

# Knowledge Organiser

Unit 2 – The Computer

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## Summary

Computers require input hardware, processing hardware and output hardware. The hardware that defines a computer is the CPU and memory. Without these a computer could not function.

**CPU** - You can think of the CPU is being like the brain in a human. It is responsible for all of a computer's processing.

**Memory** - stores program operations and data while a program is being executed. There are several types of memory, including: registers, cache, RAM and virtual memory.

**Storage** - stores programs and files long term, even when they are not in use. Devices such as hard drives, USB memory sticks or SD cards are used to store files such as photos, music and software applications long term.

An **input device** is any piece of computer hardware used to provide data to a computer system. Examples include: keyboard, mouse, scanner, digital camera and webcam.

An **output device** is any piece of computer hardware used to communicate the results of data that has been processed.

### Input

Mouse

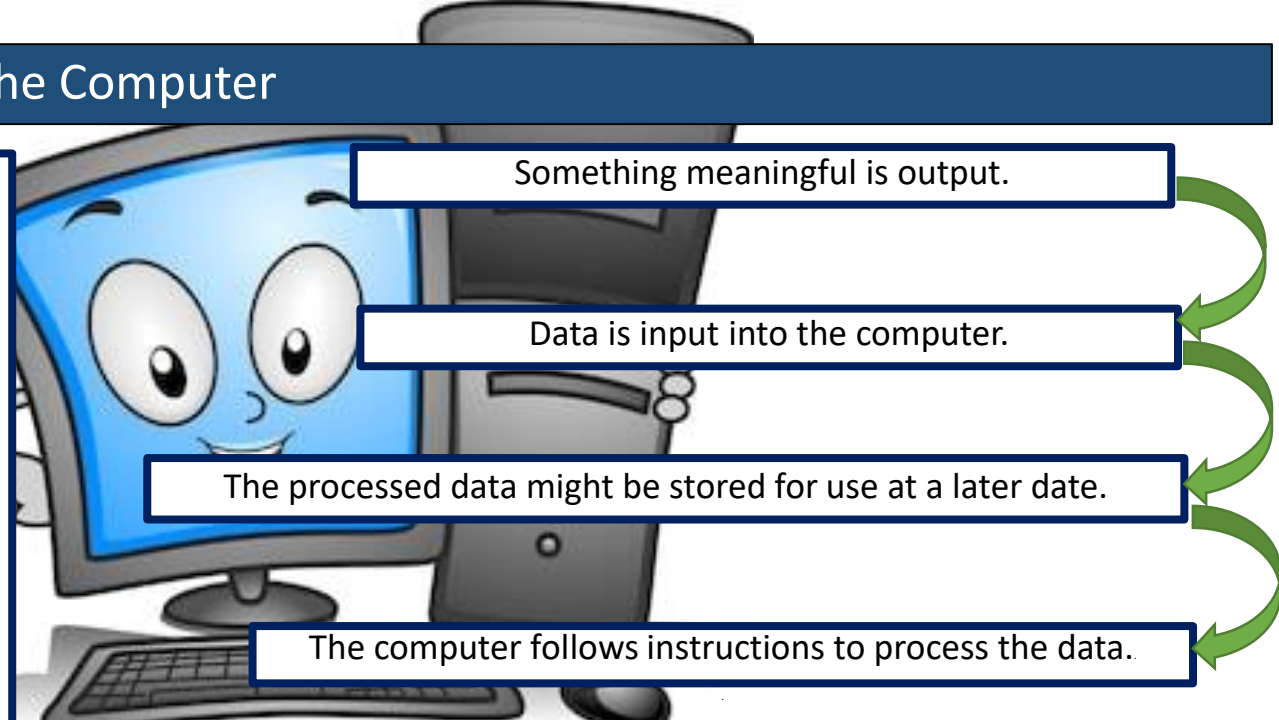
Keyboard

### Output

Printer

Speaker

A **touch screen** is both input and output because as well as being a screen that outputs visually to the user, it allows the user to enter data via a tough sensitive display.



Task	Short Cut
Cuts out selected text / object.	Ctrl + X
Copies selected text / object.	Ctrl + C
Pastes previously selected text / object.	Ctrl + V
Saves the current document.	Ctrl + S
Undo last action.	Ctrl + Z
Opens print window.	Ctrl + P

A **USB stick** is neither an input or output device because it is simply a storage device, and so is categorised as such.

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## Software

Software is a computer program (or programs) that provide the instructions for telling a computer what to do and how to do it. Different pieces of software can be categorised into two different types.

### System software

These are the files and programs that make up your computer's operating system.

### Application software

These are the everyday programs that you use such as Microsoft Office, graphics packages and web browsers

### Examples:

Windows

Linux

Mac OS

iOS

Android

### Examples:

Internet Explorer

Calculator

Microsoft Excel etc

Safari

Photoshop

