

Unit 2

Knowing Computer

What is a computer ?

A **computer** is an electronic device that manipulates information, or data.

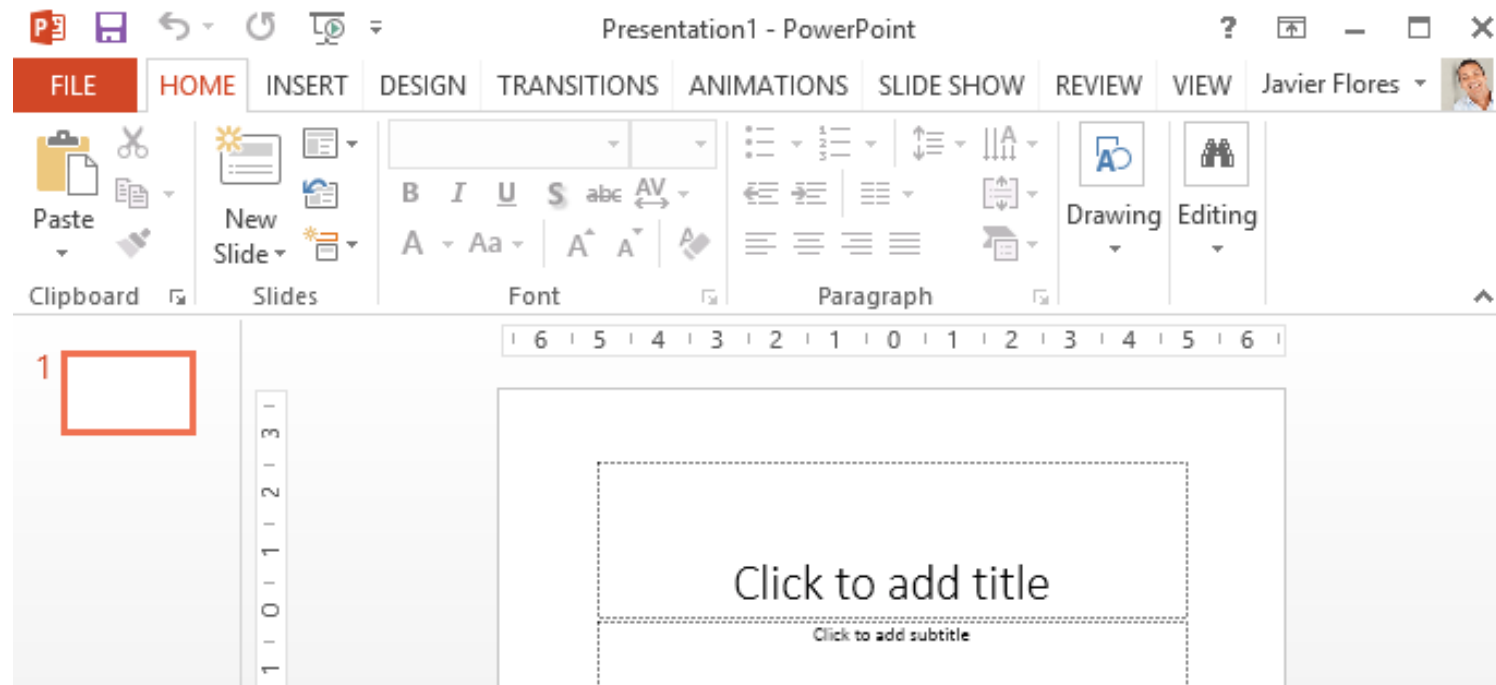
Hardware vs. software

- **Hardware** is any part of your computer that has a **physical structure**, such as the keyboard or mouse. It also includes all of the computer's internal parts.



Hardware vs. software

- **Software** is any **set of instructions** that tells the hardware **what to do** and **how to do it**. Examples of software include web browsers, games, and word processors.



What are the different types of computers?

- Desktop computers



- Laptop computers



- Tablet computers



- Servers



- Other types of computers : **Smartphones, Wearables, Game consoles, TVs**

PCs and Macs:

Personal computers come in two main styles: PC and Mac. Both are fully functional, but they have a different look and feel, and many people prefer one or the other.

PCs:



This type of computer began with the original IBM PC that was introduced in 1981.

Macs:



The **Macintosh** computer was introduced in 1984

Types of Computer

On the basis of size

- **Super Computer:**

The fastest and most powerful type of computer Supercomputers are very expensive and are employed for specialized applications that require immense amounts of mathematical calculations.

Eg: weather forecasting



Mainframe Computer

A very large and expensive computer capable of supporting hundreds, or even thousands, of users simultaneously.

Eg:

Main Components of a Computer System

- Processor/CPU
- RAM/Memory.
- Hard Drive.
- Power Supply.
- Motherboard.

Processor/CPU

A processor is the logic circuitry that responds to and processes the basic instructions that drive a computer.

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RAM/Memory

Random access memory, a type of computer memory that can be accessed randomly.

- There are two main types of RAM:
 1. DRAM (Dynamic Random Access Memory)
 2. SRAM (Static Random Access Memory)

Hard Drive (HDD)

A hard disk drive (sometimes abbreviated as hard drive, HD, or HDD) is a non-volatile memory hardware device that permanently stores and retrieves data on a computer.



Power Supply

PS, P/S, or PSU are abbreviations for power supply or power supply unit. A power supply is a hardware component of a computer that supplies all components in a computer with power.



Motherboard

The motherboard is a printed circuit board that is the foundation of a computer, located on the back side or at the bottom of the computer chassis. It allocates power and allows communication to the CPU, RAM, and all other computer hardware components.

