

CompTIA IT Fundamentals+ (FC0-U61) Prep

CompTIA IT Fundamentals+ FC0-U61. Hardware, security, and troubleshooting basics with exam practice.

IT Certifications Instructor: Brian Mitchell • 5 sections • 46 lessons • 14.75h total

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About this course

Preparing for the CompTIA IT Fundamentals+ (FC0-U61) certification can feel overwhelming with so many topics from hardware basics to security principles. This course provides a structured, practical path to help you understand the core concepts.

You will learn how to identify and explain core IT concepts, troubleshoot common issues, and understand security practices through step-by-step guides, real case study analysis, and downloadable study checklists. The course includes practical problem-solving sessions that mirror the format of the actual exam.

Course curriculum

Foundations: Understanding the Exam and Core Concepts

- **How the FC0-U61 Exam Is Structured (12m)**
Learn the exam domains, question formats, and scoring so you know exactly what to expect on test day.
- **Defining Your Study Plan for Success (18m)**
Create a realistic, week-by-week study schedule using a downloadable template to track your progress.
- **How Computing Systems Work (15m)**
Understand the fundamental components of a computer system and how they work together.
- **Data and Its Role in IT (11m)**
Explore how data is created, stored, and used, covering basic binary and file concepts.
- **Defining Software: OS and Applications (22m)**
Learn the difference between operating systems and application software and their key functions.
- **The Fundamentals of Networking (25m)**
A practical guide to how networks connect devices and the basic protocols that make it happen.
- **Introduction to Security Best Practices (19m)**
Get a clear overview of the core security concepts you need to know for the exam.
- **Understanding Software Development Basics (14m)**
A beginner-friendly look at programming languages, methodologies, and the software development lifecycle.

Core Concepts: Hardware, Software, and Data

- **Identifying Internal PC Components (28m)**
A visual breakdown of the motherboard, CPU, RAM, and storage, and how to identify them.
- **Connecting Peripherals and External Devices (16m)**
Step-by-step guide to setting up monitors, printers, and other common peripherals.
- **How Operating Systems Manage Resources (23m)**
Learn what happens behind the scenes as your OS manages files, memory, and processes.
- **Troubleshooting Common Software Issues (32m)**
A practical problem-solving session on fixing application crashes and OS errors.
- **Working with File Systems and Storage (17m)**
Understand different file formats, storage types, and how to manage your data effectively.
- **Database Fundamentals for Beginners (13m)**
Learn what a database is and how it's used in everyday business applications.
- **Real Case Study: Diagnosing a Slow PC (26m)**
Analyze a real-world scenario to practice identifying hardware vs. software bottlenecks.
- **Mid-Point Review: Key Concepts Check (9m)**
A quick quiz and review session to reinforce the most important hardware and software concepts.

- **Understanding Cloud and Virtualization (21m)**
A straightforward explanation of cloud computing and virtual machines for IT newcomers.

Deep Dive: Networking and Security Fundamentals

- **How IP Addresses and DNS Work (24m)**
Demystify IP addresses, subnets, and the Domain Name System with clear analogies.
- **Setting Up a Basic Home Network (19m)**
A practical guide to routers, modems, and Wi-Fi configuration.
- **Troubleshooting Network Connectivity (27m)**
Learn the essential commands and steps to diagnose and fix network problems.
- **Identifying Security Threats and Vulnerabilities (20m)**
A real-world look at malware, phishing, and other common security risks.
- **Applying Protective Security Measures (22m)**
Learn how to use firewalls, antivirus, and strong passwords to secure devices.
- **Data Protection and Privacy Principles (15m)**
Understand the basics of data backups, encryption, and user privacy.
- **Real Case Study: Responding to a Phishing Email (12m)**
Walk through a step-by-step analysis of a suspicious email and the correct actions to take.

Advanced Application: Troubleshooting and Best Practices

- **The Systematic Troubleshooting Process (18m)**
Learn a proven, step-by-step method for diagnosing and solving any IT issue.
- **Help Desk Best Practices (14m)**
Learn the soft skills and procedures for providing excellent user support.
- **Configuring a Secure Workstation (25m)**
A practical guide to setting up user accounts, permissions, and security policies.
- **Scripting Basics for Automation (31m)**
Discover how simple scripts can automate repetitive tasks and save time.
- **Understanding Mobile Device Management (16m)**
Learn how businesses manage and secure smartphones and tablets.
- **Real Case Study: The Impossible Printer (29m)**
A complex troubleshooting session that combines networking, drivers, and hardware checks.
- **Patching and Maintenance Routines (11m)**
Why updates are critical and how to create a simple maintenance checklist.
- **Asset Management and Documentation (13m)**
Learn the importance of tracking IT assets and keeping clear records.
- **Problem-Solving: When Googling Isn't Enough (22m)**
Advanced techniques for finding solutions when standard fixes fail.
- **Comparing On-Premise vs. Cloud Solutions (20m)**
A decision-making framework for choosing between local and cloud-based tools.

Implementation & Next Steps: Exam Day and Beyond

- **Final Review: FC0-U61 Exam Domains (23m)**
A comprehensive, rapid-fire review of all key topics across every exam domain.
- **How to Book Your Exam and What to Expect (8m)**
A step-by-step walkthrough of the Pearson VUE registration and check-in process.
- **Practice Exam 1: Full Simulation (38m)**
A timed practice test designed to mimic the pressure and style of the real exam.
- **Practice Exam 1: Detailed Review (30m)**
We'll go through every question from the practice exam, explaining the 'why' behind each answer.
- **Practice Exam 2: Full Simulation (38m)**
Test your knowledge again with a fresh set of challenging questions.
- **Practice Exam 2: Detailed Review (30m)**
Deep dive into your results to identify your final weak spots and cement your understanding.
- **Managing Test Anxiety and Time (12m)**
Practical strategies to stay calm, focused, and efficient during the exam.
- **Last-Minute Cram Session Guide (10m)**
A focused list of the most critical concepts to review in the 24 hours before your test.
- **What to Do After You Pass (15m)**
Your next steps for leveraging your certification for career growth and further study.
- **If You Don't Pass: The Retake Strategy (11m)**
A clear plan for analyzing your score report and preparing effectively for a retake.
- **Course Wrap-Up and Continued Learning (7m)**
A final message from your instructor and resources to keep your IT skills growing.
- **Downloadable: Exam Day Checklist (5m)**
A one-page PDF checklist for everything you need to bring and do on exam day.

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