TravelMate 505 series
User's guide

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TravelMate 505 Series Notebook Computer User's Guide
Part No.: 49.43F01.041
Original Issue: October 1999

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Record the model number, serial number, purchase date, and place of purchase information in the space provided below. The serial number and model number are recorded on the label affixed to your computer. All correspondence concerning your unit should include the serial number, model number, and purchase information.

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TravelMate Notebook Computer

Model Number : 1901-_____

Serial Number:_____

Purchase Date: _____

Place of Purchase: _____

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FCC notice

This device has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This device generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications.

However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this device does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the device off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

1. Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna
2. Increase the separation between the device and receiver
3. Connect the device into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected
4. Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/television technician for help

Notice: shield cables

All connections to other computing devices must be made using shielded cables to maintain compliance with FCC regulations.

Notice: peripheral devices

Only peripherals (input/output devices, terminals, printers, etc.) certified to comply with the Class B limits may be attached to this equipment. Operation with non-certified peripherals is likely to result in interference to radio and TV reception.

Caution

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the manufacturer could void the user's authority, which is granted by the Federal Communications Commission, to operate this computer.

Use conditions

This part complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Notice: Canadian users

This Class B digital apparatus meets all requirements of the Canadian Interference-Causing Equipment Regulations.

Remarque à l'intention des utilisateurs canadiens

Cet appareil numérique de la classe B respected toutes les exigences du Règlement sur le matériel brouilleur du Canada.

FCC modem notice

This equipment complies with Part 68 of the FCC Rules. Located on the bottom side of the modem is a label that contains, among other information, the FCC Registration Number and Ringer Equivalence Number (REN) for this equipment. Upon request, you must provide this information to your telephone company.

If your telephone equipment causes harm to the telephone network, the telephone company may discontinue your service temporarily. If possible, they will notify you in advance. But, if advance notice is not practical, you will be notified as soon as possible. You will also be informed of your right to file a complaint with the FCC.

Your telephone company may make changes in its facilities, equipment, operations, or procedures that could affect the proper functioning of your equipment. If they do, you will be notified in advance to give you an opportunity to maintain uninterrupted telephone service.

If this equipment should fail to operate properly, disconnect the equipment from the phone line to determine if it is causing the problem. If the problem is with the equipment, discontinue use and contact your dealer or vendor.

Important safety instructions

1. Read these instructions carefully. Save these instructions for future reference.
2. Follow all warnings and instructions marked on the product.
3. Unplug this product from the wall outlet before cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners. Use a damp cloth for cleaning.
4. Do not use this product near water.
5. Do not place this product on an unstable cart, stand, or table. The product may fall, causing serious damage to the product.
6. Slots and openings in the cabinet and the back or bottom are provided for ventilation; to ensure reliable operation of the product and to protect it from overheating, these openings must not be blocked or covered. The openings should never be blocked by placing the product on a bed, sofa, rug, or other similar surface. This product should never be placed near or over a radiator or heat register, or in a built-in installation unless proper ventilation is provided.
7. This product should be operated from the type of power indicated on the marking label. If you are not sure of the type of power available, consult your dealer or local power company.
8. Do not allow anything to rest on the power cord. Do not locate this product where persons will walk on the cord.
9. If an extension cord is used with this product, make sure that the total ampere rating of the equipment plugged into the extension cord does not exceed the extension cord ampere rating. Also, make sure that the total rating of all products plugged into the wall outlet does not exceed the fuse rating.
10. Never push objects of any kind into this product through cabinet slots as they may touch dangerous voltage points or short out parts that could result in a fire or electric shock. Never spill liquid of any kind on the product.
11. Do not attempt to service this product yourself, as opening or removing covers may expose you to dangerous voltage points or other risks. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.
12. Unplug this product from the wall outlet and refer servicing to qualified service personnel under the following conditions:
    a. When the power cord or plug is damaged or frayed
    b. If liquid has been spilled into the product
    c. If the product has been exposed to rain or water

d. If the product does not operate normally when the operating instructions are followed. Adjust only those controls that are covered by the operating instructions since improper adjustment of other controls may result in damage and will often require extensive work by a qualified technician to restore the product to normal condition.

e. If the product has been dropped or the cabinet has been damaged

f. If the product exhibits a distinct change in performance, indicating a need for service.

13. Replace the battery with the same type as the product's battery we recommend. Use of another battery may present a risk of fire or explosion. Refer battery replacement to a qualified serviceman.

14. Warning! Batteries may explode if not handled properly. Do not disassemble or dispose of them in fire. Keep them away from children and dispose of used batteries promptly.

15. Use only the proper type of power supply cord set (provided in your accessories box) for this unit. It should be a detachable type: UL listed/CSA certified, type SPT-2, rated 7A 125V minimum, VDE approved or its equivalent. Maximum length is 15 feet (4.6 meters).

Laser compliance statement

The CD-ROM drive in this computer is a laser product. The CD-ROM drive's classification label (shown below) is located on the drive.

CLASS 1 LASER PRODUCT
CAUTION: INVISIBLE LASER RADIATION WHEN OPEN. AVOID EXPOSURE TO BEAM.

APPAREIL A LASER DE CLASSE 1 PRODUIT
LASERATTENTION: RADIATION DU FAISCEAU LASER INVISIBLE EN CAS D'OUVERTURE. EVITTER TOUTE EXPOSITION AUX RAYONS.

LUOKAN 1 LASERLAITE LASER KLASSE 1
VORSICHT: UNSICHTBARE LASERSTRAHLUNG, WENN ABDECKUNG GEÖFFNET NICHT DEM STRAHLL AUSSETZEN

PRODUCTO LÁSER DE LA CLASE I
ADVERTENCIA: RADIACIÓN LÁSER INVISIBLE AL SER ABIERTO. EVITE EXPONERSE A LOS RAYOS.

ADVARSEL: LASERSTRÅLING VEDÅBNING SE IKKE IND I STRÅLEN.

VARO! LAVATTAESSA OLET ALTTINA LASERSÅTEILYLLE.
VARNING: LASERSTRÅLNING NÅR DENNA DEL ÅR ÖPPNAD ÅLÅ TUIJOTA SÅTEESEENSTIRRA EJ IN I STRÅLEN

VARNING: LASERSTRÅLNING NAR DENNA DEL ÅR ÖPPNADSTIRRA EJ IN I STRÅLEN

ADVARSEL: LASERSTRÅLING NAR DEKSEL ÅPNESSTIRR IKKE INN I STRÅLEN

Battery statement

The following statement refers to the internal lithium-ion battery that powers the computer's clock.

CAUTION
Danger of explosion if battery is incorrectly replaced. Replace only with the same or equivalent type recommended by the manufacturer. Discard used batteries according to the manufacturer's instructions.

ADVARSEL!
Lithiumbatteri - Eksplosionsfare ved fejlagtig håndtering. Udskiftning må kun ske med batteri af samme fabrikat og type. Léver det brugte batteri tilbage til leverandøren.

ADVARSEL
Eksplosjonsfare ved feilaktig skifte av batteri. Benytt samme batteritype eller en tilsvarende type anbefalt av apparatfabrikanten. Brukte batterier kasseres i henhold til fabrikantens instruksjoner.

VARNING
Explosionsfara vid felaktigt batteribyte. Använd samma batterityp eller en ekvivalent typ som rekommenderas av apparattillverkaren. Kassera använt batteri enligt fabrikantens instruktion.

VAROITUS
Päristo voi räjähtää, jos se on virheellisesti asennettu. Vaihda paristo ainoastaan laitevalmistajan suosittelemaan tyyppiin. Hävitä käytetty paristo valmistajan ohjeiden mukaisesti.

VORSICHT!
Explosionsgefahr bei unsachgemäßen Austausch der Batterie Ersatz nur durch denselben oder einem vom Hersteller empfohlenem ähnlichen Typ. Entsorgung gebrauchter Batterien nach Angaben des Herstellers.

Year 2000 compliance statement

The TravelMate 505 notebook computer carries the "Hardware NSTL Tested Year 2000 Compliant" logo, which certifies that this model has been tested by NSTL using the YMark2000 test, and has been found to meet NSTL's standards for Year 2000 hardware compliance.

For more details, check the Acer Year 2000 Resource Center at (www.acer.com.tw/service/y2k/index.htm).

Modem notice

This equipment has been approved to Council Division 98/482/EC - “CTR 21” for pan-European single terminal connection to the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN). However, due to differences between the individual PSTNs provided in different countries, the approval does not, of itself, give an unconditional assurance of successful operation on every PSTN termination point. In the event of problems, you should contact your equipment supplier in the first instance.

This manual describes features of the TravelMate 505 series notebook computers. The TravelMate series of computers incorporate such features as CardBus, 16-bit stereo audio, internal pointing device, Universal Serial Bus, and all-in-one media storage.

This manual should answer most of the questions you have about the day-to-day operation of your TravelMate notebook computer.

Use the Just for Starters… instructions that came with your computer to get your computer running for the first time.

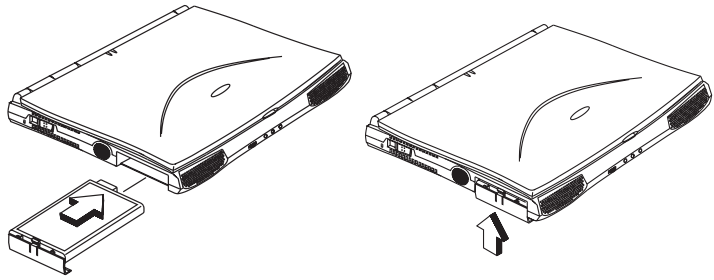
You should also take advantage of the online help files that are available with almost all of the programs shipped with your computer.

We hope you enjoy your TravelMate computer. With proper care, your computer will provide you with years of productive service.

Connecting the computer

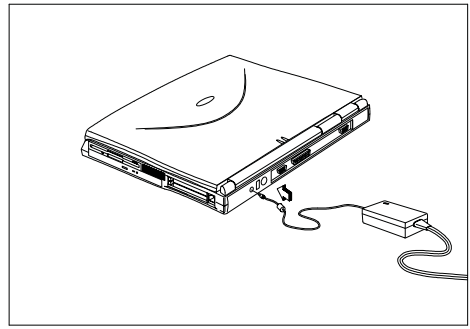
Connecting the computer is as easy as 1-2-3.

1. Insert the battery pack into the battery compartment, then slide the battery compartment cover in place.



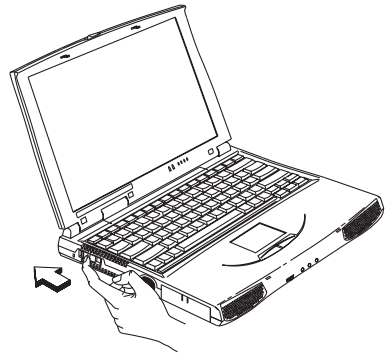
Note: When using a battery pack for the first time, fully recharge the battery, then disconnect the adapter to use up the battery before recharging again. Perform this action twice to condition the battery pack.

2. Connect one end of the AC adapter to the DC-in port on the computer's rear panel and the other end to a properly grounded power outlet.



3. Slide the display cover latch to the left to open the display. Slide the power switch towards the rear of the computer then release it to turn on the power.

The POST (power-on self-test) routine then executes and Windows begins loading.



Note: To turn off the power, slide and hold the power switch for more than four seconds. If you are using Windows 98, we recommend that you use the Shut Down command to turn off the computer. If you turn off the computer and want to turn it on again, wait at least two seconds before powering up.

Getting help and support

This user's guide provides clear and concise information about the computer, so read it thoroughly. To provide you with help when traveling, the computer also has a comprehensive online help.

Accessing online help

Follow these steps to access the online documentation:

1. Press the Windows logo button or click on the **Start** button.
2. Select **Programs**.
3. Click on **TravelMate Online**.

The online help is easy to navigate with hypertext and hypergraphics. Clear illustrations help describe notebook operation as well.

Support information

Your computer is backed by an International Traveler's Warranty (ITW) that gives you security and peace of mind when traveling. Our worldwide network of service centers are there to give you a helping hand.

An ITW passport comes with your computer. This passport contains all you need to know about the ITW program. A list of available, authorized service centers are in this handy booklet. Read this passport thoroughly.

Note: Always have your ITW passport on hand, especially when you travel, to receive the benefits from our support centers. Place your proof-of-purchase in the flap located inside the front cover of the ITW passport.

If the country you are traveling in does not have an Acer-authorized ITW service site, you can still get in contact with our offices worldwide.

For technical assistance and support in the United States and Canada, you can call 1-800-816-2237. You can also contact a local dealer or distributor in the country you are traveling in for assistance.

To view support information, follow these steps:

1. Click on **Start**, **Settings**, **Control Panel**.
2. Double-click on **System**.

3. Click on **Support Information**.

Note: If you are connected to the Internet and have World Wide Web access, visit our home page (www.acer.com/) and get an updated list of our worldwide offices, as well as information about our products.

Care and maintenance

Taking care of your computer

Your computer will serve you well if you take care of it.

- Do not expose the computer to direct sunlight. Do not place it near sources of heat, such as a radiator.
- Do not expose the computer to temperatures below 0ºC (32ºF) or above 50ºC (122ºF).
- Do not subject the computer to magnetic fields.
- Do not expose the computer to rain or moisture.
- Do not spill water or any liquid on the computer.
- Do not subject the computer to heavy shock and vibration.
- Do not expose the computer to dust and dirt.
- Never place objects on top of the computer to avoid damaging the computer.
- Never place the computer on uneven surfaces.

Taking care of your AC adapter

Here are some ways to take care of your AC adapter:

- Do not connect the adapter to any other device.
- Do not step on the power cord or place heavy objects on top of it. Carefully route the power cord and any cables away from all potential traffic.
- When unplugging the power cord, do not pull on the cord itself but pull on the plug.
- The total ampere ratings of the equipment plugged in should not exceed the ampere rating of the cord if you are using an extension cord. Also, the total current rating of all equipment plugged into a single wall outlet should not exceed the fuse rating.

Taking care of your battery pack

Here are some ways to take care of your battery pack:

- Use only batteries of the same kind as replacements. Turn the power off before removing or replacing batteries.
- Do not tamper with batteries. Keep them away from children.

- Dispose of used batteries according to local regulations. Recycle if at all possible.

Cleaning and servicing

When cleaning the computer, follow these steps:

1. Power off the computer and remove the battery pack.
2. Disconnect the AC adapter.
3. Use a soft cloth moistened with water. Do not use liquid or aerosol cleaners.

Contact your dealer or see your service technician if any of the following occurs:

- The computer has been dropped or the body has been damaged.
- Liquid has been spilled into the product.
- The computer does not operate normally.

1 Getting familiar with your computer

This computer combines high-performance, versatility, power management features and multimedia capabilities with a unique style and ergonomic design. Work with unmatched productivity and reliability with your new power computing partner.

This chapter gives an in-depth "tour" of the computer’s many features.

Features

This computer was designed with the user in mind. Here are just a few of its many features:

Performance

- Intel® Celeron™ processor with 128 KB level 2 cache
- 64-bit/128-bit main memory
- Large LCD display and PCI video with 128-bit graphics acceleration
- Internal CD-ROM drive
- Built-in FDD module
- High-capacity, Enhanced-IDE hard disk
- NiMH battery pack
- Power management system with hibernation power saving modes

Multimedia

- 16-bit high-fidelity stereo audio with 3-D sound and wavetable synthesizer
- Built-in dual speakers
- Ultra-slim, high-speed CD-ROM drive

Connectivity

- High-speed fax/data software modem port
- USB (Universal Serial Bus) port

Human-centric design and ergonomics

- All-in-one design (CD-ROM, FDD, HDD)
- Sleek, smooth and stylish design
- Full-sized keyboard
- Wide and curved palm rest
- Ergonomically-centered touchpad pointing device

Expansion

- CardBus PC card (formerly PCMCIA) slot (type II/I or type III) with ZV

(zoomed video) port support

- Upgradeable memory and hard disk

Display

The large graphics display offers excellent viewing, display quality and desktop performance graphics. The computer supports two different display configurations — High Performance Addressing (HPA) or Thin-Film Transistor (TFT).

Video performance

PCI video with 128-bit graphics acceleration and 2 MB video memory boost video performance.

Simultaneous display

The computer's large display and multimedia capabilities are great for giving presentations. If you prefer, you can also connect an external monitor when giving presentations. This computer supports simultaneous LCD and CRT display. Simultaneous display allows you to control the presentation from your computer and at the same time face your audience. You can also connect other output display devices such as LCD projection panels for large-audience presentations.

Power management

The power management system incorporates an "automatic LCD dim" feature that automatically dims the LCD when the computer is powered by a battery pack to conserve battery power. See "Power management" on page 36 for more information on power management features.

Opening and closing the display

To open the display, slide the display cover latch to the left and lift up the cover. Then tilt it to a comfortable viewing position. The computer employs a microswitch that turns off the display (and enters standby mode) to conserve power when you close the display cover, and turns it back on when you open the display cover.

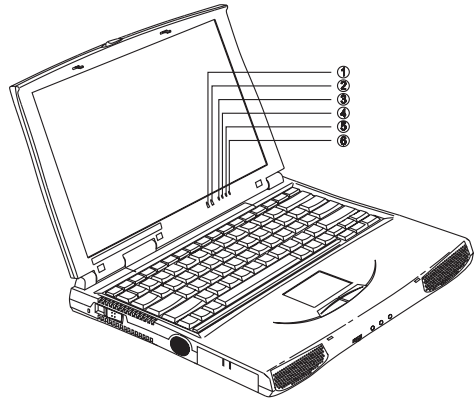
Note: If an external monitor is connected, the computer turns off the display (but does not enter standby mode) when you close the display cover.

To close the display cover, fold it down gently until the display cover latch clicks into place.

Caution: To avoid damaging the display, do not slam it when you close it. Also, do not place any object on top of the computer when the display is closed.

Indicators

The computer has six easy-to-read status indicators (LEDs) under the display screen.



The Power and Standby indicators are visible even when you close the display cover so you can see the status of the computer while the cover is closed.

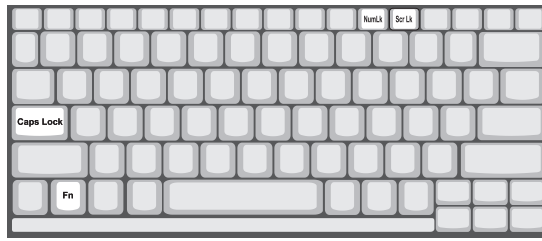
#	Icon	Function	Description
1		Power	Lights when the computer is on. Blinks when a battery-low condition occurs.
2		Standby	Lights when the computer enters Standby mode.
3		Media Activity	Lights when the floppy drive, hard disk or CD-ROM drive is active.
4		Battery Charge	Lights when the battery is being charged.
5		Caps Lock	Lights when Caps Lock is activated.
6		Num Lock (Fn-F11)	Lights when Numeric Lock is activated.

Keyboard

The keyboard has full-sized keys with an embedded keypad, separate cursor keys, two Windows keys and twelve function keys.

Special keys

Lock keys



The keyboard has three lock keys which you can toggle on and off.

Lock Key	Description
Caps Lock	When Caps Lock is on, all alphabetic characters typed are in uppercase.
Num Lock (Fn-F11)	When Num Lock is on, the embedded keypad is in numeric mode. The keys function as a calculator (complete with the arithmetic operators +, -, *, and /). Use this mode when you need to do a lot of numeric data entry. A better solution would be to connect an external keypad. See “External keyboard” on page 44.
Scroll Lock (Fn-F12)	When Scroll Lock is on, the screen moves one line up or down when you press ↑ or ↓ respectively. Scroll Lock does not work with some applications.

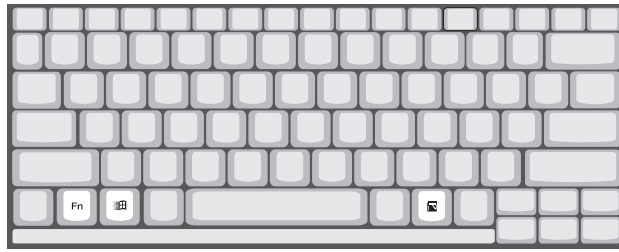
Embedded numeric keypad

The embedded numeric keypad functions like a desktop numeric keypad. It is indicated by small characters located on the upper right corner of the keycaps. To simplify the keyboard legend, cursor-control key symbols are not printed on the keys.

Desired Access	Num Lock On	Num Lock Off
Number keys on embedded keypad	Type numbers in a normal manner.	
Cursor-control keys on embedded keypad	Hold Shift while using cursor-control keys.	Hold Fn while using cursor-control keys.
Main keyboard keys	Hold Fn while typing letters on embedded keypad.	Type the letters in a normal manner.

Note: If an external keyboard or keypad is connected to the computer, the numlock feature automatically shifts from the internal keyboard to the external keyboard or keypad.

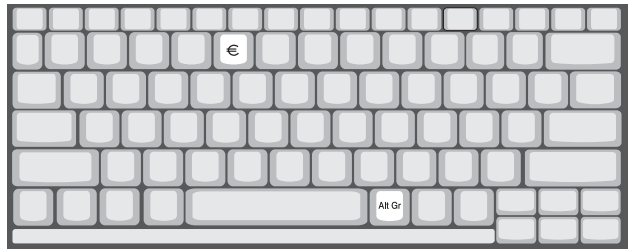
Windows keys



The keyboard has two keys that perform Windows-specific functions.

Key	Description
Windows logo key	Start button. Combinations with this key perform special functions. Below are a few examples: + Tab (Activates next Taskbar button) + E (Explores My Computer) + F (Finds Document) + M (Minimizes All) Shift + + M (Undoes Minimize All) + R (Displays Run dialog box)
Application key (Fn-Application key)	Opens the application's context menu (same as right-click).

The Euro symbol



If your keyboard is in any of the following languages — United States-International, United Kingdom, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese,

Danish, Swiss German, Swiss French, Czech, Belgian, Norwegian, Hungarian, Turkish, Swedish or Finnish — you can type the Euro symbol on your keyboard

Note: Important! (for US keyboard users): The keyboard type is set when you first set up Windows. For the Euro symbol to work, the keyboard type has to be set to United States-International.

To verify the keyboard type:

1. Click on **Start, Settings, Control Panel**.
2. Double-click on **Keyboard**.
3. Click on the **Language** tab.
4. Verify that the keyboard type used for "En English (United States)" is set to **United States-International**.
5. If not, select and click on **Properties**; then select **United States-International** and click on **OK**.
6. Click on **OK**.

To type the Euro symbol:

1. Locate the Euro symbol on your keyboard.
2. Open a text editor or word processor.
3. Hold **Alt Gr** and press the Euro symbol.

Note:The **Alt Gr** is only used together with the Euro symbol. Some fonts and software do not support the Euro symbol. Please refer to **(www.microsoft.com/typography/faq/faq12.htm)** for more information.

Hotkeys

The computer employs hotkeys or key combinations to access most of the computer's controls like screen contrast and brightness, volume output and the BIOS setup utility.

HotKey	Icon	Function	Description
Fn-F1	?	Hotkey help	Displays a list of the hotkeys and their functions.
Fn-F2		Setup	Accesses the notebook configuration utility. See "Notebook Manager" on page 71.
Fn-F3		Power Scheme Toggle	Switches between the different Power Management schemes.
Fn-F4		Sleep	Puts the computer in Sleep mode, which can be defined via the advanced section of the Power Management Properties in the Windows Control Panel.
Fn-F5		Display toggle	Switches display output between the display screen, external monitor (if connected) and both the display screen and external monitor.
Fn-F6		Screen blank	Turns the display screen backlight off to save power. Press any key to return.

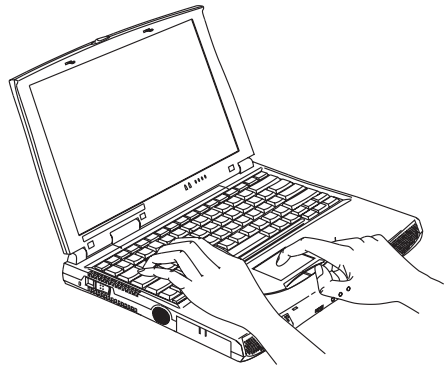
HotKey	Icon	Function	Description
Fn-F7		Touchpad on/ off	Turns the internal touchpad on and off. When you connect an external PS/2 mouse, the computer automatically disables the touchpad.
Fn-F8		Speaker on/off	Turns the speakers on and off; mutes the sound.
Fn-↑		Contrast up	Increases the screen contrast (available only for models with HPA displays).
Fn-↓		Contrast down	Decreases the screen contrast (available only for models with HPA displays).
Fn-⟶		Brightness up	Increases the screen brightness.
Fn-⟵		Brightness down	Decreases the screen brightness.

Activating hotkeys

When activating hotkeys, press and hold the first key **Fn** before pressing the other key in the hotkey combination.

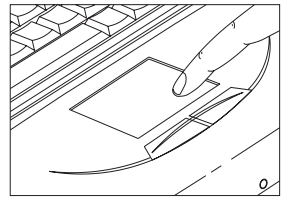
Keyboard ergonomics

Located below the keyboard, the wide and curved palm rest is ergonomically designed to provide you with a very comfortable place to rest your hands while you type.



Touchpad

The built-in touchpad is a PS/2-compatible pointing device that senses movement on its surface. This means the cursor responds as you move your finger on the surface of the touchpad. The central location on the palm rest provides optimum comfort and support.



Note: When you connect an external PS/2 mouse, the computer automatically disables the internal touchpad.

Touchpad basics

The following items teach you how to use the touchpad:

- Move your finger across the touchpad to move the cursor.
- Press the left and right buttons located on the edge of the touchpad to do selection and execution functions. These two buttons are similar to the left and right buttons on a mouse. Tapping on the touchpad produces similar results.

Function	Left Button	Right Button	Tap
Execute	Click twice quickly		Tap twice (at the same speed as double-clicking the mouse button)
Select	Click once		Tap once

Function	Left Button	Right Button	Tap
Drag	Click and hold, then use finger to drag the cursor on the touchpad		Tap twice (at the same speed as double-clicking the mouse button) and hold finger to the touchpad on the second tap to drag the cursor
Access context menu		Click once	

Note: Keep your fingers dry and clean when using the touchpad. Also keep the touchpad dry and clean. The touchpad is sensitive to finger movements. Hence, the lighter the touch, the better the response. Tapping too hard will not increase the touchpad's responsiveness.

Storage

This computer supplies you with all-in-one media storage:

- High-capacity Enhanced-IDE hard disk
- Standard ultra-slim internal 3.5-inch floppy drive
- High-speed ultra-slim CD-ROM drive

Hard disk

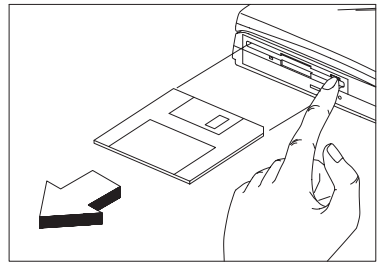
The hard disk can be upgraded when you need more storage space. Consult your dealer for details.

Floppy drive

The ultra-slim internal floppy drive reads and writes on standard 3.5-inch diskettes.

Ejecting a floppy disk

Press the floppy disk eject button to eject a floppy disk from the floppy drive.

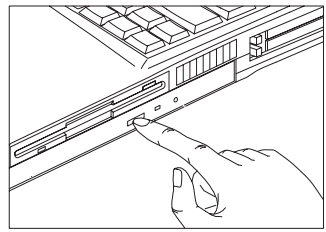


CD-ROM drive

A high-speed CD-ROM drive gives you portable multimedia access.

Ejecting the CD-ROM tray

To eject the CD-ROM drive tray when the computer is turned on, press the CD-ROM eject button.



Note: When power is off, you can eject the CD-ROM drive tray using the emergency eject hole (see page 93).

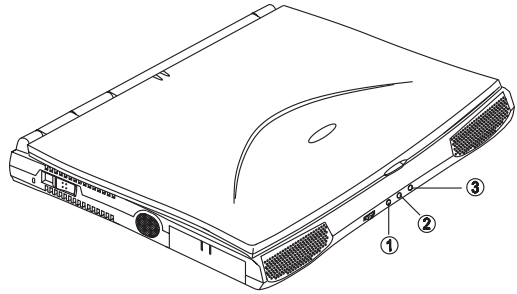
Ports

Ports allow you to connect peripheral devices to your computer as you would with a desktop PC

Note: See Chapter 3 on how to connect external devices to the computer.

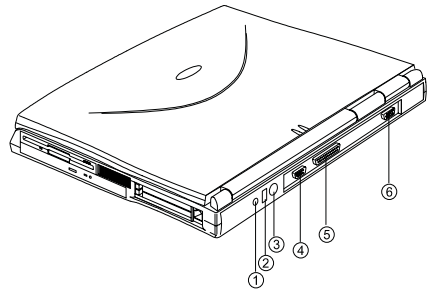
Front ports

The front panel contains ports for external audio connections.



#	Icon	Port	Connects to...
1		Speaker-out jack	Speakers or headphones
2		Audio line-in jack	Audio line-in device with a 3.5mm minijack (e.g., audio CD player, stereo walkman)
3		Microphone-in jack	3.5mm minijack condenser microphone

Rear ports

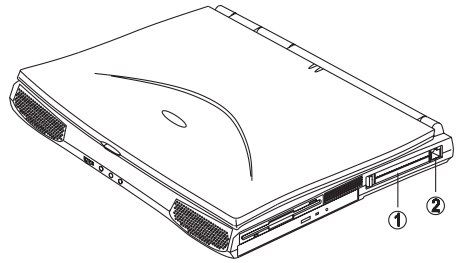


#	Icon	Port	Connects to...
1		DC-in jack	AC adapter and power outlet
2		USB port	USB devices (e.g., USB mouse)
3		PS/2 port	PS/2-compatible devices (e.g., PS/2 keyboard/mouse/keypad)
4		Serial port	Serial devices (e.g., serial mouse)
5		Parallel port	Parallel devices (e.g., parallel printer)
6		External monitor port	Display monitor (up to 1024x768 resolution, 64K-colors)

Universal Serial Bus

The Universal Serial Bus (USB) port is a high-speed serial bus which allows you to connect and daisy-chain USB peripherals without taking up precious system resources.

Right ports



#	Icon	Port	Connects to...
1		PC Card slot	16-bit PC Cards and 32-bit CardBus PC Cards (ZV support)
2		Modem jack	Phone line (only for models with an internal fax modem)

PC card slot

There is one type II/I or one type III CardBus PC card slot found on the right panel of the computer. This slot accepts credit-card-sized cards that enhance the usability and expandability of the computer.

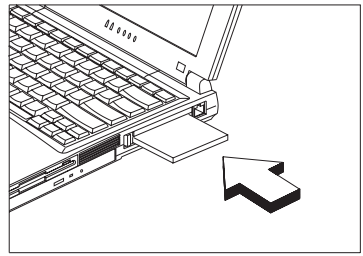
PC cards (formerly PCMCIA) are add-on cards for portable computers, giving you expansion possibilities long afforded by desktop PCs. Popular type II cards include flash memory, SRAM, fax/data modem, LAN and SCSI cards. Common type III cards are 1.8-inch ATA drives and cellular modems. CardBus improves on the 16-bit PC card technology by expanding the data path to 32 bits.

ZV (zoomed video) port support allows your computer to support hardware MPEG in the form of a ZV PC card.

Note: Refer to your card's manual for details on how to install and use the card and its functions.

Inserting a card

Insert the card into the slot and make the proper connections (e.g., network cable), if necessary. See your card manual for details.

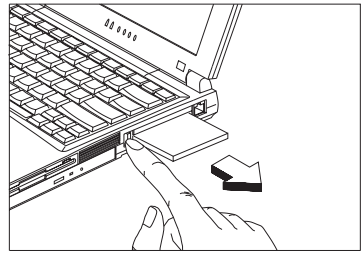


Ejecting a card

Before ejecting a PC card:

- Exit the application using the card.
- Left-click on the PC card icon on the taskbar and stop the card operation.

Press the slot eject button once to pop it out; then press it again to eject the PC card.

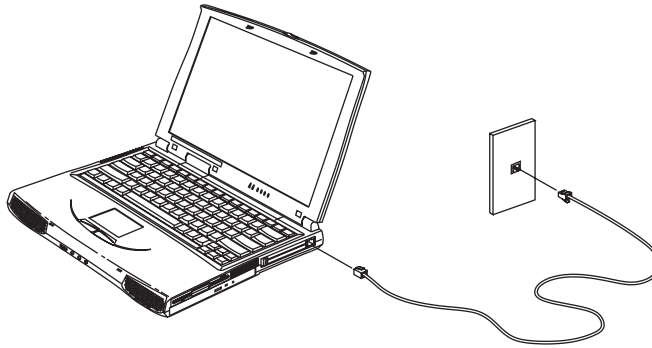


Fax/data modem

The computer has a built-in fax/data modem (available in select countries)

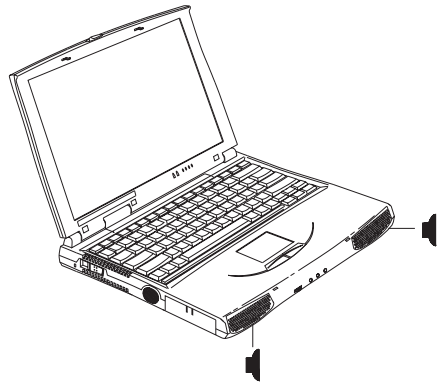
Caution: This modem port is not compatible with digital phone lines. Plugging this modem into a digital phone line will damage the modem.

To use the fax/data modem port, connect a phone cable from the modem port to a telephone jack.

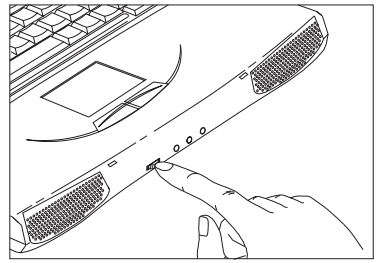


Audio

The standard computer configuration includes 16-bit high-fidelity stereo audio with further enhancements that include 3D sound for true audio immersion. Front dual speakers direct sound towards you to further enhance sound output.



Use the volume control knob to adjust the volume level. Turn the knob to the right to increase the volume; turn it to the left to decrease the volume.



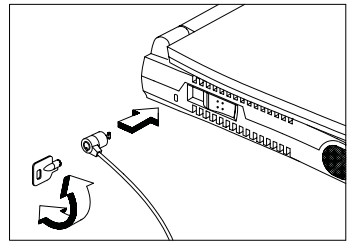
Securing your computer

Security features include hardware and software locks — a security notch and a two-level password scheme.

Security notch

A security notch located on the rear panel of the computer lets you connect a Kensington-compatible key-based computer security lock.

Wrap a computer security lock cable around an immovable object such as a table or locked drawer handle. Insert the lock into the notch and turn the key to secure the lock.



Passwords

A two-level password scheme protects your computer from unauthorized access. When set, no one can access the computer without entering the correct password.

There are two types of passwords you can set:

- Supervisor Password secures your computer against unauthorized entry to and use of the BIOS Utility.
- User Password secures your computer against unauthorized use.

See “BIOS Utility” on page 79 for details.

Important: Do not forget your password! If you forget your password, you need to contact your dealer.

Setting a password

You can set the password using:

- Notebook Manager — go to page 75.
- BIOS Utility — go to page 86.

2 Operating on battery

The computer operates on AC or battery power. This chapter contains the information you need to know to operate the computer on battery power. It also includes information on how your computer manages and saves power.

power

Battery pack

The computer uses a battery pack that gives you long use between charges.

Battery pack characteristics

The battery pack has the following characteristics:

- Employs current battery technology standards
- Battery-low warning

  When the battery charge level becomes low, the status indicator of the computer flashes at regular intervals. This tells you that the battery power is critically low (and you should save your work). You can correct this situation by recharging the battery pack.

Whenever possible, use the AC adapter. The battery will come in handy when you travel or during a power failure. It is advisable to have an extra fully-charged battery pack available as backup.

Using a battery pack for the first time

When using a battery pack for the first time, follow these steps:

1. Connect the AC adapter to a power source and to the computer and fully recharge the battery.
2. Disconnect the adapter to use up the battery before recharging again.

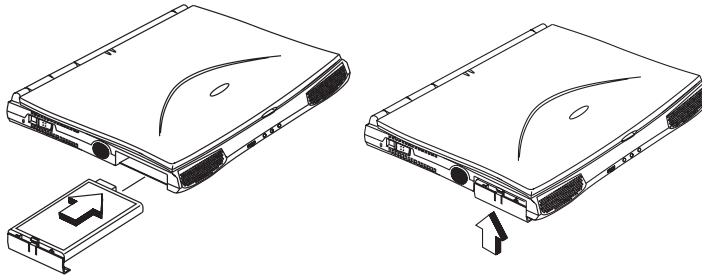
You only need to do this once or twice with a new battery or with a battery that's been stored without being used for a long time. If the computer is to be stored for more than two weeks, we suggest you remove the battery pack. Battery power from a fully charged battery pack depletes in roughly a day with the computer in Standby mode, a month in Hibernation mode or when power is off.

Warning! Do not expose battery packs to temperatures below 0ºC (32ºF) or above 60ºC (140ºF). This may adversely affect the battery pack.

Installing and removing the battery pack

Important! Before removing the battery pack, make sure that you have an AC adapter connected to the computer; otherwise, turn off the computer.

To install a battery pack, slide it into the battery compartment, then latch the battery compartment cover.



Reverse the procedure to remove the battery pack.

Charging the battery

To charge the battery, slide the battery pack into the battery bay and plug the AC adapter into the computer and an electrical outlet.

Charging modes

The adapter has three charging modes:

- Rapid mode

  The computer uses rapid charging when power is turned off and a powered AC adapter is connected to it. In rapid mode, a fully depleted battery gets fully charged in approximately two hours.

- Charge-in-use mode

  When the computer is in use with the AC adapter plugged in, the computer also charges the battery pack if installed. This mode will take longer to fully charge a battery than rapid mode. In charge-in-use mode, a fully depleted battery gets fully charged in approximately 4 hours.

Note: We suggest that you charge the battery pack before retiring for the day, letting it charge overnight before traveling. This ensures a fully charged battery for use the next day.

Checking the battery level

Using the Windows battery meter

The Windows battery meter indicates the present battery level. Simply rest your cursor on the battery meter (or AC plug) icon on the taskbar to see the present charge level of your battery.

Optimizing battery life

This section helps you get the most out of battery operation. Optimizing battery life prolongs the charge/recharge cycle and improves recharge efficiency. Follow these suggestions to optimize and maximize battery power:

- Purchase an extra battery pack.
- Use Sleep Manager to reserve hard disk space for the Hibernation function. See “Sleep Manager” on page 66.
- Use the AC adapter whenever possible so that the battery is reserved for on-the-go computing.
- Keep the battery pack in the computer powered by the AC adapter. The constant trickle charge maintains the battery level to eliminate the battery self-discharge effect. The charge-in-use function also charges the battery pack.
- Disable the parallel and serial ports if no devices are connected to these ports. You can do this through the Setup Utility. See “Onboard Device Configuration” on page 84.
- Eject the PC card from the card slot when it is not in use, since the PC card draws extra power. See “Ejecting a card” on page 22.
- Store the battery pack in a cool, dry place. The recommended storage temperature for battery packs ranges from 10 to 30 degrees Celsius. The higher the storage temperature, the faster the battery pack self-discharges.
- The batteries can be recharged about 400 times when used as directed. Excessive recharging decreases battery life.
- Take care of your battery pack and AC adapter. See “Care and maintenance” on page xx of the preface.

Battery-low warning

You never have to worry about battery power as long as you are using the AC adapter. However, when you operate the computer on battery power, pay extra attention to the power indicator on the display panel.

The following signal indicates a battery-low condition:

- The power indicator flashes at regular intervals until battery power is depleted.

Warning! Connect the AC adapter to the computer as soon as possible. Data is lost when computer power is cut off during Standby mode.

The following table shows the recommended course of action to take when you encounter a battery-low condition.

Situation	Recommended Action
AC adapter and power outlet available	1. Connect the AC adapter to the computer. 2. Save all necessary files. 3. Resume work. Power off the computer if you wish to recharge the battery rapidly.
An extra fully-charged battery pack available	1. Save all necessary files. 2. Exit the application. 3. Power off the computer. 4. Replace the battery pack. 5. Power on the computer and resume work.
AC adapter or power outlet not available	1. Save all necessary files. 2. Exit the application. 3. Power off the computer. or 1. Save all necessary files. 2. Enter Sleep mode (press Fn-F4).

Power management

This computer has a built-in power management unit that monitors system activity. System activity refers to any activity involving one or more of the following devices: keyboard, mouse, floppy drive, hard disk, peripherals connected to the serial and parallel ports, and video memory. If no activity is detected for a period of time (called an inactivity timeout), the computer stops some or all of these devices in order to conserve energy.

This computer employs a power management scheme that supports ACPI (Advanced Configuration and Power Interface) which allows for maximum power conservation and maximum performance at the same time. Windows handles all power-saving chores for your computer.

Advanced Configuration and Power Interface

Advanced Configuration and Power Interface (ACPI) is a power management specification jointly developed by Intel, Microsoft, and Toshiba. ACPI enables Windows to control the amount of power given to each device attached to the computer. With ACPI, Windows can turn off peripheral devices when they are not in use, thereby saving power.

Note: We recommend you enable power management to prolong your battery life.

Power management modes

Sleep mode (ACPI)

If ACPI is installed, all power management functions are handled by the Windows operating system.

Sleep mode may be one of three computer power-saving modes: Standby, Hibernation or power off.

To enter Sleep mode under ACPI:

- Press the Sleep hotkey **Fn-F4**
- Allow the idle times for devices and the computer determined by Windows 98 to elapse

How to exit Sleep mode depends upon which power-saving mode the computer is in.

Display standby mode

Screen activity is determined by the keyboard, the built-in touchpad, and an external PS/2 pointing device. If these devices are idle for the period specified by the LCD backlight Timeout value, the display shuts off until you press a key or move the touchpad or external mouse.

"Automatic dim" feature

The computer has a unique "automatic dim" power-saving feature. When the computer is using AC power and you disconnect the AC adapter from the computer, it automatically dims the LCD backlight to save power. If you reconnect AC power to the computer, it automatically adjusts the LCD backlight to a brighter level.

Hard disk standby mode

The hard disk enters standby mode when there are no disk read/write operations within the period of time determined by the power management system. In this state, the power supplied to the hard disk is reduced to a minimum. The hard disk returns to normal once the computer accesses it.

Standby mode

The computer consumes very low power in Standby mode. Data remains intact in the system memory until the battery is drained.

There are four ways to enter Standby mode:

- Pressing the Sleep hotkey **Fn-F4**
- If the waiting time specified by the Standby Timeout value or the operating system elapses without any system activity
- Closing the display cover
- When the computer is about to enter Hibernation mode (e.g., during a battery low condition), but the Hibernation file is invalid or not present

Note: If the computer does not enter Standby mode after pressing the Sleep hotkey, it means the operating system will not allow the computer to enter the power-saving mode.

The following signals indicate that the computer is in Standby mode:

- The buzzer beeps (when the hotkey is pressed to enter into Standby mode)
- The Standby indicator lights

Warning! Unstored data is lost when you turn off the computer power in Standby mode or when the battery is drained.

To leave Standby mode and return to normal mode:

- Press any key
- Have the Resume Timer set and let it be matched
- Open the display cover
- Experience an incoming PC card modem event

Hibernation mode

In Hibernation mode, all power shuts off (the computer does not consume any power). The computer saves all system information onto the hard disk before it enters Hibernation mode. Once you turn on the power, the computer restores this information and resumes right where you left off before entering Hibernation mode.

Before the computer can enter Hibernation mode, the Hibernation file created by Sleep Manager must be present and valid. See “Sleep Manager” on page 66.

Then, there are three ways to enter Hibernation mode:

- Pressing the Sleep hotkey **Fn-F4**
- If the waiting time specified by the Hibernation Timeout value elapses without any system activity
- Invoked by the operating system power-saving modes

Note: If the computer beeps but does not enter Hibernation mode after pressing the Hibernation hotkey, it means the operating system will not allow the computer to enter the power-saving mode.

To exit Hibernation mode, press the power switch. The computer also resumes from Hibernation mode if the Resume Timer is set and matched.

Warning! Do not change any devices (such as add memory) when the computer is in Hibernation mode.

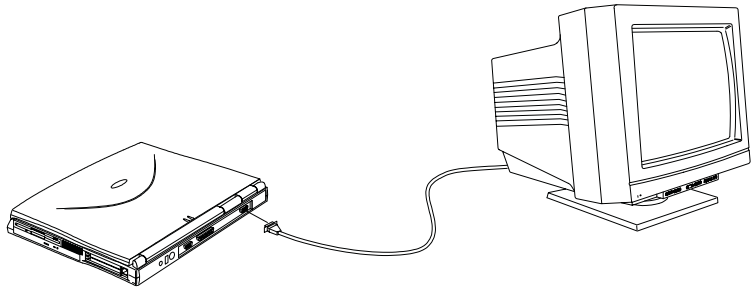
3 Peripherals and options

Your computer offers excellent expansion capabilities with its built-in ports and connectors. This chapter describes how to connect peripherals and hardware options that help you use your computer with ease. When connecting peripherals, read the manual included with the peripheral for operating instructions. You can purchase most of these and other options directly from Acer.

This chapter also includes sections on how to upgrade key components. Key component upgradeability helps keep your computer in step with the latest technology.

External monitor

To show graphical effects on a larger display, connect an external monitor to the CRT port. Read the monitor manual for additional instructions.



Note: If an external monitor is not connected, closing the display cover puts the computer into Standby mode.

Using simultaneous display

Your computer takes advantage of Windows 98 multi-display capability, allowing you to use your computer for presentation purposes. So whatever is displayed in your computer will likewise be displayed on the other output display.

To use simultaneous display, you can choose to connect other output display devices to the computer through the CRT port.

Enabling simultaneous display

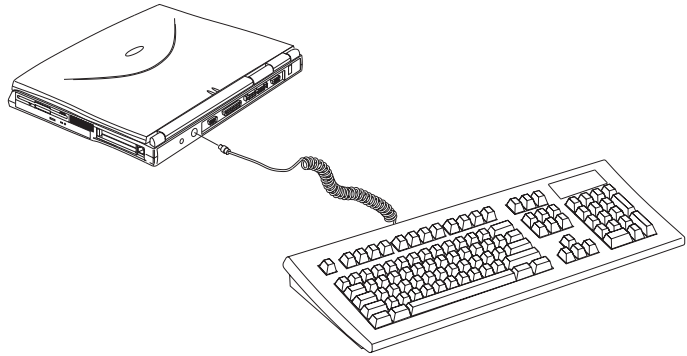
To enable and set simultaneous display options, follow these steps:

1. Click on **Start, Program**, then **Notebook Manager**.
2. Click on **Notebook Manager**.
3. Click on the **Display Device** tab.
4. Click on **Both** under the Boot Display Device.
5. Click on **Both** under the Switching Display Device.
6. Click on **OK**.

External keyboard

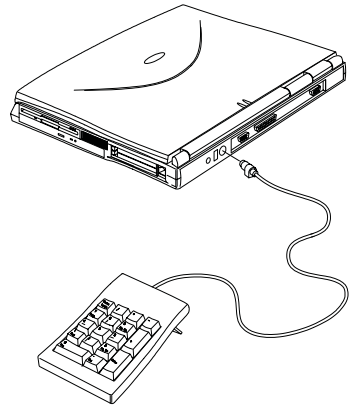
This computer has a keyboard with full-sized keys and an embedded keypad. If you feel more comfortable using a desktop keyboard, you can install a PS/2-compatible external keyboard.

To connect an external keyboard, plug the external keyboard into the PS/2 connector.



External keypad

You can also use a 17-key numeric keypad for number-sensitive, data-entry applications. To connect the keypad, plug the keypad connector into the PS/2 port.



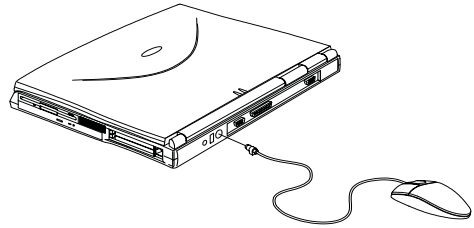
External pointing device

This computer accepts either a PS/2-compatible or serial mouse or similar pointing device.

Note: When using an external mouse, you may choose to disable the internal touchpad by pressing Fn-F7.

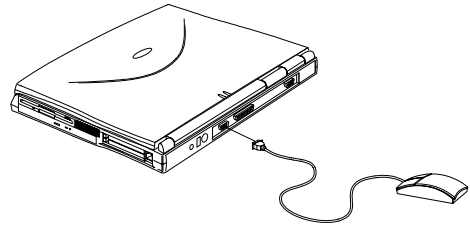
External PS/2 mouse

The built-in touchpad works alternately with an external PS/2 mouse which is hot-pluggable. To use a PS/2-compatible mouse, simply plug it into the PS/2 port.



External serial mouse

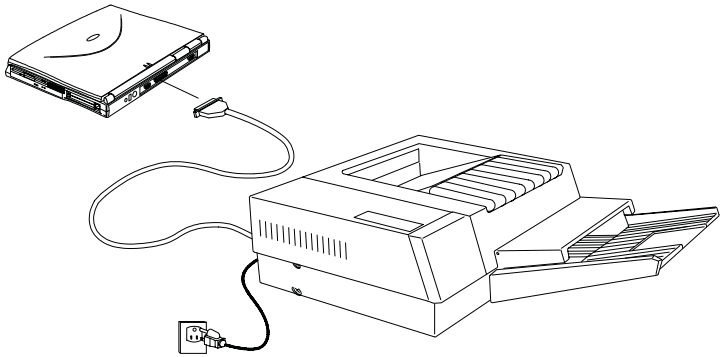
If you use a serial mouse, plug it into the serial port.



To enable the serial mouse, use the Add New Hardware tool in the Windows Control Panel.

Printer

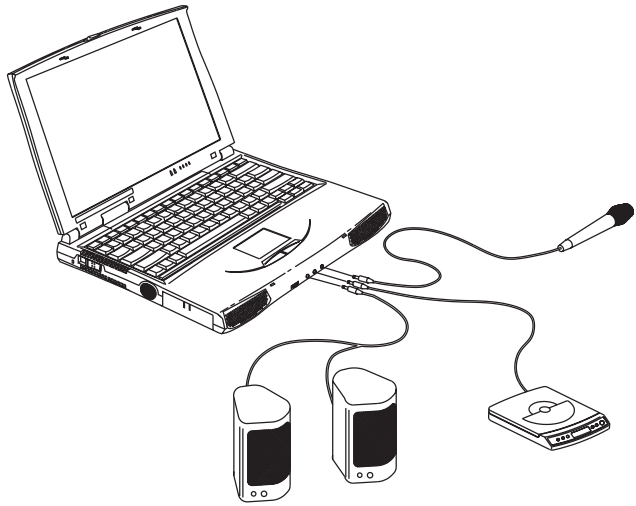
This computer supports both serial and parallel printers. For a serial printer, plug the printer cable into the serial port. For a parallel printer, plug the printer cable into the parallel port. See your printer manual for operating instructions.



Note: If the printer does not function, enter Setup and verify that the parallel port is enabled. See “Onboard Device Configuration” on page 84 for assistance.

Audio devices

Audio devices are easy to connect with the audio ports accessible from the front of the computer. You can plug an external microphone into the microphone-in jack or an audio line-in device into the audio line-in jack. Amplified speakers or headphones connect to the speaker/headphone-out jack.



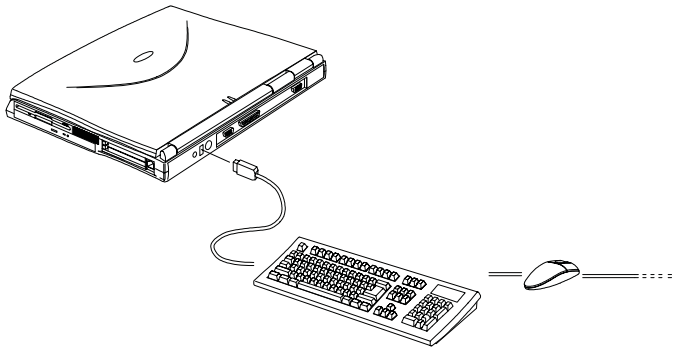
PC cards

The computer has one CardBus PC card slot that can accommodate one type II/I or one type III PC card. Please consult your dealer for PC card options available that you can purchase for your computer.

USB devices

The computer has a USB (Universal Serial Bus) port that allows you to connect peripherals without occupying too many resources. Common USB devices include the mouse and keyboard.

Most USB devices also include a built-in USB port connector which allows you to daisy-chain other USB devices.



Miscellaneous options

Additional power packs

You can order an AC adapter and spare batteries.

Battery pack

It is a good practice to have a spare battery around, especially when you travel. The NiMH battery, coupled with the power management features of your computer, supplies you with more power on-the-go.

AC adapter

The compact AC adapter charges your battery pack and supplies power to your computer. You can order a spare AC adapter so you do not need to carry it from the office to your home or destination.

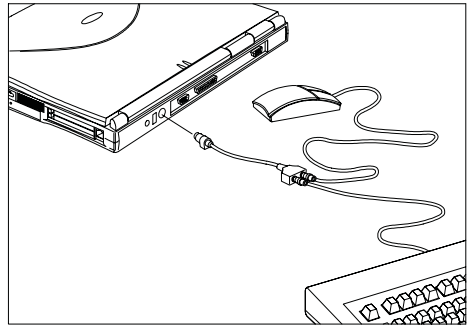
Cables

PS/2 Y-bridge cable

The PS/2 Y-bridge cable allows you to simultaneously connect two PS/2 devices, a mouse and a keyboard, to your computer.

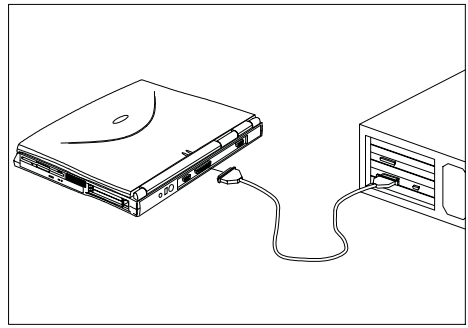
Note: The keyboard must be connected to the connector marked keyboard and the mouse must be connected to the connector marked mouse.

Connect the single connector end of the Y-bridge cable to the computer's PS/2 port and the double connector ends to the two PS/2 devices.



File transfer cable

Besides using the infrared port, you can also transfer files between computers using a file transfer cable. Connect the file transfer cable between the parallel ports of the two computers and use your file transfer utility to perform the transfer.



Key component upgrades

Your computer delivers superior power and performance. However, some users and the applications they use may demand more. This computer allows you to upgrade key components when you need increased performance.

Note: Contact your authorized dealer if you decide to perform a key component upgrade.

Memory upgrade

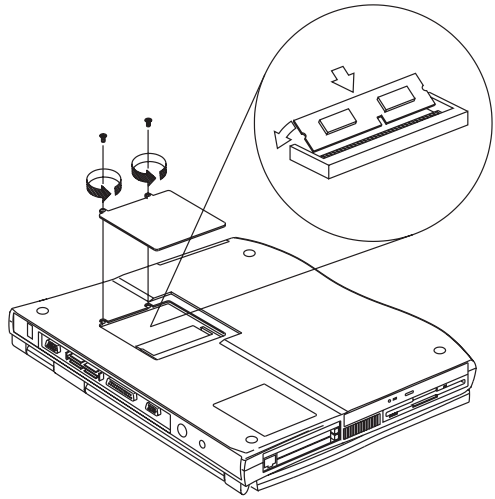
The notebook computer comes with either 32 MB or 64 MB onboard system memory with one DIMM socket for upgrade use. It supports 32-/64-/128 MB 64-bit/128-bit Synchronous Dynamic Random Access Memory (SDRAM) soDIMMs (Small Outline Dual Inline Memory Modules).

Installing memory

Follow these steps to install memory:

1. Turn off the computer, unplug the AC adapter (if connected) and remove the battery pack. Then turn the computer over to access its base.
2. Remove the screws from the memory door; then lift up and remove the memory door.
3. Insert the memory module diagonally into the slot, then gently press down until it clicks into place.

4. Replace the memory door and secure it with the screws.



The computer automatically detects and reconfigures the total memory size.

Hard disk upgrade

It is possible to upgrade your hard disk with a higher capacity drive when you need more storage space. The computer uses a 9.5mm 2.5-inch Enhanced-IDE hard disk. Please consult your dealer if you need to upgrade your hard disk.

4 Moving with your computer

This chapter gives you tips and hints on things to consider when moving around or traveling with your computer.

Disconnecting from the desktop

Follow these steps to disconnect your computer from external accessories:

1. Save your work in progress.
2. Shut down the operating system.
3. Turn off the computer.
4. Disconnect the cord from the AC adapter.
5. Disconnect the keyboard, pointing device, printer, external monitor, and other external devices.
6. Disconnect the Kensington lock if you are using one to secure the computer.

Moving around

when you are just moving within short distances, for example, from your office desk to a meeting room

Preparing the computer

Before moving the computer, close and latch the display cover to place it in Standby mode. You can now safely take the computer anywhere you go within the building.

To bring the computer out of Standby mode, open the display.

What to bring to short meetings

A fully charged battery runs the computer for 2-3 hours under most circumstances. If your meeting is shorter than that, you probably do not need to bring anything with you other than the computer.

What to bring to long meetings

If your meeting will last longer than 3 hours or if your battery is not fully charged, you may want to bring the AC adapter with you to plug in your computer in the meeting room.

If the meeting room does not have an electrical outlet, reduce the drain on the battery by putting the computer in standby mode. Press Fn-F3 or close the display cover whenever you are not actively using the computer. Then tap any key or open the display to resume.

Taking the computer home

when you are moving from your office to your home or vice versa

Preparing the computer

After disconnecting the computer from your desktop, follow these steps to prepare the computer for the trip home:

1. Remove all media from the drives. Failure to remove the media can damage the drive head.
2. Pack the computer in a protective case that can prevent the computer from sliding around and cushion it if it should fall.

Caution: Avoid packing items next to the top cover of the computer. Pressure against the top cover could damage the screen.

What to bring with you

Unless you already have some items at home, bring the following items with you:

- AC adapter and power cord
- The printed user's manual

Special considerations

Follow these guidelines to protect your computer while traveling to and from work:

- Minimize the effect of temperature changes by keeping the computer with you.
- If you need to stop for an extended period of time and cannot bring the computer with you, leave the computer in the trunk of the car to avoid exposing the computer to excessive heat.
- Changes in temperature and humidity can cause condensation. Allow the computer to return to room temperature, and inspect the screen for condensation before turning on the computer. If the temperature change is greater than 18°F (10°C), allow the computer to come to room temperature slowly. If possible, leave the computer for 30 minutes in an environment with a temperature between outside and room temperature.

Setting up a home office

If you frequently work on your computer at home, it may be worthwhile to purchase a second AC adapter for use at home. With a second AC adapter, you can avoid transporting the extra weight to and from home.

If you use your computer at home for significant periods of time, you might also want to add an external keyboard, monitor, or mouse.

Traveling with the computer

when you are moving within a larger distance, for instance, from your office building to a client's office building or traveling locally

Preparing the computer

Prepare the computer as if you were taking it home. Be sure the battery in the computer is charged. Airport security may require you to turn on your computer when bringing it into the gate area.

What to bring with you

Bring the following items with you:

- AC adapter
- Spare, fully charged battery packs
- Additional printer driver files if you plan to use another printer

Special considerations

In addition to the guidelines for taking the computer home, follow these guidelines to protect your computer while traveling:

- Always take the computer as carry-on luggage.
- If possible, have the computer inspected by hand. The computer can safely pass through security X-ray machines, but never expose the computer to a metal detector.
- Avoid exposing floppy disks to hand-held metal detectors.

Traveling internationally with the computer

when you are moving from country to country

Preparing the computer

Prepare the computer as you would normally prepare it for traveling.

What to bring with you

Bring the following items with you.

- AC adapter
- Power cords that are appropriate to the country to which you are traveling
- Spare, fully charged battery packs
- Additional printer driver files if you plan to use another printer
- Proof of purchase, in case you need to show it to customs officials
- International Traveler's Warranty passport

Special considerations

Follow the same special considerations as when traveling with the computer. In addition, these tips are useful when traveling internationally.

- When traveling in another country, check that the local AC voltage and the AC adapter power cord specifications are compatible. If not, purchase a power cord that is compatible with the local AC voltage (e.g., power rating). Do not use converter kits sold for appliances to power the computer.
- If you are using the modem, check if the modem and connector is compatible with the telecom system of the country you are traveling in.

5 **Software**

This chapter discusses the important system utilities bundled with your computer.

System software

The computer comes preloaded with the following software:

- Windows operating system
- DMI (Desktop Management Interface)-compliant hardware BIOS utility
- System utilities, drivers and application software

Note: To access Windows software applications, click on the Start button and select the application folder. Then click on the application icon to run the selected application. To learn about the software and utility, make use of the online help provided by the software.

Sleep Manager

Most notebook computers feature built-in power-saving functions. This computer has two power management modes, Standby and Hibernation.

While Standby puts your computer into a light sleep state, Hibernation shuts off all power after saving the current state of your computer. The next time you slide the power switch, the computer resumes from where you left off.

Sleep Manager allows your computer to perform these power-saving functions.

Note: See “Power management” on page 36 to understand how your computer saves and manages power.

Sleep Manager is a utility that works with your computer’s BIOS and Windows APM (Advanced Power Management) to manage the Hibernation operation. This includes:

- creating the Hibernation file which contains the current state of the computer
- checking if the Hibernation file is valid
- saving and loading the contents of the Hibernation file when entering into and resuming from Hibernation mode

The Hibernation file resides in a contiguous area on your hard disk.

Sleep Manager can automatically create, recover, and reallocate space for the Hibernation file. If the system memory size changes or the Hibernation file on the hard disk is corrupted, Sleep Manager reallocates the hard disk space for you automatically.

Accessing the Sleep Manager

There are two ways to bring up the Sleep Manager.

- On the taskbar

  The computer automatically loads Sleep Manager every time you start Windows. Sleep Manager resides in the background and the Sleep Manager status icon appears on the taskbar.

  Double-click on the Sleep Manager status icon ( ), if enabled, to bring up the main Sleep Manager program.

The Sleep Manager icon may or may not appear on the taskbar. A checkbox in the Sleep Manager main screen determines whether to enable or disable the icon on the taskbar.

This icon shows the current status of the Hibernation feature. The icon changes to tell you if the feature is valid or not. Resting your cursor on the icon also shows the status.

- Start menu

  (1) Click on the **Start** button.

  (2) Select **Programs**.

  (3) Select **Sleep Manager**.

  (4) Select the **Sleep Manager** program.

Sleep Manager displays the screen below:

Item	Description
Buttons	Click to access the Sleep Manager functions
Current Setting	Displays the drive and size of the current reserved space created by Sleep Manager.

Item	Description
On Board Information	Displays the different areas of system memory and their respective sizes. These system resources need to be stored before the computer can enter Hibernation mode, so that the computer can resume successfully. These resources include:· On Board Memory (DRAM or dynamic memory), Video RAM (VRAM or video memory), SMRAM (static memory), and Others.
Recommended Size	Displays the minimum size of the contiguous space you need for the Hibernation feature. The actual size may be a little bit more due to file system alignment.
Enable indicator in the taskbar	When this checkbox is checked, the Sleep Manager status appears on the taskbar. Double-click on the Sleep Manager status icon on the taskbar to bring up the main program, or simply rest your cursor on the icon to display the current status.

Sleep Manager functions

Create

Sleep Manager automatically finds a contiguous area on your hard disk and creates the Hibernation file in this space. You can also perform this function by clicking on the **Create** button. When you click on the **Create** button, a dialog box pops up:

Select **OK** to automatically create the Hibernation file. Sleep Manager displays the recommend size based on onboard system information. You can also choose **Advanced**>> to manually set the space settings and size. The advanced screen shown below appears.

Sleep Manager automatically checks the system configuration and displays the recommended size. The drive where the space will be created is defined by the system and will be the first available logical drive which has the requested contiguous free disk space on it. The recommended size is the minimum size needed to save the current system status.

If the program cannot find the required space on the hard disk during the space creation process, it shows a message box to inform the user.

Not enough space for allocation

This is an error message that may appear when Sleep Manager is creating the Hibernation file. There are several different reasons that may cause this error.

One reason is that the size of the free disk space on your hard disk is less than the required size. For example, if the onboard memory is 32MB and the video memory is 2MB, the total free disk space required will be around 34MB. If the total free disk space is less than this, the user has to free up space on his hard disk.

Another possible reason is that the hard disk has enough free space, but this free space exists as small fragments. The free disk space that Sleep Manager requires needs to be contiguous. To solve this problem, use tools such as Disk Defragmenter (Windows) to compact these free disk spaces. Then run Sleep Manager again to create the file.

One other factor that causes the error is when disk compression utilities are used. Sleep Manager can work with most compression software. However, Sleep Manager can only create the space on a host drive. A host drive stores original file information and cannot be compressed. The free space on the host drive is usually

very small, so the compression software needs to be run again to enlarge the size of the host (uncompressed) drive for Sleep Manager.

Remove

If you want to use or take back the reserved space, click on the **Remove** button. This will disable the Hibernation feature. Instead, the computer will only be able to enter Standby mode.

Minimize

Minimize Sleep Manager by selecting the **Minimize** button. If the Enable indicator in the taskbar box is checked, Sleep Manager will switch to the background by locating itself on the taskbar. You can pop up Sleep Manager again by double-clicking on this icon.

Exit

Exit Sleep Manager by selecting the **Exit** button. Sleep Manager will quit and disable the capability of auto-adjusting the reserved space size. Exiting Sleep Manager is **NOT** recommended.

Caution: Do not deactivate (remove or exit) or uninstall Sleep Manager. Do not remove or delete the Hibernation file. Hibernation will not work without Sleep Manager and the Hibernation file.

Notebook Manager

The computer has a built-in system setup program called Notebook Manager. The Windows-based Notebook Manager allows you to set passwords, the startup sequence of the drives and power management settings. It also shows current hardware configurations.

Note: Certain hotkey functions are disabled when you access Notebook Manager because those functions are also found in the Notebook Manager.

To start the Notebook Manager, press **Fn-F2** or follow these steps:

1. Click on **Start**, **Programs**, then **Notebook Manager**.
2. Select the **Notebook Manager** application to run the program.

Note: Changes made to most settings in the Notebook Manager take effect the next time the computer restarts. If you make changes in the Power Management and Display Device screens, these changes take effect immediately.

Notebook Manager consists of six sections:

- Information Viewer
- POST
- Boot Sequence
- Password
- Power Management (Option displayed on the Windows 98 ACPI setup screen)
- Display Device

To select a section, click on the tab of the section you want to view.

Information viewer

Information Viewer summarizes and lists information about the specifications and settings of the different components of your computer.

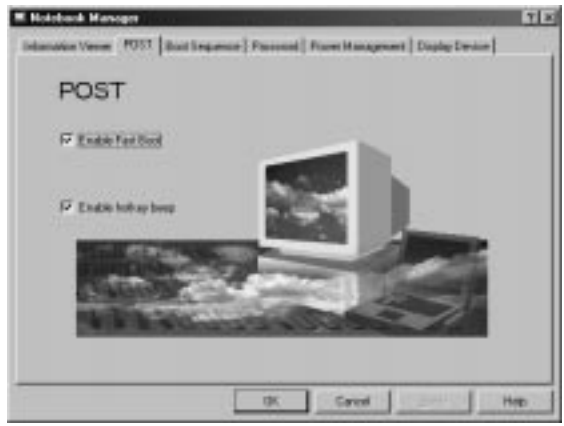
Note: Items in this table may differ slightly from those on the screen.

Item	Description
CPU	Brand, type and clock speed of the CPU (Central Processing Unit)
Total Memory	Total amount of main memory (in megabytes)
Video RAM	Total amount of video memory (in megabytes)
Hard Disk	Size of hard disk (in megabytes)
CD-ROM or DVD-ROM	Detects presence of the CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drive
Serial port	Resource settings of the serial port
Parallel port	Resource settings of the parallel port
Internal Cache	Detects presence and total amount of internal cache memory (in kilobytes)

Item	Description
External Cache	Detects presence and total amount of external cache memory (in kilobytes)
TouchPad	Detects the presence and setting of the internal pointing device
Pointing Device	Type(s) of the pointing device(s) detected, internal and external

POST

POST defines how the computer behaves during the power-on self-test routines.



This screen includes the following settings:

- Enable Fast Boot. Select to hide POST startup messages, instead displaying the TravelMate computer logo.
- Enable hotkey beep. Select to enable the computer to emit a beep when a hotkey (or key combination) is pressed.

Boot Sequence

Boot Sequence defines the boot sequence to follow when your computer boots up.

This screen allows you to use Drag and Drop to Change the Order to set the boot sequence of your computer. Options include:

- Floppy Drive. The computer searches for a bootable diskette in the floppy drive. If no bootable diskette is found, the computer boots from the hard disk.
- CD-ROM/DVD-ROM Drive. The computer searches for a bootable CD-ROM in the CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drive and boots from there. If no bootable CD is present, the computer boots from the hard disk.
- IDE Hard Drive. The computer boots directly from the hard drive.

Make your selection and click on **Apply** to activate the setting.

Password

Password is used to set, modify or delete the password(s) for your computer.

There are two passwords used in the system:

- Power-On Password. The Power-On Password prevents unauthorized access to the computer during system startup and at resume from Standby/ Hibernation modes or an elapsed system resume timer.
- Setup Password. The Setup Password prevents unauthorized access to the computer's BIOS Utility.

Setting the Power-On Password

To set the Power-On Password, follow these steps:

1. Click on the Change Power-On Password button. The following dialog box displays:

2. Click on the Enable Power-On Password checkbox.

3. Click in the New Password textbox and type in up to seven alphanumeric characters (A-Z, a-z, 0-9) which you want to be your Power-On Password.
4. Click in the Confirm Password textbox and retype the password.
5. Click on **OK** to accept the setting.

Note: To change a password, follow the same steps used to set a password. To remove a password, follow the same steps used to set a password but leave both fields blank.

Setting the Setup Password

To set the Setup Password, follow these steps:

1. Click on the Change Setup Password button to display the following dialog box:

2. Click on the Enable Setup Password checkbox.
3. Click in the New Password textbox and type in up to seven alphanumeric characters (A-Z, a-z, 0-9) which you want to be your Setup Password.
4. Click in the Confirm Password textbox and retype the password.
5. Click on **OK** to accept the setting.

Note: To change a password, follow the same steps used to set a password. To remove a password, follow the same steps used to set a password but leave both fields blank.

Power Management

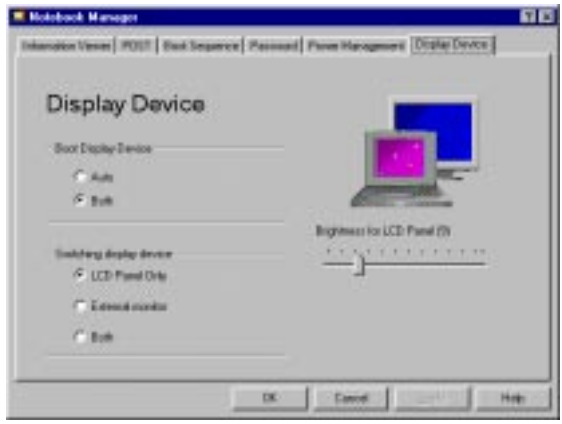
Power Management is used to set various settings related to power management.

Click on the "**Advanced**" button to access the advanced Power Management Properties options.

The Advanced options in Power Management Properties enable you to assign a function to the Lid switch, power button, and sleep hotkey (Fn+F4). The options available for the Lid switch are: No Action, Standby, Hibernate and Shutdown, while the options available for the hotkey and power button are: Standby, Hibernate and Shutdown.

Display Device

Display Device is used to control various settings related to the display device(s), such as the display brightness/contrast levels.



The items in this screen include:

- Boot Display Device. Sets the default display device on boot-up.
- Switching display device. Sets the current display device.

Note: Make sure an external monitor is connected before External monitor is selected.

- Brightness for LCD Panel. Click and drag to set the LCD screen brightness and contrast levels

Note: TFT active-matrix LCDs have fixed and optimized contrast levels.

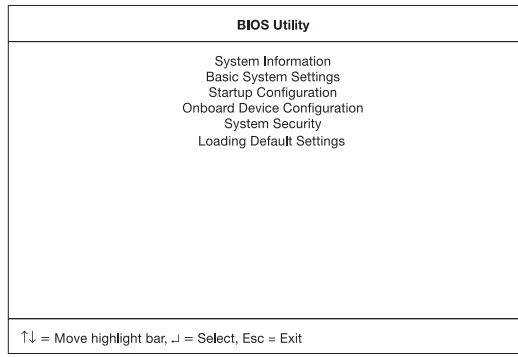
Click on the radio button of the desired item, then click on **Apply** to activate the setting. To modify the brightness and/or contrast levels, click and hold the slider control and move to the right to increase or move to the left to decrease the setting. You can also click on the item and use the cursor keys to set the desired level.

BIOS Utility

The BIOS Utility is a hardware configuration program built into your computer's BIOS (basic input/ouput system).

Your computer is already properly configured and optimized, and you do not need to run this utility. However, if you encounter configuration problems, you may need to run it. Please also refer to Chapter 6, Troubleshooting when a problem arises.

To activate the BIOS Utility, press **F2** during POST while the TravelMate logo is being displayed.



Navigating the BIOS Utility

There are six menu options: System Information, Basic System Settings, Startup Configuration, Onboard Device Configuration, System Security and Load Default Settings.

To enter a menu, highlight the item using the ↑↓ keys; then press **Enter**.

Within a menu, navigate through the BIOS Utility by following these instructions:

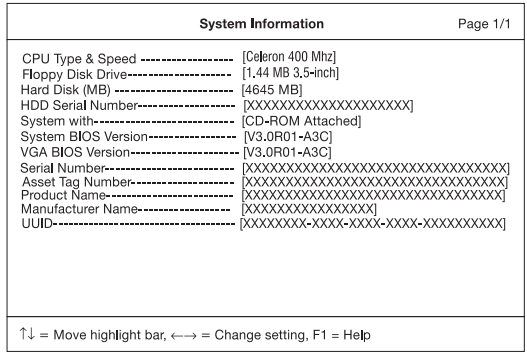
- Press the cursor up/down keys (↑↓) to move between parameters.
- Press the cursor left/right keys (→←) to change the value of a parameter.
- Press **Esc** while you are in any of the menu options to return to the main menu

Note: You can change the value of a parameter if it is enclosed in square brackets.

Note: Navigation keys for a particular menu are shown on the bottom of the screen.

System Information

The System Information screen displays a summary of your computer hardware information.



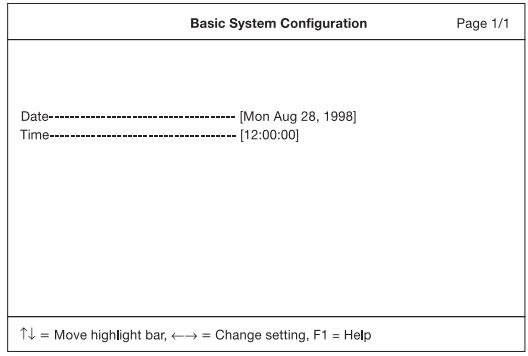
The table below describes the parameters in this screen.

Parameter	Description
CPU	Describes the type of CPU installed in the system.
Floppy Disk Drive	Shows the floppy disk drive type (1.44MB 3.5-inch).
Hard Disk (MB)	Sets the hard disk type.
HDD Serial Number	Shows the hard disk drive serial number.
System with	Shows the high-capacity disc drive installed.
System BIOS Version	Shows the system BIOS version.
VGA BIOS Version	Shows the video graphics accelerator BIOS version.
Serial Number	Shows the serial number of the system.

Parameter	Description
Asset Tag Number	Shows the asset tag number.
Product Name	Shows the official name of the product.
Manufacturer Name	Shows the name of the manufacturer.
UUID	Shows the universally unique identifier number.

Basic System Configuration

The Basic System Configuration screen contains parameters involving basic computer settings like date and time.

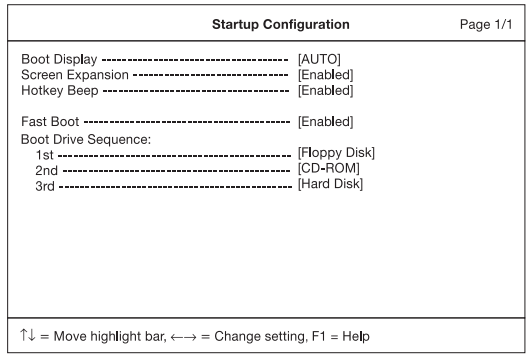


The table below describes the parameters in the screen.

Parameter	Description
Date	Sets the system date. Format: DDD MMM DD YYYY (day-of-the-week month day year)
Time	Sets the system time. Format: HH:MM:SS (hour:minute:second)

Startup Configuration

The Startup Configuration screen contains parameters that are related to computer startup.



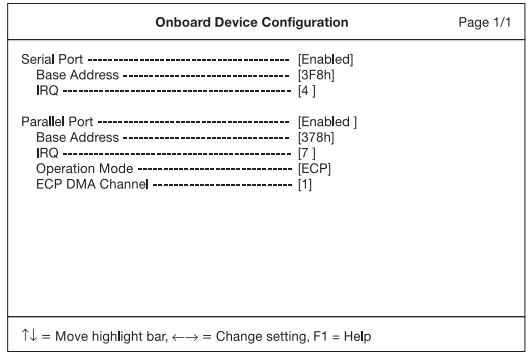
The table below describes the parameters in this screen. Settings in boldface are the default and suggested parameter settings.

Parameter	Description
Boot Display	Sets the display on boot-up. When set to Auto, the computer automatically determines the display device. If an external display device (e.g., monitor) is connected, it becomes the boot display; otherwise, the computer LCD is the boot display. When set to Both, the computer outputs to both the computer LCD and an external display device if one is connected. Options: **Auto** or Both
Screen Expansion	When set to enabled, the screen will automatically adjust the display to fit the screen when the resolution is set 640 X 480. Options: **Enabled** or Disabled
Hotkey Beep	When enabled, the computer gives off a beep when a hotkey (key combination) is pressed. See “Hotkeys” on page 12 for details on hotkeys. Options: **Enabled** or Disabled
Fast Boot	Allows you to define your system’s booting process, whether to skip some POST routines or proceed with the normal booting process. Options: **Enabled** or Disabled

Parameter	Description
Boot Drive Sequence	Allows you to set the sequence wherein the computer will boot 1st, 2nd, and so on. Below are possible boot devices.
Boot from CD-ROM	Enables boot-up from the CD-ROM drive, if selected as the first option. The computer attempts to boot from the CD-ROM drive (looks for a bootable CD-ROM) before following the boot sequence specified in the Boot Drive Sequence.
Floppy	Enables boot-up from the floppy disk drive, if selected as the first option. The computer attempts to boot from the floppy disk drive (look for a bootable floppy) before following the boot sequence specified in the Boot Drive Sequence.
Hard Disk	Enables boot-up from the hard disk drive.

Onboard Device Configuration

The Onboard Device Configuration screen contains parameter settings for your hardware connection devices.



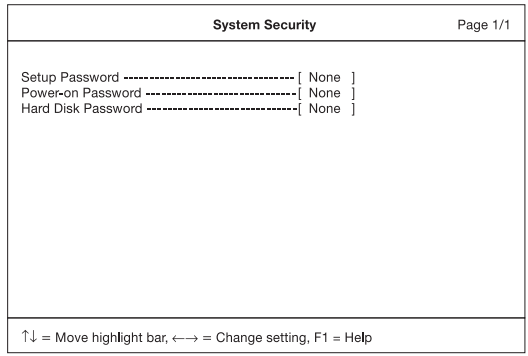
Caution: The parameters in this screen are for advanced users only. You do not need to change the values in this screen because these values are already optimized.

The table below describes the parameters in this screen. Settings in boldface are the default and suggested parameter settings.

Parameter	Description
Serial Port	Enables or disables the serial port. Options: **Enabled** or Disabled
Base Address	Sets the I/O address of the serial port. Options: **3F8h**, 2F8h, 3E8h or 2E8h
IRQ	Sets the interrupt request of the serial port. Options: **4** or 11
Parallel Port	Enables or disables the parallel port. Options: **Enabled** or Disabled
Base Address	Sets the I/O address of the parallel port. Options: **378h**, 278h or 3BCh
IRQ	Sets the interrupt request of the parallel port. Options: **7** or 5
Operation Mode	Sets the operation mode of the parallel port. Options: **ECP**, EPP, Bidirectional or Standard
ECP DMA Channel	Sets a DMA channel for the printer to operate in ECP mode. This parameter is enabled only if Operation Mode is set to ECP. Options: **1** or 3

System Security

The System Security screen contains parameters that help safeguard and protect your computer from unauthorized use.



The table below describes the parameters in this screen. Settings in boldface are the default and suggested parameter settings.

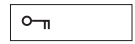
Parameter	Description
Setup Password	When set, this password protects the BIOS Utility from unauthorized entry. Options: **None** or Present
Power-on Password	When set, this password protects the computer from unauthorized entry during boot-up or resume from Hibernation mode. Options: **None** or Present
Hard Disk Password	When set, this password prevents the internal hard disk from unauthorized access. It consists of 8 alphanumeric characters. Options: **None** or Present

Note: Don't forget your password, if you forget your password, you may have to return your notebook computer to your dealer to reset it.

Setting a password

Follow these steps:

1. Use the ↑ and ↓ keys to highlight a password parameter (Setup, Power-on, or Hard Disk) and press the **Enter** key. The password box appears:



2. Type a password. The password may consist of up to eight alphanumeric characters (A-Z, a-z, 0-9).

Important: Be very careful when typing your password because the characters do not appear on the screen.

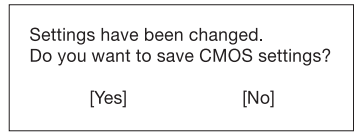
3. Press **Enter**. The retype password box appears.

4. Retype the password to verify your first entry and press **Enter**.

   After setting the password, the computer automatically sets the chosen password parameter to Present.

5. Press **Esc** to return to the main menu.

6. Press **Esc**. The following dialog box appears.



7. Select **Yes** and press **Enter** to save the password and exit the BIOS Utility.

Changing a password

To change a password, follow the same steps used to set a password.

Removing a password

To remove a password, use the ↑ and ↓ keys to highlight a password parameter and press the “Enter” key as the first character.

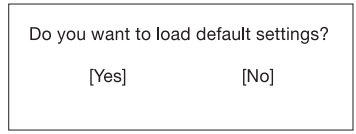
Password icons

Below are the password icons and their descriptions:

Parameters	Description
Power-on Password icon	When set to present, prompts the user to input the correct password for the system to continue. It is shown after the TravelMate logo.
Hard Disk Password icon	When set to present, prompts the user to input the correct password for the hard disk to operate. It is shown after the Power-on Password Icon.
Password character icon	When typing the characters of the password, the screen displays this icon for each character instead of the actual password character.
Wrong password icon	If the wrong password is entered, this icon will be displayed beside the wrong password.
Successful password entry icon	If the password is correctly entered, this icon will be displayed beside the correctly entered password.
Password failure icon	The system allows the user 3 chances to type the correct password. After the password has been incorrectly entered 3 times, this icon will be displayed together with a short message stating “system shut-down”. The user then has to reboot the system to try to type the correct password again.

Load Default Settings

When you select this menu item, the following dialog box displays:



To load factory-default settings for all the parameters, select **Yes** and press **Enter**. Otherwise, select **No** and press **Enter**.

6 Troubleshooting

This chapter instructs you on how to deal with common system problems. Read it before calling a technician if a problem occurs. Solutions to more serious problems require opening up the computer. Do not attempt to open the computer by yourself. Contact your dealer or an authorized service center for assistance.

Frequently-asked questions

This is a list of possible situations that may arise during the use of your computer, and it gives easy answers and solutions to these questions.

I slid the power switch and opened the display, but the computer does not start or boot-up.

Look at the Power indicator:

- If it is not lit, no power is being applied to the computer. Check the following:
  - If you are running on battery power, it may be low and unable to power the computer. Connect the AC adapter to recharge the battery pack.
  - Make sure the AC adapter is plugged in properly to the computer and to the power outlet.
- If it is lit, check the following:
  - If the Standby indicator is lit, the computer is in Standby mode. Press any key or tap on the touchpad to resume.
  - Is a non-bootable (non-system) diskette in the floppy drive? Remove or replace it with a system diskette and press Ctrl-Alt-Del to restart the system.

The operating system files may be damaged or missing. Insert the startup disk you created during Windows setup into the floppy drive and press Ctrl-Alt-Del to restart the system. This will diagnose your system and make necessary fixes.

Nothing appears on the screen.

The computer's power management system automatically blanks the screen to save power. Press any key to turn the display back on.

If pressing a key does not turn the display back on, two things might be the cause:

- The contrast and/or brightness level might be too low. Press Fn-↑ and Fn-↓ to adjust the contrast level (only for models with HPA LCDs). Press Fn-← and Fn-→ to adjust the brightness level.
- The display device might be set to an external monitor. Press the display toggle hot key Fn-F6 to toggle the display back to the computer.

Image is not full-screen.

Make sure the resolution is set to 800x600. Right-click on your Windows desktop and select Properties to bring up the Display Properties dialog box. Then click on the Settings tab to make sure the resolution is set to the appropriate resolution. Resolutions lower than the specified resolution are not full-screen on the computer or on an external monitor.

No audio from the computer.

Check the following:

- The volume may be muted. In Windows, look at the volume control icon on the taskbar. If it is crossed-out, click on the icon and deselect the Mute option.
- The speakers may be turned off. Press Fn-F8 to turn the speakers on (this hotkey also turns the speakers off).
- The volume level may be too low. In Windows, look at the volume control icon on the taskbar. Click on the icon and adjust the level. You can also use the volume control knob on the front panel of the computer to adjust the volume.

If headphones, earphones or external speakers are connected to the line-out port on the computer's front panel, the internal speakers automatically turn off.

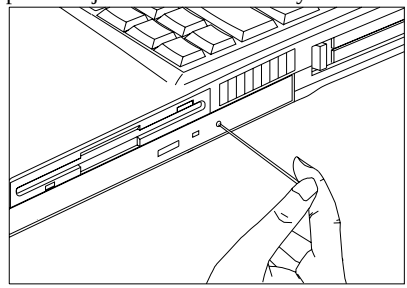
External microphone or audio line-in device does not work.

Check the following:

- Make sure the external microphone is connected to the microphone-in jack and/or the audio line-in device is connected to the audio line-in jack on the computer's front panel.
- If you cannot hear playback, the speakers may be muted.

How do I eject the CD-ROM tray with the computer turned off?

There is a mechanical eject button on the CD-ROM drive. Simply insert the tip of a pen or paperclip and push to eject the CD-ROM tray.



The keyboard does not respond.

Try attaching an external keyboard to the PS/2 connector on the computer's rear. If it works, contact your dealer or an authorized service center as the internal keyboard cable may be loose.

The serial mouse does not work.

Check the following:

- Make sure that the serial cable is plugged securely into the serial port.
- During POST, press **F2** to access the Setup Utility. Go to the Onboard Device Configuration screen and verify that the serial port is enabled. see "Onboard Device Configuration" on page 83 for details.

I prefer using an external keyboard and mouse, but both have PS/2 connectors and there is only one PS/2 port on the computer.

To connect two PS/2-type devices to the computer, you need to use a PS/2 Y-bridge connector. see "PS/2 Y-bridge cable" on page 51 for details.

The printer does not work.

Check the following:

- Make sure that the printer is connected to a power outlet and it is turned on.
- Make sure the printer cable is connected securely to the computer's parallel port and the corresponding port on the printer.
- During POST, press **F2** to access the Setup Utility. Go to the Onboard Device

Configuration screen and verify that the parallel port is enabled. see “Onboard Device Configuration” on page 83 for details.

I want to set up my location to use the internal modem.

To properly use your communications software (e.g., HyperTerminal), you need to set up your location:

1. Open the Windows Control Panel and double-click on the Modems icon.
2. Click on Dialing Properties and begin setting up your location.

Refer to the Windows manual.

Why can’t I charge my battery to 100% charged when it is 99-95% charged?

To preserve the life of the battery, the system only lets you charge the battery when its capacity falls below 95%. However, it is recommended that you bring an extra battery and let the battery in the system use up its power before charging it.

Error messages

If you receive an error message, note the message and take the corrective action. The following table lists the error messages in alphabetical order together with the recommended course of action.

Error Messages	Corrective Action
CMOS Battery Bad	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
CMOS Checksum Error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Disk Boot Failure	Insert a system (bootable) diskette in the floppy drive (A:), then press **Enter** to reboot.
Diskette Drive Controller Error or No Controller Present	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Diskette Drive Error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Diskette Drive Type Mismatch	Press **F2** (during POST) to enter the Setup Utility; then press **Esc** to exit and reconfigure the computer.
Equipment Configuration Error	Press **F2** (during POST) to enter the Setup Utility; then press **Esc** to exit and reconfigure the computer.
Hard Disk 0 Error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Hard Disk 0 Extended Type Error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
I/O Parity Error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Insert system diskette and press <Enter> key to reboot	Insert a system (bootable) diskette in the floppy drive (A:), then press **Enter** to reboot.
Keyboard Error or No Keyboard Connected	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Keyboard Interface Error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Memory Size Mismatch	Press **F2** (during POST) to enter the Setup Utility; then press **Esc** to exit and reconfigure the computer.

Error Messages	Corrective Action
Missing operating system	Follow these steps: 1. Press **F2** (during POST) to enter the Setup Utility. 2. Exit the Setup Utility (saving the changes).
Non-system disk or disk error. Replace and strike any key when ready	Insert a system (bootable) diskette in the floppy drive (A:), then press **Enter** to reboot.
Pointing Device Error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Pointing Device Interface Error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Protected Mode Test Fail	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
RAM BIOS Bad	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
RAM Parity Error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Real-Time Clock Error	Press F2 (during POST) to reconfigure the computer.
Video RAM BIOS Bad	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.

If you still encounter problems after going through the corrective measures, please contact your dealer or an authorized service center for assistance. Some problems may be solved using the BIOS Setup Utility. see “BIOS Utility” on page 79.

Troubleshooting tips

The TravelMate 505 series notebook computer incorporates an advanced design that delivers onscreen error message reports to help you solve problems. In addition, this series of notebook computers ship with PC-Doctor, a powerful diagnostic tool, that helps you determine hardware configuration and clarify hardware or software problems.

- If the system reports an error message or an error symptom occurs, see “Error messages” on page 95.
- If you suspect the system has a problem, run PC-Doctor to diagnose it. See the following section.

Using PC-Doctor

Before running the program, take note of the following actions you may need to take:

1. Disconnect any external devices (PC card, external mouse, etc.).
2. Open System Properties to make sure that the components you diagnose are enabled.

   To open the properties window for the system, click on **Start**, **Settings**, **Control Panel**, then double-click on **System**.
3. Close all application programs (i.e., fax or communication programs) if you plan to diagnose the modem.

To run PC-Doctor, simply double-click on the **PC-Doctor** icon located on the Windows desktop. You can also access PC-Doctor by clicking on **Start**, **Programs**, **PC-Doctor**, then click on the **PC-Doctor** program.

If PC-Doctor does not report a system error, reinstall the software driver from the Recovery CD for the component you suspect has a problem. If you still have problems, you can access our online and Internet technical support services. Please see the following section for details.

Online services

There are three ways to access Acer for technical support and information:

- Internet service worldwide, visit (www.acer.com)
- Online service in the United States and Canada, call 1-800-816-2237
- Technical support numbers in various countries

You can view a list of technical support numbers by clicking on **Start**, **Settings**, **Control Panel**, then double-click on **System**. Click on the **Support Information** button.

Before you call

Please have the following information available when you call Acer for online service, and please be at your computer when you call. With your support, we can reduce the amount of time a call takes and help solve your problems efficiently.

1. If there are error messages or beeps reported by your computer, write them down as they appear on the screen (or the number and sequence in the case of beeps).
2. If you are able to run the PC-Doctor diagnostic tests, locate the log file by selecting **Windows**, **Test Log** in the PC-Doctor menu bar.
3. If you haven't registered your notebook computer, you will be required to register during your first call to Acer. You are required to provide the following information:

Name:_____

Address:_____

_____

Telephone number:_____

Machine and model type:_____

Serial number: _____

Date of purchase: _____

A **Specifications**

This appendix lists the general specifications of your computer.

Microprocessor

- Intel Celeron™ processor with 128 KB level 2 cache

Memory

- 32 MB main memory expandable to 160 MB or 64 MB expandable up to 192 MB
- Single 144-pin soDIMM socket SDRAM (Synchronous Dynamic Random Access Memory)
- 256 KB Flash ROM BIOS

Data storage

- One 3.5-inch internal floppy drive
- One high-capacity, Enhanced-IDE hard disk
- One 5.25-inch internal CD-ROM drive

Display and video

- 12.1-inch, fast-response, high-contrast, high-color, High Performance Addressing (HPA) LCD or 12.1-inch, high-color ,Thin Film Transistor (TFT) LCD
- 800x600 SVGA resolution
- Integrated 128-bit PCI graphics accelerator and 2 MB video memory
- Simultaneous LCD and CRT display

Audio

- 16-bit stereo audio
- 3-dimensional sound with built-in wavetable synthesizer
- Dual speakers
- Sound Blaster Pro- and Windows Sound System-compatible
- Separate audio ports for line-out, line-in and microphone-in devices

Keyboard and pointing device

- 84-/85-/88-key Windows keyboard
- Ergonomically-centered touchpad pointing device

I/O ports

- one type II/I or one type III CardBus socket
- One RJ-11 phone jack
- One DC-in jack (AC adapter)
- One RS-232 serial port (UART16550-compatible)
- One parallel port (ECP/EPP compliant)
- One external monitor port (DDC 2.0-compliant)
- One keyboard/mouse port (PS/2-compatible)
- One speaker/headphone-out jack
- One audio line-in jack
- One microphone-in jack
- One USB port

Weight and dimensions

- 2.67 kg (5.9 lbs)
- 306 x 228 x 46 mm (12 x 10.12 x 1.81 in)

Temperature

- Operating: 10°C ~ 35°C
- Non-operating: -20°C ~ 60°C

Humidity (non-condensing)

- Operating: 20% ~ 80% RH
- Non-operating: 20% ~ 80% RH

System

- Windows 98
- Mobile PC99-compliant

Battery pack

- 33.6-WattHour NiMH battery pack
- 2-hour rapid charge/4-hour charge-in-use

AC adapter

- 60-Watt
- Auto sensing 100~240Vac, 50~60Hz

Options

- 32-/64-/128-MB 64-/128-bit SDRAM memory upgrade module
- PS/2 Y-cable
- Additional AC adapter and battery pack
- Numeric keypad
- File transfer cable
- In-Air/Auto Adapter

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