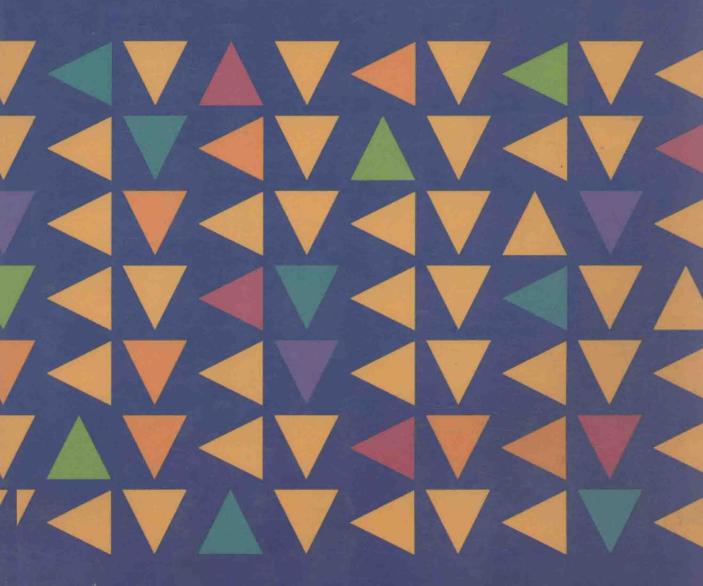
FOURTH EDITION



Trainor Krasnewich



Computers!

Fourth Edition







Computers! Fourth Edition

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Preface to the Instructor

As we prepared to write the fourth edition of *Computers!*, we were again reminded of the speed at which technological change takes place. This technological revolution has quickened the pace of life for everyone. The core knowledge demanded of the productive worker and the informed citizen has increased dramatically. Regardless of past experiences or future career choices, today's (and tomorrow's) members of society must be technologically literate, as well as computer literate.

The difficulty comes in conveying to students why certain knowledge is essential, what is important, and how this information can be applied. The wealth of information available can be overwhelming. Computers! has proved that this information is relevant and easy to understand by students young and old who have little technological experience. To these people, your students, we hope to provide an up-to-date guide to information technology.

NEW TO THIS EDITION

Connectivity and increased integration of personal computers into the workplace continue to be underlying themes in *Computers!*. We have been closely watching these and other technological trends that are changing what a computer literate person needs to know. Incorporating coverage of these trends, as well as integrating suggestions from educators who have taught from earlier editions, has resulted in some important changes to the fourth edition:

Early Presentation of Personal Computer Concepts

We know most students are eager to start the hands-on part of a computer class. Therefore, software and hardware concepts necessary for operating personal computers are discussed in the first three chapters. Terms associated with graphical user interfaces, like click and drag, have been added. As with earlier editions, the fourth edition is designed to provide educators and their students with maximum flexibility in the coverage of computer concepts. Once Unit One is completed, students will be ready to read any chapter in Unit Two (Personal Productivity Tools) or Unit Three (Hardware and Data Communications).



Splitting Peripherals into Storage and I/O Components

Several topics are reorganized in the fourth edition to better meet user expectations and to make the topics as practical as possible. In response to wider utilization of CD technology and the explosion of multimedia applications, the chapter on peripheral hardware has been split in two: Input and output equipment, such as color monitors and laser printers, are covered in Chapter 9, and Chapter 10 now focuses on magnetic and optical storage hardware. By dividing this information into two chapters, the number of new terms and concepts students cover at one time is more manageable.

Putting Historical Developments into Perspective

Expanded coverage of hardware innovations challenged us to reexamine how we introduce technological concepts. In doing so we realized that technological breakthroughs might be better understood from an applications rather than an historical point of view. As a result, people and concepts that once appeared together in the Technological Progress chapter have become special "Who's Who" features. Microsoft's founder Bill Gates, for example, is featured in Chapter 3 on Software Concepts. Herman Hollerith of punched-card fame is discussed in Chapter 10 on Storage Hardware.

Graphics Evolves into Multimedia

New user interfaces, virtual realities, applications for voice and sound, and the wider acceptance of Macintosh microcomputers and Microsoft's Windows have placed a new generation of tools into our computerized toolboxes. Along with coverage of these new tools, more emphasis is placed on the uses, limits, and operation of the technology currently available to your students. These changes are clearly evident in the reorganization of information on graphics into a new Graphics and Multimedia chapter.

New Appendix on Purchasing a Personal Computer

A new appendix that walks students through the process of purchasing a personal computer has been added by popular demand. We are often asked by our students which personal computer system we would recommend. Appendix E helps students answer this question by identifying personal applications and providing a closer look at the trade-offs and decisions people must make when buying a personal computer system.



Personal Productivity

The fourth edition is also updated with the latest innovations in personal productivity. Personal digital assistants and pen-based computers are discussed from a user's perspective in Chapter 8 on Processing Hardware. The impact of networks, personal computers, and interactive services is discussed in Chapter 11 on Networks and Data Communications. Other chapters have expanded coverage of multiprocessing computers along with fourth and fifth generation computer languages. Chapter 15 on Privacy, Ethics, Crime, and Security asks students to examine the rights of others when making decisions that concern ethical standards and privacy issues.

KEY FEATURES

Educators who have used earlier editions of Computers! have stated that its enduring strengths lie in its readability, comprehensive coverage, and modular design. We have tried to build on these strengths in the following ways:

Flexible Design

This textbook contains much more than just explanations of current computer concepts. You can deliver this information to your students by using different chapter combinations and a variety of teaching tools. A hands-on introduction to DOS, Windows, Macintosh System 6 or System 7, and BASIC programming are available in the appendices. A practical guide to purchasing a personal computer system is found in Appendix E. Furthermore, over three dozen tutorial lab manuals for popular application packages and user interfaces can be integrated with the concepts covered in Computers!.

Pedagogy

As in previous editions, Computers! emphasizes the integration of terms and concepts with the students' need to apply this information to their present and future work. Each chapter contains the following pedagogical features to support this goal.

- Key Ideas—topical outline of the chapter.
- From the User's Point of View—aids students' continuous search for relevance in what they are asked to learn.
- Chapter Facts—succinct presentation of the most important information in each chapter.
- Terms to Remember—listing of key words and phrases.



- Mix and Match (new)—asks students to match key terms to their definitions.
- Review Questions—objective questions about the key points in the chapter, easily answerable from the text.
- Applying What You've Learned—questions and projects requiring creative thought and independent research by the student.

Additional assignments, accompanying worksheets, and crossword puzzles using Terms to Remember are provided in the accompanying Student Study Guide. Together, these materials will help to motivate and reinforce student learning.

Real World Applications and Examples

The fourth edition includes many scenarios using technology in real situations. This alerts students to how all-encompassing technology really is. In addition, three features of special interest appear in each chapter:

- "In the News"—clips from the media that highlight topics of practical or special interest to students.
- "Who's Who"—a brief look at the people responsible for the technological innovations that change our lives:

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Chapter 1 Pascal; Jobs and Wozniak
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Chapter 2 Mauchly and Eckert

Chapter 3 Gates

Chapter 4 Bastian and Ashton

Chapter 5 Bricklin and Frankston

Chapter 6 McLuhan

Chapter 7 Codd

Chapter 8 Bardeen, Brattain, and Shockley; Hoff, Hyatt, Kilby, and Noyce

Chapter 9 Jacquard

Chapter 10 Hollerith

Chapter 11 Lovelace and Boole

Chapter 12 Watson, Sr.

Chapter 13 Babbage

Chapter 14 Kemeny and Kurtz

Chapter 15 Papert

Chapter 16 Bednorz and Muller; Turing

"A Closer Look"—an in-depth and graphical investigation of a topic presented in each chapter:

Chapter 1 Personal Computing

Chapter 2 Buying a Computer System

Chapter 3 Comparing Popular Operating Environments

Chapter 4 Selecting a Word Processing Package

Chapter 5 Designing a Better Worksheet

Chapter 6 Presentation Software

Chapter 7 Hypermedia

Chapter 8 The Making of a Microprocessor



- Chapter 9 Peripherals for Special Applications
- Chapter 10 Building a Personal Computer
- Chapter 11 Information Utilities
- Chapter 12 Developing an Expert System
- Chapter 13 Project Management Software
- Chapter 14 Programming Languages (No Matter How You Say It)
- Chapter 15 Privacy ... Is It Still Possible?
- Chapter 16 Emerging Technologies

The result, Computers!, is a comprehensive, flexible, multimedia package designed to help you introduce computer concepts and promote computer awareness to students with various backgrounds and needs.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

The following supplementary materials were developed to help customize *Computers!* to your unique teaching style and course objectives:

Complete Instructor's Manual

The Instructor's Manual for this edition contains detailed support material for each chapter:

- lecture outline
- transparency masters keyed to the lecture outline
- additional material for lectures not found in the text
- teaching tips
- complete answers to the Review Questions
- suggestions for related lab assignments and class projects not included in the Student Study Guide
- bibliographic list for additional research

Student Study Guide

The Student Study Guide includes space for answering in-text review questions, projects with related worksheets, crossword puzzles, and references for each chapter. Answers are not printed in the Study Guide; they can be found in the Instructor's Manual only.

Computerized and Printed Testbank

Over 2000 true/false, multiple-choice, and fill-in questions correspond to the Review Questions in the text. These are available both in printed form and on disk with the McGraw-Hill Test Generator.



Transparency Masters

Two sets of transparency masters support the text. The first contains black and white reproductions of figures found in *Computers!*. These masters are keyed to the lecture outline in the Instructor's Manual. The second set is in full color. These color transparencies were designed to supplement figures and concepts from the text.

Broadcast Quality Videotapes

"Computers at Work," the popular documentary-style videocourse that is broadcast extensively by PBS and numerous statewide consortia, complements this new edition of *Computers!*. This video series can be supplemented by the Student Videocourse Manual, which keys reading assignments in *Computers!* to each of the following video lessons:

- 1. The Information Age
- 2. The Computer System
- 3. Computer Hardware
- 4. Computer Software
- 5. Business Systems Development
- 6. Computer Communications
- 7. Database Systems
- 8. Microcomputers
- 9. Computers and Society
- 10. Artificial Intelligence and the Future
- 11. Computer Crime, Viruses, and Security
- 12. Computer Careers

Application Software and Manuals

A variety of hands-on tutorials are available both with and without software. Applications packages covered include current versions of IBM and Macintosh operating systems; wordprocessing, spreadsheet, database, and integrated software; and commercial software and shareware. For a current list of these materials, contact your McGraw-Hill sales representative.

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David R. Adams contributed material for the Macintosh tutorial in Appendix C. C. Brian Honess developed the BASIC tutorial for



Appendix D. Many of the "conventional wisdoms" presented in Appendix E can be credited to Roger Carlson, whose own wisdom was a great contribution to this manuscript. Jeff Stipes' work on spreadsheets from Software Tools in Business (Mitchell/McGraw-Hill, 1991) was the inspiration for Chapter 5. Nor can we forget David Kroenke's five-component model and insights about business systems, which are still solid after four editions. To each of these individuals, a very special thank you.

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Brief Contents

UNIT ONE

CHAPTER 1: END-USER COMPUTING 4 CHAPTER 2: COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS 30 CHAPTER 3: SOFTWARE CONCEPTS 60 **UNIT TWO** PERSONAL PRODUCTIVITY TOOLS 98 CHAPTER 4: WORDPROCESSING AND DESKTOP PUBLISHING 100 CHAPTER 5: ELECTRONIC SPREADSHEETS 138 CHAPTER 6: GRAPHICS AND MULTIMEDIA 170 CHAPTER 7: FILE AND DATABASE MANAGEMENT 206 **UNIT THREE** HARDWARE AND COMMUNICATIONS 240 CHAPTER 8: PROCESSING HARDWARE 242 CHAPTER 9: INPUT/OUTPUT HARDWARE 280 CHAPTER 10: STORAGE HARDWARE 314 CHAPTER 11: NETWORKS AND DATA COMMUNICATIONS 340 **UNIT FOUR** INFORMATION SYSTEMS 380 CHAPTER 12: MANAGEMENT AND DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEMS 382 CHAPTER 13: SYSTEMS DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION 414 CHAPTER 14: SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT 454 **UNIT FIVE TECHNOLOGICAL TRENDS** 498 CHAPTER 15: PRIVACY, ETHICS, CRIME, AND SECURITY 500 CHAPTER 16: KEEPING UP WITH CHANGE 532 **APPENDICES** A: INTRODUCTION TO MS-DOS/PC-DOS 568 B: INTRODUCTION TO MICROSOFT'S WINDOWS 596 C: INTRODUCTION TO THE APPLE MACINTOSH 628

D: PROGRAMMING PERSONAL COMPUTERS IN BASIC 650

E: BUYING A PERSONAL COMPUTER SYSTEM 696

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AT WORK

Detailed Contents

UNIT ONE	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AT WORK		2
CHAPTER 1	END-USER COMPUTING From the User's Point of View 5 Increasing Your Productivity 5 Who's Who: Blaise Pascal 9 Turning Data into Useful Information 10 In the News: Computer Literacy 12 The Impact of Information Technology 16 In the News: Fighting Fear of Change 18 Who's Who: Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak 20	A Closer Look Personal Computing 22 Chapter Facts 25 Terms to Remember 26 Mix and Match 26 Review Questions 28 Applying What You've Learned 28 Answers to Mix and Match 29	4
CHAPTER 2	COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS From the User's Point of View 31 System Components 31 People 31 In the News: Computer Chips 32 Data 36 Procedures 39 Hardware 41 Who's Who: John Mauchly and J. Presper Eckert 42 In the News: Caring for Your Floppy Disks 44	Software 46 A Closer Look Buying a Computer System 49 Chapter Facts 54 Terms to Remember 55 Mix and Match 56 Review Questions 57 Applying What You've Learned 58 Answers to Mix and Match 59	30
CHAPTER 3	SOFTWARE CONCEPTS From the User's Point of View 61 User Interfaces 61 Evaluating Software Features 66 In the News: Operating Systems: Top 10 User Priorities 66 Systems Software 75 In the News: Desktop Operating Systems 75 In the News: The Futz Factor 77 Who's Who: William (Bill) Gates 79	Where to Find Software 83 A Closer Look Comparing Popular Operating Environments 87 Chapter Facts 93 Terms to Remember 94 Mix and Match 94 Review Questions 96 Applying What You've Learned 97 Answers to Mix and Match 97	60



UNIT TWO PERSONAL PRODUCTIVITY TOOLS

98

CHAPTER 4 WORD PROCESSING AND DESKTOP PUBLISHING

100

From the User's Point of View 101

Word Processing 101

Who's Who: Bruce Bastian and Alan Ashton 110

Desktop Publishing 113

In the News: How to Improve Your Computer

Communication 118

Automating the Office 122

In the News: 10 Ways to Make Your Office

Environment-Friendly 123

A Closer Look . . . Selecting a Word Processing Package 129

Chapter Facts 133

Terms to Remember 134

Mix and Match 134

Review Questions 135 Applying What You've Learned 136

Answers to Mix and Match 137

CHAPTER 5 **ELECTRONIC SPREADSHEETS**

138

From the User's Point of View 139 Presenting and Processing Numbers 139 Electronic Spreadsheets: Features and

Functions 142

In the News: Selecting Software 143 Who's Who: Daniel Bricklin and Robert

Frankston 158

Spreadsheets as a Tool 158

A Closer Look . . . Designing a Better Worksheet 162

Chapter Facts 166

Terms to Remember 167

Mix and Match 167

Review Questions 168

Applying What You've Learned 169

Answers to Mix and Match 169

CHAPTER 6 GRAPHICS AND MULTIMEDIA

170

From the User's Point of View 171

Graphical Tools 171

Presentation Graphics 173

In the News: Trends in Computer Graphics

Market 174

In the News: Presentation Rules of Thumb 177

Free-Drawing Graphics 181

Multimedia 185

Graphics and Multimedia Applications 191

Who's Who: Marshall McLuhan 193 A Closer Look . . . Presentation Software 198

Chapter Facts 202

Terms to Remember 203

Mix and Match 203

Review Questions 204

Applying What You've Learned 205

Answers to Mix and Match 205

CHAPTER 7 FILE AND DATABASE MANAGEMENT

206

From the User's Point of View 207

Data Processing 207

Who's Who: Edgar F. Codd 209

File Management 212

In the News: Characteristics of Good

Information 218

Database Management 219

Applications for Data Management

Software 227

A Closer Look . . . Hypermedia 233 Chapter Facts 236

Terms to Remember 237

Mix and Match 237 Review Questions 238

Applying What You've Learned 239

Answers to Mix and Match 239



UNIT THREE HARDWARE AND COMMUNICATIONS

240

242

280

314

340

CHAPTER 8 PROCESSING HARDWARE

From the User's Point of View 243
Processing in the Past 243
Binary Codes for Data and Instructions 247
The Central Processing Unit 250
Who's Who: William Shockley, John Bardeen,
and Walter Brattain 251
In the News: Before Calling Technical
Support 253
In the News: The History of Electronic
Computing 256
Who's Who: Jack Kilby, Robert Noyce, Marcian

Hoff, and Gilbert Hyatt 261

Hardware to Solve Different Problems 263

A Closer Look . . . The Making of a
Microprocessor 271

Chapter Facts 275

Terms to Remember 276

Mix and Match 277

Review Questions 278

Applying What You've Learned 279

Answers to Mix and Match 279

CHAPTER 9 INPUT/OUTPUT HARDWARE

From the User's Point of View 281
Input Hardware Options 281
In the News: Ergonomics of Input 291
Output Hardware Solutions 293
In the News: Tips for Reducing Computer Vision
Syndrome 293
Who's Who: Joseph Marie Jacquard 296
Peripheral Design and Safety 304

A Closer Look . . . Peripherals for Special Applications 307 Chapter Facts 309 Terms to Remember 310 Mix and Match 310 Review Questions 312 Applying What You've Learned 313 Answers to Mix and Match 313

CHAPTER 10 STORAGE HARDWARE

From the User's Point of View 315
Magnetic Disk Storage 315
In the News: Backup Tips 319
Optical Disk Storage 323
In the News: Optical Storage Disks 325
Magnetic Tape Storage 326
Who's Who: Herman Hollerith 328
Specialized Storage Hardware 330
Maximizing Hardware Performance 331

A Closer Look . . . Building a Personal Computer 333 Chapter Facts 336 Terms to Remember 337 Mix and Match 337 Review Questions 338 Applying What You've Learned 339 Answers to Mix and Match 339

CHAPTER 11 NETWORKS AND DATA COMMUNICATIONS

From the User's Point of View 341
The Need for Data Communications 341
Networks 343
In the News: Don't Be Overloaded 349
Data Communications 354

Who's Who: Augusta Ada Byron (Countess of Lovelace) 358 Network Applications 361 Who's Who: George Boole 363 In the News: The Ten Deadly Network Sins 368



A Closer Look . . . Information Utilities 371 Chapter Facts 374 Terms to Remember 375 Mix and Match 376 Review Questions 377 Applying What You've Learned 378 Answers to Mix and Match 379

UNIT FOUR INFORMATION SYSTEMS

380

CHAPTER 12 MANAGEMENT AND DECISION-SUPPORT SYSTEMS

382

From the User's Point of View 383
Management Information Systems 383
In the News: The Winds of Change 390
Decision-Support Systems 392
In the News: Expensive Executive Toys or Productivity Tools 395
Who's Who: Thomas John Watson, Sr. 396

Tools to Enhance Decision Making 398

A Closer Look . . . Developing an Expert System 407 Chapter Facts 409 Terms to Remember 410 Mix and Match 410 Review Questions 412 Applying What You've Learned 412 Answers to Mix and Match 413

CHAPTER 13 SYSTEMS DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

414

From the User's Point of View 415
Handling Information Problems 415
Life-Cycle Step One: Requirements 418
In the News: How Secure Is It? 422
Life-Cycle Step Two: Alternative Evaluation 423
Who's Who: Charles Babbage 426
In the News: A Properly Planned Interview Can
Be An Analyst's Best Tool 428
Life-Cycle Step Three: Design 429

Life-Cycle Step Four: Implementation 438
A Closer Look . . . Project Management
Software 446
Chapter Facts 449
Terms to Remember 450
Mix and Match 450
Review Questions 452
Applying What You've Learned 453
Answers to Mix and Match 453

CHAPTER 14 SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

454

From the User's Point of View 455
People and Programming 455
Designing the Program 458
In the News: User-Driven Computer Training
Tips 458
Who's Who: John G. Kemeny and Thomas E.
Kurtz 468
Writing Program Code 469
In the News: Advantages over Traditional
Methods 471

Testing and Debugging 485
Documentation and Training 486
A Closer Look ... Programming Languages (No Matter How You Say It) 489
Chapter Facts 493
Terms to Remember 494
Mix and Match 494
Review Questions 496
Applying What You've Learned 496
Answers to Mix and Match 497



UNIT FIVE TECHNOLOGICAL TRENDS 498

CHAPTER 15 PRIVACY, ETHICS, CRIME, AND SECURITY

500

From the User's Point of View 501 Privacy 501 Ethics 504 Crime 508 In the News: Taking a Byte Out of Crime 510

Security 516 Who's Who: Seymour Papert 518 A Closer Look . . . Privacy-Is It Still

Possible? 525

Chapter Facts 528 Terms to Remember 528 Mix and Match 529 Review Questions 529 Applying What You've Learned 530 Answers to Mix and Match 531

CHAPTER 16 KEEPING UP WITH CHANGE

532

From the User's Point of View 533 An Information Society 533 In the News: Rise of the Visual Communicator 541 Skills Updating 547 Career Paths 550 Who's Who: I. Georg Bednorz and Karl Müller 554

Who's Who: Alan Turing 556 A Closer Look . . . Emerging Technologies 559 Chapter Facts 563 Terms to Remember 564 Mix and Match 564 Review Questions 565 Applying What You've Learned 566 Answers to Mix and Match 567

APPENDIX A INTRODUCTION TO MS-DOS/PC-DOS

568

From the User's Point of View 569 Microcomputer Start-Up Procedures 569 DOS Commands and Utility Programs 577 System Shut-Down 591 Chapter Facts 592

Terms to Remember 593 Mix and Match 593 Review Questions 594 Applying What You've Learned 595 Answers to Mix and Match 595

INTRODUCTION TO MICROSOFT WINDOWS APPENDIX B

596

From the User's Point of View 597 Personal Computer Start-Up Procedures 597 The Program Manager 603 Common Window Features 607 The File Manager 611 System Shut-Down 622

Chapter Facts 624 Terms to Remember 625 Mix and Match 625 Review Questions 626 Applying What You've Learned 627 Answers to Mix and Match 627



APPENDIX C INTRODUCTION TO THE APPLE MACINTOSH

628

From the User's Point of View 629
Personal Computer Start-Up Procedures 629
Using a Mouse and Initializing a Diskette 632
Common Window Features 637
Applications, Documents, and Folders 640
Shutting Down the System 645

Chapter Facts 646
Terms to Remember 647
Mix and Match 647
Review Questions 648
Applying What You've Learned 648
Answers to Mix and Match 649

APPENDIX D PROGRAMMING PERSONAL COMPUTERS IN BASIC

650

From the User's Point of View 651
The Basics about BASIC 651
Performing Computations 657
Repeating Program Instructions 661
Controlling Program Loops 668
Applying What You've Learned 674
Working with Text 676
More on Loops 680

Chapter Facts 690
Terms to Remember 691
Mix and Match 692
Review Questions 693
Applying What You've Learned 694
Answers to Mix and Match 695

Tying It All Together 685

APPENDIX E BUYING A PERSONAL COMPUTER SYSTEM

696

From the User's Point of View 697 Needs Analysis 697 Hardware Requirements 703 Complete System Requirements 712 Chapter Facts 714 Review Questions 715 Applying What You've Learned 716

GLOSSARY 717 CREDITS 742 INDEX 743