

Peripherals and Ports

Let's take a look at the back of our computer again. Here you see lots of connectors or ports we can plug in different things known as peripherals. A peripheral is basically anything that you connect your computer externally that adds functionality. Also known as universal serial bus devices, are the most popular connections for our gadgets. USB has gone through three generations: USB 2.0, USB 3.0, and USB 3.1 in today's system. In the chart let's pay attention to the details using Mb/s in the chart. Let's actually differentiate the units. MB is megabyte or unit of data storage while capital Mb/s is a megabit per second, which is 1/8th of a byte. 40 megabit a second to mean that you can transfer 40 megabytes of data per second. Remember that one byte is eight bits, so you need an eight megabits per second connection speed. You will also need compatible USB ports to go with your port, you won't get 3.0 transfer speed but you can still use the port since it's backward compatible, meaning older ports can still use newer types of USB connectors and you can read about all of them in the supplemental reading right after this video, check out the Type C connector, which is meant to replace many peripheral connections. It's quickly becoming a universal standard for many peripherals, you should also be aware of display peripherals. There are some common impulse standards to know about for connections, but you might encounter some older standards too, DVI. DVI cables are generally just output video, if you want presentation, and you want audio too, you may be out of luck, instead, you want to look at one of the following categories: Thunderbolt and computers nowadays, and outputs both video and audio. Another standard that's become popular among many devices is HDMI. In addition to audio and video, USB Type C can also do data transfer and power. As an IT support specialist, you'll be able to distinguish between the major types.

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Revision #1

Created 29 May 2023 10:02:22 by naruzkurai

Updated 29 May 2023 10:25:50 by naruzkurai