

## **GENERAL & SPECIFIC PURPOSE SOFTWARE**

**Specific purpose programs** are those which will only perform one task. They might be programs such as:

- company payroll
- stock control

which allow data entry but will only carry out one 'function' no matter what data we use.

Or, you might include programs such as computer games. No matter what you do, only that game can be played, in the same way...

**General purpose software** is more versatile. These programs would include:

- word processors
- spreadsheets
- databases
- graphics packages

## **INTEGRATED PACKAGES**

One product which is a combination of several general purpose programs.

Eg. Microsoft Office, which combines a number of Microsoft products: Word, Excel, Access...

Advantages: HCI similar throughout the product  
Data transfer between components easy  
Cheaper option than buying each product separately

Disadvantages: ???