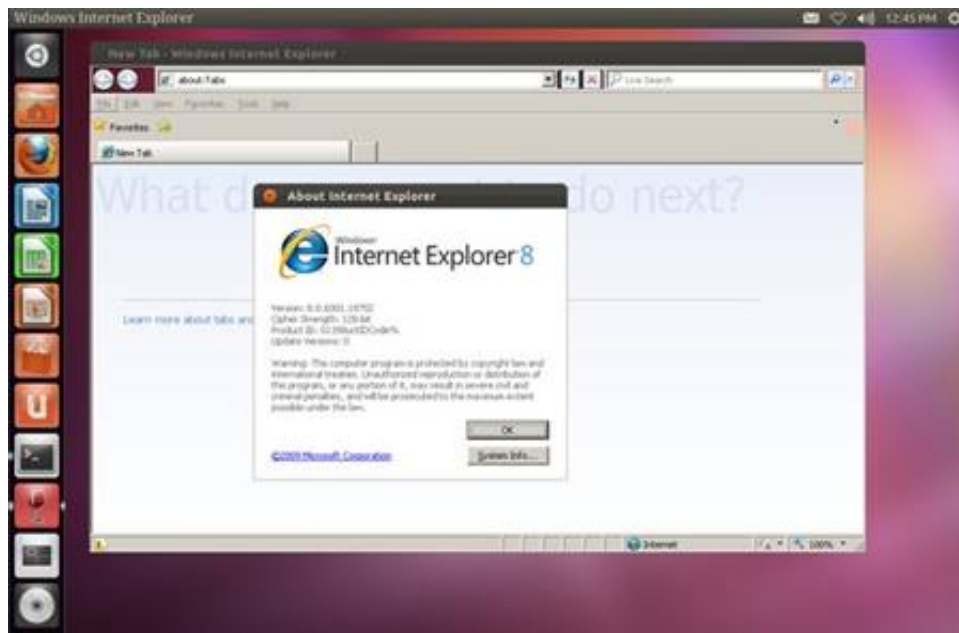# The window

A window is a rectangular area of the screen, usually with a border all around and a title bar at the top. You can think of a window as a screen within the screen. Each window displays an application, allowing you to have more than one application visible and work on more than one task at a time. You can also think of windows as pieces of paper on your desktop: they can overlap, or be side by side.

You can control a window's position of the screen, as well as its size. You can control which windows overlap other windows, so the one you want to work with is completely visible. For more about moving and resizing windows, see the section called Manipulating Windows.

Each window is not necessarily a different application. An application usually has one main window, and may open additional windows at the request of the user.

Types of Windows

There are two main types of window:

Application windows,

Dialog windows,

Application windows: Application windows allow all minimize, maximize and close operations through the buttons on the title bar. When opening an application you will usually see a window of this type appear.

Dialog windows: Dialog windows appear at the request of an application window. A dialog window may alert you to a problem, ask for confirmation of an action, or request input from you.

For example, if you tell an application to save a document, a dialog will ask you where you want to save the new file. If you tell an application to quit while it is still busy, it may ask you to confirm that you want it to abandon work in progress.

Some dialogs do not allow you to interact with the main application window until you have closed them: these are called modal dialogs. Others can be left open while you work with the main application window: these are called transient dialogs.