

INPUT DEVICES

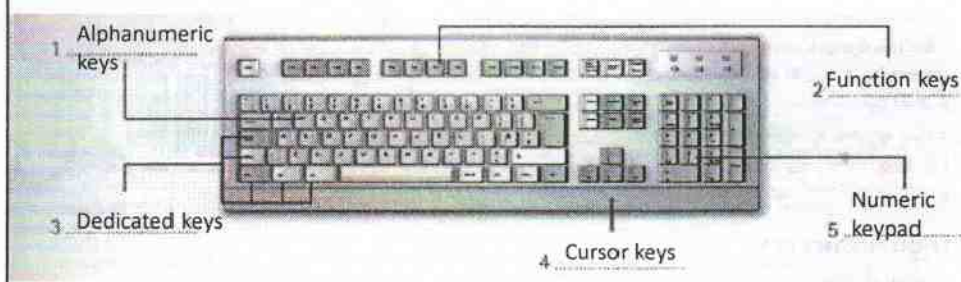
INPUT DEVICES

- Those pieces of hardware which allow us to **enter information into** the computer:
- The keyboard
- The mouse
- Scanners
- Digital cameras
- Webcams
- Voice input

THE KEYBOARD

- On a keyboard there are various groups of keys:
1. **Alphanumeric keys** (letters and numbers)
 2. **Function keys** (at the top: e.g.: f1, f2...)
 3. **Cursor keys** (such as arrow keys, home, end, page up, page down)
 4. **Dedicated keys** (used to issue commands or to produce alternative characters: caps lock (used to produce capital letters), enter, backspace (to remove the character to the left of the cursor))
 5. A **numeric Keypad** on the right with numeric and editing keys)

The keyboard



THE MOUSE

- It lets you move a pointer and select items on the screen
- It has one or more (usually two) buttons to communicate with the PC and a scroll wheel that lets you move through a document
- With a mouse you can:
- Click double-click drag right click

SCANNERS

- It allows you to copy images into a computer
- It reads images and converts them into electronic codes which the computer can understand

DIGITAL CAMERAS

- They use a memory card for storing the images.
- You can connect both the camera and the memory card to a computer in order to view the images, print them or alter them using specific programs

WEBCAMS

- They let you send and receive live video pictures through the internet

VOICE INPUT

- A **voice-recognition system** which is able to convert voice into text
- You can also control the computer with **voice commands**

STORAGE

DISKS AND DRIVES

MAGNETIC AND OPTICAL STORAGE

- MAGNETIC DEVICES
- OPTICAL DEVICES
- Floppy disk drives
- CDs
- Hard disks
- DVDs
- Portable hard drives

FLOPPY DISK DRIVE

- It is relatively **slow**
- It uses 3.5 inch diskettes that can only hold 1.44 MB of data
- It is usually referred to as A:

HARD DISK

- It is usually referred to as C:
- It is usually internal to the computer and it can hold several gigabytes of data
- Its surface is divided into concentric circles called **tracks**, which are once again divided into **sectors**. Computers note the track and sector number of a directory in order to remember where data is stored

HARD DISK

- **ACCESS TIME**: it is the time required to find data
- **TRANSFER RATE**: the rate of transmission of data from the disk to the CPU

PORTABLE HARD DRIVE

- It is external to the computer
- You can use it to make a **backup**, a copy of your files.

CDs

- They divide into
 - CD-ROMs (Read Only Memory): you cannot change data (e.g.: games)
 - CD-R (Recordable): they are write-once devices
 - CD-RW (ReWritable): you can write on them on different occasions

DVDs

- They also be divided into.
 - DVD-ROM (Read Only Memory)
 - DVD-R (Recordable only once)
 - DVD-RW (ReWritable: you can erase data and reuse the DVD many times)