

# Definition of a Computer

A computer is an electronic device used to process data, converting the data into information that is useful to people

Input-process-output-storage



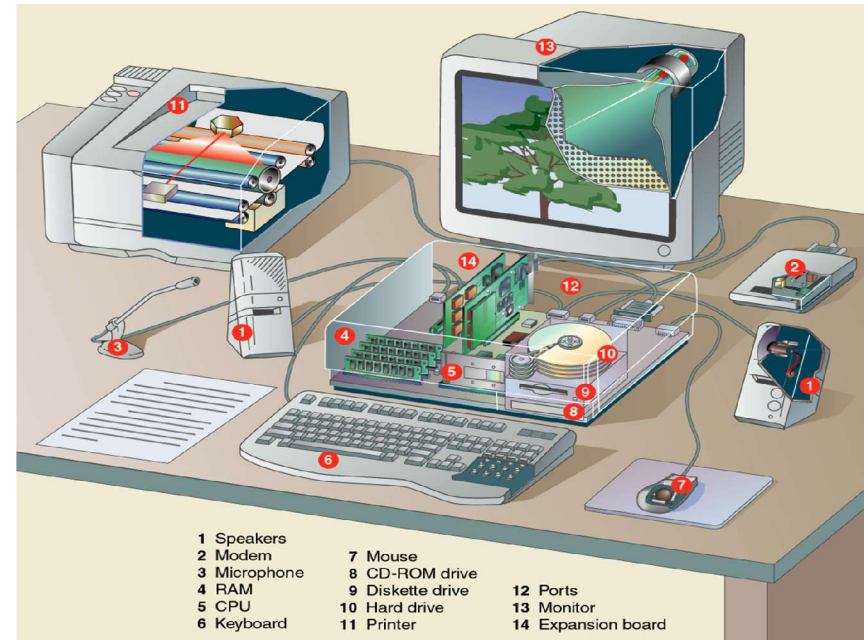
# Hardware

Mechanical devices that make up the  
computer



# Examples of Hardware

- ✦ Processor
- ✦ Memory
- ✦ Input and output devices
- ✦ Storage

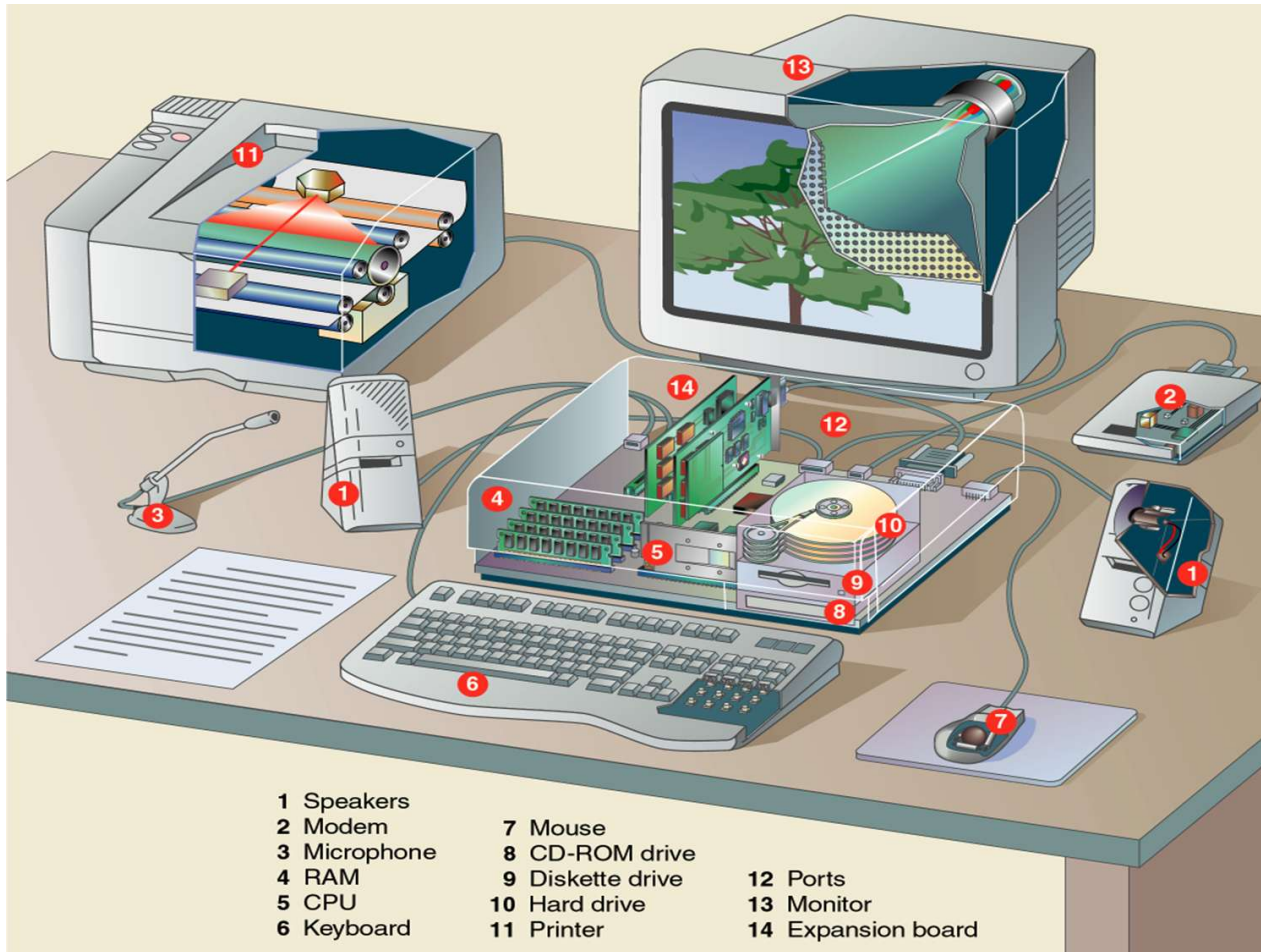


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# Hardware



# Input Devices

Accept data and instructions from the user or from another computer system



# Most Common Input Devices

✦ Keyboard

✦ Mouse



# Output Devices

Return processed data to the user or to another computer system



# Most Common Output Devices

✦ Monitor

✦ Printer



# Processor

The computer's brain, which organizes and carries out instructions from either the user or the software



# Memory

When you launch a program, it is loaded into and run from memory



# Storage

Holds data permanently



# Memory Measurements

- ✦ Kilobyte (KB)
- ✦ Megabyte (MB)
- ✦ Gigabyte (GB)
- ✦ Terabyte (TB)



# What makes a computer powerful

Speed – millions or trillions of calculations per second

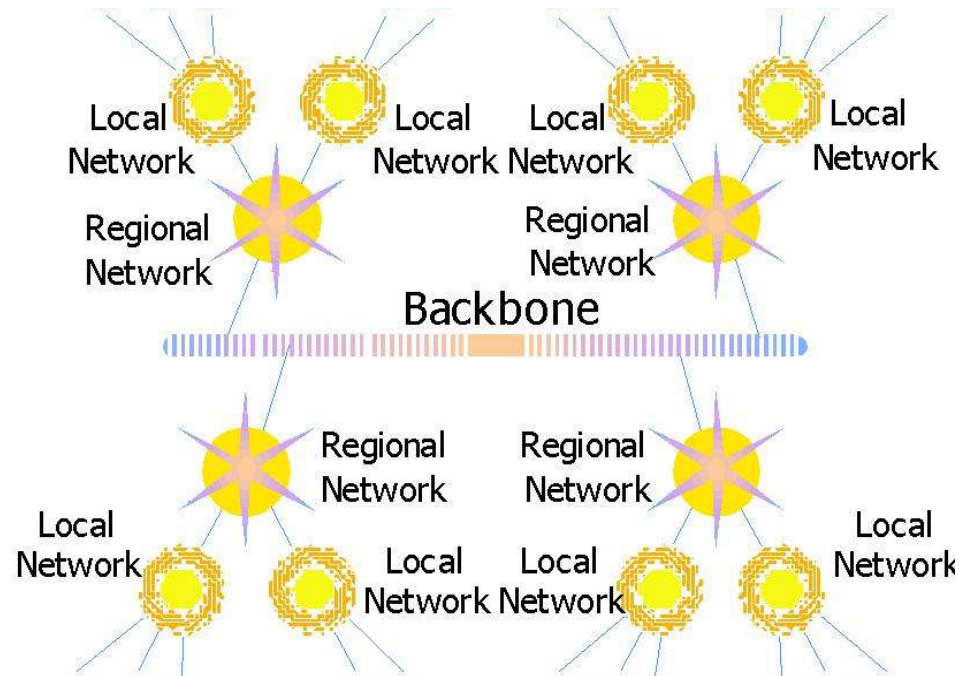
Reliable, accurate – computers don't make mistakes, people do

Storage – stores billions and trillions of bytes of data.



# The Internet Today

The Internet today is a cooperative community of over 100 million computer users connected worldwide.



# The Internet Started Out As ARPANET

In 1969, the Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) of the U.S. Department of Defense created the Internet when it connected the computers at universities and defense contractors. This system was called ARPANET.



# World Wide Web

Accessed through the Internet, the World Wide Web lets users view specially formatted documents



# Software

A set of electronic instructions consisting of complex codes, or programs, that make the computer perform tasks



# Examples of Software

- ✦ System software
- ✦ Application software



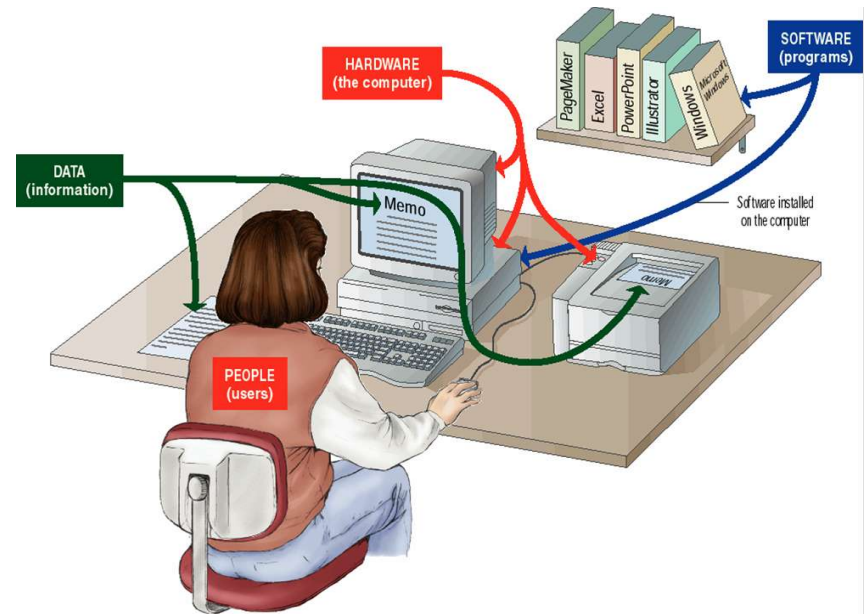
# Five Computer Categories

- ✦ Supercomputers
- ✦ Mainframe computers
- ✦ Minicomputers
- ✦ Microcomputers, or personal computers



# An Information system consists of Four Parts

- ✦ Hardware
- ✦ Software
- ✦ Users
- ✦ Data



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# The Four Parts of a Computer

