Unit 2 — Components

BIOS (Basic input output system)

a computer's built-in firmware program, which initializes various system components during bootup, and prepares them for later use by the OS

"The technician needed to upgrade the BIOS before installing a faster processor in the workstation."

Chipset

a collection of integrated circuits on the motherboard designed to perform certain tasks such as controlling components and system buses

"Speccing a low-end chipset is not a good way to save money when building a new PC."

Coprocessor

any computer processor or portion of the CPU which assists the main processor with a highly specialized task

"Many older microprocessors included a coprocessor to speed up floating-point calculations."

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