Booting is the process of starting up a computer system. When a computer is turned on, the booting process is initiated, which involves a series of steps that initialize the hardware components, load the operating system, and prepare the system for user interaction.

The booting process typically involves the following steps:

1. Power-on self-test (POST): When the computer is turned on, the BIOS (Basic Input/Output System) performs a series of tests to ensure that the hardware components, such as the memory, processor, and disk drives, are functioning properly.
2. Boot loader: Once the POST is complete, the BIOS searches for the boot loader, which is a small program that is stored on the hard drive or another storage device. The boot loader is responsible for loading the operating system into memory.
3. Operating system: Once the boot loader is loaded into memory, it loads the operating system, which is the software that manages the computer's hardware resources and provides services to applications and processes.
4. Initialization: After the operating system is loaded, it initializes the system components and services, such as networking, file systems, and device drivers.
5. User login: Once the initialization is complete, the computer is ready for user interaction. The user can then log in to the system and start using applications and other services.

Booting is a critical process in the operation of a computer system, as it sets up the system for use and ensures that all the hardware components and software services are functioning properly.