3rd GENERATION OF COMPUTER

The period of third generation was from 1964 to 1971. Integrated circuits (IC's) are used in third generation computers. [*Integrated circuit (IC)*](https://www.webopedia.com/TERM/I/integrated_circuit_IC.html) is a small electronic device made out of a semiconductor material. The first integrated circuit was developed in the 1950s by Jack Kilby of Texas Instruments and Robert Noyce of Fairchild Semiconductor. These were formed by constructing electronic components like transistor, resistor and capacitor on a small piece of semiconducting material is called integrated circuit. Integrated circuit is also called as chip or microchip and large numbers of transistors are placed on a single chip. Instead of punched cards and printouts, users interacted with third generation computers through keyboards and monitors and interfaced with an operating system, which allowed the device to run many different applications at one time with a central program that monitored the memory. Computers for the first time became accessible to a mass audience because they were smaller and cheaper than their predecessors.

The main features of third generation are: −

* IC used
* More reliable in comparison to previous two generations
* Smaller size
* Generated less heat
* Faster
* Lesser maintenance
* Costly
* AC required
* Consumed lesser electricity
* Supported high-level language

Disadvantages:-

* Air conditioning was required.

Some computers of this generation were: −

* IBM-360 series
* Honeywell-6000 series
* PDP (Personal Data Processor)
* IBM-370/168
* TDC-316