

Unpacking Hardware and Software

Key Learning

- To understand what technology is, where we see it in everyday life, and how it helps us at school, home and beyond.
- To identify and describe different pieces of computer hardware and understand their functions.
- To understand what software is and how we use it to complete tasks.
- To explore how hardware and software interact to complete everyday tasks.

Key Resources





Key Images Hard drive CPU Motherboard RAM Power Supply Fan USB Stick Speakers Webcam Printer

Key Vocabulary

Application (App) - A type of software used for a specific task.

Input - Sending information into the computer.

Program - A set of instructions that a computer follows.

Component - Internal parts of a computer.

Output - The computer sending information back to us.

Software - Programs that tell a computer what to do to complete a task.

Computer System - All the parts of a computer working together.

Peripheral - A piece of hardware that you plug into / connect to a computer to help it work.

Storage - Where the computer saves information so you can use it again later.

Hardware - The physical parts of a computer that you can see / touch and the parts inside.

Process - A set of steps that happen in order to complete a task.

Technology - Using scientific knowledge to design or make tools, systems, or machines that help solve problems or make tasks easier.



Key Questions



What is technology?

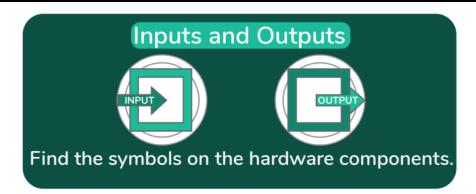
Technology is something made by humans that uses science to help solve problems or make tasks easier. It can be as simple as a hammer or as advanced as a computer.

What is a computer system?

A computer system is all the different parts of a computer that work together to do a job. It includes hardware (like the keyboard, screen, and mouse) and software (like apps and programs). When these parts work as a team, the system can follow instructions, show pictures, play music, or help you type.

What is the difference between hardware and software?

Hardware is the part of a computer you can see and touch, like the keyboard, mouse, or screen. Software is the program that runs on the computer and tells it what to do, like a drawing app or a music player.



How do hardware and software work together?

Hardware and software work as a team to help a computer do a job. The hardware lets you give the computer instructions or see and hear what it does. The software gives the computer the instructions to follow. For example, when you tap play in a music app, the software plays the song and the hardware (speakers) lets you hear it.

