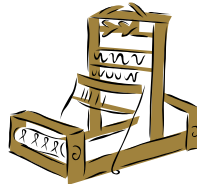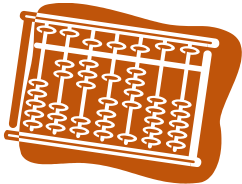# The History of Computers

1. Open Microsoft PowerPoint (Start button, All Programs, Microsoft Office, Microsoft Office PowerPoint 2007).

2. Using the information on the pages below as your guide, create a slide presentation in MS PowerPoint.

3. Save the slide show to your directory and name it, *The History of Computers*.

4. You may use the Internet for any pictures, graphics, and additional information needed for your slides.

The History of Computers

- **Abacus**
  1. Used for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

- **John Napier**
  1. Napier's bones (similar to a <u>slide rule</u>).
  2. Invented logarithms and decimal point.

- **First mechanical calculator**
  1. Pascal
  2. Leibnitz improved.

- **Computer** – not one step, but a series of inventions that led to one.
  1. Jacquard – cards to "program" looms for weaving – led to <u>punch cards</u>.
  2. Babbage
     - Difference Engine
     - Analytical Engine
       1. Input
       2. Storage
       3. Processing
       4. Output
       5. Could not be built because the tools to make the tools didn't exist (55,000 parts).

- **MARK I (Howard Aiken)**
  1. Used electromechanical relays (switches).
  2. 51 x 8 dimensions.
  3. 3000 connections.
  4. 450 miles of wire.

- **COLOSSUS**
  1. Used by British during WWII to crack German codes.
  2. Idea of using electricity led to an interesting thought – how does one harness it – have a series of varying voltages to represent numbers, or to use on/off states?

- **Atanasoff-Berry Computer**
  1. First all electrical "digital" computer.
  2. Not ever finished.

- **ENIAC (Eckert)**
  1. Weighted 30 tons.
  2. Used an entire floor.
  3. Dimmed the lights of the East side of Philadelphia.
  4. 18,000 vacuum <u>tubes</u> – one burned out every 5 minutes.

- **EDVAC**
  1. Von Neuman designed.
  2. First one to store a program (instead of enter with just switches).

- **UNIVAC**
  1. First commercial computer.

- **Tabulating Machine Company (Hollerith)**
  1. Won contest to tabulate 1890 census.
  2. Company eventually became IBM.

- **The integrated circuit led to the personal calculator and eventually to…**

- **The personal computer**
  1. Altair
  2. Apple I
  3. Apple II
  4. TRS-80
  5. IBM PC