

The touchpad is [ ]. It lets you control the mouse pointer using a [ ]. Laptops offer the best of both worlds when it comes [ ]. You can use them on the go, thanks to the [ ]. Or, you can connect a separate monitor, keyboard, and mouse, effectively [ ]. So those are the basic parts of any computer setup. As you can see, each part plays an important role, which you'll come to understand as you spend more and more time with your computer.

You may already know that there are many important parts [ ], but what exactly do they do? Let's take a look inside and [ ] that make a computer work. Whether it's a desktop computer or a laptop, every computer has a [ ]. This contains some of the most important parts of the computer, such as the CPU, also known as the [ ] Unit, or processor. The CPU can be considered [ ], because it processes information and [ ]. Since it tends to get hot, it's covered by a piece of metal called a heatsink, which draws heat away from the processor.

The motherboard also contains the [ ] Random Access Memory. This is the [ ] [ ] that the computer uses whenever it's performing calculations. However, [ ] there, because the RAM is [ ]. The [ ] provides long-term storage, keeping all of the computer's data even when it's turned off. Many hard drives use a magnetic platter to store data, but many newer computers have solid-state drives, which are faster and more durable, but also more expensive.

On many desktop computers, the motherboard has [ ] by adding expansion cards. You can [ ] to get better graphics performance, or you can add a wireless card to connect to your wireless home network. Most laptops, however, don't have expansion slots. Of course, the computer's components need electricity to run. The [ ] is designed to take [ ] outlet and [ ] that need power. Laptops also contain a built-in battery that lets you use them anywhere.

A computer is a pretty [ ], but now that you've [ ] it should be a little less mysterious. If you're thinking of buying a computer, you may have wondered, is a laptop right for me? Depending on how you plan to use it, the answer may be yes.

Let's look at some of the ways that [ ] to help you decide. The biggest difference [ ]. Laptops have to be [ ] so that you can [ ]

you. Since all of the [ ], setting up a laptop is as easy as opening it. The downside is that the [ ] than a desktop monitor, so you'll have less screen space. Another important difference is that [ ]. The battery can [ ] when you're on the go, and it will [ ] in. An added benefit of having a battery is if the power goes out, the battery can work as a backup power source.

Instead of a mouse, laptops usually have [ ], also known [ ]. You can control the [ ] by using a drawing motion with your finger. If you haven't used a touchpad before, the experience is a [ ] and it may take a while to get used to.

If you're buying a desktop computer, you can [ ] almost any monitor, keyboard, and mouse that you want. With a laptop, you [ ] since everything is built-in. However, if you want to have the best of both worlds, you can [ ] to connect a [ ] keyboard, and [ ]. And of course, whenever you want to, you can simply disconnect everything and take your laptop with you.

As you can see, there are some [ ], so depending on your preferences, you can decide which one best suits your needs.

Did you know that you and your computer [ ] it doesn't speak Spanish, or Swedish, or Chinese. It [ ]. You can't communicate directly with your computer, but that's where [ ] comes in. The operating system, or OS, is [ ] with your computer. Together, the [ ] and computer hardware [ ] that determines what your computer can do.



There are [ ]. Two of the most common ones are [ ] and [ ]. Windows comes [ ], while [ ].

Operating systems aren't just for desktop and laptop computers. [ ] run mobile operating systems, like [ ] which are designed for interactions [ ].

Before downloading a new program or application, [ ] system. [ ] while others only work on certain ones. So get to know your operating system to see how it works and what it can do.

If you woke up this morning thanks to the [ ], or if you like watching videos or playing games on your tablet, [ ], also known as **apps**. An app is [ ] that lets you do things, for lack of a better word. You'll find apps [ ], including smartphones, tablets, and computers. Some apps [ ], while others are just for fun.

Here are some examples of ways you can use apps.  or tablet. They can make many . For instance, if you're looking for a place to buy coffee, an app like  can determine your current  nearby coffee shops. Apps , though. The  on your computer can also be considered apps. If you've ever used Microsoft Word to create a document, or a web browser to visit a website or check your email, guess what? You've used an app. Some apps , but you can . Apps are about  and more. With so many possibilities, you're sure to find  for the things you do. Are you having trouble putting your computer together? Are you feeling overwhelmed? Don't worry. Take a deep breath. We're going to show you, step by step, . First, , and remove any plastic covering or protective tape. Think about where you  and how you want to arrange the different components before you start plugging things in.