**Difference between data and information.**

**Data are the facts or details from which information is derived. Individual pieces of data are rarely useful alone. For data to become information, data needs to be put into context.**

**Comparison chart**

|  | **Data** | **Information** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Meaning | Data is raw, unorganized facts that need to be processed. Data can be something simple and seemingly random and useless until it is organized. | When data is processed, organized, structured or presented in a given context so as to make it useful, it is called information. |
| Example | Each student's test score is one piece of data. | The average score of a class or of the entire school is information that can be derived from the given data. |
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**Difference between Hardware and Software.**

|  | **Hardware** | **Software** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Definition | Devices that are required to store and execute (or run) the software. | Collection of instructions that enables a user to interact with the computer. Software is a program that enables a computer to perform a specific task, as opposed to the physical components of the system (hardware). |
| Types | Input,storage,processing,control, and output devices. | System software, Programming software, and Application software. |
| Examples | CD-ROM, monitor, printer, video card, scanners , label makers, routers , and modems. | Quickbooks, Adobe Acrobat, Winoms-Cs, Internet Explorer , Microsoft Word , Microsoft Excel |
| Function | Hardware serve as the delivery system for software solutions. The hardware of a computer is infrequently changed, in comparison with software and data, which are “soft” in the sense that they are readily created, modified, or erased on the comput | To perform the specific task you need to complete. Software is generally not needed to for the hardware to perform its basic level tasks such as turning on and reponding to input. |
| Inter dependency | Hardware starts functioning once software is loaded. | To deliver its set of instructions, Software is installed on hardware. |
| Failure | Hardware failure is random. Hardware does have increasing failure at the last stage. | Software failure is systematic. Software does not have an increasing failure rate. |
| Durability | Hardware wears out over time. | Software does not wear out over time. However, bugs are discovered in software as time passes. |
| Nature | Hardware is physical in nature. | Software is logical in nature. |