

1.   • **Kernel Mode**• **Interrupt**

- Are signals sent to the CPU by external devices, normally I/O devices.
- Tells the CPU to stop its current activities and execute the appropriate part of the operating system (**Interrupt Handler**).
- Has three different types

1) **Hardware Interrupts**

- \* Are generated by hardware devices to signal that they need some attention from the OS.
- \* May be due to receiving some data

**Examples**

- Keystrokes on the keyboard
- Receiving data on the ethernet card
  
- \* May be due to completing a task which the operating system previously requested

**Examples**

Transferring data between the hard drive and memory

2) **Software Interrupts**

- \* Are generated by programs when a system call is requested

3) **Traps**

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