

Computer Hardware

Computer hardware refers to the physical components of a computer system that can be seen and touched. These components work together with software to perform tasks such as data processing, storage, and communication. Without hardware, software cannot function.

Main Components of Computer Hardware

Component	Function	Examples
Input Devices	Enter data and instructions into the computer	Keyboard, Mouse, Scanner
Output Devices	Display or produce results	Monitor, Printer, Speaker
CPU	Processes data and controls all operations	Intel / AMD Processor
Memory	Stores data and instructions	RAM, ROM
Storage Devices	Store data permanently	HDD, SSD, Pen Drive
Motherboard	Connects all hardware components	System Board
PSU	Supplies electrical power	SMPS

Peripheral Devices

Peripheral devices are external hardware components connected to a computer to enhance its functionality. These devices are not essential for basic operation but improve usability and performance.

Examples include printers for printing documents, webcams for video communication, external hard disks for extra storage, and joysticks for gaming.

Importance of Computer Hardware

- Hardware enables software programs to run properly.
- Good hardware increases speed, efficiency, and multitasking.

- Modern hardware supports advanced applications and internet usage.
- Upgrading hardware improves system lifespan and performance.

CPU – The Brain of the Computer

The Central Processing Unit (CPU) is the most important component of a computer. It performs arithmetic calculations, logical operations, and controls the working of all other hardware components.

Summary

Computer hardware forms the foundation of a computer system. Understanding hardware components helps students use computers effectively, troubleshoot basic problems, and make informed decisions while upgrading systems.
