Difference between DLL and EXE-  
  
- EXE stands for Extensible Execute File and DLL stands for Dynamic Link Library. It is also called assembly in Dot Net.  
  
- EXE gives direct output, it needs a resource and DLL does not give direct output, it always execute with any software and provide resource to that software.  
  
- EXE is use by End User like-Client but DLL can not use by End User.  
  
- An ActiveX Dll runs is an in process server running in the same memory space as the client process and an ActiveX Exe is an out of process server which runs in it's own separate memory space.  
  
- EXE runs independently, whereas DLL runs within an EXE. DLL is an in-process file and EXE is an out-process file.  
  
- A DLL would share the same process and memory space of the calling application while an EXE creates its separate process and memory space.  
  
- And another difference is that EXEs are executable programs while DLLs are libraries loaded into a process and contain some sort of useful functionality like security, database access or something.

Difference between EXE and DLL:  
  
1. EXE refers to the executable files whereas DLL refers to the Dynamic Link Library.  
  
2. EXE is mainly executable files which execute when user run the programs or click on them whereas DLL contains the function and procedure which link dynamically when needs them.  
  
3. DLL is a small file which share same memory space whereas EXE files are larger than DLL so in this case sharing is not possible.

DLL stands for Dynamic Link Library, which commonly contains functions and procedures that can be used by other programs.  
  
At the same time an EXE file contains the entry point or the part in the code where the operating system is supposed to begin the execution of the application. DLL files do not have this entry point and cannot be executed on their own.The most major advantage of DLL files is in its reusability.

Executable (.exe, .com) file is the core program file responsible for launching software.  
Dynamic Link Library file is a partial executable file. A .dll file will not run all on its own; rather, its commands are accessed by another running program.  
From the book Introduction to Computer by Peter Norton.

.Exe  
1.These are outbound file.  
2.Only one .exe file exists per application.  
3. .Exe cannot be shared with other applications.  
  
.dll  
1.These are inbund file .  
2.Many .dll files may exists in one application.  
3. .dll can be shared with other applications.