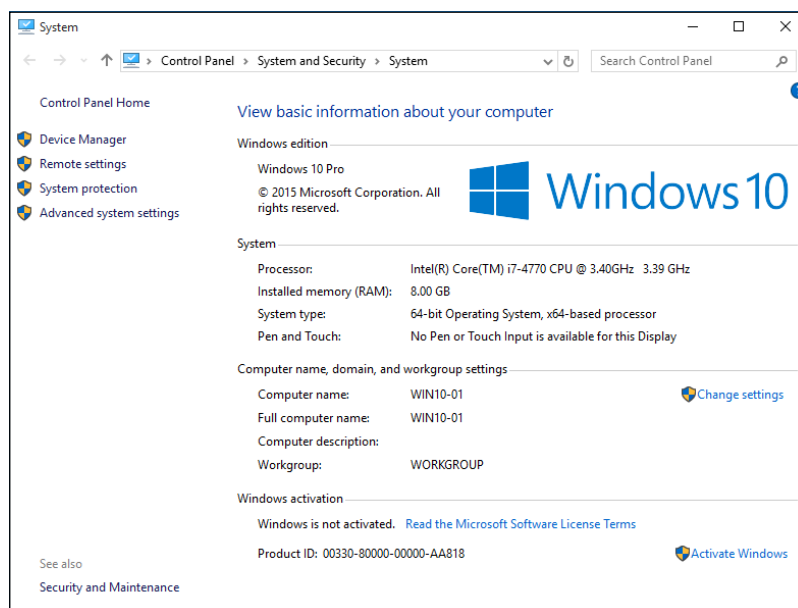


FIGURE 5-2:
The Properties
page for a
computer with
Core i7 processor
and 8GB of RAM.



- » **What kind of printer, if any, is attached to the computer:** Usually, you can tell just by looking at the printer. You can also tell by double-clicking the Devices and Printers icon in Control Panel.
- » **Any other devices connected to the computer:** A DVD or Blu-ray drive? Scanner? External disk or tape drive? Video camera? Battle droid? Hot tub?
- » **What software is used on the computer:** Microsoft Office? AutoCAD? QuickBooks? Make a complete list and include version numbers.
- » **Does the computer have wireless capability?** Nearly all laptops do. Most desktops do not, but you can always add an inexpensive USB wireless adapter if you want your network to be entirely wireless.

Programs that gather information for you

Gathering information about your computers is a lot of work if you have more than a few computers to network. Fortunately, several software programs are available that can automatically gather the information for you. These programs inspect various aspects of a computer, such as the CPU type and speed, amount of RAM, and the size of the computer's hard drives. Then they show the information on the screen and give you the option of saving the information to a hard drive file or printing it.