

Java Software Solutions

Chapter 1 Computer Systems

Basic Computer Processing

- **A computer system is made up of hardware and software.**
 - **Hardware:** Chips, keyboards, disks, etc.
 - **Software:** Programs and the data those programs use.
- **Key Components of a Computer System**
 - **central processing unit (CPU)**
 - **input/output (I/O) devices**
 - **main memory**
 - **secondary memory devices**

Memory

- Programs and data are held in storage devices called **memory**, which fall into **two categories**:
 - **Main Memory**
 - The storage device (e.g., chips on the mother board) that holds the programs and their data (software) while the programs are executing.
 - **Secondary Memory**
 - Devices such as hard disks that store software in a relatively permanent manner.
 - We save our software on **secondary memory**. **Copies** of the software are brought into **main memory** when we **execute** our programs.