

# Bitcoin vs Ethereum: Key Differences

## Bitcoin

## Ethereum

Purpose

Digital gold / Store of value

World computer / DApps platform

Consensus

Proof of Work

Proof of Stake (since 2022)

Block Time

~10 minutes

~12 seconds

Language

Bitcoin Script (limited)

Solidity (Turing-complete)

Supply

21M cap (deflationary)

No cap (minimal inflation)

Smart Contracts

Basic (multi-sig, timelocks)

Full programmability

Use Cases

Payments, savings

DeFi, NFTs, DAOs, gaming

Market Cap

~\$800B (Dec 2024)

~\$350B (Dec 2024)

**Key Insight: Bitcoin = digital gold, Ethereum = programmable money**

*Source: CoinMarketCap, Blockchain.com, Ethereum.org (Dec 2024)*