* **VLC Media Player**

1. **Detail**

The VideoLan software originated as an academic project in 1996. VLC used to stand for "VideoLAN Client"

Rewritten from scratch in 1998, it was released under [GNU General Public License](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GNU_General_Public_License) on 1 February 2001, with authorization from the headmaster of the [École Centrale Paris](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%89cole_Centrale_Paris" \o "École Centrale Paris).

**Hotkey options:** You can also use F1-F10 keys to bookmark your video and audio tracks. VLC also supports playback control using your mouse.

**Video Transcoding:** VLC provides video transcoding for file conversion and device streaming to ensure compatibility. While format output options aren’t as extensive as formats input options, the most popular output options are supported (e.g. MP4, WMV, MP3, FLAC, and OOG).

**Additional options:** You can set custom [skins](http://www.videolan.org/vlc/skins.php), toggle Dolby surround sound for headphones, engage in GPU-accelerated video decoding, and more.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Pros** | **Cons** |
| VLC has a simple design, with menus and options for almost any function. It opens nearly every file type. VLC’s media playback runs smoothly and its interface is fairly consistent across operating systems. | VLC hides its fancy features behind an ordinary veneer so that only advanced users recognize them. However, its extensive Wiki help is good remedy for eager beginners |

1. **Popularity**

VLC is a renowned media player that works with most multimedia files and DVDs, audio CDs, VCDs, and various streaming protocols. VLC is so well respected that it’s the go to media player for downloads that won’t play in its commercial counterparts. VLC’s versatility, advanced controls, and broad support for numerous file types make it a popular choice for media playback and conversion worldwide.

It is easy to download and launch VLC. A simple two-part interface has several tree options on the left (Library, My Computer, Local Network, and Internet) and an expandable media display on the right. The default interface has a humble beginners appeal but more scrapy users will relish a mountain of menu controls and options. VLC can be set to one of over 60 languages, making it easily accessible worldwide. And VLC’s interface remains relatively consistent for users on diverse operating systems, requiring little adjustment.

1. **My Views**

Although it is a very popular media player But I found a very big fault in it. It brings down the quality of video. For Example if we want to watch the film of 1080HD video, that video is not clear enough as the pixels of 1080HD. But still it is very Popular in Pakistan. Almost all of my relatives use this player. I don’t recommend this player.

* **MySQL**

**Popularity:MySQL** (officially pronounced as [/maɪ ˌɛskjuːˈɛl/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:IPA_for_English) "My S-Q-L",[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MySQL#cite_note-whatismysql-5)) is an [open-source](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open-source) [relational database management system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Relational_database_management_system) (RDBMS);[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MySQL#cite_note-6) in July 2013, it was the world's second most[[a]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MySQL#cite_note-9) widely used RDBMS, and the most widely used open-source [client–server model](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Client%E2%80%93server_model) RDBMS.[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MySQL#cite_note-10) It is named after co-founder [Michael Widenius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Widenius)'s daughter, My.[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MySQL#cite_note-11) The [SQL](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SQL) abbreviation stands for [Structured Query Language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Structured_Query_Language).

MySQL is a popular choice of database for use in web applications, and is a central component of the widely used [LAMP](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LAMP_(software_bundle)) open-source web application software stack (and other "[AMP](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_AMP_packages)" stacks). LAMP is an acronym for "[Linux](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linux), [Apache](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apache_HTTP_Server), MySQL, [Perl](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perl)/[PHP](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PHP)/[Python](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Python_(programming_language))". [Free-software](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Free_software) open-source projects that require a full-featured database management system often use MySQL

MySQL is written in [C](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C_(programming_language)) and [C++](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%2B%2B).

**Details:**

### **It’s Easy To Use**

MySQL is very easy to install, and thanks to a bevy of third-party tools that can be added to the database, setting up an implementation is a relatively simple task.

### **Support Is Readily Available Whenever Necessary**

Although Oracle’s history of supporting its customers can be spotty at best, the nature of MySQL – which got its start as an open-source platform

### **It’s Open-Source (Sort Of)**

Oracle’s purchase of Sun Microsystems (and by association, MySQL) was [met with some contention from the development community](http://techcrunch.com/2012/08/18/oracle-makes-more-moves-to-kill-open-source-mysql/). The general fear was that Oracle would transform the tool into a closed, proprietary ecosystem.

### **It’s Incredibly Inexpensive**

Depending on what you plan to use it for, a MySQL implementation could [range in price from free to $10,000](http://www.mysql.com/products/) or more, but the community edition which is the most widely used is  free.

**My View:**

It is good software for Data Base and it is recommended by many professionals. My studies are not related to data base yet. But in the long run, I prefer to use My SQL for data base purposes.

* **Graphic User interface:**

**Detail:**

A graphical user interface is a human-computer interface that is graphical (rather than purely textual) user interface. GUI uses images, window, icons, buttons, menus etc. which can be manipulated by a mouse.

GUI are more user friendly than [command line interface](http://www.defit.org/?p=86)(CLI) as user interacts by using a mouse rather than by having to type in commands.

*GUI definition*

Graphical user interface is a type of user interface that allows users to interact with electronic devices with images rather than typing text commands.

The concept of hyperlinks was further refined and extended to graphics by researchers at [Xerox PARC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xerox_PARC)‍ and specifically [Alan Kay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alan_Kay), who went beyond text-based hyperlinks and used a GUI as the primary interface for the [Xerox Alto](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xerox_Alto) [computer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer), released in 1973. Most modern general-purpose GUIs are derived from this system.

**Popularity**

[Human interface devices](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_interface_device), for the efficient interaction with a GUI include a [computer keyboard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_keyboard), especially used in conjunction with [keyboard shortcuts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keyboard_shortcut), [pointing devices](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pointing_device) for the [cursor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cursor_(computers)) (or rather [pointer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pointer_(graphical_user_interfaces))) control: [mouse](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mouse_(computing)), [pointing stick](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pointing_stick), [touchpad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Touchpad), [trackball](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trackball), [joystick](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joystick), etc., [virtual keyboards](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virtual_keyboard), and [head-up displays](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Head-up_display) (translucent information devices at the eye level).

Windows is very popular and the reason of its popularity is only its GUI.As its GUI written in C++.If its GUI is not Good looking, then the history of windows would be different. Almost every personal computer uses windows as operating system.

**My Views**

**When I use to child I am very interested in computer. I have no knowledge about operating system. From that period, I interact with windows in different ways e.g. installing windows and its driver when any virus come in my computer, Its short keys, Its demands for softwares etc. That’s way I prefer windows as an operating system.**

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* **Google Chrome:**

**Detail:**

**Google Chrome** is a [freeware](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freeware) [web browser](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_browser)[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Chrome#cite_note-TOS-11) developed by [Google](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google). It used the [WebKit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WebKit" \o "WebKit) [layout engine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Layout_engine) until version 27 and with the exception of its iOS releases, from version 28 and beyond uses the WebKit [fork](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fork_(software_development)" \o "Fork (software development))[Blink](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink_(layout_engine)).[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Chrome#cite_note-13)[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Chrome#cite_note-14)[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Chrome#cite_note-brucelawson-hello-blink-15) It was first released as a [beta version](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beta_version) for [Microsoft Windows](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Windows) on September 2, 2008, and as a stable public release on December 11, 2008.

There are some features of chrome which make it really preferable:

**1. It won't crash.**

Perhaps Chrome's biggest draw is its multiprocess architecture, which, in a nutshell, protects you from having a bad Web page or application take your browser down.

**2. It's really fast.**

Again because of the multiprocess foundation, one slow site won't drag down the rest of your browsing. Instead, you can effortlessly click to another tab or window.

**3. It makes searching simpler.**

One of Chrome's signature features is its Omnibox, an integrated all-purpose bar at the top of the browser. You can type in a URL or a search term--or both--and Chrome takes you to the right place without asking any questions.

**4. It gives you more control over tabs.**

Chrome gives the idea of tabbed browsing new power. You can grab a tab and drag it out into its own individual window. Or you can drag and drop tabs into existing windows to combine them.

**Popularity:**

Google is very popular. Most of the official web sites prefer this browser for user. There are big population of people in the world who choose chrome for browsing. It is quite easy to use and roughly fastest browser in the world. It graphic user interface is very attractive and its background can also be change. It store the history data so that a web site visited by the user can be accessed easily.

**My Views:**

Although it is very fast browser and is recommended by many users. But it store history data. My hard drive is not too much to store all the data of web site which is visited by me. So I do not prefer this browser.

* **Adobe Photoshop:**

**Detail**

**Adobe Photoshop** is a [raster graphics editor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raster_graphics_editor) developed and published by [Adobe Systems](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adobe_Systems) for [Windows](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Windows) and[OS X](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/OS_X).

Photoshop was created in 1988 by [Thomas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Knoll) and [John Knoll](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Knoll). Since then, it has become the *de facto* industry standard in raster graphics editing, such that the word "photoshop" has become a verb as in "to Photoshop an image," "[photo shopping](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photoshopping)" and "[photoshop contest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photoshop_contest" \o "Photoshop contest)", though Adobe discourages such use. In addition to raster graphics, it has limited abilities to edit or render text, [vector graphics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vector_graphics) (especially through[clipping path](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clipping_path)), [3D graphics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/3D_graphics) and [video](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Video). Photoshop's featureset can be expanded by [Photoshop plug-ins](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photoshop_plug-in), programs developed and distributed independently of Photoshop that can run inside it and offer new or enhanced features.

**Popularity:**

Adobe Photoshop, the imaging software that continues to redefine creativity in the digital age, turns 25 today. Photoshop touches virtually all the inspirational imagery that surrounds us: the high-impact logo on your morning cup of coffee; the new app you download on your iPhone; the sleek design of your running shoes; the Hollywood blockbuster that you’ll see tonight. Photoshop continues to blaze a trail, with amazing new features added in every release and new mobile apps that extend the power of Photoshop to iPhone, iPad and Android devices.

**My Views:**

I had done some tutorials of Photoshop in the holidays after matric exams. It is very popular among youngsters. It is the best software for photo editing. But much experience is required to be master in photo editing.

* **MS office:**

**Detail**

**Microsoft Office** is an [office suite](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Office_suite) of applications, servers, and services developed by [Microsoft](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft). It was first announced by [Bill Gates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Gates) on 1 August 1988, at [COMDEX](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/COMDEX) in Las Vegas. Initially a marketing term for a bundled set of applications, the first version of Office contained [Microsoft Word](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Word), [Microsoft Excel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Excel), and[Microsoft PowerPoint](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_PowerPoint). Over the years, Office applications have grown substantially closer with shared features such as a common spell checker, [OLE](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Object_Linking_and_Embedding) data integration and [Visual Basic for Applications](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visual_Basic_for_Applications) scripting language. Microsoft also positions Office as a development platform for line-of-business software under the[Office Business Applications](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Office_Business_Applications) brand.

### Word**[**[**edit**](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Microsoft_Office&action=edit&section=2)**]**

*Main article:*[*Microsoft Word*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Word)

Microsoft Word is a [word processor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Word_processor) available for Windows and OS X. Word is also available in some editions of [Microsoft Works](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Works).

### Excel**[**[**edit**](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Microsoft_Office&action=edit&section=3)**]**

*Main article:*[*Microsoft Excel*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Excel)

Microsoft Excel is a [spreadsheet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spreadsheet) program. It is available for the Windows and OS X platforms.

### PowerPoint**[**[**edit**](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Microsoft_Office&action=edit&section=4)**]**

*Main article:*[*Microsoft PowerPoint*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_PowerPoint)

Microsoft PowerPoint is a [presentation program](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presentation_program) for Windows and OS X. It is used to create [slideshows](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slideshows), composed of text, graphics, and other objects

### Access**[**[**edit**](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Microsoft_Office&action=edit&section=5)**]**

*Main article:*[*Microsoft Access*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Access)

Microsoft Access is a [database management system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Database_management_system) for Windows

### Outlook**[**[**edit**](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Microsoft_Office&action=edit&section=6)**]**

Microsoft Outlook is a [personal information manager](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Personal_information_manager).

**Popularity**

**1. Google Docs is underpowered**

[Google Docs is called by some, the best alternative to Office](http://www.eweek.com/enterprise-apps/google-docs-drops-export-support-for-old-microsoft-office-formats/). But this cloud-based option still lacks the power that customers have come to expect from Office. Just try analyzing data in Excel to find out why Google Docs doesn’t hold up. For corporate users, Office is still the natural choice.

**2. Apple’s iWork is too consumer focused**

Apple has its sights set firmly on Office with its iWork platform. But there’s just one problem: the software is too consumer-focused for corporate users.

**3. Employee productivity is a major problem**

When analyzing the impact on employee productivity, it’s hard to find a single solution that’s better than Office.

**4. Microsoft is going to the cloud**

Microsoft is fully aware that the cloud is the future. With help from services like Office 365, the company is making serious inroads into that space.

**5. Open source isn’t for the enterprise**

Over the years, some [Microsoft haters have argued that the company’s proprietary software is bad for users](http://www.eweek.com/c/a/IT-Management/Opera-Software-Opens-New-Silicon-Valley-Office-740974/). So, they’ve tried to push open-source alternatives like Open Office.

**My View:**

It is very power suite and very useful in most of the fields. I also prefer it and it is the basic requirement of every personal as well as public computer. I often use it for making assignments, presentations, spread sheets etc.

* **Mozilla Thunderbird:**

### **Mail Account Setup Wizard**

Prior to this feature you had to know your IMAP, SMTP, and SSL/TLS settings. Now all you need to provide is your name, email address, and password and the email account set up wizardry will check our database and find the email settings for you.

### **Personalized Email Addresses**

Ever dreamed of having a personalized email address (such as "dad@thesmithfamily.com") for you, your family or your business? Thunderbird makes this easy - you can sign up for a new email address within Thunderbird, and it will all be set up automatically for you ready to send and receive.

### **One-click Address Book**

One-click Address Book is a quick and easy way to add people to your address book. Add people by simply clicking on the star icon in the message you receive. Two clicks and you can add more details like a photo, birthday, and other contact information.

### **Attachment Reminder**

The attachment reminder looks for the word attachment (and other words like file types) in the body of your message and reminds you to add an attachment before hitting send.

### **Multiple-channel chat**

Enjoy real-time conversation with your contacts, right from your favorite messaging application, with multiple supported networks. Thunderbird makes it easy to search through both past conversations and received emails.

### **Large Files Management**

Share large files with Thunderbird Filelink!

You can now speed up the transfer of large documents by uploading them to an online storage provider and sharing the link instead of sending the file directly as a message attachment. Improve the speed of sending email and avoid message rejection if the recipient’s server disallows large files.

### **Robust Privacy and Do Not Track**

Thunderbird offers support for user privacy and remote image protection. To ensure a user’s privacy, Thunderbird automatically blocks remote images in email messages.

Thunderbird also supports the [Do Not Track](https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/dnt/) option.

**Popularity:**

One problem is that if a company has deployed Microsoft Exchange its expensive and disruptive to switch to a non-Microsoft email client because you're really talking about replacing a major part of your infrastructure, not your email client.   
I would expect Thunderbird might be more popular with universities than corporations since many universities run a UNIX mail server, you don't have to pay for Thunderbird or deal with any licensing issues, and many of them have a history of supporting Netscape and/or Mozilla.   
  
Thunderbird isn't in the same league as Outlook, its more equivalent to Outlook Express which was designed for individuals, not the corporate market. This is the reason why people adopt Thunderbird.

**My Views:**

It is very useful for notifying all the email e.g. Facebook, twitter, LinkedIn, Gmail etc. I remain up to date about all the email just installing Mozilla thunderbird. I prefer it to remain up to date. But there is a bit problem i.e. it require more ram for remain opened because it launch all the email at a time.