

# engine

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**(1)** A specialized processor, such as a graphics processor. Like any engine, the faster it runs, the quicker the job gets done. See [graphics engine](#) and [printer engine](#).

**(2)** Software that performs a very specific and repetitive function in contrast to an application that has many functions offered to the user. For example, a "search engine" or "database engine" responds to user queries over and over again. An "SMTP engine" forwards mail. A "dictionary engine" looks up words. A "rendering engine" forms the text and images that are displayed and printed. See [search engine](#), [database engine](#) and [rendering engine](#).

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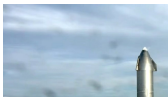
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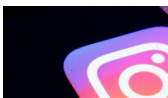
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