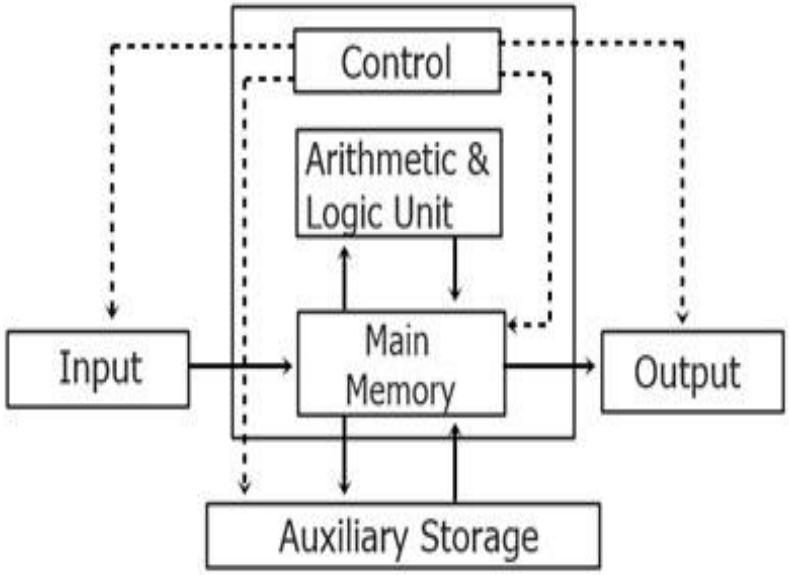
A **computer** is a machine that accepts data as input, processes that data using programs, and outputs the processed data as information. Many computers can store and retrieve information using hard drives.



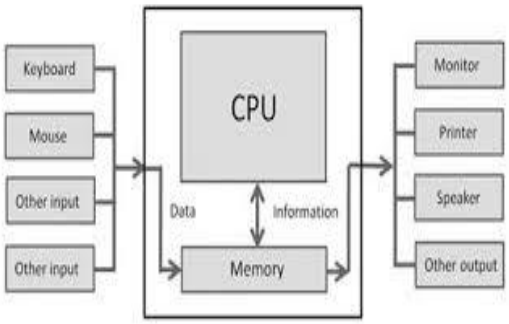
Block Diagram of Computer

Units of Computer - There are 4 types of Unit in computer

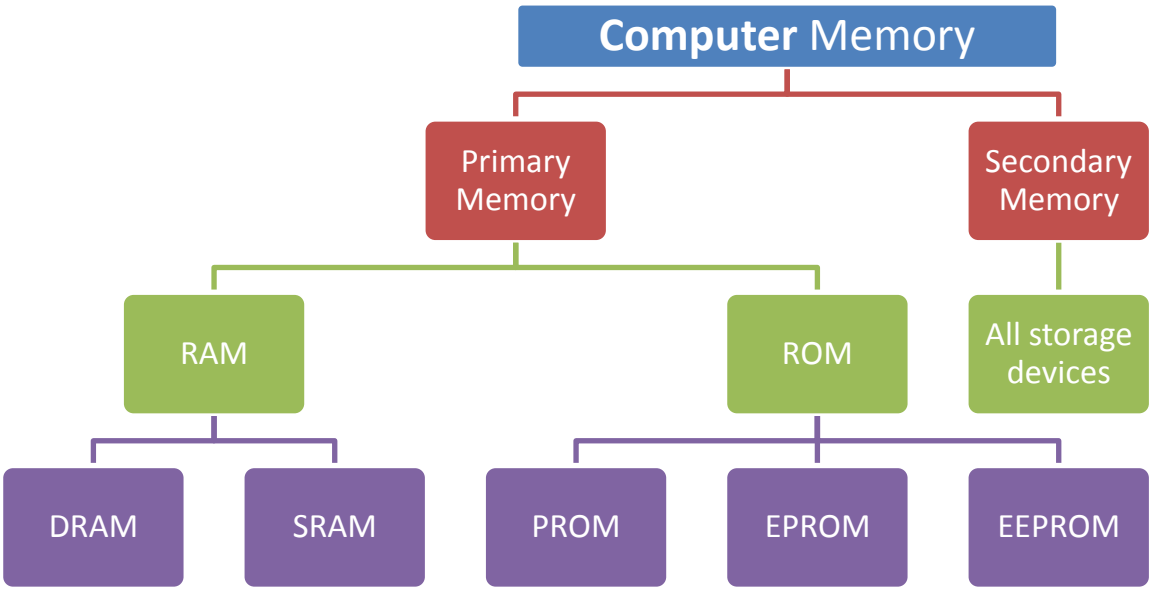
1. Input Unit

2. Output Screen

3. Processing Unit



4. Storage Unit



RAM is core or primary memory.

5 Basic Operations of a Computer System

Basic Operations of a Computer System

1. Inputting
2. Processing
3. Outputting
4. Storing
5. Controlling

Input Unit

Inputting is a basic operation of a computer system. This is the act of feeding in the data and instruction to the computer (by computer here it means the processing unit).

Through Input, devices such as the keyboard, disks, or through other computers via network connections or modems connected to the Internet.

Processing Unit

The task of performing calculations and comparisons are known as processing.

The unit in Computer System that is responsible for processing is ALU (Arithmetic and Logical Unit). ALU is the place where actual execution of the instructions takes place during the processing operations. All calculations & comparisons are made in the ALU. The data and instructions stored in the primary storage are transferred to it as when required. ALU may produce Intermediate results and store it in the memory which is also transferred back to the ALU for the final processing. After completion of processing the final results are send to storage units from ALU.

Output Unit

This unit takes care of receiving processed information from processing unit and presents it to the user in the suitable form.

A computer produces results in binary form and output unit does **decoding** to make it usable to the users. The devices that can output information from a computer are known as output unit devices. Monitors, Speakers, Projectors are soft output devices whereas printers, plotters produce hard copy output.

Storage Unit

Before actual processing start, data & instructions entered to the computer must be stored somewhere inside the computer. Similarly, results produced by the computer are required to be stored before it is passed to the output unit.

Control Unit

ALU dose does not know what should be done with the data likewise, output unit dose not know when the result should be displayed. By selecting, interning and seeing to the execution of the program the CU is able to maintain order and direct the operations of the entire system. CU doesn't perform any actual processing on data yet it is known as a central nervous system for the comforts of the computer. It manages and coordinates the entire system.