

21 February 1975

Dear Harold:

Had a brief session with Mark today regarding your questions about Sony miniatures. See the enclosed poop sheet, including the table on the back (which may not be up to date; when you shop, better check such details as counters, end-of-tape alarms, and pause control on the various models).

Mark's chief tidings are that the cheaper Superscope line uses components from non-Sony sources and he therefore would stay away from the Superscope line. He says Sony is doing something about Superscope deficiencies, but hasn't done it yet. The line includes the TC66 you asked about. It's about three times the size and weight of your TC40 and is described in the poop sheet. It sells here for just under \$90, as I remember.

The TC40 is no longer made. It's successor, the TC40a, also has been discontinued. Nearest equivalent is the TC42, which is not shown in the poop sheet but looks much like the TC40 with a few added features. It has no tape counter. Sells here for \$119.95.

Next up the scale is the TC45 (shown) which sells here for \$139.95 and does have a tape counter, but no end-of-tape alarm apparently.

The only sub-miniature is the TC55, selling here for \$169.95, which has nearly all the features of the TC45, but which Mark thinks is less likely to stand up than the standard miniature and therefore not worth the extra cost just to get the smaller size.

He thinks that Superscope has a lower-priced miniature (standard miniature size) but had no information on it and assumes it would involve the same risk factor ~~xxx~~ he attaches to the Superscope line.

Thus your choice would appear to be between the TC42 and the TC45, with the 42 providing the end-of-tape alarm but no counter, and the 45 \$20 higher and including a counter but omitting the alarm. However, if I were you I'd check the TC45 up to date model, as I find it difficult to think it would omit the alarm.

Hope this answers at least most of your questions.

Best,

jdw