

Lesson 1: Computer Concepts



Learning Objectives

- After studying this lesson, you will be able to:
 - ▲ Identify the basic parts of a computer system
 - ▲ Describe the difference between random access memory and storage memory
 - ▲ Identify whether a component of the computer system is hardware or software
 - ▲ Describe the role of an operating system in a computer
 - ▲ Describe the difference between application program files and user data files



Categorizing Computer Systems

- Two basic categories of components
 - ▲ Hardware physical components
 - ▲ Software logical components
- Four categories of systems
 - Desktop
 - ▲ All-in-One
 - ▲ Notebook
 - Netbook



Units of Measure

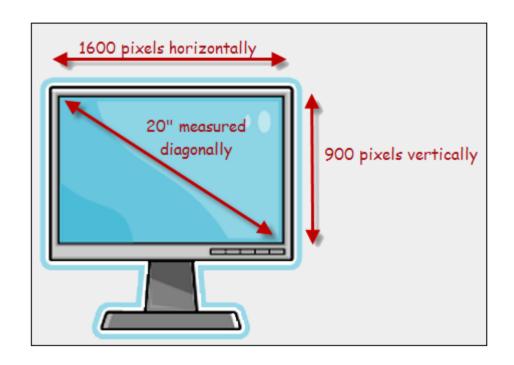
Volume/Capacity Units

Unit	Meaning	Capacity Examples
Bit	Zero or one	1,0
Byte	One character	A, B, C, D, &, @
Kilobyte (KB)	Thousand bytes	Two paragraphs of text
Megabyte (MB)	Million bytes	About 3 medium-length novels
Gigabyte (GB)	Billion bytes	About 250-500 digital photos
Terabyte (TB)	Trillion bytes	About 120 hours of HD video



Units of Measure

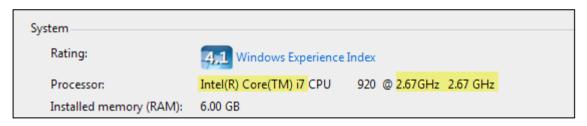
- Resolution Units
 - ▲ Resolution (monitor) 1600x900
 - ▲ Screen Size
- Resolution (printer)600 dpi (dots per inch)





Units of Measure

- Processor speed unit
 - ▲ Gigahertz (GHz) processor speed



- Modem speed unit
 - ▲ Bits per second (bps)
 - ▲ Megabits per second (Mbps)



An online Internet speed test



Computer Hardware Categories

- Each hardware category plays a key role:
 - ▲ Processing
 - ▲ Storage
 - ▲ Viewing/Printing
 - Networking
 - ▲ Human Interface



Processing Hardware

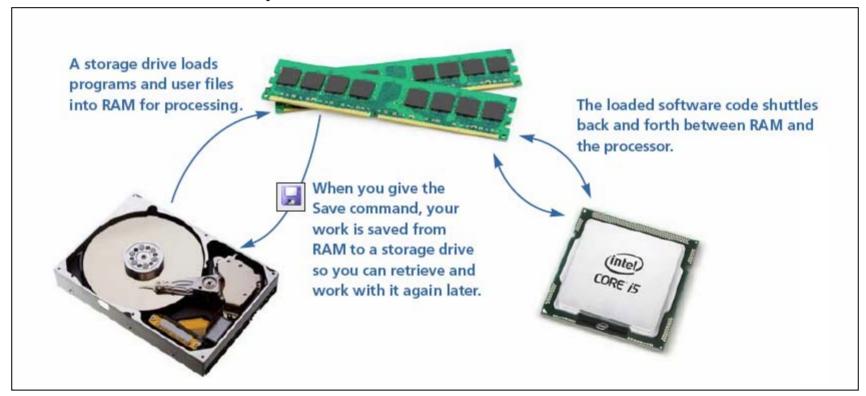
- Processor
 - ▲ Multi-core
 - ▲ Single-core





Processing Hardware

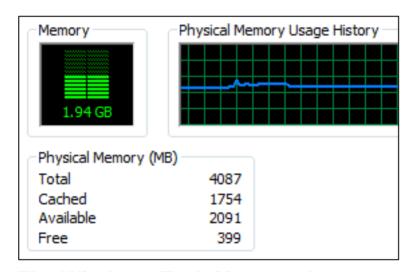
■ RAM – The Computer's Workbench





Processing Hardware

- RAM and Performance
 - More RAM allows you to run more programs at once efficiently



The Windows Task Manager keeps track of how much RAM is available for processing



Storage Hardware

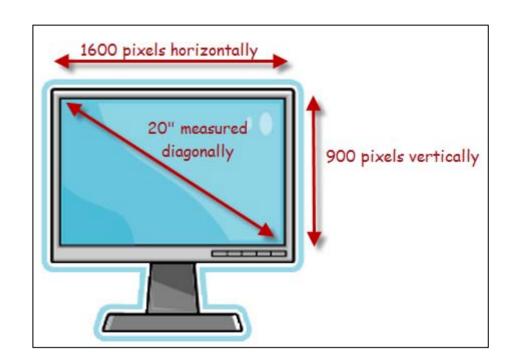
- Hard disk drive
- Optical Disc drive (CD, DVD, Blu-Ray)
- USB flash drive
- Solid-state drive (SSD)
- Additional Storage
 - ▲ External Drives
 - ▲ Card Readers





Viewing and Printing Hardware

- LCD Monitors
 - ▲ Measuring Size
 - ▲ Measuring Resolution
 - ▲ Native Resolution
- Printers
 - ▲ Ink Jet
 - ▲ Laser
 - ▲ All-in-One





Networking Hardware

- Modem
 - ▲ Cable
 - ▲ DSL
 - ▲ Dial-up
- Router/Wireless Access Point
 - ▲ Wireless-B
 - ▲ Wireless-G
 - ▲ Wireless-N





Human Interface Hardware

- Mouse
- Touchpad
- Keyboard
- Touch screen
- Pen tablet-
- Trackball



A Wacom Intuos pen tablet



Human Interface Hardware

- USB ports connect all manner of devices to the computer: keyboards, printers, USB flash drives, etc.
- USB port types
 - ▲ USB 1.0
 - ▲ USB 2.0
 - ▲ USB 3.0





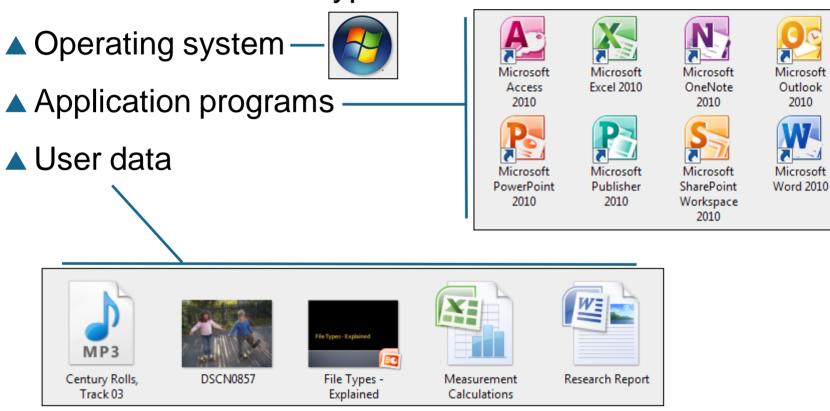
Human Interface Hardware

- Webcam
 - Allows you to capture and transmit video and audio
 - ▲ Built into most new notebook and netbook computers
 - Easily added to desktop computers





Three basic software types:





2010

Operating system roles



- ▲ Interpreting commands
- ▲ Controlling hardware
- ▲ Keeping track of all files
- Running application programs



- Windows Versions
 - ▲ XP Released in 2001 start



▲ Vista – Released in 2006



▲ 7 – Released in 2009



- 64-bit versions
 - ▲ Can control more RAM (more than 4 GB)
 - ▲ Need 64-bit drivers (software) to control hardware



Application Program Categories

Category	Description	Examples
Proprietary (Commercial)	Applications for which you must purchase a license in order to use legally	Office 2010 Suite
Shareware	Applications you are allowed to install and use without paying for initially; if you continue to use the software, you are required or expected to pay a license fee	Photoshop WinZip
		SnagIt
		PDFCreator
		Xnote Stopwatch
Freeware	Free applications you do not have to pay for no matter how much you use them; these applications are still copyrighted, however, which means others can't turn around and try to sell the freeware program themselves	Jing
		Firefox
		Star Office
Malware	Often called <i>viruses</i> , these are applications designed to harm your computer.	MyDoom
		Code Red
		Blaster



- Application program types
 - ▲ Word processor (Word)
 - ▲ Spreadsheet (Excel)
 - ▲ Database (Access)
 - ▲ Presentation (PowerPoint)
 - ▲ Email/personal information (Outlook)
 - ▲ Web browsing (Firefox, Internet Explorer)



- Anti-malware
 - Protects against computer viruses and various types of intrusions
 - Absolutely necessary for any computer connected to the Internet





- User files store you work
 - ▲ File formats
 - ◆ Indicated by a filename extension (normally hidden)
 - ◆Tell Windows which program to open a file with



The normally hidden filename extensions are displayed for these user files





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