

Lesson 7



Toughest Soft Computer Software



Learning Computer Software

Computer software provides instructions that enable the computer hardware to perform its tasks. Without software, your monitor would not display anything. Your speakers would remain silent, and typing on the keyboard keys would have no effect. Computer software comes in two basic categories: application and system.

Application Software

Application software refers to the programs that you interact with, to perform specific computer tasks. For example, a word processing program enables you to create documents such as memos and letters; a graphics program enables you to draw an image, and an e-mail program enables you to send and receive e-mail messages.



System Software

System software refers to programs that operate behind the scenes to ensure that your computer system functions properly. This software is often referred to as the operating system. Some examples of system software are Windows Vista and Mac OS X.

