

File Type	Hex Signature (Start of File)	ASCII	Notes / Description
<b>JPEG (JPG)</b>	FF D8 FF E0 or FF D8 FF E1	—	Start of Image (SOI). Ends with FF D9. Used for photos, camera images.
<b>PNG</b>	89 50 4E 47 0D 0A 1A 0A	.PNG....	Has a strong, unique header — used for web images.
<b>GIF</b>	47 49 46 38 37 61 or 47 49 46 38 39 61	GIF87a / GIF89a	Animated or static GIFs; easy to spot in ASCII.
<b>PDF</b>	25 50 44 46	%PDF	Begins with %PDF; ends with 25 25 45 4F 46 (%%%EOF).
<b>ZIP / DOCX / XLSX / PPTX</b>	50 4B 03 04	PK..	ZIP-based formats (Office Open XML files).
<b>RAR</b>	52 61 72 21 1A 07 00	Rar!...	Archive format.
<b>7z</b>	37 7A BC AF 27 1C	7z...!	7-Zip archive format.
<b>EXE / DLL (Windows Executable)</b>	4D 5A	MZ	MS-DOS signature (Mark Zbikowski). Every PE file starts with this.
<b>ELF (Linux Executable)</b>	7F 45 4C 46	.ELF	Executable and Linkable Format — Linux binaries.
<b>BMP (Bitmap Image)</b>	42 4D	BM	Microsoft bitmap image file.
<b>WAV / AVI</b>	52 49 46 46	RIFF	RIFF-based multimedia containers.
<b>MP3</b>	49 44 33	ID3	Indicates ID3 metadata header in MP3 files.
<b>ISO (CD/DVD image)</b>	43 44 30 30 31 (at offset 0x8001)	CD001	Appears at offset 32,769 (0x8001) — not at file start.
<b>SQLite Database</b>	53 51 4C 69 74 65 20 66 6F 72 6D 61 74 20 33 00	SQLite format 3	Used in mobile apps, browsers, and logs.

File Type	Hex Signature (Start of File)	ASCII	Notes / Description
DOC (Old Word)	D0 CF 11 E0 A1 B1 1A E1	—	Legacy Microsoft Office binary format.
XML	3C 3F 78 6D 6C 20	<?xml	Text-based markup files.
HTML / HTM	3C 21 44 4F 43 54 59 50 45	<!DOCTYPE	Common start of web pages.