

Cry for Help

Computer Tips & Tricks for the novice to the advanced.

Cables, Cables & More Cables.

Next time you need to move your computer the following may well help in getting it all back together. All plugs only connect one way, so don't force them.

The "computer", "box" or "tower" is where all the peripheral devices plug into. Most plugs and sockets are colour coded, but in case they're not, read on.

The Keyboard and Mouse sockets are both round. They are either 8 mm and round with 6 pins, or 12 mm and round with 5 pins if it is an old computer. Some modern computers also use USBs. If they are colour coded, the mouse is green and the keyboard is mauve. Otherwise you may need to look carefully next to the sockets on the computer for symbols that look like a keyboard and a mouse.

CRT, LCD, Screen or Monitor sockets are normally a blue D shape containing 15 pins in 3 rows. Digital monitor sockets are white and rectangular with provision for 24 pins. You only need one monitor cable, with blue or white ends.

Speaker sockets are normally light green, round and 3.5 mm diameter.

Microphone sockets are normally pink, round and 3.5 mm diameter.

Older Printers use a 38 mm D shaped socket. More recently printers use USB sockets.

Ethernet sockets are 12 x 7 mm, rectangular, with 8 connectors.

All the rest are probably USB's, 12 x 5 mm and not colour coded because it doesn't matter which device goes into which socket.

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