

## What is a Megabyte?

Well let's start by breaking it down to the smallest piece of information that a computer can handle. Remember that a computer can only really understand 0s and 1s. Therefore in ASCII code any number or letter of the alphabet can be read as:

A = 01001010

Each 0 and each 1 is called a BIT

The eight bits that make up each alpha-numeric character is called a BYTE

1024 BYTES is called a KILOBYTE (KB)

1024 KB is called a MEGABYTE (MB)

1024 MB is called a GIGABYTE (GB)

Every file on a computer takes up some space measured in the denominations above.

Some typical sizes are:

Letter to Mom	20KB
Program to type letter	50MB
Picture of Mom	100KB
Hard Drive in computer	10GB
Floppy Disk	1.44MB
Zip Disk	100MB
CDROM	650MB