Your local independent charity supporting older people in Camden since 1965



Guide to the Basics

Devices, Internet and Wi-Fi Access.



Age UK Camden The Basics

Device, Internet, Wi-Fi Access



The Desktop PC

A desktop computer usually comes with separate components that make up the desktop. It comprises of a screen (called a monitor), a mouse, a keyboard, and the computer box itself (called a tower).



Laptop

A laptop is a single box that opens up like a clamshell with the monitor on top and keyboard and mouse below. Laptops are convenient in that they are portable and, in addition to a power cable, it also uses battery power which can last for a number of hours.



Tablet

A tablet is a lightweight, wireless, portable computer with a touchscreen flat surface. Tablets can also serve as a camera (which are at the front and also rear in some) for photography and video capabilities. There are different types of tablets with the most famous one being an iPad.



Smartphone

A smartphone is a cellular phone device with the capabilities of a personal computer. Similar to a tablet, they use a touchscreen surface and have cameras for photography and video recording. For most people, smartphones are used as portable personal computers since they are able to connect to the Internet, run software applications and allow you to do most of the things on a personal computer.



What is Wi-Fi?

Wi-Fi is internet access from a wireless-capable device like a phone, tablet, or laptop. Most modern devices support Wi-Fi so that the devices can join a network to gain internet access. The symbol to the left represents Wi-Fi on most technology.



A Wi-Fi Router

A router receives and then transmits an internet connection coming from an internet service provider outside the network. It delivers that service to nearby devices that can reach the wireless signal.









The Internet

The internet is the wider network that allows computer networks around the world run by companies, governments and other organisations to talk to each other. It is that infrastructure that lets you order the weekly shop, chat to your Granddaughter on Zoom, watch videos on YouTube or search the web for the weather.

Web Browser

A web browser is a type of software that allows you to find and view websites on the Internet. Even if you didn't know it, you're using a web browser right now to read this page! There are many different web browsers, but some of the most common ones include Google Chrome, Internet Explorer, Safari, Microsoft Edge, and Mozilla Firefox.

Search Engine

Search engines are programs that search an index of web for keywords and display the results in order. You can find pages by following links from other pages but usually it is easier to search for things using a search engine. Google is the most common and easy to use search engine.

Website

A website is a single digital document. It is stored on a web server connected to the internet and can be viewed on a web browser. It forms a small part of the world wide web. There are websites for everything such as the weather, recipes and the news.

Contact us

For more information, or to sign up to one of our gadget clinics, please contact us on:

- General enquires -020 7239 0400
- Information & Advice -020 7837 3777
- www.ageukcamden.org.uk
- info@ageukcamden.org.uk

Age UK Camden 68 Parkway, Camden, London, NW1 7AH

> Charity No. 293446 Est. 1965



