

## *Bits to Megabytes*

8 bits equal 1 byte. A Byte is equal to a single letter or character in a computer. A Kilobyte is 1000 bytes or 1000 characters. A Megabyte is 1000 Kilobytes, this would be about 1,000,000 bytes or close to 500 pages. 1 Gigabyte is 1000 Megabytes, that's approximately 1000 novels. These figures are not precise because 1 kilobyte is really 1024 bytes, but we are going to use this scale. This is nothing you have to memorize. You just want to familiarize yourself with the terms.

8 bits = 1 byte  
1 byte = 1 character  
1 kilobyte = 1000 bytes  
1 megabyte = 1000 kilobytes  
1 gigabyte = 1000 megabytes

Kilobytes is known as "K"  
Megabytes is known as "MB"  
Gigabytes is known as "GB"

A floppy disk has 1.44 MB, which equals 1440 Kilobytes or 1,440,000 Bytes or characters. The floppy has been replaced by a USB flash drive. The smallest memory is 64 megabytes worth about \$20.00 at most stores and the largest is 64 Gigabytes launched by <http://buslink.com/B1/> for \$5000.00. (I'm not sure who would need this but here it is.



I have a 512 MB flash drive I picked up for \$29.00 and it seems to fit all my needs.

A CD (compact disk) has 600 Megabytes. This is equivalent of approximately 599 million bytes or characters.