

Unit #2 Introduction to Software

Below is a list of the vocabulary needed to pass this unit with a good score.

abort

to end a program or a process before its completion

"When the word processor application crashed, the user had to abort the program and lose all his unsaved changes."

bug

an error in a computer program

"An average developer will create one bug for every 10 lines of code written."

closed source

software in which the license stipulates that the user cannot see, edit, or manipulate the source code of a software program

"I wanted to develop a new feature for the program, but I couldn't because it was closed source."

compatible

capable of being used without modification

"The IBM 360 was the first commercially successful computer family with a wide range of compatible parts."

crash

a computer failure due to faulty hardware or a serious software bug

"The user was advised to reboot the computer after a serious crash in which the computer no longer responded."

end user

a person who uses a product or service on a computer

"Developers must maintain a close relationship with end users if they want to have a successful career."

error

an incorrect action attributable to poor judgment, ignorance, or inattention

"The computer reported a "division by zero" error and automatically aborted the program."

execute

to start a program on a computer

"The program was set to execute every night at midnight."

feature

something a computer program is "supposed" to do; these are often reasons to use a particular program or upgrade to a more recent version

"The man upgraded his copy of Word because of a new feature that allowed him to spell-check documents in Spanish."

open source

a program in which the code is distributed allowing programmers to alter and change the original software as much as they like

"The article stated that many programmers prefer open source solutions because they can modify features and fix bugs without waiting for an upgrade or patch from the manufacturer."

programmer

a person who writes or modifies computer programs or applications

"The software company needed to hire three new programmers to help debug their flagship application."

proprietary

privately developed and owned technology

"Because of proprietary code, you may not modify or redistribute the source code of Windows or Macintosh operating systems."

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