

Computer - Hardware

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Hardware represents the physical and tangible components of a computer, i.e. the components that can be seen and touched.

Examples of Hardware are the following –

Input devices – keyboard, mouse, etc.

Output devices – printer, monitor, etc.

Secondary storage devices – Hard disk, CD, DVD, etc.

Internal components – CPU, motherboard, RAM, etc.



Relationship between Hardware and Software

Hardware and software are mutually dependent on each other. Both of them must work together to make a computer produce a useful output.

Software cannot be utilized without supporting hardware.

Hardware without a set of programs to operate upon cannot be utilized and is useless.

To get a particular job done on the computer, relevant software should be loaded into the hardware.

Hardware is a one-time expense.

Software development is very expensive and is a continuing expense.

Different software applications can be loaded on a hardware to run different jobs.

A software acts as an interface between the user and the hardware.

If the hardware is the 'heart' of a computer system, then the software is its 'soul'. Both are complementary to each other.

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