

- Acknowledgments p. xvii
- Introduction p. xix
- Part I PC Components
- 1 Fundamentals of PC Technology p. 3
 - Fundamental Building Blocks of the PC p. 5
 - External I/O Connectors p. 7
 - Principles of CPU Operation p. 25
 - Basic PC Signaling Principles p. 26
 - Bits, Bytes, and Buses p. 32
- 2 The Microprocessor p. 43
 - CPU Operation p. 44
 - CPU Terminology p. 44
 - The PC Family Tree p. 49
 - Troubleshooting the CPU p. 85
 - Handling and Replacing the CPU p. 86
 - CPU Configuration p. 92
 - CPU Troubleshooting Checklist p. 96
- 3 Memory p. 97
 - How Memory Works p. 99
 - DRAM p. 99
 - SRAM p. 101
 - Memory Chips and Modules p. 101
 - DIP p. 101
 - SIPP p. 102
 - SIMM p. 102
 - DIMM p. 104
 - SO-DIMM p. 104
 - RIMM p. 105
 - Module Sizes and Banks of Memory p. 106
 - Parity Checking and ECC p. 108
 - Parity vs. Nonparity p. 108
 - Error Correction Code p. 109
 - DRAM Timing and Memory Types p. 109
 - Fast Page Mode p. 110
 - EDO p. 110
 - SDRAM p. 111
 - Video Memory p. 112
 - Troubleshooting Memory p. 113
 - Memory Not Detected p. 113
 - Memory Errors in Applications p. 114
 - Advanced Memory Technologies p. 115
 - RDRAM p. 116
 - DDRAM p. 117
 - PPRAM p. 117
 - The More Distant Technologies of Memory p. 118
- 4 Motherboards p. 121

- Motherboard Controllers and System Resources p. 125
- Memory Address Conflicts and the Memory Map p. 127
- I/O Ports p. 129
- IRQ p. 131
- DMA Channel p. 137
- The I/O System Bus p. 138
- Industry Standard Architecture p. 138
- Micro Channel Architecture p. 140
- Enhanced Industry Standard Architecture p. 141
- VESA Local Bus p. 141
- Peripheral Component Interconnect p. 142
- Accelerated Graphics Port p. 144
- PCI-X p. 147
- Onboard I/O Devices p. 147
- Chipsets p. 149
- Northbridge p. 149
- Southbridge p. 150
- Super I/O Chip p. 150
- Breaking Tradition p. 150
- Functions of the Chipset p. 152
- ROM BIOS p. 158
- ROM POST p. 159
- CMOS Setup p. 161
- CMOS Settings p. 162
- Motherboard Physical Form Factors p. 168
- AT Motherboards p. 168
- ATX Motherboards p. 169
- LPX and NLX Form Factors p. 170
- Summary p. 171
- 5 Power Supply, Cooling, and Protection p. 173
- The Power Supply p. 175
- Power Supply Function and Operation p. 175
- Power Supply Quality and Specifications p. 182
- Power Supply Form Factors p. 190
- Ventilation and Cooling Protection p. 198
- Power Supply Fan p. 198
- Chassis Ventilation Fans p. 201
- Ribbon Cable and Adapter Card Installation p. 201
- Processor Cooling p. 204
- Temperature Limits p. 205
- Power Protection and Backup p. 208
- Basic Power Problems and Procedures p. 209
- Power Protection Devices p. 215
- Backup Power Systems p. 223
- Summary p. 228
- 6 Mass Storage Interfaces p. 231

- The Floppy Disk Interface p. 232
- The Floppy Drive Controller p. 233
- The Power Cable p. 235
- The Control/Data Cable p. 236
- Floppy Interface Problems p. 240
- The IDE Interface p. 240
- ATA Standards p. 241
- The ATA I/O Cable p. 245
- Master/Slave Configuration p. 252
- Data Transfer Modes p. 257
- Large Drive Support p. 262
- The SCSI Interface p. 267
- The SCSI Bus p. 268
- SCSI Standards p. 276
- SCSI Hardware p. 279
- Which Should I Use, IDE or SCSI? p. 285
- 7 Magnetic Storage Devices p. 287
- Magnetic Storage p. 288
- Writing Data p. 288
- Reading Data p. 289
- Magnetic Encoding Schemes p. 290
- Hard Disk Drives p. 291
- Cylinders, Tracks, and Sectors p. 292
- Hard Drive Components p. 298
- Hard Drive Specifications p. 306
- Floppy Disk Drives p. 310
- Floppy Disk Construction p. 311
- Floppy Drive Construction p. 311
- Cartridge Drives p. 313
- Cartridge Drive Interfaces p. 313
- Cartridge Drive Types p. 314
- 8 Optical Storage Devices p. 315
- Optical Storage Media p. 316
- Compact Discs p. 316
- Compact Disc Formats p. 318
- DVDs p. 320
- CD-ROM Drives p. 323
- The Drive Head p. 323
- The Head Actuator p. 325
- The Spindle Motor p. 325
- The Disc-Loading Mechanism p. 327
- CD-ROM Drive Connectors p. 329
- CD-ROM Drive Specifications p. 329
- DVD-ROM Drives p. 331
- Recordable Drives p. 332
- CD-R p. 332

- CD-RW p. 334
- DVD p. 336
- 9 I/O Ports and Devices p. 337
 - Serial Ports p. 338
 - Serial Communications p. 338
 - Serial Port Components p. 339
 - Serial Port Connectors p. 340
 - Serial Port Configurations p. 344
 - Parallel Ports p. 345
 - Parallel Port Connectors p. 346
 - Parallel Port Resources p. 348
 - IEEE 1284 p. 348
 - Selecting a Parallel Port Mode p. 356
 - Universal Serial Bus p. 357
 - USB Connections p. 357
 - USB Support p. 359
 - IEEE 1394 p. 360
- 10 Keyboards and Pointing Devices p. 363
 - Keyboards p. 364
 - Keyboard Layouts p. 364
 - Keyboard Connectors p. 370
 - The Keyboard Interface p. 373
 - Keyboard Switch Types p. 374
 - Keyboard Troubleshooting p. 375
 - Pointing Devices p. 376
 - Pointing Device Interface Types p. 379
 - Pointing Device Troubleshooting p. 381
- 11 The Video Subsystem p. 383
 - Video Adapters p. 384
 - Text Mode and Graphics Mode p. 384
 - Video Adapter Characteristics p. 385
 - Video Standards p. 391
 - Video Adapter Components p. 395
 - Monitors p. 411
 - Monitor Types p. 411
 - Selecting a Monitor p. 417
- 12 The Audio Subsystem p. 421
 - Audio Applications p. 422
 - Windows and Multimedia Drivers p. 423
 - Multimedia Standards p. 424
 - Storing Sound p. 426
 - Waveform Sound Formats p. 426
 - MIDI p. 428
 - Audio Adapter Architecture p. 432
 - Connectors p. 433
 - Adapter Input/Output p. 436

- Audio Adapter Standards p. 439
- Selecting Audio Components p. 440
- Part II PC Peripherals
- 13 Modems and Communications p. 445
 - Modems p. 446
 - Modem Form Factors p. 447
 - Asynchronous Communications p. 450
 - AT Commands p. 452
 - Modem Standards p. 453
 - 56K Modems p. 458
 - ISDN p. 460
 - ISDN Architecture p. 460
 - ISDN Hardware p. 461
 - Adding ISDN Service p. 463
 - CATV Network Modems p. 464
 - Cable Connections p. 464
 - Cable Network Architecture p. 465
 - DSL p. 467
- 14 Networking p. 469
 - Networking Fundamentals p. 470
 - Client/Server Computing p. 470
 - Connecting Networks p. 471
 - The OSI Reference Model p. 472
 - Networking Hardware p. 483
 - Network Adapters p. 483
 - Network Cables p. 489
 - Hubs and Repeaters p. 493
 - Networking Protocols p. 496
 - Ethernet p. 496
 - Token Ring p. 501
 - TCP/IP p. 502
- 15 Printers p. 507
 - Printer Types p. 508
 - Laser Printers p. 508
 - Inkjet Printers p. 514
 - Dot Matrix Printers p. 517
 - Printer Attributes p. 519
 - Print Resolution p. 519
 - Page Description Languages p. 523
 - Memory p. 530
 - Print Speed p. 532
 - Paper Types p. 532
 - Combination Devices p. 533
 - Printer Maintenance p. 534
 - Laser Printer Maintenance p. 534
 - Inkjet Printer Maintenance p. 535

- Dot Matrix Printer Maintenance p. 535
- 16 Portable PCs p. 537
- Portable PC Designs p. 538
- Size p. 538
- Weight p. 539
- Power Consumption p. 539
- Heat p. 540
- Upgrading and Troubleshooting Portable PCs p. 540
- Form Factors p. 541
- Portable System Components p. 542
- Processors p. 542
- Memory p. 547
- Hard Drives p. 549
- PC Cards p. 550
- Displays p. 554
- Batteries p. 554
- Keyboards and Pointing Devices p. 555
- Part III PC Troubleshooting
- 17 Troubleshooting Tools and Techniques p. 559
- Tools of the Trade p. 560
- Basic Hardware Tools p. 560
- Advanced Tools p. 567
- Software Tools p. 572
- Basic PC Handling Techniques p. 578
- Handling the Power Supply p. 579
- ESD (Electrostatic Discharge) Handling Techniques p. 581
- Component Connections p. 585
- Connecting the PC to the External Environment p. 587
- 18 Basic Data Recovery and Disaster Recovery p. 589
- Disk Structure and Data Recovery p. 590
- Partitions p. 591
- The Master Boot Record p. 593
- Partition Tables p. 594
- Extended Partitions p. 595
- File Allocation Tables p. 595
- Disk Editors vs. Disk "Doctors" p. 597
- Disaster Recovery p. 598
- Preventative Maintenance p. 598
- Backup Routines p. 599
- Backup Strategies p. 601
- Fault Tolerance p. 606
- Consolidating Data Recovery with Disaster Recovery p. 613
- Part IV About the CD: Building Your Own PC
- Building Your Own PC: The Video p. 617
- The Equipment p. 617
- The Video p. 619

- Establishing Your Selection Criteria p. 630
- Software Application Requirements p. 630
- Reliability p. 637
- Upgradability p. 639
- PC Component Performance Review p. 642
- Input/Output Interfaces p. 643
- Input and Output Devices p. 644
- Processing p. 647
- Mass Storage p. 650
- Summary p. 655
- Index p. 657