

Computer System

Embedded Computers

- A small device that contains all the components of a computer e.g. ROM, RAM, CPU
- E.g. Microwave, Washing machine, Satnav, camera etc

Reasons to use Embedded Systems

- Physically small, less space is needed
- Use less power, cheaper to run
- Less power, no overheating
- One task in mind, very efficient
- Built on a single printed circuit, easy to replace

Data Buses

- **Data Bus** – Carries actual, binary data around computer
- **Address Bus** – Carries address of memory locations used to store data
- **Control Bus** – Sends and receives signals that controls components & CPU

CPU

The CPU

- CPU fetches memory from RAM; Decodes instructions and executes them
- Its purpose is to process data

The Control Unit

- Controls way data moves around CPU
- Controls and monitors flow of data between CPU and input/output devices
- Executes instructions provided by program

The ALU

- Performs Arithmetic Operations
- Logic Operations/ Comparisons
- Shift operations

Registers

- Type of memory inside CPU
- Temporarily holds data while a software's running
- Registers are faster than RAM and Cache

Von Neumann Architecture

Von Neumann Architecture

- Both data and software that are currently being used are stored in RAM
- With this architecture, a task can be changed by simply loading a different program into memory
- Also known as 'Stored Program' computers

Features of a VN Layout

- RAM has enough memory for both data and Programs, thus easy to load a different program
- Control Unit handles movement of data and instructions
- Info and instructions are carried by buses
- ALU responsible for Arithmetic and Logic Operations
- Way of inputting and outputting data

MAR and MDR

- MAR
 - In the RAM, every instruction/data is located in a specific location
 - This location has a unique address
 - The address of instruction/data being accessed is temporarily stored in the Memory Address Register
 - This address is passed to RAM via Address Bus

- **MDR**
 - For data to be fetched from RAM, the CPU has to temporarily store it in the Memory Data Register
 - Unlike Instructions, only data can travel both ways
 - It can be fetched from RAM to be decoded by the CPU
 - After processing, it can be sent back to RAM to be temporarily stored
 - All data must pass through MDR via Data bus

More Registers

- **Program Counter**
 - Points to instruction currently being executed
 - As each instruction's processed, PC is updated with address of next instruction to fetch
 - PC copies info to MAR and increments
- **Accumulator**
 - Temporarily stores ALU's results
 - Makes it simpler to write software that handles data
 - Program runs faster, as registers are faster than RAM

Fetch, Decode, Execute Cycle

Fetch, Decode, Execute Cycle

- 1) Address in PC (305) is copied to MAR
- 2) Address in MAR is passed onto Address Bus and Control Unit sends a signal to RAM to read this address
- 3) Instruction at 305 is sent across Data Bus and copied into MDR, then the MDR is copied into the Instruction Register. The PC is then incremented
- 4) Instruction's decoded by Control Unit so CPU knows what to do and various parts of the CPU is prepared for the next stage

- 5) The decoded instructions performed and the PC is already pointing to the next instruction, so cycle can start again

CPU performance factors

CPU performance factors

- **Clock Speed** – Tiny quartz crystal inside CPU, which performs an instruction each 'tick'. Faster frequency, more instructions executed
- **Multi Core** – Adds another processing unit, multiplies frequency
- **Cache**
 - A small block of very fast memory
 - Acts as a buffer between CPU and RAM
 - Stores data most used frequently by the CPU
 - Larger Cache, more data held but slower than smaller cache

Memory

Memory Types

Main Memory

- **Two types of Memory** – Main Memory and Secondary Storage
- Registers aren't Main Memory as they reside in the CPU
- RAM holds more than one program, so CPU can swap between tasks quicker, opening program quicker
- Secondary Storage holds large amount of data for long term use, but is accessed very slowly

Volatile Memory

- It's cleared when power supply is lost
- Volatile Memory includes RAM, Cache, Registers
- Secondary Storage is always Non-Volatile
- Programs held there are meant to be kept long term

RAM

- Used as Main Memory, accessed by CPU directly
- It's volatile
- RAM hold billions of storage locations, each with unique address
- Accessed non-sequentially, aka Random-Access Memory
- Programs in RAM run very quickly as CPU accesses any location any time

DRAM and SRAM

- Dynamic Random-Access Memory is used as RAM
- It's used as RAM because it's cheap
- DRAM constantly needs a 'Refresh Signal' to keep capacitors charged, else it'll lose its current data
- Static Random-Access Memory, is used as Cache
- SRAM is faster than DRAM but more expensive
- Both are volatile

ROM

- Read Only Memory is a type of Main Memory because it's accessed by the CPU
- ROM can't be accessed in a random order
- ROM can't be changed, overwritten or removed
- Used in BIOS and MAC Address

Virtual Memory

- When RAM's full, the Operating System marks sections of Secondary Storage for CPU to store data on
- It's still Main Memory because it's accessed by the CPU
- Virtual Memory is Volatile
- It's also slower than RAM
- When the CPU needs the data from the VM, the OS loads the needed data into the much faster RAM, swapping it with a currently unused program

Secondary Storage

Magnetic Storage

- Uses minute magnetic particles or 'domains' to store data
- Contains several platters on a spindle spinning at high speeds, with read/write head just above surface
- Includes HDD and Magnetic tape cartridge

- Huge Capacity, up to several Terabytes
- Low cost
- HDD has high read/write speeds
- HDD allows random access to data

- Not very portable
- Mechanical parts, less durable than SSD
- When HDD's near a strong Magnetic field, Data's lost

Optical Storage

- Includes CD, DVD and Blu Ray
- A laser beam burns tiny dark pits onto disk's surface
- If pit's present, resembles 1, if pit's not present, resembles 0

- Cheap
- Very portable, Lightweight
- Compact
- Immune to Magnetic fields
- Used for movies, games, etc

- Not as portable as flash media
- Very slow to read/write data, slower than HDD
- Easily scratched
- Data can't be overwritten

Solid State Media

- Includes USB, SSD, SDHC
- Holds data using electronic switches
- If switch's open, resembles 1 as it retains electrical charge
- If closed, resembles 0
- It's an electrical form of storage, aka Flash memory

- Very portable in form of USB/SD
- Very large capacity
- Very rugged, no moving parts
- Faster than HDD
- Silent unlike HDD
- Immune to Magnetic fields

- SSD are more expensive compared to HDD
- Less durable, limited number of erase/write cycles until it wears out

WIFI and Wired Networks

Types of Networks

LAN

- Has 2 or more network enabled devices in a small geographical area
- In a business, there's a central server, a switch, and devices connect to switch
- At home, key device is the router

- Log onto any device, still access any file
- Peripherals e.g. Printer can be shared, reducing cost
- Back-ups and Updates done centrally
- Anti-virus carried out by server
- Data's transmitted quickly between networked computers

- Central point of failure, broken server = no network
- If limited bandwidth, but more data used, there'll be a slow service
- Viruses can easily spread around network

- Cables, components and maintenance is expensive
- Businesses will need a specialist technician

WAN

- 2 or more LANs connected in a large geographical area
- WAN are complicated, expensive etc, hired from major telecoms
- Uses Fibre Optic Lines, leased telephone lines, Satellite communication

- Allows LANs to connect to one another
- Allows work collaborations over such a wide area
- Files are shared between LANs

- Expensive to hire WAN
- WAN's failure is out of control due to external suppliers

Performance of networks

Bandwidth Sharing

- It's how much data can be transferred at a given time
- Contentation Ratio is ratio of users compared to available bandwidth
- At peak times, everyone sharing same cable, slow connection
- Businesses need a fast and reliable connection, pay extra for own cable
- 1;1 ratio guarantees a constant speed at all times

Wired Performance

- Popular choice is copper ethernet cables, carrying data electrically
- Cat5 is cheaper, but only up to 100mbps
- Fibre Optic uses light that reflects along inside cable, transmitting data
- Extremely high bandwidth, but expensive
- Usually used as backbone to join LANs, carries heavy data traffic

Bands and Channels

- A Band is a range of frequencies, 2.4GHz/5GHz
- It's further divided into separate channels

- Separate channels reduce interference caused by nearby devices
- 2.4GHz has a few several non-overlapping channels
- 5GHz has many non-overlapping channels, thus higher capacity
- Although, equipment's expensive and shorter range

WIFI Performance

- Radio interferences from microwave/faulty electric motor emits same frequencies, lowers performance
- Wired cable performance isn't affected by radio interferences
- WIFI's blocked by thick walls
- As you get closer to range limit, performance decreases
- Limited connections; WIFI works by allocating a radio channel to user logging in, limits how many users at one time

Errors

- Happens when binary 1 is sent but received as 0
- Mostly due to Interference or a weak signal
- If ethernet's beside power equipment, bits can flip randomly
- Shielded cables and carefully thought cable run layouts reduce this issue
- Longer cable means weaker signal, errors begin to creep in

Latency

- Means 'delay'
- In Large networks, bits take longer to travel
- Not much of an issue on LAN but is on WAN
- Every Switch, Cable, Router adds latency
- Actual connection changes each second as routers decide which path to use
- When data reassembles at destination, adds latency

Wire and Wireless Network Comparisons

Wired Networks affected by;

- Type of cable connection
- Error rates
- Available Bandwidth
- Latency
- Contention Ratio

Wireless Networks Affected by;

- Band chosen, number of channels to assign
- Interference from sharing channels with other devices
- Interference from non-WIFI devices emitting same frequency
- Thick walls

<u>Wired Network</u>	<u>WIFI Network</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Costly for cables to be installed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only need a WAP, cheaper
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hundreds of users at a time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited Users
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Immune to Radio Interferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Affected by Radio Interferences
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Higher Bandwidth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lower Bandwidth
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent security, devices need to be physically connected	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not so secure, strong password and encryption needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not affected by building layout	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Affected by walls and floors
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not portable as computers need a network socket	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very portable, you can move laptop to different office

Client/Server and Peer-to-Peer

<u>Client Server</u>	<u>Peer-Peer</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uses a central server	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No central server
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Device logs into server	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each peer has own device
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Network admin sets shared folder on server	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each peer sets their own folder to be shared or not
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technical skill needed to maintain server	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Little skill needed, Windows has built in support
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Files stored centrally	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Files stored locally
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broken client, no affect, broken server, network failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broken peer means their shared file no longer there for others
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commonly used in schools, businesses etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commonly used in small LANs like home, small offices
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Needs own Network Operating System	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uses standard Operating System

Advantages of Client Server Network

- Single central server, files backed up easily
- Central software installation's easy and fast
- Software's only licensed to server itself
- Clients themselves don't need much software or file storage
- Simpler to manage security and permissions

Advantages of Peer to Peer Network

- No single point of failure
- Easy to manage with small networks
- Cheap

Hardware Needed

Network Interface Card NIC

- Provides a connection to a network
- It converts data from device into compatible data with network
- This format is called a 'Network Protocol'
- The NIC gives a device its MAC Address

HUB

- Computers connect and exchange data via a cable
- Data's moved around as packets that has a destination address
- However, packet is sent to every node, not just intended one, causes a security issue
- Data collisions cause packets to be corrupt, needs to be sent again
- Latency, WAN especially slows down

Switch

- Computers link and exchange data
- Only sends packets to intended destination, improved security
- Network's faster as there's less data collisions
- It has a number of ports and each port has the device's MAC Address
- When data packet goes to switch, its destinations examined and a direct connection is made
- Makes network more efficient
- It's expensive so only used in High Bandwidth, High Performance Networks

<u>Hub</u>	<u>Switch</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connects all nodes together	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connects 2 nodes together
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Packet's sent to ALL nodes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Packet only sent to intended node
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High risk of data collisions, slow network performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Less risk of data collisions, improved network performance

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security risk as data sent to all nodes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better security as only sent to correct node
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less expensive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More expensive

Router

- Transfers data packet by most efficient route
- When a data packet arrives:
 - Reads packet's destination address
 - Looks at all paths available to address
 - Checks how busy each path is
 - Sends packet via least congested path
- Another tasks router performs:
 - Exchanges protocol info across networks
 - Filters traffic – Prevents unauthorised intrusion by malware

Wireless Access Point

- If you want to connect a WIFI enabled device to a wired network, you'll need a WAP
- WAP has a cable connecting to Hub/Switch
- WAP picks data packet via WIFI to compatible packets for wired network
- It doesn't read MAC Address so sends packet to every connected device
- Personal info can be read by another device on WAP

DNS, IP addressing, web hosting and the cloud

ISP

- Company that provides internet access
- Charges monthly fee, provides modem to log in

URL

- Uniform Resource Locator
- Unique web address for every page

IP Address

- For data to be sent to a specific device, Unique address is needed

- Internet Protocol governs activity on internet
- It's a set of rules
- Made up of 4 numbers only, separated by dots
- Provides device's location
- Can either be Dynamic or Static

DNS

- Domain Name System
- Translates web Address to correct IP
- DNS servers have database of IP Addresses

- You enter URL
- Browser contacts DNS server
- Server matches Domain name with registered IP
- DNS sends this info back to computer
- Computer attaches IP Address of data packet to be sent
- Data packet travels over internet to its destination
- Server where the website's stored, sends back data which you requested

- You don't need to remember IP Address
- As long as you're connected to a DNS server, you can access any website where there's a stored IP Address

Website

- Made up of webpages and any other media
- They're saved as files, stored in folders
- Each webpage file contains HTML Mark-up code
- Stored on any 'hosted' storage media

Local Hosting

- Hosting a website from home pc is 'local hosting'
- You set pc as a web server, allowing people to connect and access your hosted files

- Saves money, costing less than external servers,
- Great if it's only for own use or in local network
- You can run a local database attached to webserver
- Local web server's bandwidth is your broadband's, it's not enough
- Computer always needs to be on
- If things go wrong, technical knowledge's needed
- Difficult to stop malware and intrusion attempts
- Your Dynamic IP means no permanent IP to connect to server
- If selling, you'll need a payment gateway; strong encryption and security

External Web Hosting

- You pay company to host website on their servers
- For Monthly charge, you get:
 - Hard disk space on their server
 - Insurance that site is always running
 - Provides bandwidth for users to access
 - Maintenance of server
 - Regular back ups
 - Security from malicious attacks
 - Technical help

External Hosting Types

Shared Web Hosting

- Many sites are hosted on same server
- Cheapest Option
- Server shares same resources, there'll be poor performance
- Might have to accept advertising
- Not allowed to install specific module/scripts

Dedicated Server

- Website's hosted on own server
- Good for companies with high traffic
- Faster, better quality support from web host

- Expensive, can't share cost with other users

Virtual server

- Powerful server needing specialist software
- Creates separated 'virtual servers', which are rented
- Cost kept low, users share physical server
- Overcomes standard sharing host issues

The cloud

- Range of services that run on the internet
- To access, you need a web browser/ app
- Some charge, others are free

- Access from any device with internet connection
- Document can be worked on simultaneously by others
- Store large files, saving space on your HDD
- Automatically backed up

- No internet connection, can't access files
- Forgetting Log in Details, can't access service
- Monthly fee for more space
- Might not be stored in UK, not under any data laws
- 3rd party control, online hackers can access private data

Virtual Network

Virtual Network

- Uses software to divide devices on a LAN into smaller groups
- Whole LAN's physically connected, but software restricts devices from connecting to other devices in a different VN

Virtual Network Advantages

- Flexibility, easy to add/remove devices with VLAN
- Easier to install software for specific groups
- Network traffic's minimal
- Data's sent/received faster, as there's less data collisions
- Improved security, if one VLAN's compromised, others are partitioned, thus not affected

Virtual Private Network

- Possible to use VN to connect devices to a LAN through a WAN
- VPN enables employees to share VPN over a large geographical area
- A secure connection's set up between LAN and external devices
- All data packets are scrambled, only that company can read them
- This encryption is called 'VPN Tunnelling'
- VPN over public network allows security
- VPN is cheaper than maintaining own WAN

Networks

Network Topologies

Star Network

- Central device connected to all other nodes
- Very reliable, if a workstation fails, others aren't affected
- Very few data collisions, each node has own cable to server
- Good security, can't interact without server
- Scalability, can add many more devices
- Most expensive due to all the cables
- Installing network needs an expert
- Extra Hardware needed like Hub/Switch
- There's a central point of failure
- Requires a high-performance Switch/Server due to high traffic

Mesh Network

- Each device relays data it receives to the other nodes
- Wired or wireless, if 1 node is connected to another, it's connected to all
- No central point of failure
- Very robust, if one path fails, rest can be used
- Handles very high data traffic
- Data packets can be sent simultaneously
- Device's can join/leave without affecting overall network
- As nodes are added, connections dramatically increase
- Very expensive due to cable and switches for each device
- There'll be a couple of redundant connections

Protocols

TCP (Transmission Protocol)

- Prepares messages for transmission and reassembles any received messages.
- **When sent, TCP rules include:**
 - Dividing message into packets
 - Adding a sequence number
 - Adding extra error checking info
- **When receiving data, the TCP rules include:**
 - Examine each packet for errors using error info given
 - Fixing errors or asking packet to be re-sent
 - Spotting missing packets and ask them to be re-sent
 - Use sequence numbers to reassemble message

IP (Internet Protocol)

- It's responsible for providing destination address and to recognise incoming packets
- **For sending data, IP rules include:**
 - Adding destination address to each packet

- Adding source address so recipient knows who sent it
- **For receiving data, IP rules include:**
 - Accepting data packets with own address attached
 - Ignore data packets with no address of its own

HTTP/HTTPS

- Hyper Text Transfer Protocol
- Allows browser to request individual files from web server in an orderly way, and then the website's rendered
- HTTPS is secure
- It encrypts web page's data before being sent out of browser
- Ensures nobody intercepts, changes or reads data

FTP

- File Transfer protocol
- Transfers, upload and download, files between client and a server on a computer network

Email Protocols

POP (Post Office protocol)

- Allows emails to be downloaded, deleted from the mail server and be viewed offline by the email client
- **Main disadvantages are:**
 - Only handles one mailbox
 - Messages, once downloaded, are removed from email server and can't later be seen by other devices
 - If user's storage becomes broken, the emails are lost
 - Doesn't support complex searches of emails on the server

IMAP (Internet Message Access Protocol)

- IMAP offers more complex commands to manage emails on server itself
- Email remains on server, even after it's downloaded
- This lets you view your emails on multiple devices
- IMAP allows you to;
 - Set flags on emails showing replied, viewed etc
 - Access email on multiple devices
 - Complex searches based on subject, header etc
 - Handles more than one mail box
 - Choose to download specific part of email e.g. just header

SMTP

- Used by mail server itself to send and receive mails from one server to another

Ethernet

- Family of protocols that send and receive data along a network cable
- The protocol's in several parts;
 - Hardware – Specifies performance expected of network cables, plugs and sockets
 - Data Format – describes format of data packets sent/ received over the network
 - How to deal with data collisions

The Four Layer Model

<u>Layer</u>	<u>Layer Name</u>	<u>Protocols</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
<u>4</u>	Application Layer	FTP, HTTP, SMTP, POP, IMAP	They provide access to emails, websites, files
<u>3</u>	Transport Layer	TCP	Divides message into packet, add number, error check info etc
<u>2</u>	Internet Layer	IP	Manages source's address and destination address
<u>1</u>	Network/ Data Link Access	Ethernet, WIFI	Transmits data via cable and WIFI

- Each layer only communicates with those above and below
- Each layer has a particular function to perform
- Dividing layers mean we can focus on an area individually, without worrying about other layers
- Model's useful for manufacturers so their new hardware's compatible
- It maps how the layers relate and interact with each other
- We know what protocol does by which layer it's in
- When a new protocol's developed, it can be slotted into the appropriate layer

Packet Switching

Packet Switching

- 1) The message is broken down into packets
- 2) The packets are given a sequence number each to identify original order
- 3) Packets travel in different directions, via the fastest route
- 4) When all arrive at their destination, they're re assembled into correct order
- 5) Once everything's correct, confirmation message sent to sender's pc
- 6) If a packet's missing/corrupted, instead the recipient will ask sender to re-send that particular packet

Packet Information

- *Each packet has a header with 3 important things:*
 - Source Address to say where packet came
 - Destination Address to tell packet where to go
 - Sequence number so packets re-assemble correctly
- *Preamble* – Data that's attached to front of packet to prime receiving hardware that the packet's about to arrive
- When packet arrives, error check performed; uses calculation '*check sum number*'. If an error is found, requests made etc.

Benefits of a Packet Switched Network

- Robust, if one router's broken, finds another path
 - Makes efficient use of connections, goes through least congested paths
 - Data's still sent even if there's a lot of traffic
 - Only lost packets will need to be re-sent, not entire message
 - Each packet carries its own error correction code, so if few bits are corrupted, it'll most likely be fixed
-
- Packets travel at random paths, so no guarantee they'll arrive in a certain time period
 - The re-assembling and changing routes causes latency
 - If one's missing at destination, packet has to be re-sent

Network Security

Network Threats

- **Malware** – Term used for any hostile/intrusive software
- **Social Engineering** – Takes advantage that humans are the weakest link e.g. Bribery, Trickery, Threatening
- **Brute Force Attack** – Trying every letter and number combination to guess a password
- **Denial of Service** – Floods a server with bogus requests to crash it
- **Man, in the Middle** – Form of data interception.
- **SQL Injections** – Attacking a database by typing special code into the log in box to access confidential info and delete, change, or add users

Good Network Policy reduces these

- Hard Passwords
- CCTV
- No USBs into work computers
- Encrypt Emails
- Password Protected Screens
- No USBs into work computer

Preventing Vulnerabilities

- User Access Rights – Limits what a user can do
- Acceptable Use Policy – Governs what a user can/can't do
- Back Up Policy – Keeps data safe
- Disaster Recovery Policy – Helps recover data from a Network failure
- Network Forensics – Monitors Network, examines Logs
- Anti-Virus – Detects viruses before they harm computer
- Firewall – Control what data packets flow in/out network
- Penetration Testing – Tries to find network weakness and abolish them
- Strong Passwords – Stops anyone accessing network

System software

Operating System

The Operating System

- It's software that manages a computer's hardware and provides a user interface
- It Manages:
 - Memory
 - Multitasking
 - Peripherals
 - Files
 - User access rights

Types of user interface

- GUI: Graphical User Interface
 - WIMP: Windows, Icons, Menus and Pointers
 - Icons representing functions mean less need to type instructions
 - Right-clicking brings up context-sensitive menus
- Menu-driven interface
- Voice Activated
- CLI: Command Line Interface
 - Must be typed in text, No graphics
 - Quicker for experts who know the commands

- Takes less space on the disk and in RAM

Memory Management

- Data used by the program is copied into main memory
- The operating system keeps a record of where each program and its data are located
- It must not overwrite existing programs

Multitasking

- Many background tasks run on the computer
- They're taking it in turns to get processor time to execute instructions
- The OS must manage how the processes share the processor

Interrupts

- Interrupts – Signals sent to CPU by external devices to indicate an event that needs immediate attention
- They tell CPU to suspend its current activities and execute appropriate instructions
- Hardware interrupts – Generated by hardware devices E.g. Printer with no paper
- Software interrupts – Generated by programs E.g. Divide-by-zero error will cause a calculation to be abandoned and an error message displayed

Peripheral Management

- Getting input and sending output
- Copying files from disk to main memory
- Copy data files back to secondary storage

Device Drivers

- It's a program that controls a peripheral device
- Each device communicates with the OS via its own driver

The Print Buffer

- **Print Buffer** - A special area of memory in either the computer or printer
- A computer can send data 1000x faster than a printer can print it
- Computer sends the printer output to a print buffer at full speed
- From here, it is transmitted to the printer, a page at a time
- The print buffer may store a number of jobs waiting to be printed
- If the printer can't print, the OS is notified and passes on the message to the user, E.g. Offline or Printer out of paper

Disk and File Management

- **The operating system:**
 - Manages where on the disk files are written
 - Keeps track of where they are so they can be retrieved
 - Makes sure no file overwrites another file

Access Rights

- Users and admins have different levels of access rights
- Some users may be allowed to read files but not edit them
- Each user's personal setting is saved for them

Utility Software

- **Encryption** – Transforms text so it can't be read without knowing key to decode it
- **File Transfer** – We can move, copy, delete folders and files

Defragmentation

- **When a disk's fragmented:**
 - Retrieving files takes more processing
 - More processing means reduced performance
- **Defragmenting reorganises files so they're together:**
 - Processing time reduces, performance improves
 - Free space is collected, new files don't need to be fragmented

Compression

- Reduces bandwidth usage and data consumption to download and send a compressed file
- Let's file sizes fit within strict email attachment or ISP limits
- Increases amount of data that can be stored or archived on disk

Back Up

- Full backup
 - Complete backup of everything which can be restored independently of any other backup
 - Takes greater time and disk space to create backup
- Incremental backup
 - Records only the changes made since last backup
 - An entire chain of backups is required to fully restore files

Ethical and Legal

Legislation

General Data Protection Act 1998

- 1) data must be processed fairly and lawfully
- 2) data must be adequate, relevant and not excessive
- 3) data must be accurate and up to date
- 4) data must not be retained for longer than necessary
- 5) data can only be used for the purpose for which it was collected
- 6) data must be kept secure
- 7) Not transferred outside the European Economic Area (EEC) without adequate protection

Computer Misuse Act 1990

- Unauthorised access to computer material
- Unauthorised access with intent to commit or facilitate a crime
- Unauthorised modification of computer material

- Making, supplying or obtaining anything which can be used in computer misuse offences

Copyright, Designs and Patents Act (1988)

- Copyright law protects owner of a creative work from having it illegally copied

Creative Commons Licensing

- Used when an author is willing to give people the right to share or use a work that they have created
- Creator can choose to allow only non-commercial use, so their work cannot be copied and distributed for profit

Open and Proprietary Source

<u>Open</u>	<u>Closed</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less secure as code's weakness can be exploited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More secure as code is not shown, no apparent weakness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application is free 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paid Application
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • License allows code to be copied and modified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restricts copying and modifying
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less polished interface 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional to attract customers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written by expert volunteers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paid software programmers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Support Limited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Support Formally Available
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No enforced deadlines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strict deadlines for new releases
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low development costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High development costs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hundreds of volunteers mean flaws are patched, but others still could be using old version 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Software Updates from vendor's servers, quickly propagated, no technical knowledge needed for user

