

Name _____

Date _____

Hardware - *The physical parts of a computer*

CPU - *Central processing unit*; the brain of the computer; controls the other elements of the computer

Disk Drive - A peripheral device that reads and/or writes information on a disk

Hard Drive - A device (usually within the computer case) that reads and writes information, including the operating system, program files, and data files

Keyboard - A peripheral used to input data by pressing keys

Modem - A peripheral device used to connect one computer to another over a phone line

Monitor - A device used to display information visually

Mouse - A peripheral device used to point to items on a monitor

NIC - *Network interface card*; a board inserted in a computer that provides a physical connection to a network

Printer - A peripheral device that converts output from a computer into a printed image

Software - *Instructions executed by a computer*

Applications - Complete, self-contained programs that perform a specific function (ie. spreadsheets, databases)

Boot - The process of loading or initializing an operating system on a computer; usually occurs as soon as a computer is turned on

Browser - A program used to view World Wide Web pages, such as Netscape Navigator or Internet Explorer

Click - Occurs when a user presses a button on a mouse which in turn, generates a command to the computer

Double Click - Occurs when a user presses a button on the mouse twice in quick succession; this generates a command to the computer

Download - Transferring data from another computer to your computer

File - Namable unit of data storage; an element of data storage; a single sequence of bytes

Folder - A graphical representation used to organize a collection of computer files; as in the concept of a filing cabinet (computer's hard drive) with files (folders)

Icon - A small picture used to represent a file or program in a GUI interface

Internet - A network of computer networks encompassing the World Wide Web, FTP, telnet, and many other protocols

Memory - Any device that holds computer data

Menu - A list of operations available to the user of a program

Network - A collection of computers that are connected

Scroll Bar - Allows the user to control which portion of the document is visible in the

Tool Bar - A graphical representation of program activities; a row of icons used to perform tasks in a program

Virus - A deliberately harmful computer program designed to create annoying glitches or destroy data

Word Processor - A program that allows the user to create primarily text documents