
Introduction to
COMPUTER
APPRECIATION
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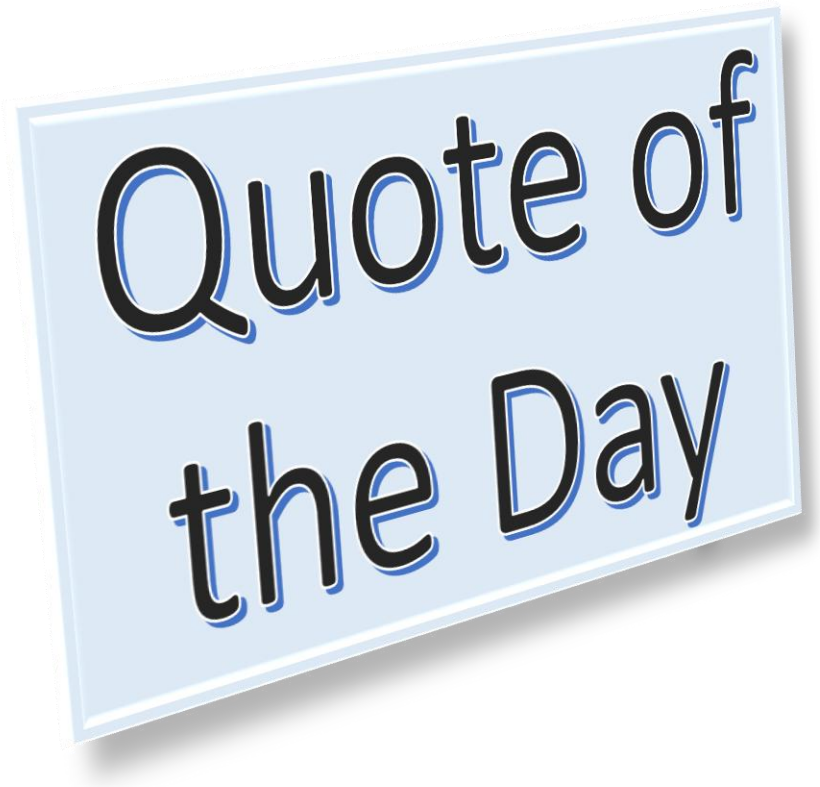

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MEANING OF COMPUTER

As a concept, computer refers to the idea of outsourcing human repetitive, administrative, and statistical task to technologies invented to perform them faster and more efficient.

As a device or tool, computer is a programmable electronic device that can store, retrieve, and process data to perform tasks and calculations. It is a versatile machine capable of executing complex instructions and algorithms to solves problems, process data and carryout specific functions.

MEANING & USES

Computer Appreciation is a term use to classify the amount of computer knowledge individuals need in addition to their personal and profession expertise.

As computer becomes an inevitable part of everyday activities of individual, families and public life, businesses and corporations needed to ascertain or access employees Computer skills on the basis on certain criteria, computer Appreciation defines this criteria.

MEANING & USES

Computer Appreciation sets the bench mark as much as computer skill acquisition is concerned. It enumerate the least skills or the most fundamental computer capabilities required by the least person in the modern society. A classification that many corporate bodies have adopted as part of their employment criteria and requirements.

COMPONENT OF COMPUTER APPRECIAITON

To provide both computer bodies and computer training firms the standard for measuring and teaching basic computer skills required for employment, computer Appreciation is broader divided into six components as followed:

1. COMPUTER FUNDAMENTAL:

The aspects that introduce individuals to the basics of computer such as definition, use, invention, major components, corporate application or use of computer, domestic application of computer and personal application of computer.

2. OPERATING SYSTEMS:

The aspect that individuals of the use, capabilities and operation of operating systems like windows, mac OS, Linux, and their functionalities.

The goal is to familiarize individuals with negativity the user interface, managing and performing basic system configuration.

3. SOFTWARE APPLICATION:

This covers the educations of individuals on use of common application such as word processors, spreadsheets, presentation, goals, web browser and email clients.

The goal to equal individuals with the ability to create, edit and manage documents, perform calculation, great presentation, browse the internet, and send & receive mails.

4. COMPUTER SECURITY:

This aspects deals with helping individuals to recognize the importance of computer security measures and practicing save computing habits.

It aims to equip individuals with important concept such as; passwords, firewalls, antivirus and data backup. It also aim to educate individuals on security threats such as; malware, phishing and social engineering an how to take appropriate precautions to protect data and privacy.

5. INTERNET AND COMMUNICATION:

This component deals with helping individuals to appreciate the role the internet and online communication tools plays in modern society, the goal is to equip individuals with the ability to utilize web browsers, search engines, social media platforms, online collaborations goals and email communication for information retrieval, communication and collaboration.

6. ETHICAL AND LEGAL FRAMEWORKS:

This deals with educating individuals to recognize ethical and legal issue related to computer use, such as, individual property right, preference concerns and cybercrime. The goal is to equip individuals to use computer responsibility by adhering to relevant laws and regulations.

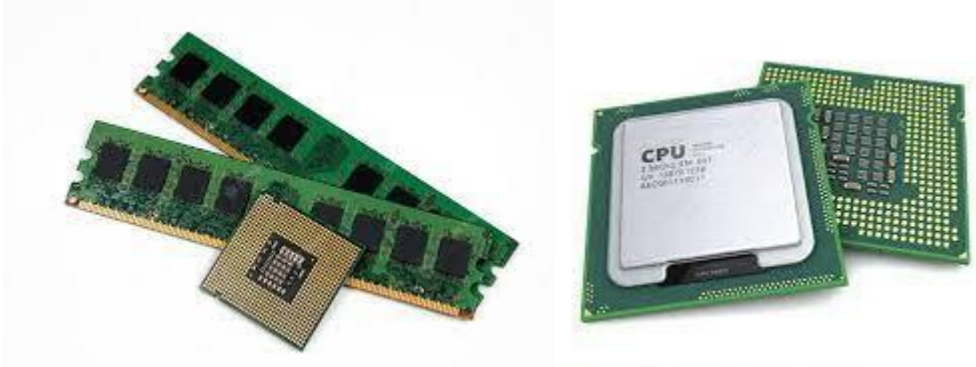
COMPONENTS OF COMPUTER

To achieve the purpose of computer both as a concept and a device or tool, several components are created and amalgamated. These components were invented separately, at different times, and by different experts with years of modification and improvement which gradually brought them together as a single multi purpose and multi- faceted tool.

Here are the major components of computer:

1. HARDWARE:

The part of the computer that comprises of all physical materials components such as the CUP- central processing units, RAM chips, Storage devices (Hardware HDD and Solid-State drives SSD), output devices such as (monitor, printer etc) and various internal & external peripherals.

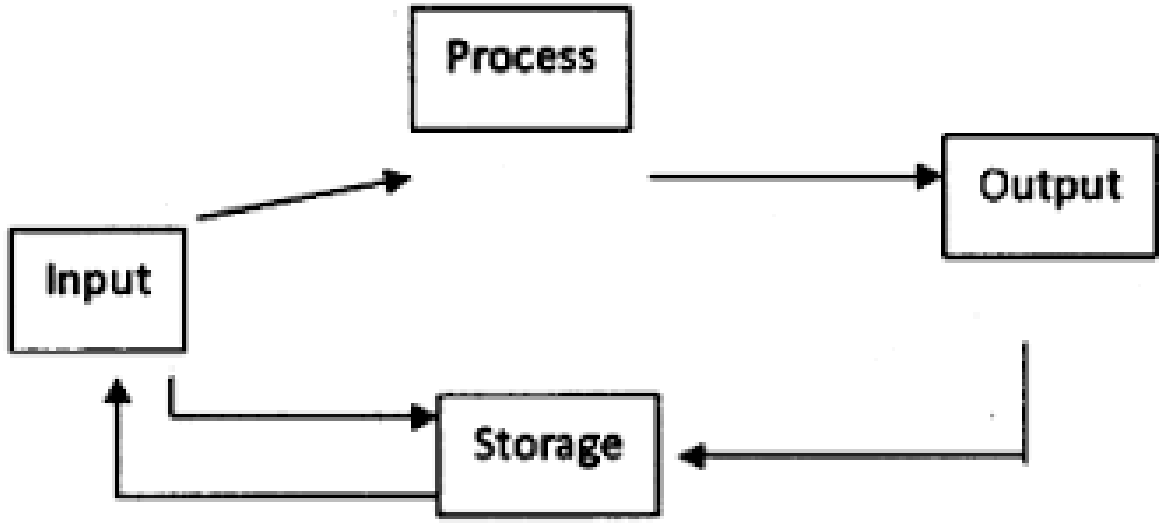


2. SOFTWARE:

It refers to the collection of performs instructions, and data that enable the computer to perform specific tasks. Software are broad, divided into system software and application/ utility software system. Software such as operations system and devices host and manage communications between the various components; hardware application/ utility software such as word processors, web browsers among a host of others enable users to perform certain tasks for which they were designed for you need a software for the any and least task you can perform your computer.

3. DATA:

The component of computer that deals with inputting of data & processed data or information stored in the computer in from of text, numbers, images, audio or video.

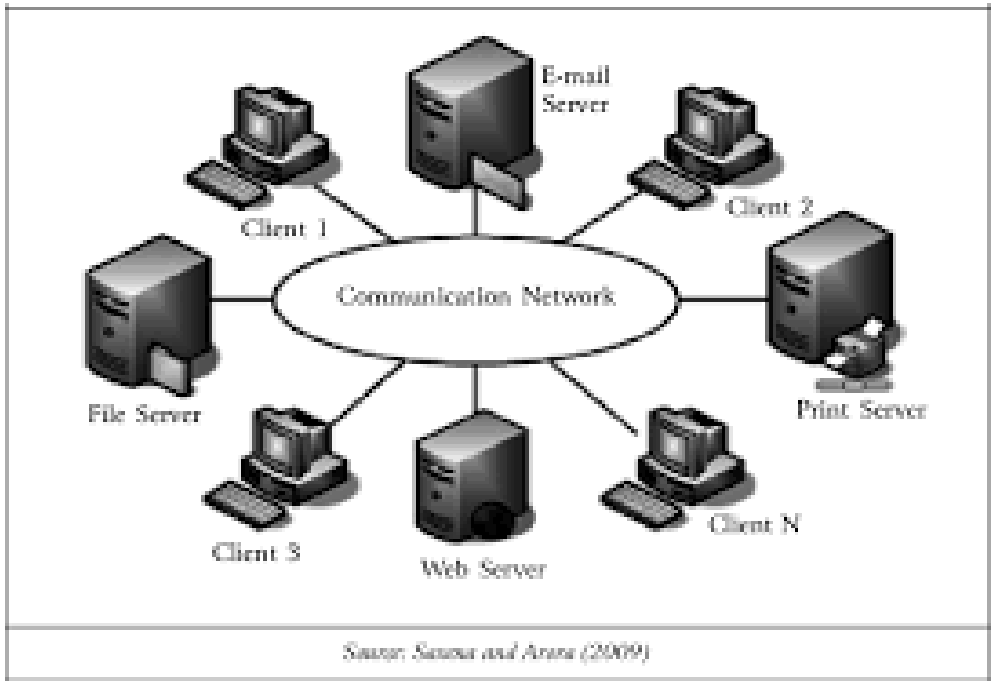


4. PROCESSING:

The component of computer that deals with the functionality of the CPU- central processing unit. The CPO follows instruction provided by a application/utility software to manipulate, format or edit text, numbers, images, audio or video.

5. COMMUNICATION:

The components of the computer that leverage other application and tools to manage communication between two different computers and their users.



Source: Saxena and Arora (2009)

BASIC COMPUTER OPERATIONAL SKILLS

1. Ability to power-on and shutdown the computer.

2. Ability to navigate operating systems user interface, measure files and folders

3. Ability to utilities input devices such as the keyboard and mouse and input data into the computer

4. Proficiency in word processors, to create and format documents

5. Proficiency in spreadsheet for calculation and data analysis
6. Proficiency in presentation software for creating slides and managing presentation.
7. Proficiencies in the use of email applications for sending and receiving mails
8. Ability to use web browser & search engines to access online resources and evaluate their credibility

9. Ability to Bookmark web pages and navigate websites
10. Ability to create, rename, move, copy and delete files and folders and navigate through the file system.
11. Ability to create file backups, utilize external storage, USB drives, and cloud storage services.
12. Ability to create strong passwords, utilize antivirus, identify and avoid security threats and suspicious websites.

13. Basic troubleshooting skills and ability to detect hardware and software malfunction and scale appropriate solutions.

14. Understanding email etiquette, ability to compose and send professional emails and how to attach files and message email folders

GUIDELINE FOR PURCHASING A COMPUTER SET

When purchasing a computer, whether it's a desktop or a laptop, there are several factors to consider. Here are some guidelines to help you make an informed decision:

1. **Purpose:**

   Determine the primary purpose of the computer. Are you buying it for gaming, work, multimedia editing, general home use, or specific tasks? This will influence the specifications and features you should prioritize.

2. **Budget:**

   Set a budget range that you are comfortable with. Computers can vary significantly in price, so having a budget in mind will help narrow down your options.

3. **Operating System:**

   Decide on the operating system you prefer, such as Windows, macOS, or Linux. Consider the software compatibility and ecosystem associated with each operating system.

4. **Form Factor:**

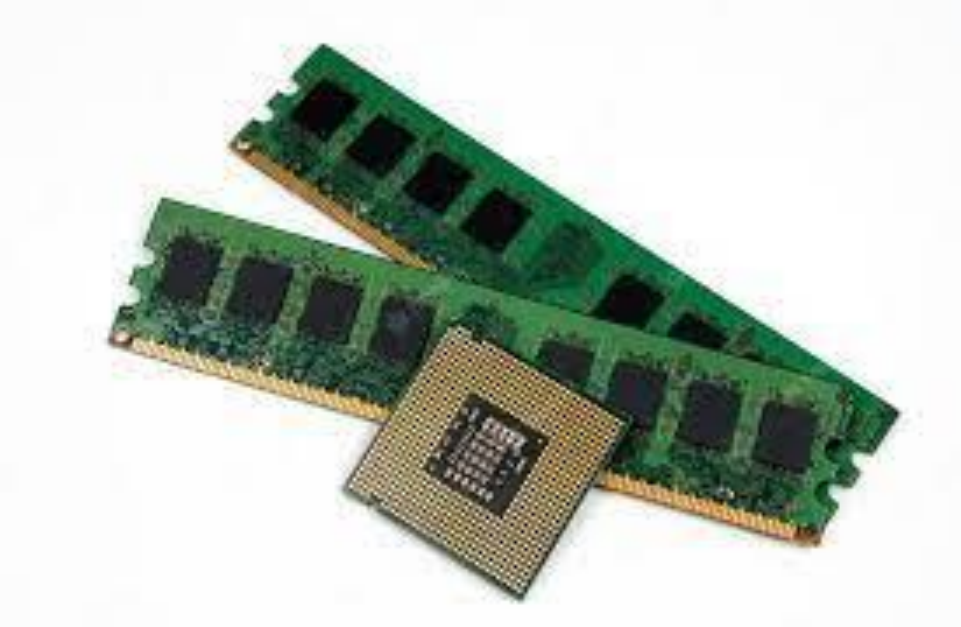
   Choose between a desktop or a laptop, depending on your needs. Desktops typically offer more power and upgradability, while laptops provide portability and convenience.

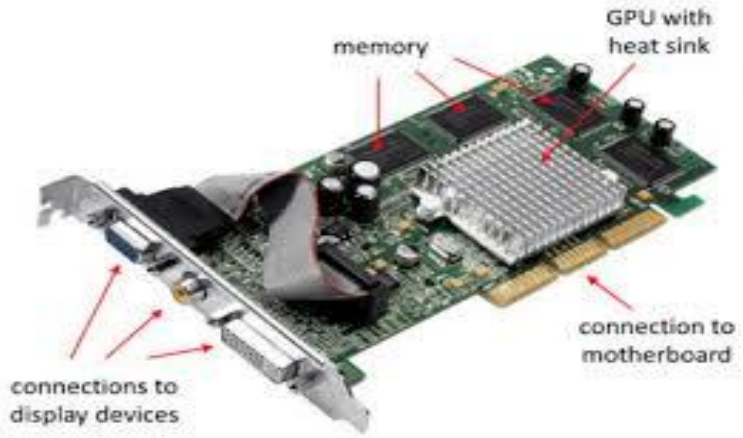
5. **Processor (CPU):**

Look for a processor that meets your requirements. Consider the number of cores, clock speed, and generation of the CPU. Intel Core i5 or i7 and AMD Ryzen 5 or 7 processors are popular choices for most users.

6. **Memory (RAM):**

Determine the amount of RAM you need. 8GB is the minimum for most tasks, but consider 16GB or more if you use resource-intensive applications like video editing or gaming.





7. **Storage:**

   Decide between a traditional hard disk drive (HDD) or a solid-state drive (SSD). SSDs are faster and more reliable, while HDDs offer more storage capacity at a lower cost. Consider a combination of SSD for faster boot times and program responsiveness, along with an HDD for additional storage.

8. **Graphics Card (GPU):**

   If you're into gaming or graphics-intensive work, consider a dedicated graphics card. Look for cards from NVIDIA or AMD, and check their performance benchmarks for the specific tasks you intend to perform.

9. **Display:**

For laptops, consider the screen size, resolution, and display quality. For desktops, choose a monitor with the desired screen size, resolution, and panel type (e.g., IPS, TN, VA).

10. Connectivity and Ports:

Ensure that the computer has the necessary ports and connectivity options you require, such as USB, HDMI, audio jacks, and an SD card reader.

11. **Battery Life (for laptops):**

    If you're purchasing a laptop, consider the battery life if you need to use it on the go. Check user reviews or manufacturer specifications for estimated battery life.

12. **Warranty and Support:**

    Research the warranty offered by the manufacturer or retailer. Consider their customer support reputation and availability in case you need assistance or repairs.

13.Reviews and Recommendations:

Read reviews from reputable sources and customer feedback to get an idea of the computer's performance, reliability, and user satisfaction.

14. **Future Upgradability:**

If upgradability is important to you, check if the computer allows for easy expansion of components like RAM, storage, or graphics cards.

FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN BUYING A LAPTOP.

1. THE PROCESSOR:

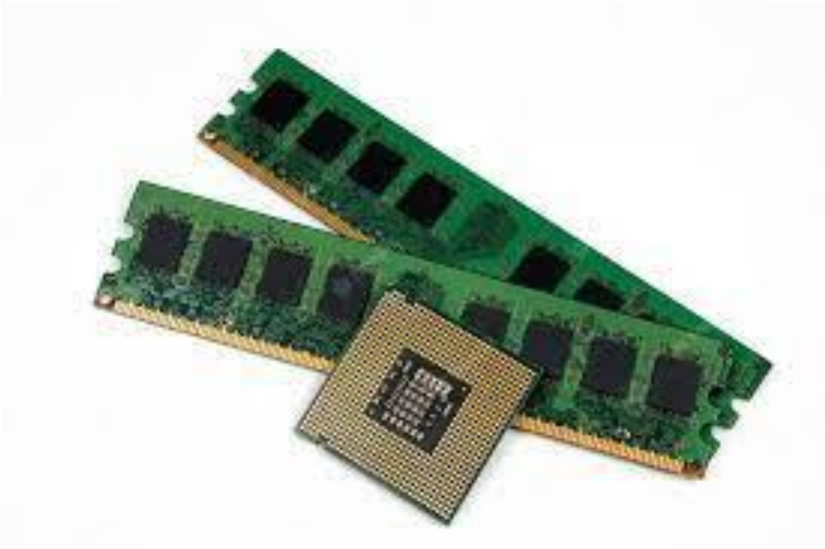
The two most popular brands of processor for laptops are the Intel and AMD. The former offers a wide range of processors such Pentium, core12, core 13, core 15, core 17, core 19 processors. The letter offers Ryzen 5, Ryzen 7, Ryzen 9 and the Ryzen Threadripper. Both are identical and have similar capabilities.

THE PROCESSOR:-

A laptop with core i2 would fairly serve an individual who majorly work with word processors, spreadsheet and presentation. However, for better performance Core i3 or Ryzan 3 is recommended. A graphic designer can also standout with core i3/ Ryzan 3.

Core i5 and Ryzen 5 laptops are great people who are into graphic, Core i7 and Ryzen 7 laptops are suitable for heavy games, programmes and vieo editors. Core i9 and Ryzen 9 laptops work best for programmers, top movies or mouses providers among others.

2. RAM- RANDOM ACCESS MEMORY:



This determine how quickly your laptops can process information, while 2GB RAM can suffice many beginners in data entry, graphic designers and upward ICT. Slide requires nothing less than 4GB RAM. Programmers, movies & music producers would require 8GB and 16GB RAM.

3. STORAGE:

Laptops accommodated two types of storage system, namely; hard disk drive (HDD) less storage capacities but slower and more prone to failure and solid-sate drives (SSD). HDD are cheaper and have less storage capacities but slower and more prone to failure and virus effects than SSDs. SSDs are faster and more reliable, but they are also more expensive and have smaller storage capacities.

4. BATTERY LIFE:

Due to power failure or lack of constant power supply, the need to buy a laptops with a durable battery life is ensemble. Its peak, the higher you may get would be 12 hours. Most laptops have battery life between 2 hours to 6 hours.

5. PORTS AND CONNECTIVITY:

It is important to consider the ports and connectivity of any laptops you intend to buy. You want to make sure the laptop has ports such as USB, HDMI, and Ethernet. Wireless connectivity's such as WI.FI and Bluetooth will also be important.

6. BUILD QUALITY:

Like any other gadget, laptops are also of prone to certain accidents, like suddenly falling off, mistakenly dropping a health term on it etc. consequently, purchasing a laptop with a strong body building would be of great importance. Try to get a laptop with a mental frame as opposed to ones with rubber or plastic bodies

7. PRICING:

The pricing of laptops is largely depended on too many factors but most primarily on the specifications of the laptops. The seller or dealer and cost of transportation is also very key. However, prices of fairly used laptops ranges from #50,000 to #150,000. new ones ranges from #150,000 to 1.5 million naira.

Q & A SECTION