

BTEC Certificate in IT
Hardware Research Task



Computer hardware comes in a wide variety of shapes and sizes, and all have very different purposes and features, ranging from essential internal components to optional external devices.

Carry out some research and complete a table similar to the one below, identifying the purpose and performance measures (in terms of size, speed, capacity etc) of each device.

All work should be your own. Include your own images of each device where possible too. Identify all your sources carefully and be specific (not just “Google images”!)

Device (inc. image)	Purpose	Features	Performance
Motherboard			
Processor			
Random Access Memory (RAM)			
Hard Disk Drive: (HDD) (SATA, IDE, EIDE, master, slave)			
Optical Drives: CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, CD/DVD-RW			
Visual Display Unit (Monitor)			
Network Interface Card (NIC)			
Graphics Card			
Sound Card			
Power Supply Unit (PSU)			
Mouse			
Keyboard			
USB			
Firewire			
Flash Drive			
Basic Input-Output System (BIOS)			
Cabling (Coaxial, Optical, Twisted Pair)			
Another device of your choice (1)			
Another device of your choice (2)			
Another device of your choice (3)			