



Ahsanullah University of Science & Technology

Department of Computer Science & Engineering

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Computer System

A computer system is a basic, complete and

functional hardware and software setup with everything needed to implement computing performance.

That's the basic working definition of the computer system as we know it, but it has gone through a lot of formal changes over the past few decades.

Explains Computer System

If that definition on its face sounds kind of abstract, there are some core aspects of computing that a computer system has to facilitate.

First, there's the ability to receive user input. Then there's the ability to process data. There's also the capability to create information for storage and output.

That's a computer system in a nutshell, but understanding what a computer system is also involves looking back at the timeline of computer evolution over the decades.

Computer Systems: Early Models

To look at the history of a computing system, you have to go all the way back to Charles Babbage's differential machine. This computer, (which never



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~~Actually got fully built,~~ predated and prefigured the mainframes and large-scale computers of the early 20th century the Von Neumann machine and its ilk, as computers, bulky and monolithic, first appeared in the human world.

The Personal Computer

Then, the personal computer or desktop computer was born. This model persisted for a long

time, where the computer box or shell was the central hardware and used peripherals like a monitor, keyboard and mouse, along with software that was fed to the computer through

floppy disks



Virtualization

More recently, virtualization revolutionized how we think of hardware and software setups. A modern computing system may not consist of a piece of hardware itself — it may instead consist of a virtualized computer system or virtual machine that uses resources from a grid to operate.

Operating System

The operating system emerged early as a convention in supporting the full computing system in the box, and making sure that users had a universal way to handle the software that ran on that hardware.

- Monitor
- Application
- Printer
- Mouse
- Hard drive
- Keyboard



Then, in addition to the operating system, we learned about files, applications, and executables.

Some Operating System

- Windows
- macOS
- linux
- android
- ios