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As per the basic definition of computer data storage devices, we refer these to the computer components that can retain the data in digital format for a longer time period. The data stored in these devices is assumed to be safe and can be used for prolonged period. Data storage types that are commonly used include disk storage, Memory Card Readers, Hard Disk Drives, flash memory, etc.

Disk Storage

Disk storage is commonly considered to be the computer storage devices, wherein the required data is simply copied to a round and rotating surface that is two-dimensional in nature. One can use disk drivers to record or retrieve information from these disks.

Floppy Disk

Next common medium of data storage is a floppy disk that is offered in a thin flexible medium of magnetic storage. This has been encased in a square plastic shell wherein the floppy disk can be read and written with the helps of a floppy disk drive. Generally it is offered the sizes of 8-inch, 5Â¼-inch and 3Â½-inch.

Compact Disk

Compact disk, also known as a CD is considered to be an optical disk which is widely used to store digital data. After its introduction, this technology has been followed with the launch of CD-ROM, CD-R, CD-RW, VCD, SVCD and enhanced CD. A standard CD with a wide diameter of 120 mm holds the potential of storing upto 700 MB data.

Digital Versatile Disk

Digital versatile disk is these days referred to as DVD. It shares the same dimensions as the CDs, DVD ROM with having better and six times more data storing capacity as compared to the compact disks. This video storage device commonly records the video content and can proficiently stand well to store audio content.

Blu-Ray Disks

Blu-ray disks are commonly used in gaming, high definition video storing. These are quite similar to that of CD or DVD and can store upto 50 GB data. The data can be stored with the helps of a blue-violet laser to read the data

Flash Memory

Flash memory is considered to be the non-volatile memory that can which can be electrically programmed or erased. These Flash memory devices such as USB flash drives and memory cards are today widely used.

USB Flash Drive

The most common advantage of this storage medium is that it is removable as well as rewritable.

The storage capacity with these devices ranges between 64 MB to 128 GB. Some USB drives also favor 1 million erases and write cycles whereas few others have 10 year data retention capacity.

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