

2.6: Summary

2.6.1: Summary

Information systems hardware consists of the components of digital technology that you can touch. The chapter discusses different types of computing hardware devices including desktop PCs, laptops, smartphones, tablets, and integrated devices. A PC consists of components like the motherboard, CPU, RAM, hard disk drives, solid state drives, and various input/output components. CPUs and RAM provide computing power, while storage devices hold data. We also reviewed some personal computer variations, such as the tablet computer, Bluetooth, and the smartphone.

Moore's Law states that computing power doubles every two years. This has largely held true over the past 50+ years. Besides desktops and laptops, computing is now integrated into smartphones, tablets, home appliances, cars, and more through the Internet of Things (IoT). Smartphones have capabilities similar to PCs and have become the primary computing device for many. Tablets are larger than phones but smaller than laptops.

Finally, we discussed two of the consequences of this evolution: the commoditization of the personal computer and the problem of electronic waste. The commoditization of PCs means there is little differentiation anymore between brands. Apple stands out for its proprietary hardware and software. Computing devices generate electronic waste that is environmentally damaging. More recycling and "green" practices are needed.

This page titled [2.6: Summary](#) is shared under a [CC BY 4.0](#) license and was authored, remixed, and/or curated by [Ly-Huong T. Pham and Tejal Desai-Naik](#) ([Evergreen Valley College](#)) .

- [2.6: Summary](#) by Ly-Huong T. Pham, Tejal Desai-Naik, Laurie Hammond, & Wael Abdeljabbar is licensed [CC BY 3.0](#).