

3. CPU, Memory, Input & Output

All computers do the same 4 things:

- INPUT
- STORE
- PROCESS
- OUTPUT

Each of these things is conducted by different parts of the computer.

INPUT

- Mouse
- Keyboard
- Speaker
- Microphone
- Camera

These INPUT devices convert your input into binary information.

Memory

Memory is used to store your input information

CPU

CPU means Central Processing Unit

This is where the "calculations" are done, the CPU also interacts with the memory to **retrieve** and **send** data

OUTPUT

- Screen
- Speaker

These OUTPUT devices take the information and convert it into physical output.

Putting it together

Say we press the letter **A** into your keyboard to display into your screen, your keyboard converts that letter into a binary number: **1000001**

1. These binary numbers are sent (**INPUT**) into the computer

2. CPU (**PROCESS**) does a **set of instructions** figure out where and what to display onto the screen.
3. The information calculated by the CPU is sent into the memory (**STORE**)
4. After that that letter **A** onto your screen (**OUTPUT**) given what was stored into the memory.

Source: [How Computers Work: CPU, Memory, Input & Output - YouTube](#)

See Also:

[4. Hardware and Software](#)

[6. Computer Hardware](#)

[7. What is the purpose of the CPU](#)