

# Slow Computer

**In any computer system, there are four fundamental resources: the CPU, the memory, the Input and Output parts, (e.g., disks and networks), and the Users.**

Each resource has its own particular set of problems.

## 1. The CPU

Many programs want to use the CPU at the same time. Under most circumstances time is allocated fairly; however, each process (or program) requires a certain number of CPU cycles to execute and there are only so many cycles in a day. At some point the CPU just can't get all the work done.

## 2. The Memory Subsystem

Problems arise when the memory requirements exceed the memory available. To handle this lack of memory, portions of active processes are moved to the disk in order to reclaim memory. At this point, performance decreases dramatically.

## 3. The Input & Output Subsystem

The I/O subsystem is a common source of resource contention problems. It is shared by all the devices and each kind of device has its own peculiarities and, therefore, its own problems. The disk and network subsystems are particularly important to overall performance.

## 4. Users

One of the most important factors? The users who submit the jobs. The way you use the computer has a big effect on your system's performance. How many people use the Internet to access remote file systems? How many access large files on your own computer?

## 5. Virus

A virus may cause your computer to be running slow. Sometimes a virus may be there without you knowing it. This may happen if you do not have anti-virus software or have not kept your virus definitions up to date. Do a full virus scan using the latest virus definitions

## 6. Spyware

A growing problem caused by programs being loaded on to you computer without your knowledge or without your understanding of what they do. Usually, they will be loaded when you access the internet. These can be removed.

**For expert help, call COMPUTER TROUBLESHOOTERS**