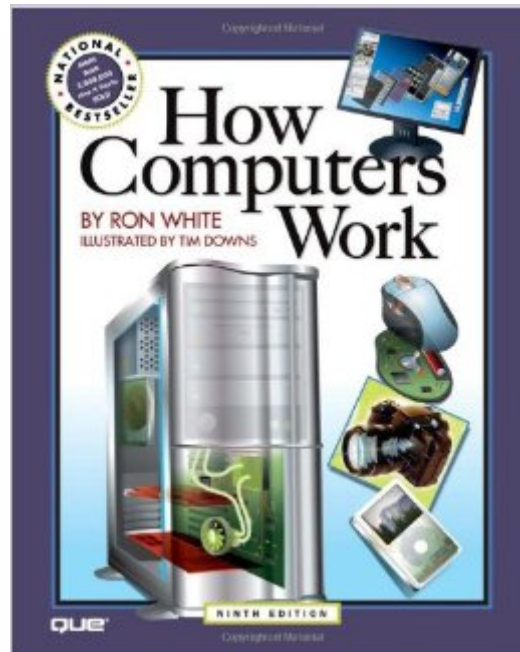


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How Computers Work (9th Edition)



Synopsis

Having sold more than 2 million copies over its lifetime, *How Computers Work* is the definitive illustrated guide to the world of PCs and technology. In this new edition, you'll find detailed information not just about every last component of hardware found inside your PC, but also in-depth explanations about home networking, the Internet, PC security, and even how cell phone networks operate. Whether you're interested in how the latest graphics cards power today's most demanding games or how a digital camera turns light into data, you'll find your answers right here.

Ron White is a former executive editor and columnist for *PC Computing*, where he developed the visual concept behind *How Computers Work*. Founder of one of the earliest PC user groups, he has been writing about computers for 25 years and is known for building wildly extreme computers.

Timothy Edward Downs is an award-winning magazine designer, illustrator, and photographer. He has directed and designed several national consumer, business, technology, and lifestyle magazines, always infusing a sense of "how it works" into every project.

A full-color, illustrated adventure into the wonders of TECHNOLOGY

This full-color, fully illustrated guide to the world of technology assumes nothing and explains everything. Only the accomplished Ron White and award-winning Tim Downs have the unique ability to meld descriptive text with one-of-a-kind visuals to fully explain how the electronic gear we depend on every day is made possible. In addition to all the content you've come to expect from prior editions, this newly revised edition includes all-new coverage of topics such as:

- How tablet PCs put the power of a PC quite literally in your hands
- How Windows Vista makes your Windows desktop translucent and makes your PC more secure
- How advances in optical disc technology such as dual-layer DVD, HD-DVD, and Blu-Ray discs continue to push the envelope
- How Apple's new iPhone is revolutionizing what cell phones can do
- How BitTorrent technology enables anyone to share information with everyone

For a decade, *How Computers Work* has helped newbies understand new technology, while at the same time hackers and IT pros have treasured it for the depth of knowledge it contains. This is the perfect book about computing to capture your imagination, delight your eyes, and expand your mind, no matter what your technical level!

Category: General Computing Covers: PCs/Hardware User Level: Beginning-Intermediate

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Customer Reviews

Now in its eight edition, this is a standard textbook for the IT101 class most colleges and universities now have as a graduation requirement for computer literacy. I know for a fact George Mason University uses this textbook, and the students all have good things to say about it. However, these students are mainly 18 and 19 year old freshmen, with only their personal usage of a computer to draw upon for context. Thus, as a previous reviewer put it, it will make you aware of the computer buzzwords flying around the office, and it is a good first exposure to the inner workings of a computer, but don't buy it expecting detailed information on personal and office computer repair and assembly. That is not this book's purpose, for its contents are very basic. Also note that what little the book has to say on operating systems is limited to Windows. If what you want are start-to-finish instructions for repairing a PC that are accessible for beginners, try "Repairing and Upgrading Your Computer" by Thompson, which was just published this month, March 2006, so it is up-to-date. That book shows how to troubleshoot a PC, how to identify which components need upgrading, and how to tear a PC down and then put it all back together. You could also stick with an old reliable title "Upgrading and Repairing PC's" by Mueller, to be released in its 17th edition at the end of March 2006. I notice that [shows the table of contents for the 6th edition](#), but not the current 8th edition.

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