

## *Chapter 2*

### **System Tour**

This notebook combines high-performance, versatility, power management features and multimedia capabilities in a unique and stylish design case. Work with unmatched productivity and reliability with your new power computing partner.

This chapter gives an in-depth “tour” of the notebook’s many features.

## 2.1 Features

The notebook was designed with the user in mind. Here are just a few of the notebook's many features:

### Performance

- High-end Pentium microprocessor
- 64-bit main memory
- Large LCD display and PCI local bus video with graphics acceleration
- Internal 3.5-inch floppy drive or CD-ROM drive
- High-capacity, Enhanced-IDE hard disk
- Lithium-Ion or Nickel Metal-Hydrate smart battery pack
- Power management system with zero-volt suspend-to-disk functionality

### Multimedia

- 16-bit stereo audio
- Built-in dual speakers
- Ultra-slim, high-speed CD-ROM drive<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Some areas or regions may not offer the AcerNote Light Multimedia with a built-in CD-ROM drive.

### **Human-centric Design and Ergonomics**

- Lightweight and slim
- Sleek, smooth and stylish design
- Full-sized keyboard
- Wide and curved palm rest
- Centrally-located touchpad pointing device

### **Expansion**

- PC card (formerly PCMCIA) slots (two type II/I or one type III) with ZV (Zoomed Video) port support
- Upgradeable memory, hard disk and CPU

## 2.2 Display

The large graphics display offers excellent viewing, display quality and desktop performance graphics. The notebook supports two different display configurations — DualScan STN and TFT active matrix.

### Video Performance

PCI local bus video with graphics accelerator and 1MB video RAM boost video performance.

### Simultaneous Display

The notebook's large display and multimedia capabilities are great for giving presentations. If you prefer, you can also connect an external monitor when giving presentations. This notebook supports simultaneous LCD and CRT display. Simultaneous display allows you to control the presentation from your notebook and at the same time face your audience. You can even connect an LCD projection panel for large-audience presentations.

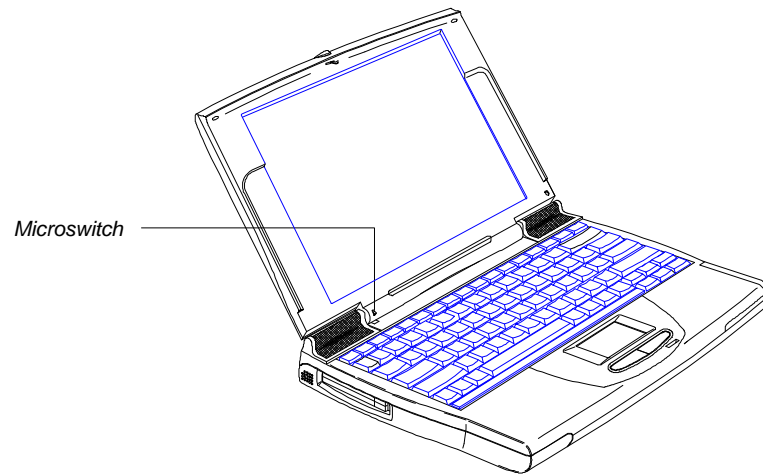
### Power Management

The power management system incorporates an "automatic LCD dim" feature that automatically decides the best settings for your display and at the same time conserve power. See section 3.2 for more information on power management.

### Opening and Closing the Display

To open the display, slide the display lid latch to the left and lift up the lid. Then tilt it to a comfortable viewing position.

The notebook employs a microswitch that turns off the display to conserve power when you close the lid, and turns it back on when you open the lid.



*Figure 2-1     Display*

To close the lid, fold it down gently until the display lid latch clicks into place.



*To avoid damaging the display, do not slam it when closing. Do not place any object on top of the notebook when the display is closed.*

## 2.3 Indicator Light

A two-way indicator light is found on the inside and outside of the display. See figure below.

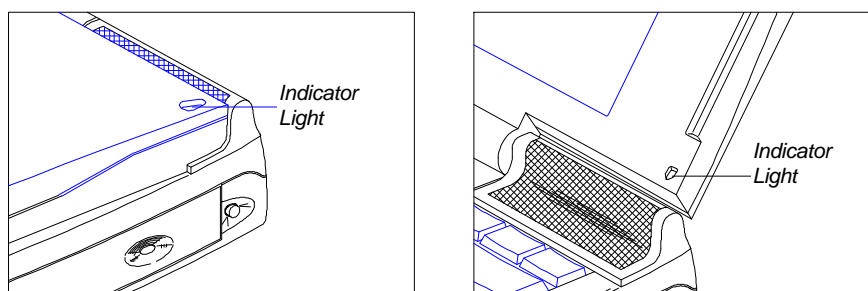


Figure 2-2 Indicator Light

This two-way indicator light allows you to see the notebook status when the display is open or closed. The indicator serves both as a power and battery-charging indicator. See Table 2-1.

Table 2-1 Indicator Status Descriptions

Indicator Status	Power	Condition
Green	On	Charged battery is installed <b>or</b> a power AC adapter is connected to the notebook.
Red	Off	Battery is installed and a powered AC adapter is connected to the notebook and charging the battery (rapid charge mode).
Orange	On	Battery is installed and a powered AC adapter is connected to the notebook and charging the battery (charge-in-use mode).
Flashing	On	Battery is running low on power and no AC adapter is connected to the notebook.

To find out more about batteries, see Chapter 3.

## **2.4 Keyboard**

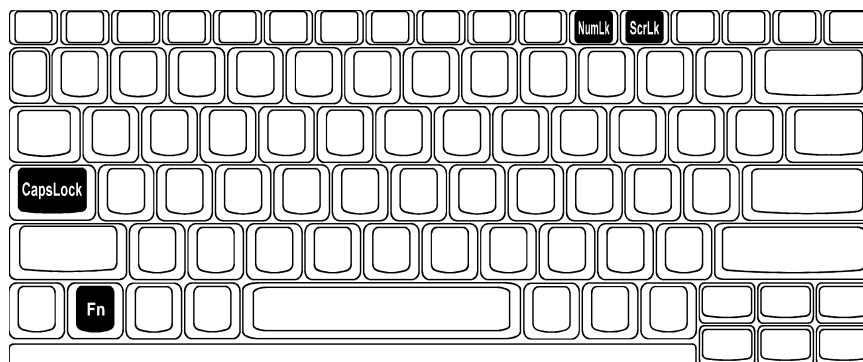
The keyboard has full-sized keys that includes an embedded keypad, separate cursor keys, two Windows 95 keys and twelve function keys.

### **2.4.1 Keyboard Layout and Special Keys**

#### **Keyboard Layout**



*Figure 2-3 Keyboard Layout*

## Lock Keys



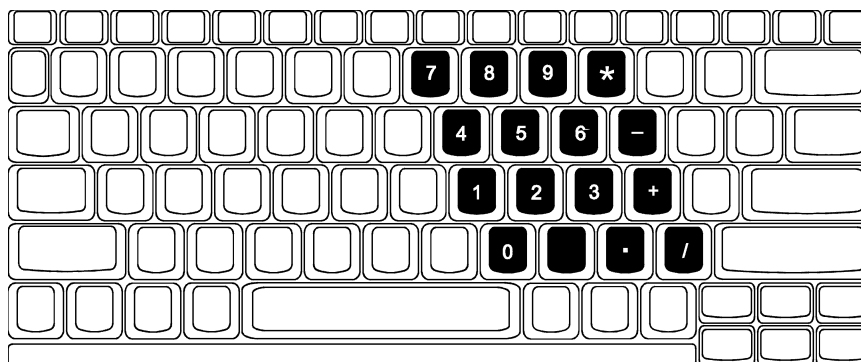
The keyboard has three lock keys which you can toggle on and off. See Table 2-2 for the lock key descriptions.

Table 2-2      *Lock Key Descriptions*

Lock Key	Description
@	When the Caps Lock indicator is on, all alphabetic characters typed are in uppercase.
 - [	When the Scroll Lock indicator is on, the screen moves one line up or down when you press W or y respectively. Scroll lock does not work with some applications.
 - ]	When the Num Lock indicator is on, the embedded keypad is in numeric mode. The keys function as a calculator (complete with arithmetic operators +, -, *, and /).  Use this mode when you need to do a lot of numeric data entry. A better solution would be to connect an external keypad.








## Embedded Keypad



The embedded keypad functions like a desktop numeric keypad. It is indicated by small, encircled characters located on the upper right corner of the keycaps. To simplify the keyboard legend, the cursor-control key symbols are not printed on the keys. Table 2-3 tells how to use the embedded keypad.

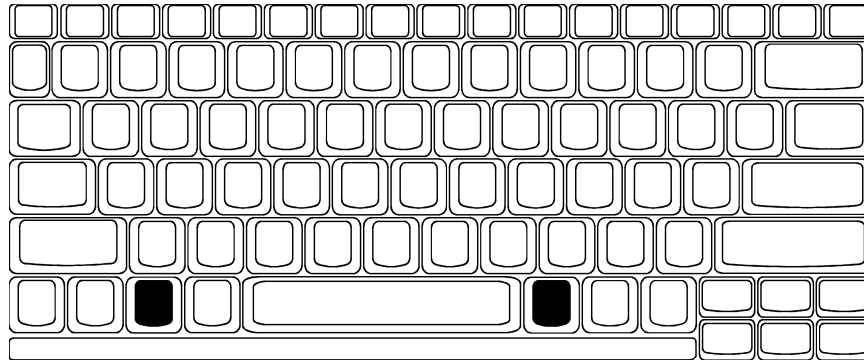
Table 2-3 Using the Embedded Keypad

Desired Access	Num Lock On	Num Lock Off
Number keys on embedded keypad	Type numbers in a normal manner.	Hold  while using the number keys.
Cursor-control keys on embedded keypad	Hold  while using cursor-control keys.	Hold  and  while using cursor-control keys.
Main keyboard keys	Hold  while typing letters on embedded keypad.	Type the letters in a normal manner.



*If an external keyboard or keypad is connected to the notebook, the numlock function only works on the external keyboard or keypad.*

## Windows 95 Keys

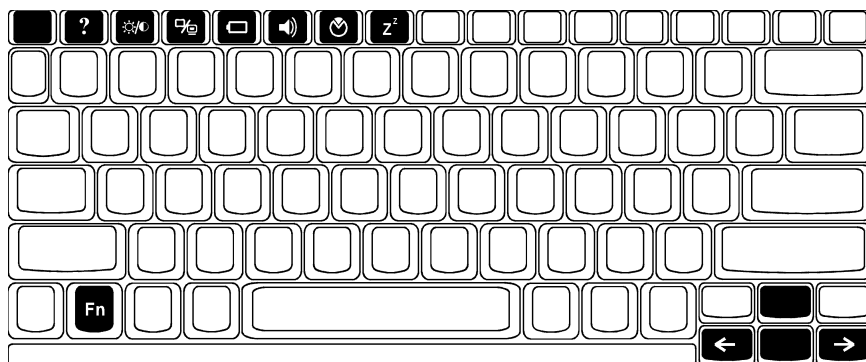


The keyboard has two keys that perform Windows 95-specific functions. See Table 2-4.

Table 2-4 Windows 95 Key Descriptions

Key	Description
Windows logo key	Start button. Combinations with this key performs special functions. Below are a few examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Windows + Tab</i> Activate next Taskbar button</li><li>• <i>Windows + E</i> Explore My Computer</li><li>• <i>Windows + F</i> Find Document</li><li>• <i>Windows + M</i> Minimize All</li><li>• <i>Shift + Windows + M</i> Undo Minimize All</li><li>• <i>Windows + R</i> Display Run dialog box</li></ul>
Application key	Opens the application's context menu (same as right-click).

## Hot Keys



The notebook employs hot keys or key combinations to access most of the notebook's controls like screen contrast and brightness, volume output and the BIOS setup utility.

Table 2-5 Hot Key List















Hot Key	Function	Description
-	Hotkey Escape	Exits the hotkey control.
-I	Hotkey Help	Displays the hotkey list and help.
-m	Brightness Control  Contrast Control 	Toggles between brightness control and contrast control.  Press the scale hotkeys ( -X and  -Z) to increase and decrease the brightness or contrast level.  Notebooks with TFT displays do not show the brightness control icon.
-n	Display Toggle	Switches display from LCD to CRT to both LCD and CRT.
-O	Battery Gauge 	Toggles the battery gauge display.

Table 2-5 Hot Key List (continued)


Hot Key	Function	Description
 -p	Volume Control 	Press the scale hotkeys (  -x and  -z) to increase and decrease the output level.
 -q	Setup	Gains access to BIOS Setup's Advanced System Configuration parameters. See section 6.4.
 -r	Suspend/Standby	Enters suspend mode if the 0-volt suspend function is installed and enabled; otherwise, the notebook enters standby mode.
 -x	Scale Increase	Increases the setting of the current icon.
 -z	Scale Decrease	Decreases the setting of the current icon.

### Activating and Using Hot Keys

When activating hot keys, press and hold the first key  before pressing the other keys in the hot key combination.

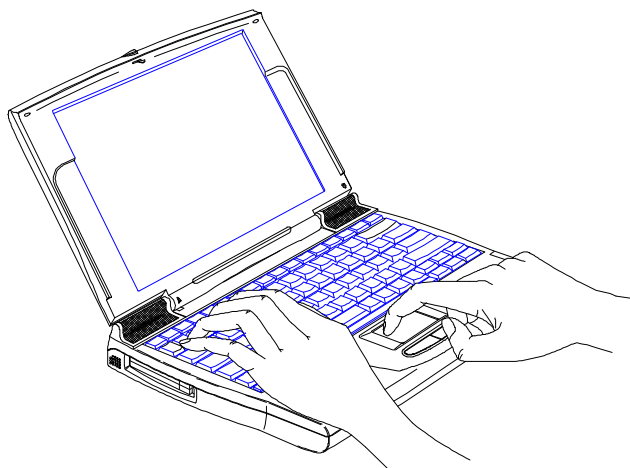
Some hot keys pop-up an onscreen icon as shown in Table 2-5. For hot keys with pop-up icons, press the scale hot keys ( -x and  -z) to increase and decrease the setting of the current icon.

### Exiting Pop-up Icons and Screens

Press hot key escape ( -|) to exit a pop-up icon resulting from a hot key. Press | to exit a screen resulting from a hot key.

### 2.4.2 Keyboard Ergonomics

Located below the keyboard, the wide and curved palm rest gives you a place to rest your hands while you type.



*Figure 2-4 Palm Rest*

## 2.5 Touchpad

The built-in touchpad is an PS/2-compatible pointing device that senses movement on its surface. This means the cursor responds as you move your finger on the surface of the touchpad. The central location on the palm rest provides ample comfort and support.

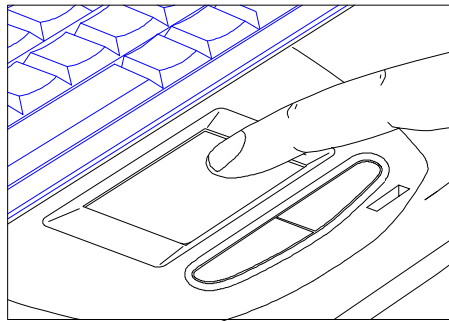


Figure 2-5 Touchpad



*The touchpad works with most mouse drivers, but the bundled touchpad driver supports special functions that work uniquely with the touchpad. See section 5.3 for details.*

## Touchpad Basics

The following items teach you how to use the touchpad:

- Move your finger across the touchpad to move the cursor.
- Press the left and right buttons located on the edge of the touchpad to do selection and execution functions. These two buttons are similar to the left and right buttons on a mouse. Tapping on the touchpad produces similar results. See Table 2-6.

Table 2-6      *Touchpad Functions*

Function	Left Button	Right Button	Tap
Execution	Click twice quickly		Tap twice (at the same speed as double-clicking the mouse button)
Selection	Click once		Tap once
Drag	Click and hold to drag the cursor		Tap twice (at the same speed as double-clicking the mouse button) and hold finger to the touchpad on the second tap to drag the cursor
Access Context Menu		Click once	- none -



*Keep your fingers dry and clean when using the touchpad. Also keep the touchpad dry and clean.*

*The touchpad is sensitive to finger movements. Hence, the lighter the touch, the better the response. Tapping too hard will not increase the touchpad's responsiveness.*

## 2.6 Storage

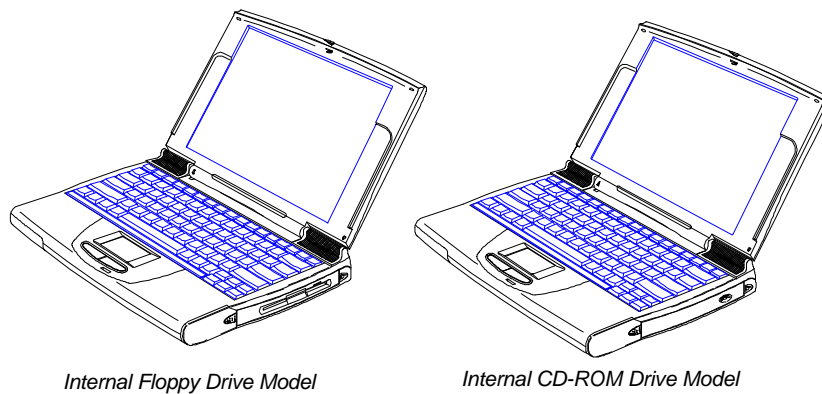
High-capacity storage comes in the form of a 2.5-inch Enhanced-IDE hard disk. The notebook also has either an internal 3.5-inch, 1.44MB floppy drive or an internal high-speed CD-ROM drive. PC Card slots are found on the left panel of the notebook.

### 2.6.1 Hard Disk

The hard disk module can be upgraded when you need more storage space. See section 4.9.2 for details.

### 2.6.2 Internal Media

The notebook comes with either a floppy drive or CD-ROM drive installed.



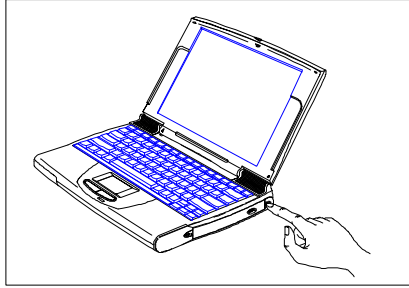
*Figure 2-6 Internal Drive*

The CD-ROM drive gives you portable multimedia access. An external floppy drive is available for models with built-in CD-ROM drives.

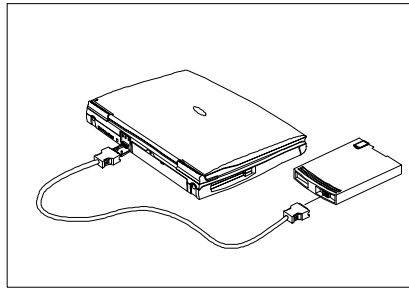


## External Floppy Drive

Follow these steps to use the external floppy drive:



1. Press the power switch to turn off the power.



2. Connect one end of the FDD cable to the floppy drive port and the other end to the external floppy drive connector.

After turning on the power, the notebook automatically senses the external floppy drive.

### 2.6.3 PC Card Slots

There are two type II/I or one type III PC Card slots found on the left panel of the notebook. These slots accept credit-card-sized cards that enhances the usability and expandability of the notebook.

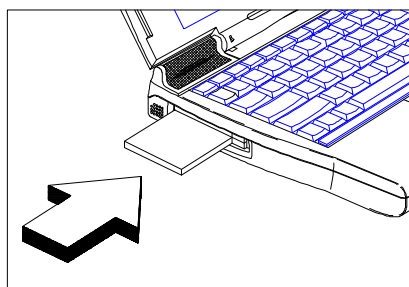
PC Cards (formerly PCMCIA) are add-on cards for portable computers, giving you expansion possibilities long afforded by desktop PCs. Popular type II cards include flash memory, SRAM, fax/data modem, LAN and SCSI cards. Common type III cards are 1.8-inch ATA drives and cellular modems.

ZV (Zoomed Video) port support allows your system to support hardware MPEG in the form of a ZV PC card.



*Refer to your card's user's manual for details on how to install and use the card and its functions.*

#### Inserting a Card

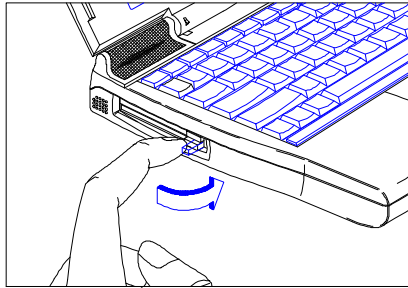


Insert the card into the desired slot and make the proper connections (e.g., network cable), if necessary. See your card manual for details.

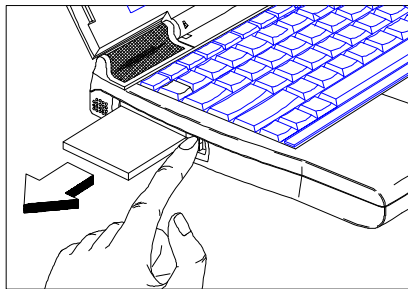
For type III and ZV cards, insert card into the lower slot.

## Ejecting a Card

Exit the application using the card, then follow these steps:



Pull out the slot eject button of the slot where the card is inserted.



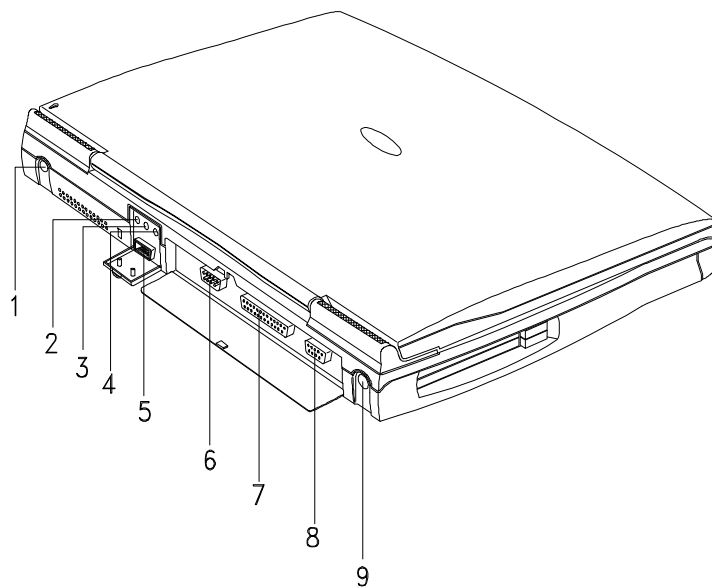
Press the slot eject button to eject the card.

## 2.7 Ports

Ports allow you to connect peripheral devices to your notebook computer as you would with a desktop PC. The ports are found on the rear panel.



*See Chapter 4 on how to connect external devices to the notebook.*












- |   |                                 |   |                   |
|---|---------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1 | DC-in Port                      | 6 | Serial Port       |
| 2 | Microphone-in Port              | 7 | Parallel Port     |
| 3 | Line-in Port                    | 8 | External CRT Port |
| 4 | Line-out Port                   | 9 | PS/2 Port         |
| 5 | External Floppy Drive Connector |   |                   |

*Figure 2-7 Ports and Connectors*

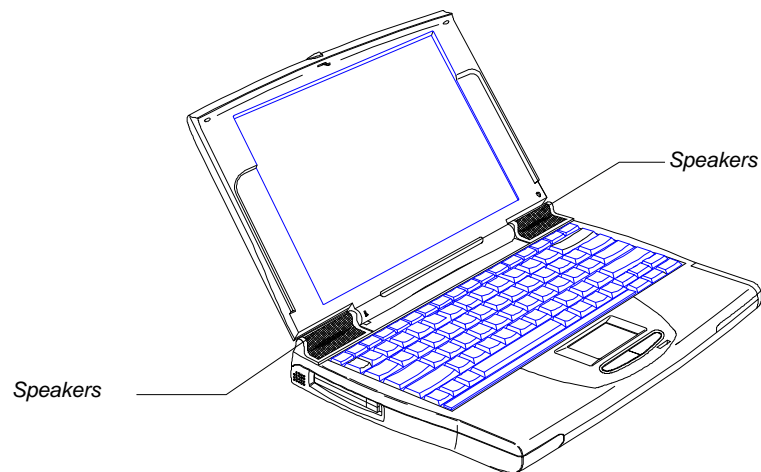
Table 2-7 describes these ports.

*Table 2-7 Port Descriptions*

#	Icon	Port	Connects to...
1		DC-in Port	AC adapter and power outlet
2		Microphone-in Port	External 3.5mm minijack condenser microphone
3		Line-in Port	Line-in device (e.g., audio CD player, stereo walkman)
4		Line-out Port	Line-out device (e.g., speakers, headphones)
5		External Floppy Drive Connector	External floppy drive
6		Serial Port (UART16650-compatible)	Serial device (e.g., serial mouse)
7		Parallel Port (EPP/ECP-compliant)	Parallel device (e.g., parallel printer)
8		External CRT port	Monitor (up to 1024x768, 256-colors )
9		PS/2 Port	PS/2-compatible device (e.g., PS/2 keyboard, keypad, mouse)

## 2.8 Audio

Standard notebook configuration includes 16-bit stereo audio and built-in dual speakers. The dual speakers found on both sides of the display hinge direct sound towards you which allows for excellent sound output.



*Figure 2-8 Built-in Speakers*

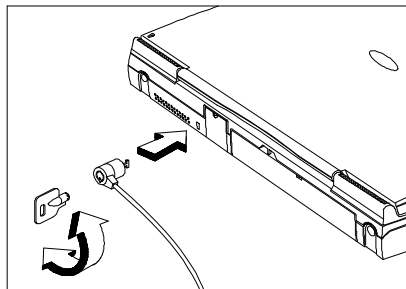
Besides the built-in speakers, there are audio ports on the rear panel of the notebook. See section 4.6 for more information.

## 2.9 Securing your Notebook

Security features include hardware and software locks — a security notch and a two-level password scheme.

### 2.9.1 Security Notch

A security notch located on the rear panel of the notebook lets you connect a standard key-based computer security lock.



Circle or wrap a computer security lock cable around an immovable object such as a table or locked drawer handle. Insert the lock into the notch and turn the key to secure the lock.

### 2.9.2 Passwords

A two-level password scheme protects your notebook from unauthorized access. When set, no one can access the notebook without entering the correct password. For information on how to set passwords, see section 6.5.8.