Computer Fundamental

Extra Contents

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Booting

- In computing, booting is starting up a computer or computer appliance until it can be used.

- It can be initiated by hardware such as a button press or by software command.

Types of Mice

- **Mechanical mouse/ Ball mouse:** Houses a hard rubber ball that rolls as the mouse is moved. Sensors inside the mouse body detect the movement and translate it into information that the computer interprets.

- **Optical mouse:** Uses an LED sensor to detect tabletop movement and then sends off that information to the computer.

- **Laser mouse:** The laser mouse uses an infrared laser diode instead of an LED to illuminate the surface beneath their sensor.

Keyboard key categories

- There are 5 categories of keyboard key.

1. Alphanumeric Keyboard Keys

2. Punctuation Keys

3. Navigation Keys

4. Function Keys

5. Command Keys/ Other Special Keys

Alphanumeric Keyboard Keys

- Every keyboard contains a set of keys known as the alphanumeric keys. The term "alphanumeric" refers to either letters or numbers, but not symbols or command keys. The number keys on a computer keyboard are often located in two different spots on the keyboard: above the letters and to the right of the letters. The number keys located directly above the letters double as symbol keys. Pressing shift and holding down a number will type whatever symbol is also on that number key.

Punctuation Keys

- The punctuation keys are the keys on the keyboard that relate to punctuation. Examples of these keys include the "comma key," the "question mark key," the "colon key" and the "period key."

Navigation Keys

- The navigation keys are located between the letter keys and the numbers keys on the far right of the keyboard. The navigation keys consist of four arrows: one pointing up, one pointing down, one pointing right and one pointing left.

Function Keys

- Many computer keyboards have "function keys," beginning with the letter F. They're typically located at the top of a keyboard. These are used to invoke functions in various programs.

Command Keys/ Other Special Keys

- Command keys on a keyboard are keys that relay a command, such as "delete," "return" and "enter." Depending on your keyboard, you may have special keys up top – located above the numbers – that control the volume of your speakers, or the fast forward/rewind option when viewing a film. An eject key you press to load CDs or DVDs. The "control key" and the "alt key" can also be used in conjunction with other keys for shortcuts.

RAM, ROM, Cache Memory

- **R**AM stands for Random Access Memory. Random-access memory is a form of computer data storage that stores data and machine code currently being used.

- **ROM** stands for Read Only Memory. Read-only memory is a type of non-volatile memory used in computers and other electronic devices.

- **Cache memory** is a small-sized memory that provides high-speed data access to a processor and stores frequently used computer programs, applications and data.