

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

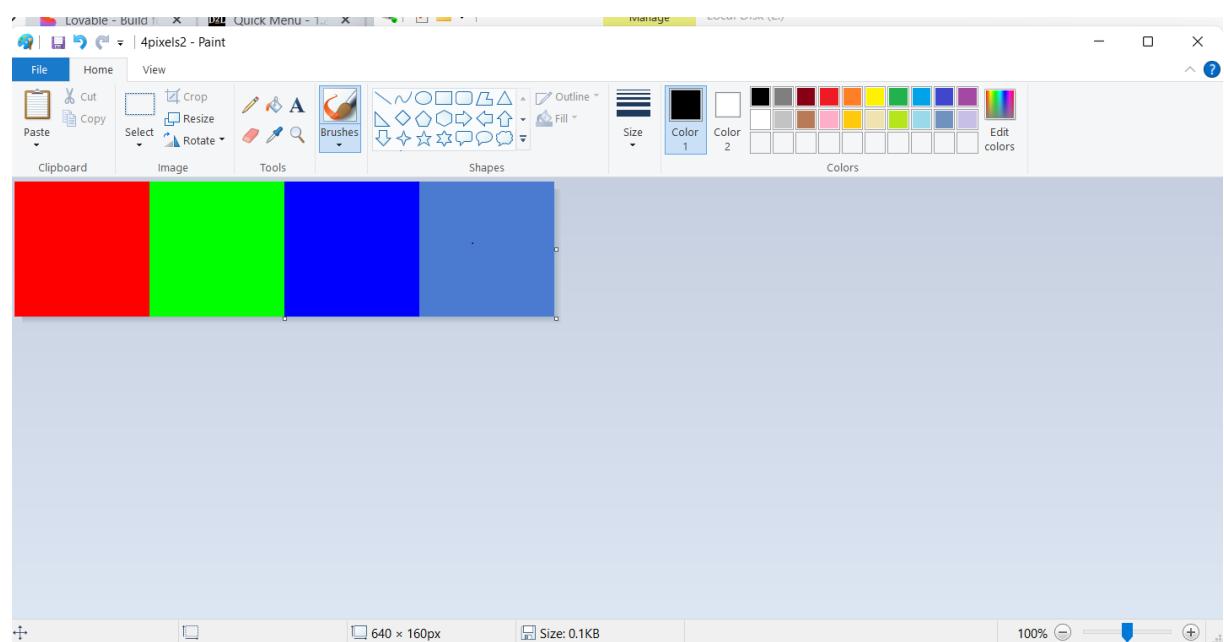
Hexadecimal color code:

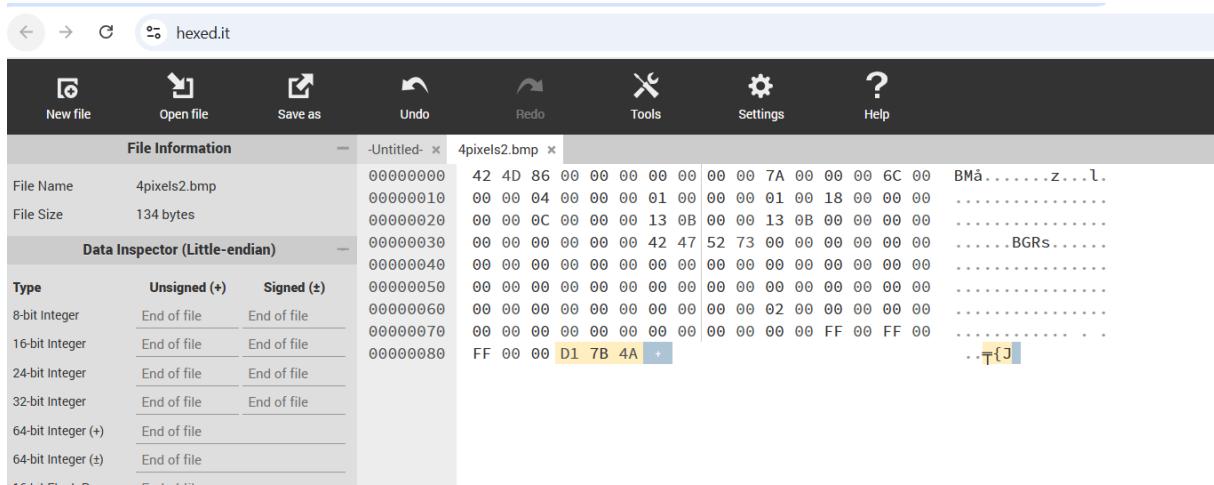
#4A7BD1

Assignment 1.3: Manipulating binary data

Color	Color code hexadecimaal (RGB)	BigEndian	LittleEndian
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:





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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