

**PC Hardware**  
**Chapter 8 LAB**  
**Configuring A Single Floppy Drive**

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**Objective**

The objective of this lab is to provide you with the hands—on experience of removing, installing, and configuring a floppy drive. After completing this lab exercise, you will be able to:

- Install a single floppy disk drive in a PC.
- Configure a single floppy disk drive to function properly within a PC system.
- Remove a single floppy disk drive from a PC.

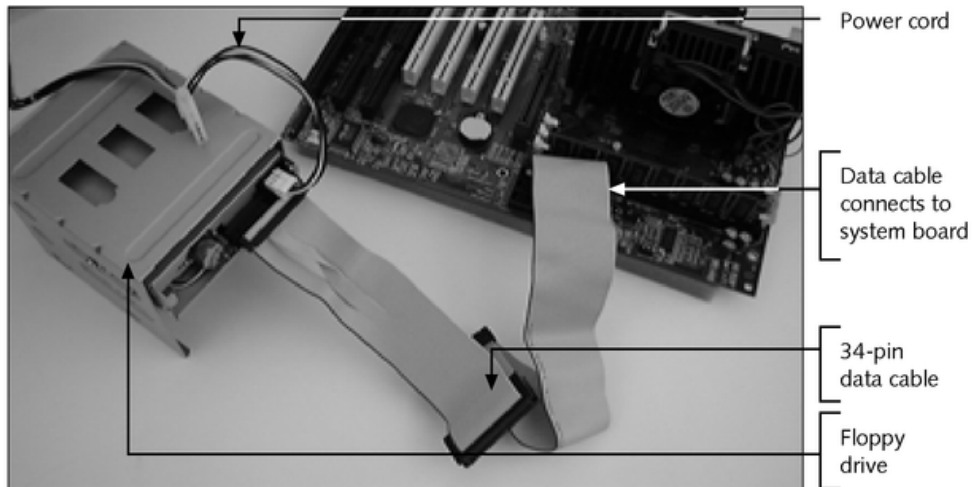
**Lab Setup & Safety Tips**

- Each group of students should be given one 5.25-inch floppy drive.
- Always unplug the power cord and properly ground yourself before touching any component inside a computer.

**ACTIVITY**

**Removing the 3.5-inch floppy drive**

1. Power off your PC.
2. Verify that you are properly grounded.
3. Unplug the power cord from the system unit.
4. Remove the top of the case and observe the floppy drive system, as shown in Fig. 5-1.
5. Unplug the data cable connected to the 3.5-inch floppy drive.
6. Unplug the power connector for the 3.5-inch floppy drive.
7. Dismount the 3.5-inch floppy drive.



**Figure 5-1** Floppy drive subsystem: floppy drive, data cable, and power connection

8. Remove the 3.5-inch floppy drive from your lab workstation.

9. Stand clear of the case, and plug in the power cord.
10. Power on your lab workstation, and enter the CMOS Setup program.
11. Remove the 3.5-inch floppy drive from the Setup program.
12. Save your changes and reboot your lab workstation.

### **Removing the 3.5-inch floppy drive from Windows**

1. Allow your lab workstation to boot into Windows 9x.
2. Double-click the My Computer icon.
3. Verify that Windows 9x does not recognize any floppy drives.
4. If there still is an icon for the 3.5-inch floppy drive, complete the following steps:
  - a. Click the Start button.
  - b. Point to Settings and click Control Panel.
  - c. Double-click the System icon.
  - d. Click the Device Manager tab.
  - e. Double-click the Floppy disk controller icon.
  - f. Click the 3.5 floppy drive icon to highlight it.
  - g. Press Delete.
  - h. Click the Yes button on the confirmation message.
  - i. Reboot your lab workstation, then double-click the My Computer icon to verify that Windows doesn't recognize any floppy drives.

**Table 5-1 Floppy disk types**

Type	Storage Capacity	Number of Tracks per Side	Number of Sectors per Side	Cluster Type
3½-inch extra-high-density	2.88 MB	80	36	2 sectors
3½-inch high-density	1.44 MB	80	18	1 sector
3½-inch double-density	720K	80	9	2 sectors
5¼-inch high-density	1.2 MB	80	15	1 sector
5¼-inch double-density	360K	40	9	2 sectors

### **If Windows 9x does not detect the floppy drive**

1. Click the Start button.
2. Point to Settings and click Control Panel.
3. Double-click the Add New Hardware icon.
4. Click the Next button three times to allow Windows to detect new hardware.
5. When the process is completed, allow Windows to install the proper device driver.

6. Reboot your lab workstation, and follow the steps in the section, “Testing the 5.25-inch floppy drive.

### Lab Notes

**How do I know which way to connect a data cable?**—Most PC data cables have a red stripe along one side of the cable. This stripe always should be aligned with the number one pin on the attached device. The stripe is sometimes blue.

**What is BOOT PRIORITY?**—Boot priority is a value assigned to a bootable device that communicates to a computer the order in which it should attempt to boot from a bootable device. For example, if a floppy drive is assigned a boot priority of 1, and a hard drive in the same computer is assigned a boot priority of 2, the computer will attempt to boot from the floppy drive before the hard drive. Note that the boot priority is also known as the boot sequence and can normally be customized by using the CMOS Setup program

**Why does my computer boot from the CD-ROM?**—Because CD-ROMs are becoming more common, some CD-ROM drives are now boot capable. This means that a boot-capable CD-ROM drive can be assigned a boot priority just like a floppy drive or a hard drive.

### Review Questions

Circle True or False.

1. The standard PC floppy drive subsystem includes a floppy drive, data cable, and a power connection. True / False
2. There is no capacity difference between a 3.5-inch HD floppy disk and a 3.5-inch DD floppy disk. True / False
3. High density floppy disks typically have a higher storage capacity than do double-density floppy disks. True / False
4. If Windows 98 does not detect a new floppy drive, you can use Device Manager to install the correct driver. True / False
5. John's computer always attempts to boot from his CD-ROM drive before the floppy drive. What parameter can John modify in his computer's setup program to change that behavior?

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6. Stacey just installed a floppy drive into her PC, but the floppy drive icon does not show up when she boots into Windows. Assuming that she installed the drive correctly, what would you recommend Stacey do to make Windows recognize her new floppy drive?

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