

Unit 12 — Peripherals

Reading: Computer Peripherals



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Peripherals are a generic name for any device external to a computer, but still normally associated with its extended functionality. The purpose of peripherals is to extend and enhance what a computer is capable of doing without modifying the core components of the system. A printer is a good example of a peripheral. It is connected to a computer, extends its functionality, but is not actually part of the core machine.

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Discussion Questions

Which peripherals are currently attached to your computer? Make a list of them and describe their purpose.

What, in essence, is the main differences between a component and a peripheral? What role does convergence have in all this?

In some novelty stores you can find PC peripherals such as drink coolers, fans, and toy missile launchers. Are these peripherals a good idea? Why or why not? If you could create your own peripheral device, what would it be?