Building your own keyboard

Pedro Ferreira
Why?
You can have that key you always dreamed of
You can have the layout you always dreamed of
It's the ultimate hacker fashion accessory
It's (relatively) easy

"Anyone can do this."

"Pray this won't explode when I switch it on..."
It's fun!
Let's get started!

In a record slides/min
Step 1

Pick a design

BenRoe/awesome-mechanical-keyboard
Dactyl

(Matthew Adereth)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uk3A41U0I04
Variations
Winner!

The dactyl-cc keyboard takes a different approach to the structure of the code (and language) as well as being more similar in feel to the Kinesis Advantage 2.

https://github.com/mjohns/dactyl-cc
Step 2: The chassis
### Step 3: The parts

#### BOM

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WAITING FOR ORDER FROM ALIEXPRESS

STILL WAITING
Step 4: Let's solder!
Step 5: Keycaps
https://deskthority.net/wiki/Kinesis_Contoured#Keycaps
Step 6: Firmware

Powered by QMK

https://qmk.fm

https://git.io/JILZk

Am I running late by now? It will be a miracle if I'm not.
Main takeaways

I most certainly will be out of time by now. Just read them during the Q&A!

- Building your own keyboard is not that hard™;
- It's also not that expensive (~200 CHF)
- Chassis: use professional printing when possible;
- Next time: use STM32 instead of Teensy? (cheaper, better)
- Keycaps are expensive and hard to get in small amounts (blanks?)
- Details matter - e.g. nuts, rubber feet...
- Learn from the mistakes of others!
- https://codimd.web.cern.ch/QGS2Mj8hRCSxOcjICrbbFw#
Thanks!

Look ma, no time!
Credits

- Artem Beliaikin (typewriter photo) (Public Domain);
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- "Hackerman - Copyright ©2014, Kung Fury;
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