Digital currency (digital money or electronic money or electronic currency) is a type of [currency](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Currency) available only in digital form, not in physical (such as [banknotes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Banknote) and [coins](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coin)). It exhibits properties similar to physical currencies, but allows for instantaneous transactions and borderless transfer-of-ownership. Examples include [virtual currencies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virtual_currency) and [cryptocurrencies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cryptocurrency) or even central bank issued "[digital base money](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital_base_money)". Like traditional [money](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Money), these currencies may be used to buy physical [goods](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goods) and [services](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Service_(economics)), but may also be restricted to certain communities such as for use inside an on-line game or social network.

Digital currency is a money balance recorded electronically on a [stored-value card](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stored-value_card) or other device. Another form of electronic money is network money, allowing the transfer of value on [computer networks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_networks), particularly the [Internet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet).

Digital money can either be centralized, where there is a central point of control over the money supply, or decentralized, where the control over the money supply can come from various sources.