

Computer Components :

Any kind of computers consists of HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE.

Hardware: Computer hardware is the collection of physical elements that constitutes a computer system. Computer hardware refers to the physical parts or components of a computer. **all of which are physical objects that can be touched**

Central Processing Unit (CPU) : A CPU is brain of a computer. It is responsible for all functions and processes.

The CPU is comprised of 2 main parts :

* **Arithmetic Logic Unit (ALU)**: Executes all arithmetic and logical operations. Arithmetic calculations

* **Control Unit (CU)**: controls and co-ordinates computer components.

Cache memory acts as a temporary storage area that the computer's processor can retrieve data from easily

Primary Memory:

1. **RAM (Random Access Memory)** :

RAM **stores** the user **data** in a program on a **temporary** basis so that it can be promptly accessed by the processor as and when needed. It is **volatile** in nature, which means that data will be erased once supply to the storage device is turned off.













2. **ROM (Read Only Memory)**: ROM is a permanent form of storage. ROM **permanently** stores data. ROM devices do not allow data stored on them to be modified.

Storage devices : Stores data and programs permanently : its retained after the power is turned off.









1. Hard drive (HD)
 2. Optical Disk
 3. Flash Disk
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Input Devices :

Input device Translate data from form that humans understand to one that the computer can work with. Most common are keyboard and mouse.

Examples of Manual Input Devices			
Keyboard 	Numeric Keypad 	Pointing Device 	Remote Control 
Joystick 	Touch Screen 	Scanner 	Graphics Tablet 
Microphone 	Digital Camera 	Webcams 	Light Pens 

Output devices : Displays information from the computer to the a person

Examples of Output Devices			
CRT Monitor 	TFT Monitor 	Laser Printer 	Inkjet Printer 
Dot Matrix Printer 		Speakers 	
Plotters 		Multimedia Projectors 	

Software : the programs containing instructions that tell the computer how to operate/what to do

There are 2 broad classifications: **Application software** and **System software**

Application software : A program or group of programs designed for end users, example : Microsoft word, internet browsers..ect

System software is computer software designed to provide services to other software

For example :

Operating system : An operating system (OS) is the software that manages the sharing of the resources of a computer and provides programmers with an interface used to access those resources.

Programming language is a formal language comprising a set of instructions that produce various kinds of output. Programming language is used for human beings to interact with computers