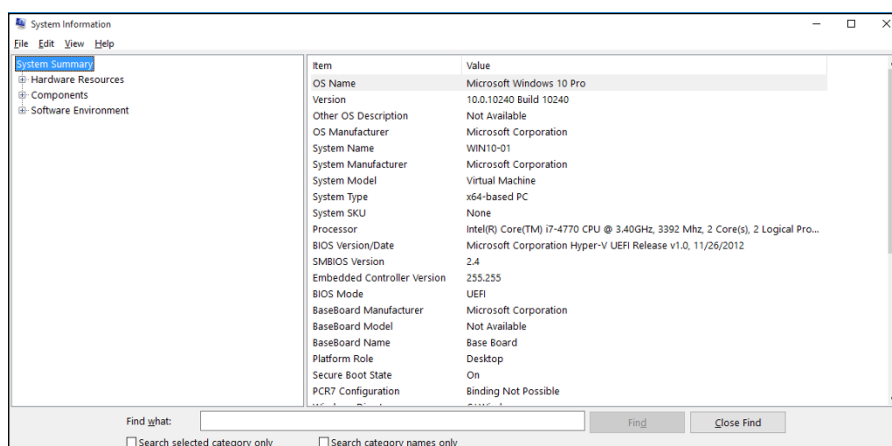


Windows comes with just such a program, called Microsoft System Information. Microsoft System Information gathers and prints information about your computer. To start Microsoft System Information in Windows 10, right-click the Start button and choose Run, then type `msinfo32` and press Enter.

When you fire up Microsoft System Information, you see a window similar to the one shown in Figure 5-3. Initially, Microsoft System Information displays basic information about your computer, such as your version of Microsoft Windows, the processor type, the amount of memory on the computer, and so on. You can obtain more detailed information by clicking Hardware Resources, Components, or other categories in the left side of the window.

FIGURE 5-3:
Let the System
Information
program gather
the data you
need.



To Dedicate or Not to Dedicate: That Is the Question

One of the most basic questions that a network plan must answer is whether the network will have one or more dedicated servers or rely completely on peer-to-peer networking. If the only reason for purchasing your network is to share a printer and exchange an occasional file, you may not need a dedicated server computer. In that case, you can create a peer-to-peer network by using the computers that you already have. However, all but the smallest networks will benefit from having a separate, dedicated server computer.

» **Using a dedicated server computer makes the network faster, easier to work with, and more reliable.** Consider what happens, though, when the