

Template Week 1 – Bits & Bytes

Student number:

577534

Assignment 1.1: Bits & Bytes intro

What are Bits & Bytes?

A **bit** (binary digit) is the smallest unit of data in computing and can have the value **0 or 1**.

A **byte** is a collection of **8 bits**, used as the basic unit for storing data (for example, one character in ASCII takes 1 byte).

What is a nibble?

A **nibble** is a group of **4 bits**. It is exactly half of a byte.

What relationship does a nibble have with a hexadecimal value?

One **nibble (4 bits)** can represent exactly **one hexadecimal digit (0–F)**.

Example:

4 bits → 0000 to 1111 → 0 to 15 → hex 0 to F.

Why is it wise to display binary data as hexadecimal values?

Hexadecimal is much shorter and easier to read than binary.

- 1 hex digit replaces 4 bits
- Long binary values become compact (e.g. 111110101100 → 0xFAC)
This reduces human error and makes debugging and data inspection easier

What kind of relationship does a byte have with a hexadecimal value?

A byte contains **8 bits**, which equals **two nibbles**, so **1 byte = 2 hex digits**.

Example:

Binary: 11001010

Hex: CA

An IPv4 subnet is 32-bit, show with a calculation why this is the case.

IPv4 addresses use **four 8-bit numbers** (one byte per octet):

- 4 octets × 8 bits = **32 bits**

Example:

192.168.1.10 →

192 = 11000000

168 = 10101000

1 = 00000001

10 = 00001010

Total = **32 bits**

Assignment 1.2: Your favourite color

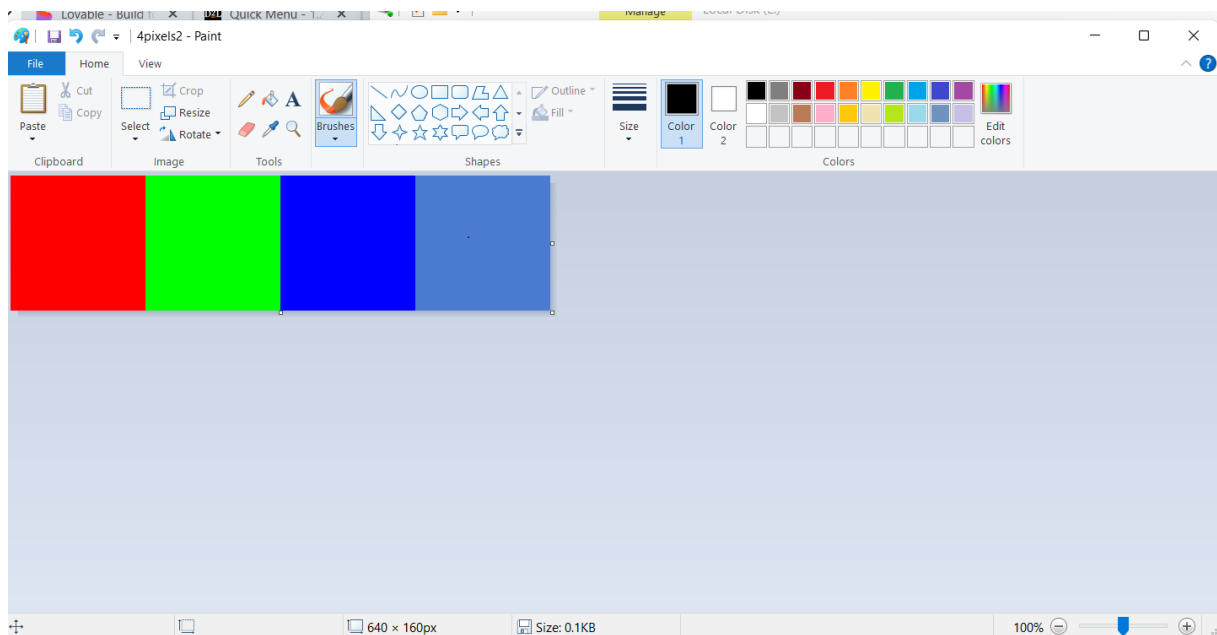
Hexadecimal color code:

#4A7BD1

Assignment 1.3: Manipulating binary data

Color	Color code hexadecimal (RGB)	Big Endian	Little Endian
RED	#FF0000	FF 00 00	00 00 FF
GREEN	#00FF00	00 FF 00	00 FF 00
BLUE	#0000FF	00 00 FF	FF 00 00
WHITE	#FFFFFF	FF FF FF	FF FF FF
Favourite (previous assignment)	#4A7BD1	4A 7B D1	D1 7B 4A

Screenshot modified BMP file in hex editor:



hexed.it

New file

Open file

Save as

Undo

Redo

Tools

Settings

Help

File Information

File Name

4pixels2.bmp

File Size

134 bytes

Data Inspector (Little-endian)

Type

Unsigned (+)

Signed (±)

8-bit Integer

End of file

End of file

16-bit Integer

End of file

End of file

24-bit Integer

End of file

End of file

32-bit Integer

End of file

End of file

64-bit Integer (+)

End of file

64-bit Integer (±)

End of file

4pixels2.bmp

00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

42 4D 86 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 7A 00 00 00 6C 00

00 00 04 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 01 00 18 00 00 00

00 00 0C 00 00 00 13 0B 00 00 13 0B 00 00 00 00

00 00 00 00 00 00 42 47 52 73 00 00 00 00 00 00

00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 02 00 00 00 00

00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 FF 00 FF 00

FF 00 00 D1 7B 4A +

BMá.....z...l.

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IT FUNDAMENTALS

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Assignment 1.4: Student number to HEX and Binary

Convert your student number to a hexadecimal number and a binary number.

Explain in detail that the calculation is correct. Use the PowerPoint slides of week 1.

1. Convert to hexadecimal

We convert 577534 to hex:

$$577534 \div 16 = 36095 \text{ remainder } 14 \text{ (E)}$$

$$36095 \div 16 = 2255 \text{ remainder } 15 \text{ (F)}$$

$$2255 \div 16 = 140 \text{ remainder } 15 \text{ (F)}$$

$$140 \div 16 = 8 \text{ remainder } 12 \text{ (C)}$$

$$8 \div 16 = 0 \text{ remainder } 8$$

$$\mathbf{577534 = 8CFFE}$$

2. Convert to binary

Convert each hex digit:

Hex Binary

8 1000

C 1100

F 1111

F 1111

E 1110

So:

$$\mathbf{577534 = 8CFFE = 1000\ 1100\ 1111\ 1111\ 1110_2}$$

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