

Lecture. 2

The microchips

The System Unit

- A case that contains the electronic components of the computer used to process data.

The System Unit

- The case of the system unit, or chassis, is made of metal or plastic and protects the electrical components inside.
- The trend is towards a smaller form factor, or size and shape, of desktop computers.

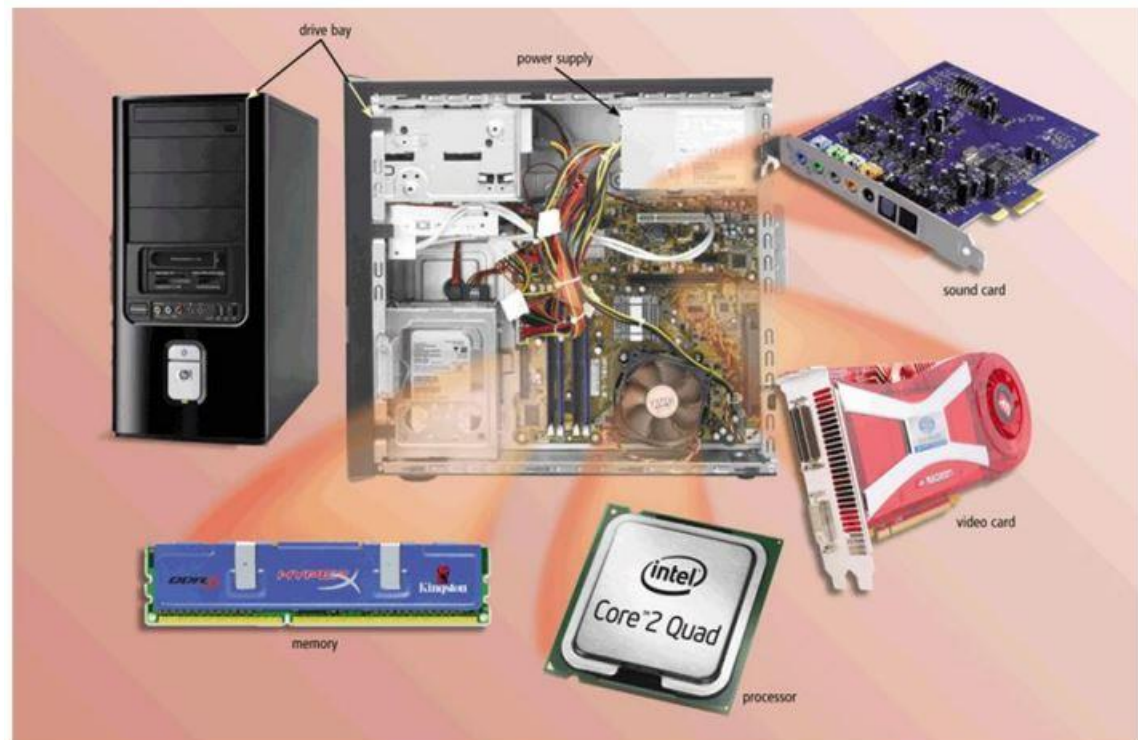
The System Unit

- Comes in a variety of shapes and sizes.



The System Unit

- It is important to know the electronic components of the system unit in the event it needs to be open.



The Components of the System Unit

- **The microchips(The Motherboard)**
- **The processor(Central Processing Unit (CPU))**
- **The memory and the buses**

The microchips

- Computer chips are small pieces of semi-conducting material, usually silicon, on which integrated circuits are etched.
 - IC's contain many microscopic pathways capable of carrying an electric current.
 - They contain components such as resistors, capacitors, and transistors.
- Manufacturers package chips to be attached to a circuit board, such as the motherboard or adapter cards.

The Motherboard

- Also called the system board, is the **main circuit board** of the system unit.
- Many electronic components attach to the motherboard and others are built into it.

The Motherboard

- Slots for adapter cards, the processor, and memory.

