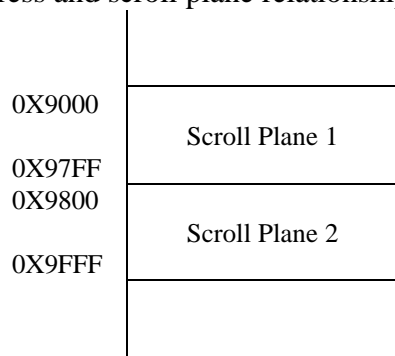


FIGURE 6. VRAM ADDRESS AND SCROLL PLANE RELATIONSHIP

⁴ 32characterx32characterx2planes.

⁵ Common with sprite characters.

4-4-4. Data Format for Scroll Plane VRAM

VRAM data format is as follows.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X9000	C.C(8+1Bit)							
0X9001	H.F	V.F	P.C	♣ CP.C (Can be set only in K2GE mode. In K1GE upper palette compatible mode, it exists as reserved RAM.)				C.C

* Start address of VRAM for scroll plane is 0X9000. Only one parameter group is shown above. Address increases by 2 bytes.

Table 3. Parameters and Definitions

C.C							
Character Code	Sets character code. Character code is common with the sprites.						
H.F							
H Flip	Character display status.						
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>H.F Logic</th> <th>Display status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>Normal</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Horizontally mirrored</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	H.F Logic	Display status	0	Normal	1	Horizontally mirrored
	H.F Logic	Display status					
0	Normal						
1	Horizontally mirrored						
V.F							
V Flip	Character display status.						
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>V.F Logic</th> <th>Display status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>Normal</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Vertically mirrored</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	V.F Logic	Display status	0	Normal	1	Vertically mirrored
	V.F Logic	Display status					
0	Normal						
1	Vertically mirrored						
P.C							
Palette Code	Setting palette code. ♣ (Only valid in K1GE upper palette compatible mode.)						
CP.C							
♣ Color Palette Code	Sets color palette code for scroll planes.						
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Value of CP.C</th> <th>Color Palette Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0 ~ 15</td> <td>Selection of scroll palette 0 ~ 15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Value of CP.C	Color Palette Code	0 ~ 15	Selection of scroll palette 0 ~ 15		
	Value of CP.C	Color Palette Code					
0 ~ 15	Selection of scroll palette 0 ~ 15						

4-4-5. VRAM Address and the Relationship to the Position on Screen

VRAM address and the positioning on screen with respect to each other are listed below. Increase in address results in horizontal progression of characters. The second scroll screen address starts from 0X9800 to 0X9FFE in a similar fashion.

0X9000	0X9002	0X9004		0X903E
0X9040	0X9042	0X9044		0X907E
0X97C0	0X97C2	0X97C4		0X97FE

FIGURE 7. VRAM ADDRESS AND SCREEN POSITION RELATIONSHIP

4-4-6. Priority Levels of Scroll Planes

Priority of the scroll plane with respect to each other is as follows. Changing the value in the register switches the priority level.

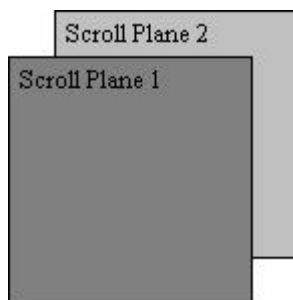


FIGURE 8. SCROLL PLANE PRIORITY

4-4-7. Register to Change Priority Level of Scroll Planes

This register sets the scroll plane priority level. The relationship of register value and priority is shown in Figure 9.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X8030	PF	D.C						

Caution:

The result of the value set in this register is displayed from the next line being drawn.

Table 5. Parameters and Definitions

PF							
Scroll Plane Priority Switching	Switches the priority level of scroll planes.						
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>PF Logic</th> <th>Display Status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>Normal: Scroll Plane 1 is in front. After system reset, this is the value (initial).</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Switched: Scroll Plane 2 is in front.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	PF Logic	Display Status	0	Normal: Scroll Plane 1 is in front. After system reset, this is the value (initial).	1	Switched: Scroll Plane 2 is in front.
	PF Logic	Display Status					
0	Normal: Scroll Plane 1 is in front. After system reset, this is the value (initial).						
1	Switched: Scroll Plane 2 is in front.						

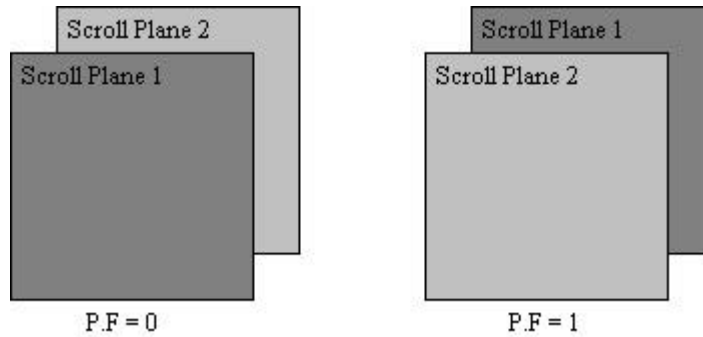


FIGURE 9. P.F LOGIC VALUE AND PRIORITY RELATIONSHIP

4-4-8. Scroll Offset Register

Sets the scroll plane offset value. The relation of offset and display is shown in Figure 10.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X8032	S1SO.H(8Bit)							
0X8033	S1SO.V(8Bit)							
0X8034	S2SO.H(8Bit)							
0X8035	S2SO.V(8Bit)							

Caution:

The result of the value set in this register is displayed from the next line being drawn.

Table 6. Parameters and Definitions

S1SO.H	
Scroll Plane 1 H Scroll Offset	Scroll Plane 1 X scroll offset. After system reset, 0x00(initial value).
S1SO.V	
Scroll Plane 1 V Scroll Offset	Scroll Plane 1 Y scroll offset. After system reset, 0x00(initial value).
S2SO.H	
Scroll Plane 2 H Scroll Offset	Scroll Plane 2 X scroll offset. After system reset, 0x00(initial value).
S2SO.V	
Scroll Plane 2 V Scroll Offset	Scroll Plane 2 Y scroll offset. After system reset, 0x00(initial value).

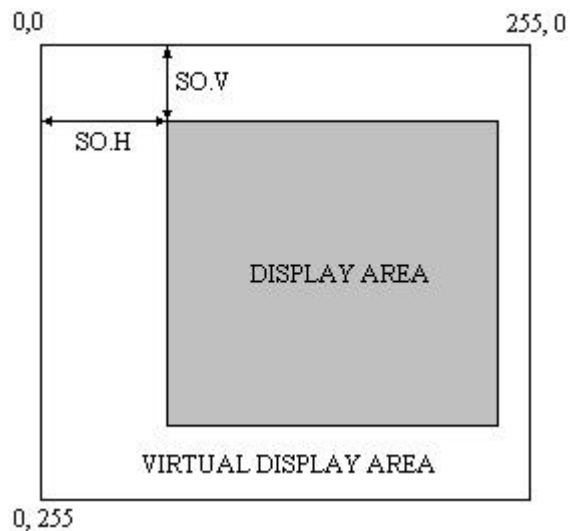


FIGURE 10. SCROLL OFFSET AND DISPLAY AREA

4-4-9. Scroll Character Data Format

The data format is exactly the same as it is for the sprites. The explanation will be omitted.

4-5. WINDOW REGISTER

Determines the window display area. WBA.n is the window origin, and WSI.n determines the window size. Non-display area is blank⁶. Figure 11 shows the register, window, and screen relationship.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X8002	WBA.H(8Bit)							
0X8003	WBA.V(8Bit)							
0X8004	WSI.H(8Bit)							
0X8005	WSI.V(8Bit)							

Caution:

The window is defined by the origin and the size, and thus the maximum value is determined by the sum of WBA.n and WSI.n. When the sum exceeds the hardware upper limit of 256, display and Vint/Hint generations are disrupted.

To avoid this disruption, please use and follow the condition given below.

$$\text{Horizontal Value: } \frac{\text{WBA.H} + \text{WSI.H}}{160}$$

$$\text{Vertical Value: } \frac{\text{WBA.V} + \text{WSI.V}}{152}$$

Table 6. Parameters and Definitions

WBA.H	
Window H origin	Sets the window origin X value. After system reset 0x00(initial value)
WBA.V	
Window V origin	Sets the window origin Y value. After system reset 0x00(initial value)
WSI.H	
Window H size	Sets the X size of window. After system reset 0xFF(initial value)
WSI.V	
Window V size	Sets the Y size of window. After system reset 0xFF(initial value)

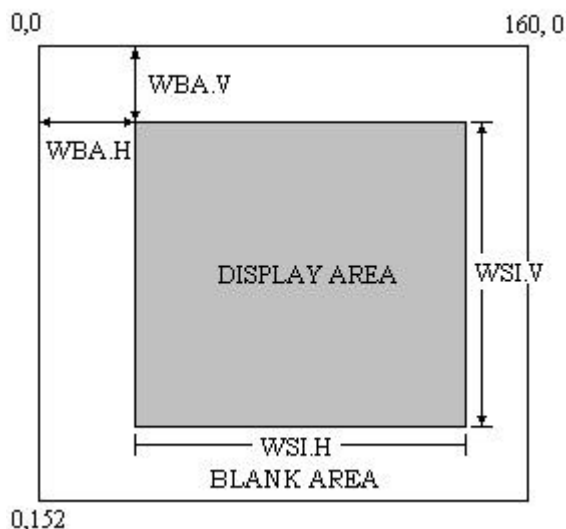


FIGURE 11. DISPLAY AREA AND WINDOW RELATIONSHIP

⁶ Blank area is set in 4-11. 2D control register 00WC.

4-5-1. Relationship of Vint and Screen Setup

After the screen is drawn by the K1GE, an interrupt is generated and sent to the CPU. The timing of the interrupt generation is determined by the value set in the window register and care must be taken. This value is evaluated after the end of drawing in the display area, and Vint is generated after WBA.V + WSI.V line is drawn. If the WSI.V is “0”, Vint is produced after WBA.V line.

4-5-2. Relationship of Hint and Screen Setup

Hint is different from Vint and is not dependent on the value set in the Window Register. It is constant and 152 Hint occur every time.

4-6. BACKGROUND COLOR REGISTER

The value defines the background color.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X8118	BGON		D.C (Exists as reserved RAM)			BGC		

Table 7. Parameters and Definitions

BGON	
Background ON	“D7=1, D6=0” sets the BGC valid. Other values set the BGC to be not valid, and the background color is set to black. After reset, the initial values are “D7=0, D6=0”.
BGC	
Background Color	Sets the background color (color code). The value set determines the BGC color palette. After reset, the initial values are “D2=0, D1=0, D0=0”.
D.C (Exists as reserved RAM)	
Do not Care	The values in this register has no effect

Caution:

The value set in this register is reflected from the next line on screen.

4-7. FRAME RATE REGISTER

This register is locked and only a priority user may be allowed to change the values. Please do not change the initial value set.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X8006	REF (8Bit)							

Table 8. Parameters and Definitions

REF	
Refresh rate	Sets the blanking period. After reset, the initial value is 0XC6.

4-8. RASTER POSITION REGISTER

Reading the value in this register allows access to the current raster position.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X8008	RAS.H(8Bit)							
0X8009	RAS.V(8Bit)							

Caution: LCD and Scan Line

Unlike a CRT, LCD does not have a scan line. In this case, the signal inside of the ASIC is used as the raster position.

Upper 8 bits of the 10 bit internal subtraction counter of the horizontal drawing operation time (internally 515 clock) is read in to RAS.H. (The value decreases as the horizontal drawing operation period progresses, and this value is accessible during V blank.)

RAS.V obtains the current line number during horizontal drawing operation. (Accessible during V blank.)

Table 9. Parameters and Definitions

RAS.H	
Raster position H	Remaining horizontal drawing operation time
RAS.V	
Raster position V	Horizontal drawing operation line number Vertical Coordinate

4-9. MODE SELECTION REGISTER♣

♣ This register defines the operation mode of the K2GE.

This register is locked and only a priority user may be allowed to change the values. Please do not change the initial value set.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X87E2	MODE	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. Fixed as "0" when read.						

Table 10. Parameters and Definitions

MODE							
Selection of operation mode	Sets the operation mode of K2GE.						
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>MODE Logic</th> <th>Display Status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>K2GE Color mode. (After system reset, this is the initial value.)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>K1GE upper palette compatible mode.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	MODE Logic	Display Status	0	K2GE Color mode. (After system reset, this is the initial value.)	1	K1GE upper palette compatible mode.
	MODE Logic	Display Status					
0	K2GE Color mode. (After system reset, this is the initial value.)						
1	K1GE upper palette compatible mode.						
D.C (Does not exist as RAM)							
Do not Care	This register value has no effect on the circuit operation.						

4-10. 2D STATUS REGISTER

This register is used to determine the internal status of K2GE.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X8010	C.OVR	BLNK	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. When read, it is fixed as "0".)					

Table 11. Parameter and Definitions

C.OVR							
	Determines the character over status.						
Character Over	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>C.OVER Logic</th> <th>Operation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>Character Over has not occurred</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Character Over has occurred: With the end of V blanking, it is cleared</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	C.OVER Logic	Operation	0	Character Over has not occurred	1	Character Over has occurred: With the end of V blanking, it is cleared
	C.OVER Logic	Operation					
	0	Character Over has not occurred					
1	Character Over has occurred: With the end of V blanking, it is cleared						
BLNK							
	Determines if blanking or not						
Blanking	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>BLNK Logic</th> <th>Operation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>Displaying</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>V Blanking</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BLNK Logic	Operation	0	Displaying	1	V Blanking
	BLNK Logic	Operation					
	0	Displaying					
1	V Blanking						
D.C (Exists as reserved RAM)							
Do not Care	The value set in this register has no effect on circuit operation.						

Character Over is:

K2GE sprites use the line buffer method. Character Over is a phenomenon associated with a line buffer method sprite system. This phenomenon results from the system determining visibility of the sprite after reading in from the VRAM and then updating the line buffer. Due to an operation which results in this process not being completed in one scan line period, the character disappears partially or completely. This phenomenon is called Character Over, or Sprite Line Over. Because the K2GE writes two scroll plane and sprites to the line buffer, processing time is limited. Even so, the system has been designed to complete the task, and normally Character Over will not occur. But if a program is written that accesses the VRAM frequently, Character Over may occur and care must be taken.

4-11. 2D CONTROL REGISTER

This register sets the display setting and color setting for outside the window related to the LCD display.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X8012	NEG	D.C (Exists as reserved RAM)				OOWC		

Caution:

Setting in this register is reflected in the next line being drawn on screen.

Table 12. Parameters and Definitions

<i>NEG</i>							
Negative and Positive Switched	Negative and positive of the screen display is switched.						
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>NEG Logic</th> <th>Operation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>Normal display: After system reset, this is the value (initial).</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Switched display</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	NEG Logic	Operation	0	Normal display: After system reset, this is the value (initial).	1	Switched display
	NEG Logic	Operation					
0	Normal display: After system reset, this is the value (initial).						
1	Switched display						
♣This function affects the RGB signal outputted by the K2GE.							
<i>OOWC</i>							
Outside window color	Color setting outside the window. After reset 0X0 (initial). ♣This setting colors through the use of the background color palette. This is used both for K1GE upper palette compatible and K2GE mode.						
D.C (Exists as reserved RAM)							
Do not Care	Value set in this register has no effect on the operation of circuits.						

4-12. PALETTE LUT⁷ FOR SPRITES

Palette code (P.C) defined in the sprite VRAM is changed to the value set in this register. Register format is as follows:

♣ The value set is only valid in K1GE upper palette compatible mode.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X8100	Access not allowed. (Does not exist as RAM. No specific values when read.)							
0X8101	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.01		
0X8102	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.02		
0X8103	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.03		
0X8104	Access not allowed. (Does not exist as RAM. No specific values when read.)							
0X8105	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.11		
0X8106	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.12		
0X8107	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.13		

Caution 1: Clear code

Character color 0X0 is treated differently inside the ASIC. The ASIC does not change the line memory if the code read in from the character RAM is 0x0 (treated as clear color). Thus no character code can be assigned to character color 0X0. Character color and character code relationship is shown below.

Caution 2:

The value set in this register takes effect immediately.

Table 13. Color Code and Character Color Relation

Character Color	Color Code
0X0	-
0X1	SPPLT.01
0X2	SPPLT.02
0X3	SPPLT.03
0X0	-
0X1	SPPLT.11
0X2	SPPLT.12
0X3	SPPLT.13

⁷LUT Look.Up.Table

Table 14. Parameters and Definitions

SPPLT.0n (Read/Write possible in K2GE mode. However, no effect on screen.)	
Palette code 0, Color code n	Color code set for palette 0.
SPPLT.1n (Read/Write possible in K2GE mode. However, no effect on screen.)	
Palette code 1, Color code n	Color code set for palette 1.
D.C (Does not exist as RAM)	
Do not care	This register value has no effect.

♣The value set in this sprite palette associated with the “K1GE upper palette compatible mode sprite color palette” is the actual colors displayed.

4-12-1. Color Change and Bit Weight

LSB of the data will always be in D0 and its bit weight is the lowest. Screen output is similar, with the smallest contrast change being the LSB and the largest the MSB.

♣The value set in this sprite palette associated with the “K1GE upper palette compatible mode sprite color palette” is the actual colors displayed.

Table 15. MSB and LSB Definition

MSB	LSB
D2	D0

4-13. PALETTE LUT FOR SCROLL PLANE 1

Palette code (P.C) defined in the scroll plane 1 VRAM (0X9000 0X97FF) is changed to the value set in this register. Register format is as follows.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X8108	Access not allowed. (Does not exist as RAM. No specific values when read.)							
0X8109	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.01		
0X810A	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.02		
0X810B	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.03		
0X810C	Access not allowed. (Does not exist as RAM. No specific values when read.)							
0X810D	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.11		
0X810E	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.12		
0X810F	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.13		

Caution:

The value set in this register takes effect immediately.

Table 16. Parameters and Definitions

SC1PLT.0n (Read/Write possible in K2GE mode. However, no effect on screen.)	
Palette code 0, Color code n	Color code set for palette 0.
SC1PLT.1n (Read/Write possible in K2GE mode. However, no effect on screen.)	
Palette code 1, Color code n	Color code set for palette 1.
D.C (Does not exist as RAM)	
Do not care	This register value has no effect.

♣The value set in this scroll palette associated with the “K1GE upper palette compatible mode scroll 1 color palette” is the actual colors displayed.

4-14. PALETTE LUT FOR SCROLL PLANE 2

Palette code (P.C) defined in the scroll plane 2 VRAM (0X9800 0X9FFF) is changed to the value set in this register. Register format is as follows.

ADDRESS	D7	D6	D5	D4	D3	D2	D1	D0
0X8110	Access not allowed. (Does not exist as RAM. No specific values when read.)							
0X8111	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.01		
0X8112	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.02		
0X8113	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.03		
0X8114	Access not allowed. (Does not exist as RAM. No specific values when read.)							
0X8115	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.11		
0X8116	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.12		
0X8117	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. "0" when read.)					SPPLT.13		

Caution:

The value set in this register takes effect immediately.

Table 17. Parameters and Definitions

SC2PLT.0n (Read/Write possible in K2GE mode. However, no effect on screen.)	
Palette code 0, Color code n	Color code set for palette 0.
SC2PLT.1n (Read/Write possible in K2GE mode. However, no effect on screen.)	
Palette code 1, Color code n	Color code set for palette 1.
D.C (Does not exist as RAM)	
Do not care	This register value has no effect.

♣ The value set in this scroll palette associated with the “K1GE upper palette compatible mode scroll 2 color palette” is the actual colors displayed.

4-15. COLOR PALETTE RAM*

Color palette RAM is composed of “1 palette = 16 Bits (4 of which are D.C), and each of the color palette RAM addresses are separated by 16 Bits for functionality.

Color palette RAM data format is listed below.

ADDRESS	D 1 5	D 1 4	D 1 3	D 1 2	D 1 1	D 1 0	D 9	D 8	D 7	D 6	D 5	D 4	D 3	D 2	D 1	D 0
0X8200 ~ 0X83FF	D.C (Does not exist as RAM. When read, the value is “0”.)				B_PLT				G_PLT				R_PLT			

Caution 1:

This RAM area is 16 bit access only. Using 8 bit access will produce unreliable values.

Caution 2:

Values set are immediately reflected.

Caution 3:

The clear color palette code address in “0X8200 ~ 0X837E” (i.e. 0X8200, 0X8208, 0X8210, etc.) is treated as D.C for “D15 ~ D0”, but in actuality, “D11 ~ D0” is treated as reserved RAM.

Caution 4:

The values inside the color palette RAM after reset are all undefined. It is necessary to initialize these values appropriately.

Caution 5:

Access to color palettes are always 0 WAIT operation possible. (Even during hardware display write it is 0 WAIT operation possible.)

Table 18. Parameters and Definitions

R_PLT	
RED palette	Defines 4Bit red palette code. (D3 = MSB, D0 = LSB)
G_PLT	
GREEN palette	Defines 4Bit red palette code. (D7 = MSB, D4 = LSB)
B_PLT	
BLUE palette	Defines 4Bit red palette code. (D11 = MSB, D8 = LSB)
D.C (Does not exist as RAM)	
Do not Care	Values set does not have any effect on circuit operation.

Color palette RAM functions are listed below in address groups.

Table 19. Color Palette RAM Functions in Address Groups

No.	Address	Valid Mode	Affected Display	Function
0 ~63	0X8200 ~ 0X827F	K2GE mode	Sprite	K2GE mode sprite color palette
64 ~ 127	0X8280 ~ 0X827F	K2GE mode	Scroll 1	K2GE mode scroll 1 color palette
128 ~ 191	0X8300 ~ 0X837F	K2GE mode	Scroll 2	K2GE mode scroll 2 color palette
192 ~ 207	0X8380 ~ 0X839F	K1GE upper palette compatible mode	Sprite	K1GE upper palette compatible mode sprite color palette
208 ~ 223	0X83A0 ~ 0X83BF	K1GE upper palette compatible mode	Scroll 1	K1GE upper palette compatible mode scroll 1 color palette
224 ~ 239	0X83C0 ~ 0X83DF	K1GE upper palette compatible mode	Scroll 2	K1GE upper palette compatible mode scroll 2 color palette
240 ~ 247	0X83E0 ~ 0X83EF	K2GE/K1GE upper palette compatible mode	Background	Background color palette
248 ~255	0X83F0 ~ 0X827F	K2GE/K1GE upper palette compatible mode	Window	Window color palette

For further information, please refer to “K2GE Color Palette Table”.

5. K1GE→K2GE EXPANDED FUNCTION SUMMARY♣

The similarities and differences between K1GE and K2GE are summarized in the following sections.

5-1. SUMMARY

K2GE inherits the functionality of K1GE with the adoption of color. The following functions have been expanded or changed.

1. K2GE mode color palette code (4Bits) added to sprite VRAM. (X8C00 ~ 0X8C3F added.)
2. K2GE mode color palette code (4Bits) added to scroll VRAM. (D4 ~ D1 of odd address which were formally specified as D.C added.)
3. Addition of color palette RAM. (0X8200 ~ 0X83FF added.)
4. For operation mode, “K1GE upper palette compatible mode” for K1GE compatibility and “K2GE mode” for maximum color output on board. (Mode selection register added.)

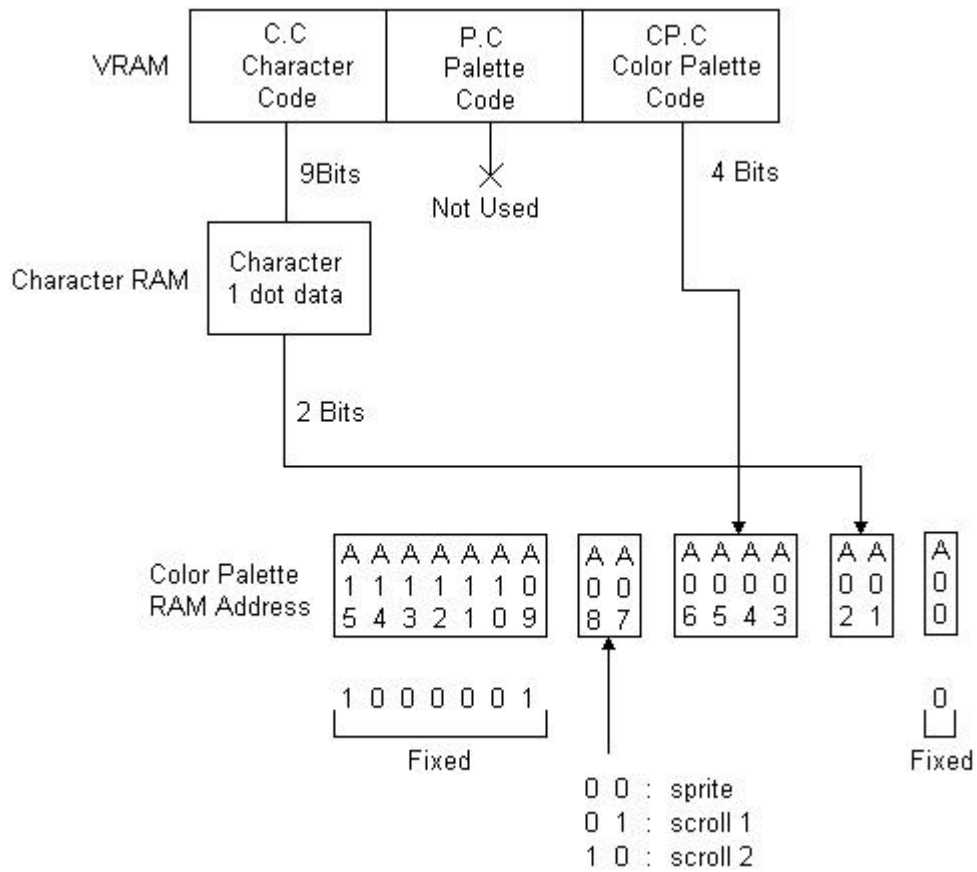
K2 system software sets the operation mode from the header information of the game cassette.

The following functions have not been changed to maintain compatibility.

1. Character RAM data format. (“00 b” is always treated as clear color.)
2. Sprite display function. (Excluding color palette addition.)
3. Scroll display function. (Excluding color palette addition.)
4. Background display function. (Excluding color palette addition.)
5. Window display function. (Excluding color palette addition.)
6. Vint, Hint generation timing.
7. All operation timing. (H time left, V blank time, etc.)

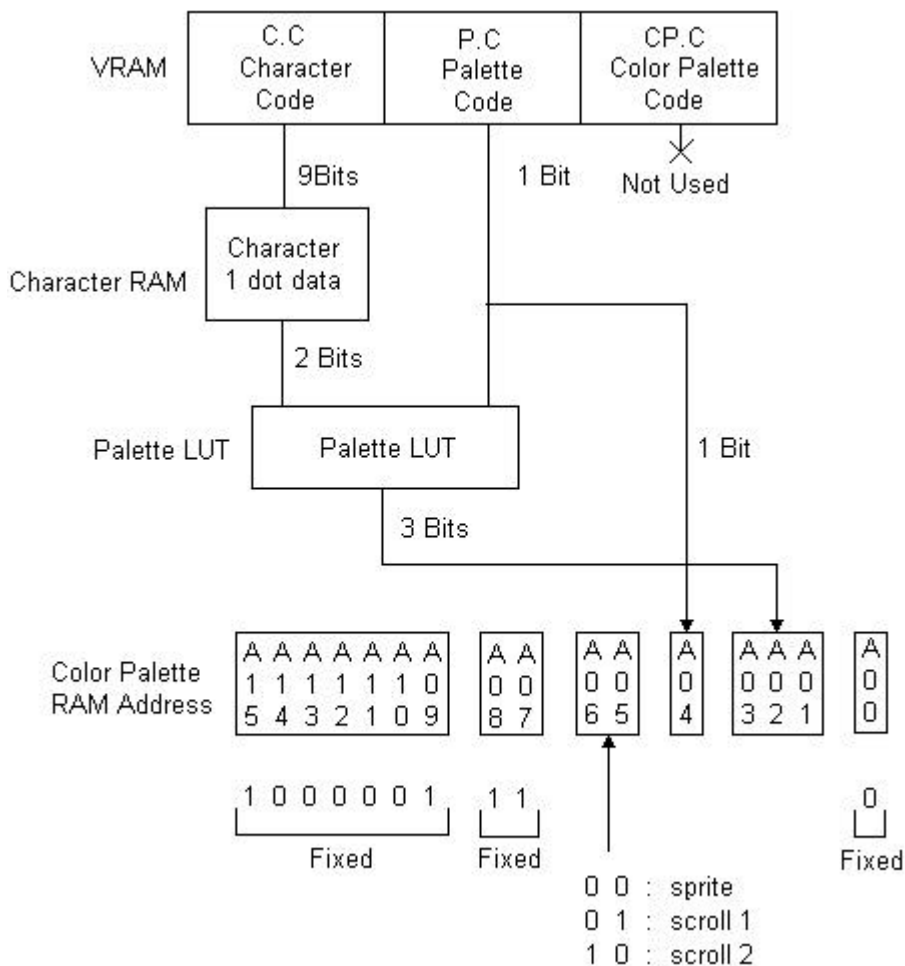
5-2. K2GE MODE COLOR PALETTE RAM ADDRESS CALCULATION

In K2GE mode, the final display color (color palette RAM address) is determined as follows:



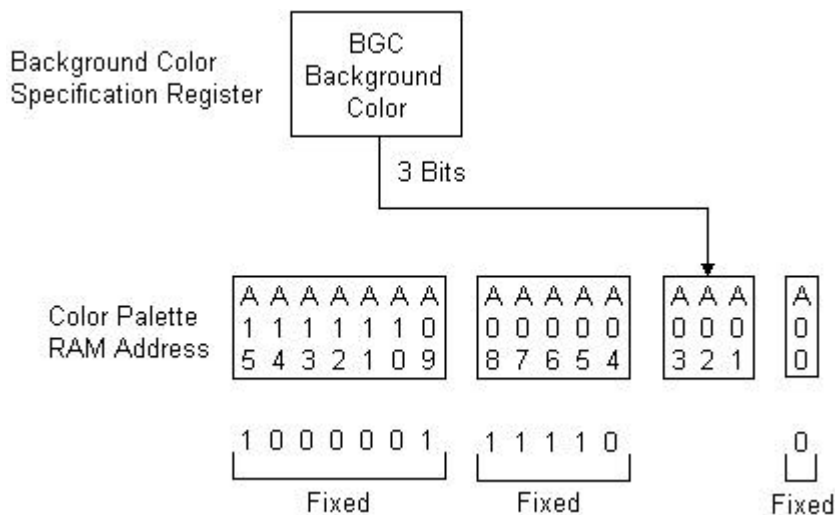
5-3. K1GE UPPER PALETTE COMPATIBLE MODE COLOR PALETTE RAM ADDRESS CALCULATION

In K1GE upper palette compatible mode, the final display color (color palette RAM address) is determined as follows:



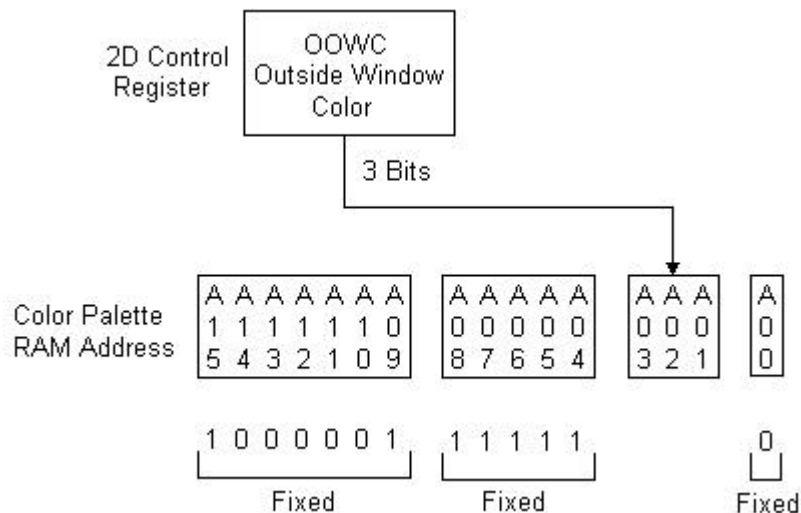
5-4. BACKGROUND COLOR PALETTE RAM ADDRESS CALCULATION

The background final display color (color palette RAM address) is determined as follows:



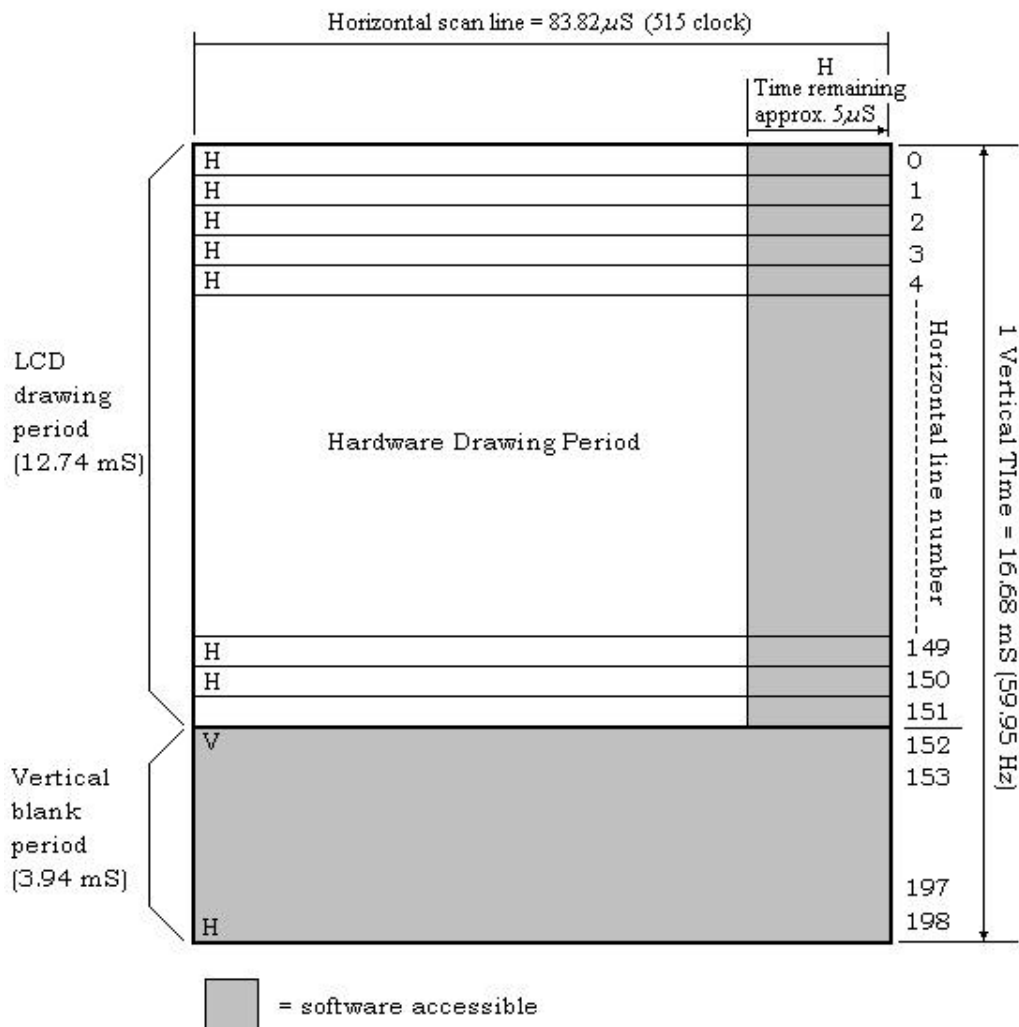
5-5. WINDOW COLOR PALETTE RAM ADDRESS CALCULATION

The Window boarder final display color (color palette RAM address) is determined as follows:



6. OPERATION TIMING FIGURE

K2GE operation timing is shown below. (♣ It is the same as K1GE.)



*Access to each RAM area is possible during the Hardware Drawing Period. Please be aware of the adjustment circuitry delaying the Hardware Drawing Period if software accesses the RAM during this period. If the total time surpasses “H Time Remaining (approx. 5 μ S),” Character Over occurs. (Accessing the registers does not have an effect. Sprite VRAM, scroll VRAM, and character RAM read/write access invokes the adjustment circuitry.)

H = H_INT generation timing

*The signal generation begins 1 H before the Hardware Drawing Period starts. (Please be aware H_INT signal is not generated at line 151 and signal generation for the 0th line occurs at the beginning of line 198.)

V = V_INT generation timing

7. COLOR PALETTE TABLE

K2GE color palette table is listed in a separate file.

8. REGISTER TABLE

K2GE register table is listed in a separate file.