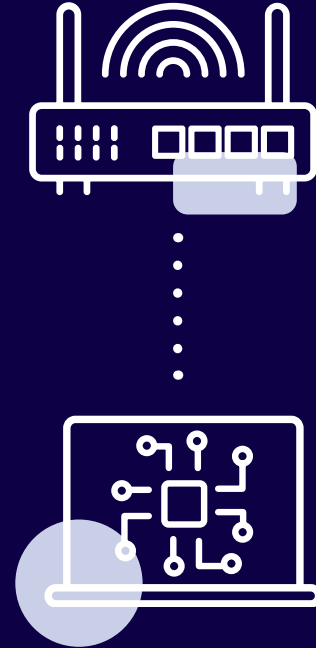


# Women in Tech

## Sophie Wilson

June, 1957 – Present



### Designed the architecture behind the Acorn Micro-Computer

The first computer sold by British technology company, Acorn Computers.

Sophie Wilson is a famous computer scientist who designed the first computer sold by Acorn Computers in the UK. She also helped create the ARM microprocessor, which is used in over half of the world's gadgets, and the Firepath processor, which helps with internet connections around the world.

Sophie started studying computer science at the University of Cambridge in 1975. In 1977, she made an automated cow-feeder during her first summer holidays. She then designed the Acorn System 1, an early small computer for tech enthusiasts, which was sold in 1979.

With her colleague Steve Furber, Sophie took less than a week to design the first version of the BBC Microcomputer. They improved it over the same summer.

More than a million BBC Micros were sold and used in many UK schools. Sophie and Steve later co-designed the 32-bit RISC Machine processor in 1985. Her career shows how creativity, hard work, and innovation can change the world and inspire others to follow their passions.

### Do you...

- Find amusement solving jigsaw puzzles? **You have problem solving skills!**
- Do you hand in your homework on time? **You have time management skills!**
- Hit the bullseye of a target or the right note in music? **You have accuracy!**

You could be the future of tech like Sophie!

### Find out more

Copyright © 2026 Pearson Education, Inc. or its affiliate(s). All rights reserved.

