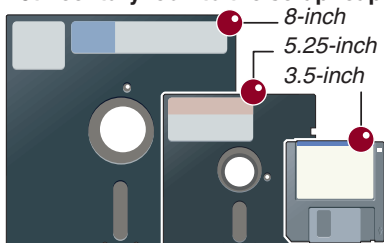


Farewell to floppies

Britain's largest computer retail chain, *PC World*, is to stop selling the floppy disk, consigning a late 20th century icon to the scrapheap



1971 First memory disk introduced by **IBM**. 8-in disk nicknamed **floppy** due to its flexibility **Storage: 81.6KB**

1976 Smaller 5.25-in disk created for desktop computers **89.6KB**

1981 **Sony** introduces 3.5-in disk. Becomes standard for PCs, capacity ultimately grows to 1.44MB **280KB**

1998 **Apple iMac** is first computer to be issued without floppy disk drive

2003 **Dell** omits disk drives from higher-range PCs

2007 Writeable CD/DVDs and memory sticks can store up to 2,000 times as much data as a floppy disk