NEW PERSPECTIVES

# Unit 2 Digital Devices

#### **Computer Concepts 2016**

**ENHANCED EDITION** 



## **2** Unit Contents

- Section A: Device Basics
- ➤ Section B: Device Options
- > Section C: Processors and Memory
- ➤ Section D: Storage
- ➤ Section E: Input and Output

Unit 2: Digital Devices

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# 2 Section A: Device Basics

- ➤ Computers
- Circuits and Chips
- ➤ Components
- ➤ Maintenance

#### 2 Computers

- At its core, a computer is a multipurpose device that accepts input, processes data, stores data, and produces output, all according to a series of stored instructions
- ➤ Input is whatever is typed, submitted, or transmitted to a computer
- > Output is the result produced by a computer

Unit 2: Digital Devices

Unit 2: Digital Devices

# Computers FIGURE 2-1: THE IPOS MODEL DEFINES COMPUTERS COLOMBIT COLOMBIT

calculate sort draw manipulate words generate sound

PROCESS

PROCESS

OUTPUT

words and symbols numbers dates photos
locations audio recordings video footage

data files

Unit 2: Digital Devices

#### 2 Computers

- The instructions that tell a digital device how to carry out processing tasks are referred to as a **computer program**, or simply a program
- Programs form the software that sets up a computer to do a specific task

Unit 2: Digital Devices

# 2 Computers

- ➤ When a computer "runs" software, it performs the instructions to carry out a task
- The first computers were "programmed" to perform a specific task by connecting wire circuitry in a certain way
- The term stored program means that a series of instructions for computing a task can be loaded into a computer's memory

Unit 2: Digital Devices

# 2 Computers



The stored program concept allows you to use a computer for one task, such as word processing, and then easily switch to a different type of computing task, such as editing a photo or playing music. It is the single most important characteristic that distinguishes computers from other simpler and less versatile digital devices, such as digital clocks, calculators, and cameras.

FIGURE 2-2: STORED PROGRAMS MAKE COMPUTERS VERSATILE MACHINE

Unit 2: Digital Devices

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# 2 Computers

- Computers run three main types of software:
  - Application software
  - System software
  - > Development tools



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# 2 Computers

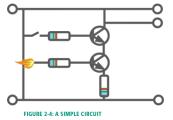
- Application Software is a set of computer programs that helps a person carry out a task
- The primary purpose of system software is to help the computer system monitor itself in order to function efficiently (an example of system software is a computer operating system or OS)
- Development tools are used for creating software applications, Web sites, operating systems, and utilities

Unit 2: Digital Device:

# <sup>2</sup> Circuits and Chips

- The small circuit boards and integrated circuits you see when you open up a digital device are the essence of digital electronics
- Digital electronics represent data bits as electrical signals that travel over circuits in much the same way that electricity flows over a wire when you turn on a light switch

<sup>2</sup> Circuits and Chips



This little circuit is composed of electrical pathways (lines), transistors (circles), and resistors (rectangles). The electronics for digital devices require millions of similar circuits. Constructing these circuits from wires would produce gigantic devices.

Unit 2: Digital Devices

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# <sup>2</sup> Circuits and Chips

- An integrated circuit (IC) is a set of microscopic electronic circuits etched onto a thin slide of semiconducting material
- The terms computer chip, microchip, and chip are commonly used to refer to integrated circuits
- Semiconductors, such as silicon and germanium, are substances with properties between those of a conductor (like copper) and an insulator (like wood)

2 Circuits and Chips

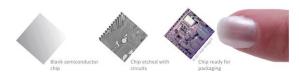


FIGURE 2-5: COMPUTER CHIPS ARE MADE FROM SEMICONDUCTORS

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# 2 Circuits and Chips

FIGURE 2-6: CHIPS ARE HOUSED IN CERAMIC PACKAGES





DIPs have two rows of pins that connect the chip to a circuit board.

An LGA is a square chip package, typically used for microprocessors, with pins arranged in concentric squares.

....

# 2 Circuits and Chips

- The electronic components of most digital devices are mounted on a circuit board called a system board, motherboard, or main board
- ➤ The **system board** houses all essential chips and provides connecting circuitry between them

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<sup>2</sup> Circuits and Chips

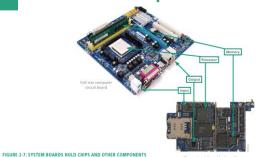


FIGURE 2-7: SYSTEM BOARDS HOLD CHIPS AND OTHER COMPONENTS

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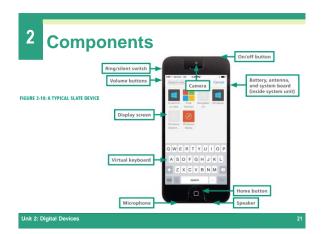
# 2 Components

- In the computer industry the term form factor refers to the size and dimensions of a device or components, such as circuit boards and system units
- The term **system unit** is tech speak for the part of a digital device that holds the system board
- Some popular form factors include: component, clamshell, and slate

Unit 2: Digital Devices







## 2 Maintenance

- You can extend the life of your digital devices with regular maintenance
- There are four components of digital devices that require maintenance:
  - ➤ System unit
  - ▶Keyboard
  - **≻**Screen
  - ▶Battery

Unit 2: Digital Devices

2 Maintenance

FIGURE 2-11: CLEANING GUIDELINES



Don't use harsh cleaning products; follow manufacturer recommendations.



Never immerse a device in liquid; water and electronics don't mix.



Do not allow cleaning agents to drip on keyboards or touchpads.



Do not spray cleaning agents directly on the device; spray them onto a cleaning cloth.

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# 2 Maintenance

Basic system unit maintenance is simple; keep the unit clean, prevent it from overheating, shield it from damage and protect it from electrical surges



Dust with a clean microfiber cloth and disinfect with antibacterial wipes.



Use a low vacuum setting to remove



Use a protective case or carrying bag.



Only plug into a surgeprotected outlet.

FIGURE 2-12: BASIC SYSTEM UNIT MAINTENANCE

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#### 2 Maintenance

- Touchscreens collect fingerprints and are a breeding ground for bacteria, so it's a good idea to clean them periodically
- Many touchscreens are made from Gorilla Glass, which is designed to resist scratching and cracking, and oleophobic coating, designed to repel oils from fingertips
- A plastic screen protector is a good defense against scratches and cracks

2: Digital Devices

#### <sup>2</sup> Maintenance

- Most of today's battery-powered digital devices contain a lithium ion (Li-ion) battery
- Li-ion batteries can overheat and in the worst case, they can explode
- Smart consumers don't operate devices that are hot to the touch

Unit 2: Digital Devices

**Section B: Device Options** 

➤ Enterprise Computers

Choosing a Digital Device

Personal Computers

Niche Devices

#### 2 Maintenance

FIGURE 2-14: EXTEND THE LIFE OF THE BATTERIES IN YOUR DEVICES

- 1 Charge when the low battery indicator comes on.
- 2 Avoid totally discharging the battery.
- 3 Remove the device from the charger when it's fully charged.
- 4 If your device becomes hot while in use, turn it off.
- 5 Disable unused apps that constantly connect to the Internet
- 6 Switch to airplane mode when in an area with no cell coverage

Init 2: Digital Devices

#### Enterprise Computers

- The most powerful computers are generally used in businesses and government agencies
- These computers have the ability to service many simultaneous users and process data at very fast speeds
- > Types of "Big" computers are:
  - > Supercomputers
  - > Mainframes
  - > Servers



FIGURE 2-15: "BIG" COMPUTERS

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## **2** Enterprise Computers

- Supercomputers: considered the fastest computers in the world at the time of construction; can tackle complex tasks other computers cannot; typical use includes breaking codes, modeling weather systems, and simulating nuclear explosions
- Mainframes: a large and expensive computer capable of simultaneously processing data for hundreds or thousands of users; looks like a closet sized cabinet; used to provide centralized storage, processing and management for large amounts of data
- Servers: "serves" data to computers in a network; Google search results are provided by servers; about the size of a desk draw and mounted in racks of multiple servers

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# **Personal Computers**

- A personal computer is designed to meet the computing needs of an individual
- The term personal computer can be abbreviated as PC
- Personal computers can be classified as:
  - ➤ Desktop
  - ▶Portable
  - ➤ Mobile devices

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#### **Personal Computers**

- > Desktop: fits on a desk and runs on power from a wall outlet; keyboard is typically separate from the monitor; popular in offices and schools
- > Portable: runs on battery power; its components are contained in a single case for easy transportation
- Laptop: also referred to as a notebook computer; small and lightweight with a clamshell design and keyboard at the base





## **Personal Computers**

- Tablets: a tablet computer is a portable computing device featuring a touch-sensitive screen used for input and output; uses a specialized OS; a slate tablet configuration has a narrow frame screen that lacks a physical keyboard; Apple iPad is a slate tablet
- Smartphones: mobile devices with features similar to a tablet computer; provide telecommunications capabilities over cell phone networks









#### **Niche Devices**

- > Niche devices all have one thing in common: They contain a microprocessor
  - > Ebook readers: designed for displaying the content of digital publications; NOOK and Kindle are eBook readers
  - > Portable media players: a handheld device that can store and play music; iPod touch is a portable media player
  - Game consoles: devices for playing computer games such as Sony's Play Station and Nintendo's Wii



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#### **Niche Devices**

- Smartwatches: multifunctional devices that include a camera, thermometer, compass, calculator, cell phone, GPS, media player, and fitness tracker
- > Smartglasses: include Google Glass; controlled by voice commands or a touchpad on the rim; has a camera and display device that essentially beams an image toward the wearer's eye
- > Activity trackers: monitors your steps and heart rate
- Smart appliances: Modern refrigerators, washing machines, and other appliances are controlled by integrated circuits called microcontrollers that combine sensors with processing circuitry



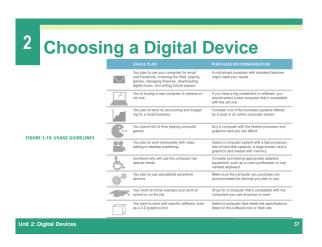




Unit 2: Digital Devices

# **Choosing a Digital Device**

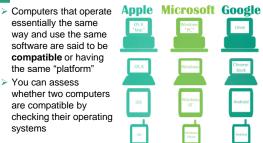
- The following activities can get you started on choosing the right digital device:
  - >Consider how you plan to use your device
  - ➤ Choose the type of device
  - > Decide on a budget and stick to it
  - ➤ Select a platform
  - Check out the device's specifications





# **Choosing a Digital Device**

- essentially the same way and use the same software are said to be compatible or having the same "platform"
- You can assess whether two computers are compatible by checking their operating systems



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# **Choosing a Digital Device**

- Prices for digital devices can vary and depend on screen size, microprocessor size, and memory:
  - The price tag for a smartphone is \$200-\$500
  - > Tablet computer prices range from \$200 \$1,200
  - Desktop and Laptop computers usually cost a little more, with price points roughly grouped into three categories:
    - ➤ Above \$1,200
    - >\$500 \$1,200
    - ➤ Under \$500

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# **Choosing a Digital Device**

Computer ads are loaded with jargon and acronyms, such as RAM, ROM, GHz, GB, and USB



FIGURE 2-22: COMPUTER ADS ARE FULL OF JARGON

Section C: Processors and Memory

- ➤ Microprocessors
- How Processors Work
- ▶ Performance
- ➤ Random Access Memory
- ➤ Read-Only Memory

# Microprocessors

- A microprocessor is an integrated circuit designed to process instructions
- It is the *most important*, and usually the most expensive, component of a digital device
- Intel Corporation is the world's largest chipmaker and supplies a sizeable percentage of the microprocessors that power desktops and laptops

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#### 2 Microprocessors

- Intel's 8086 family of microprocessors powered the original IBM PC
- The 8086 chip family set the standard for processors used today
- This standard is sometimes referred to as x86
- Processors found in today's desktops and laptops are x86 compatible





Unit 2: Digital Devices

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# 2 Microprocessors

- Processors based on ARM technology dominate tablet computers and smartphones
- ARM technology was originally designed by ARM Holdings, a British technology company founded by Acorn Computers, Apple Inc., and VLSI Technology
- ARM processors are energy efficient an important characteristic for battery powered devices
- ARM processors are found in iPads, iPhones, and Surface tablets

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## 2 Microprocessors

Finding the microprocessor that's best for you depends on your budget and the type of work and play you plan to do

If you know the make and model of a digital device, you can generally find processor specifications by searching online Windows 8. displays processor generalized from the PC label stand.

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## 2 How Processors Work

- Microprocessor technology is fascinating in its ability to perform an astounding variety of tasks based on a set of really simple instructions
- These instructions are referred to as an instruction set
- An instruction set contains a collection of instructions for actions that the circuitry in a microprocessor can perform

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#### 2 How Processors Work

Microprocessors can't directly understand programming language, such as C++, BASIC, or Java, so programs have to be converted into machine language that corresponds to the microprocessor's

Add	0000 0000
Input	0110 0011
Compare	0011 1100
Move	1010 0000
Multiply	1111 0110
	1110 1110
Subtract	0010 1100
Halt	1111 0100

FIGURE 2-25: COMMON COMMANDS FROM THE X86 INSTRUCTION SET

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instruction set

# 2 How Processors Work

- Operational units of the microprocessor are:
  - The ALU (arithmetic logic unit) is part of the microprocessor that performs arithmetic operations, such as addition and subtraction
  - > The ALU uses registers to hold data that is being processed
  - > The microprocessor's control unit fetches each instruction



FIGURE 2-26: THE MICROPROCESSOR'S CONTROL UNIT AND ALU

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**2** How Processors Work

The term
instruction cycle
refers to the
process in which a
computer executes
a single instruction

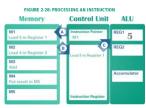


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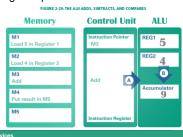
# How processors Work

Machine language instructions for programs are held in memory; when the program begins, the memory address of the first instruction is placed in a part of the microprocessor's control unit called an instruction pointer



2 How processors Work

The ALU is responsible for performing arithmetic and logical operations



2 Performance

nit 2: Digital Devices

A microprocessor's performance is affected by several factors, including clock speed, number of cores, processing techniques, cache size, word size, and instruction set

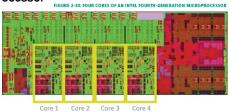
➤ A processor specification, such as 3.4 GHz, indicates the speed of the **microprocessor clock** – a timing device that sets the pace for executing instructions

A cycle is the smallest unit of time in a microprocessor's universe; every action a processor performs is measured by cycles

> Gigahertz (GHz) means a billion cycles per second

2 Performance

A microprocessor that contains circuitry for more than one processing unit is called a multicore processor

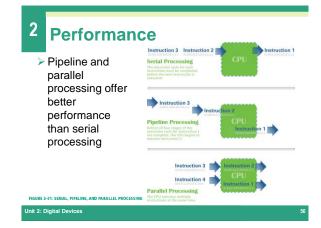


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## **Performance**

- Some processors execute instructions "serially" or one instruction at a time
- With serial processing, the processor must complete all steps in the instruction cycle before it begins to execute the next instruction
- When a processor begins to execute an instruction before it completes the previous instruction, it is using pipeline processing
- Parallel processing executes more than one instruction at a time and works well with today's multicore microprocessors

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#### **Performance**

- ➤ What affects performance?:
  - CPU cache (pronounced "cash") is a special high-speed memory that allows a microprocessor to access data more rapidly
  - > Word size refers to the number of bits that a microprocessor can manipulate at one time; it limits the amount of memory that the processor can access
  - > A RISC (reduced instruction set computer) processor performs instructions faster than a CISC (complex instruction set computer) processor

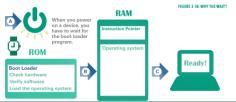
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# **Random Access Memory**

- > RAM (random access memory) is a temporary holding area for data, application program instructions, and the operating system
- Higher RAM capacity adds to the expense of a device
- > In RAM, microscopic electronic parts called capacitors hold the bits that represent data
- Most RAM is volatile, meaning it needs electrical power to hold data

# **Read-Only Memory**

- > ROM (read-only memory) is a type of memory circuitry that is housed in a single integrated circuit on the system board
- > ROM contains a small set of instructions and data called the boot loader which tell a digital device how to start



# **Read-Only Memory**

- There are several reasons why you might want to change the contents of ROM and boot loader instructions, including:
  - ▶ Repair
  - User modification
  - ▶Forensics
  - ➤ Updates



# 2 Section D: Storage

- ➤ Storage Basics
- Magnetic Storage Technology
- ➤ Optical Storage Technology
- ➤ Solid State Technology
- ➤ Cloud Storage
- ▶ Backup

Jnit 2: Digital Devices

#### 2 Storage Basics

- > Storage is a term used for the components of a digital device designed to hold data permanently
- A data storage system has two main components: a storage medium and a storage device
  - Storage medium the disk, tape, CD, or DVD that contains data
  - Storage device the mechanical apparatus that records and retrieves data from a storage medium

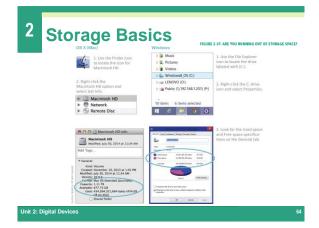
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# 2 Storage Basics

Each storage technology has its advantages and disadvantages so review their durability, dependability, speed, capacity, and cost before buying

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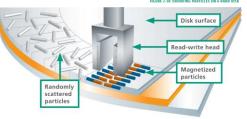


# 2 Magnetic Storage Technology

- Magnetic storage technology is used for desktop and laptop hard disk drives, as well as the storage devices used in enterprise computing installations and cloud services
  - Magnetic storage represents data by magnetizing microscopic particles on a disk or tape surface
  - A hard disk drive contains one or more platters and their associated read-write heads
  - A hard disk platter is a flat, rigid disk made of aluminum or glass and coated with magnetic iron oxide particles
  - A read-write head mechanism in the disk drive magnetizes particles to write data, and senses the particles' polarities to read data

Unit 2: Digital Devices

# Magnetic Storage Technology



Before data is stored on a hard disk, particles on the disk surface are scattered in random patterns. The disk drive's read-write head orients them in a positive (north) or negative (south) direction to represent 0 and 1 bits, respectively.

Unit 2: Digital Devices

# Magnetic Storage Technology

- Hard disk drive specifications include:
  - Access time the average time it takes a computer to locate data on the storage medium and read it
  - Data transfer rate the amount of data a storage device can move per second from the storage medium to RAM

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# Optical Storage Technology

- CD, DVD, and Blu-ray (BD) technologies are classified as optical storage, which represents data as microscopic light and dark spots on the disc surface
- The dark spots are called pits; the lighter, non-pitted surface areas of the disc are called lands



As seen through an electro

microscope, the pits on an opti cal storage disc look like sma craters. Each pit is less tha 1 micron (one-millionth of meter) in diameter—1,500 pit lined up side by side are abou

Unit 2: Digital Devices

as wide as the head of a pin.

# 2 Optical Storage Technology

A single optical drive typically handles CDs, DVDs, and Bluray discs, but the costs and capacities of these discs vary

-41: CDS, DVDS, AND BLU-RA



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DVD (digital video disc or digital versatile disc): Originally designed for movies, but quickly adopted

Blu-ray (BD): Designed to ho high-definition 1080p video to offering 25 GB storage capacity layer. The name Blu-ray is derive from the blue-violet colored las used to read data stored on Bludiscs. DVD technology uses a ne laser; CD technology uses a ne

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# Optical Storage Technology

- Optical technologies are grouped into three categories: readonly, recordable, and rewriteable
  - ROM. Read-only technology stores data permanently on a disc, which cannot be later added to or changed; can potentially store data for 100 years
  - R. Recordable technology uses a laser to change the color in a dye laser sandwiched beneath the clear plastic disc surface; the laser creates dark spots that are read as pits
  - RW. Rewritable technology uses phase change technology to alter a crystal structure on the disc surface; altering this structure creates patterns of light and dark spots resembling pits and lands

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#### **Solid State Storage Technology**

- Solid state storage (sometimes called flash memory) stores data in erasable, rewritable circuitry, rather than on spinning disks or streaming tape
- Once the data is stored it is non-volatile, meaning the circuits retain data without an external power source

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# 2 Solid State Storage Technology

A memory card is a flat, solid state storage medium commonly used to transfer files from digital cameras and media players to computers





Memory cards are available in several formats and capacities

Jnit 2: Digital Devices

y cards.

## 2 Solid State Storage Technology

- A solid state drive (SSD) is a package of flash memory that can be used as a substitute for a hard disk drive
- A USB flash drive is a portable storage device that plugs directly into a computer's system unit using a built-in USB connector

FIGURE 2-43: SOLID STATE DRIVES



45¢ cost per GB

SSDs are widely used as the main storage device in smartphones and tablet computers. Some laptops also include an SSD instead of a hard disk drive.

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## 2 Cloud Storage

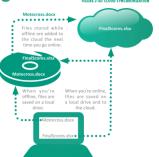
- > Remote storage is housed on an external device that can be accessed from a network
- Remote storage can also be available as an Internet service, in which case it is called cloud storage
- Cloud storage is provided to individuals by services such as Apple iCloud, Microsoft OneDrive, Google Drive, and Dropbox



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## 2 Cloud Storage

Some cloud implementations offer a synchronization feature that automatically duplicates files stored on a local device by also saving them in the cloud



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## 2 Cloud Storage

- ➤ Cloud Storage basics:
  - Security and privacy risks the more places your data is stored and the more networks on which it tavels, the more susceptible it becomes to hackers and spying agencies
  - Service outages when a cloud storage site has an outage, all the data stored there become temporarily inaccessible
  - Discontinuation of service some cloud storage providers have closed down their services with little warning

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2 Backup

- A backup is a copy of one or more files that is made in case the originals become damaged or lost
- Figuring out what to backup is important; backing up everything isn't always practical



difficult or impossible to reconstruct from scratch.

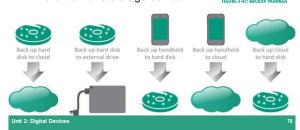
Settings, accounts, and profiles: How much time did you spend outsomizing your home screen, entering co tacts, choosing passwords, and setting preferences for your favorite app!? No one wants to have to do that a over again!

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# 2 Backup

➤ When deciding on what to back up, know what's important and ensure that current versions exist on more than one storage device



# 2 Backup

- Tools you'll need for backups:
  - Recovery drive (system repair disc) contains parts of the OS necessary to boot your computer and diagnose system problems
  - Copy command allows you to make copies of essential files
  - File History allows for automated data backup and file synchronization to make copies of files from your Documents, Music, Picture, etc.
  - System image Windows includes a disk image option called System image; a bit-for-bit copy of the data from all sectors of a hard disk

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## 2 Backup

Macs with OS X offer a comprehensive file synchronization utility called Time Machine, which backs up the entire hard disk



FIGURE 2-50: TIME MACHINE BACKUI

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# 2 Backup

Owners of iOS devices can backup to a local computer using iTunes or to iCloud



# 2 Section E: Input and Output

- > Add-on Gadgets
- ➤ Expansion Ports
- > Bluetooth
- ➤ Display Devices
- ▶ Printers
- ➤ Things

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# 2 Add-on Gadgets

There are lots of options available for gadgets that accompany your digital devices



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#### **2** Expansion Ports

- Many digital devices have ports in the system unit for connecting cables and various addons; these ports are called expansion ports because they expand the options for input, output, and storage
- When you plug in a USB flash drive or insert a memory card, you are using an expansion port

Unit 2: Digital Devices



# **2** Expansion Ports

If you want to connect more devices than the available number of USB ports, you can use a USB hub



Unit 2: Digital Devices

rices

# 2 Bluetooth

- A common wireless technology for connecting peripherals is Bluetooth
- Bluetooth is a low-power technology, so it is ideal for mobile devices that don't have big batteries
- Bluetooth is used to connect wireless headsets to smartphones and is built into many smartphones, tablets, laptops, and desktops

Init 2: Digital Devices

# Device Drivers and Apps

- A device driver is software that helps a peripheral device establish communication with its host device
- For example, the device driver for an HP printer sets up data streams from RAM to the printer and makes sure that the data is formatted in a way that the printer can work

Unit 2: Digital Devices

# 2 Display Devices

- A computer display device that simply displays text and images is classified as an output device
- Touchscreens, however, can be classified as both input and output devices because they accept input and also display output
- LCD (liquid crystal display) technology produces an image by filtering light through a layer of liquid crystal cells

Unit 2: Digital Devices

#### 2 Display Devices

- > Factors that affect image quality are:
  - Screen size the measurement in inches from one corner of the screen diagonally across to the opposite corner
  - Response rate the time it takes for one pixel to change from black to white then back to black
  - > Dot pitch (dp) The LED's that form an image on the screen are spaced in a grid; dp is the distance in millimeters between like-colored LEDs
  - Screen resolution The number of horizontal and vertical pixels that a device displays on the screen

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- Tablet computers, handheld devices, retail store self-checkouts, and ATMs display output and collect input from a touchscreen
- They can also display a virtual keyboard for devices that are not connected to a physical keyboard





Capacitive technology contains a transparent panel coated with a thin layer of electrically conditative material. Because the human body is an electrical conductor, touching the screen produces a change in the electrical current. A special capacitive stylius or touchscreen gloves can also be used to operate this type of screen. Capacitive screens can interpret a single touch or more

Unit 2: Digital Devices

## 2 Display Devices

- Display devices require graphics circuitry to generate and transport the signals for displaying an image on the screen
- One type of graphics circuitry, referred to as integrated graphics, is built into a computer's system board

Unit 2: Digital Devices

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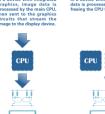
# 2 Display Devices

A second option, called dedicated graphics, is graphics circuitry mounted on a small circuit board called a graphics card (or video card)



# 2 Display Devices

A graphics card contains a graphics processing unit (GPU) and a special video memory, which stores screen images as they are processed but before they are displayed



CPU GPU

Unit 2: Digital Devices

#### 2 Printers

- Today's best-selling multifunction printers use ink jet or laser technology and can also serve as scanners, copiers, and fax machines
- An ink jet printer has a nozzle-like print head that sprays ink onto paper to form characters and graphics



FIGURE 2-66: INK JET CMYK CARTRIDGES

Unit 2: Digital Device

#### 2 Things

The utopian vision for the Internet of Things (IoT) is a busy hive of smart sensors that work behind the scenes to collect data and use it to improve just about anything

"A window on your house just broke."
"Your dog is barking."
"The club is busy (notty)."

Sound

"Your dog is out of your yard."



FIGURE 2-69: SENSORS









Unit 2: Digital Devices

NEW PERSPECTIVES

# **Unit 2 Complete**

# **Computer Concepts 2016**

