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20 Examples of Digital Technology

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Paul's passion for technology and digital media goes back over 30 years. Born in the UK, he now lives in the US.

Digital technology has radically transformed almost every aspect of human life in recent years, including communications, the workplace, entertainment, travel, banking, and shopping. This article lists 20 examples of digital technology and then explains each in more detail.

20 Digital Technology Examples

1. Websites
2. Buying and Selling Online
3. Smartphones
4. Digital Televisions
5. Video Streaming
6. eBooks
7. Digital Music
8. Geolocation
9. Blogs
10. Social Media
11. Computers
12. Printers

13. Self-Scan Machines
14. ATMs
15. Digital Cameras
16. Cars and Other Vehicles
17. Clocks
18. Robotics
19. Drones and Guided Missiles
20. Banking and Finances

I explain each choice in more detail below.

1. Websites

The internet is itself the function of multiple pieces of digital technology, and websites are one of the most common ways that people access it. Websites give us all sorts of information and have become increasingly interactive—for example, not only can you see what's on at your local cinema, but you can buy your tickets, too.

2. Buying and Selling Online

Shopping online continues to grow and provides consumers with increasing choices and value. You can buy from a large retailer at the other end of the country, or from an individual in your home town. Likewise, selling online can be carried out large scale as a commercial enterprise, or just to make a little cash from selling an individual item you no longer need.

3. Smartphones

The introduction of mobile phones revolutionized communications, both through voice and texting. Now we have smartphones, which incorporate many other types of digital technology such as cameras, calculators, and mapping. Phone apps are expanding consumer options even more.

4. Digital Television

Digital technology has transformed televisions in numerous ways. For starters, both the picture and audio quality have undergone dramatic improvements. Modern televisions can also be used to stream movies and shows, rather than just receive programs via an antenna or cable connection.

5. Video Streaming

Video streaming can be used for numerous purposes. You can watch movies or shows online. You can chat with people online and see them live using applications such as Skype. You can watch or stream live events using live streaming. Sites such as YouTube provide numerous other viewing options for information or entertainment. Streaming technology can increasingly be accessed through a variety of devices, including computers, televisions, and smartphones.

6. eBooks

Digital alternatives to traditional print are now plentiful. This enables users to access a multitude of reading materials from a single, portable device, so there's no longer the same need to carry around a lot of bulky, heavy books. It's easy to alter the font size and style to suit reader preferences. Plus, unlike with print books, there are no trees cut down to make them.

7. Digital Music

Digital audio arrived for consumers in the shape of compact disks, providing much greater sound quality than traditional analog. Nowadays, most music listeners stream their audio from the web, or buy and download tracks in the form of compressed audio formats such as MP3. The process of recording, editing, and promoting music have also been transformed.

8. Geolocation

The combination of satellite and digital technology means that the location of a device, such as a mobile phone, GPS device, or internet-connected computer, can be calculated very accurately. This information can then be used with other digital applications, such as mapping technology, to provide users with relevant information related to their location.

9. Blogs

Digital technology has enabled the creation of blogs, which are now commonly found across the web. These regularly updated websites usually contain personal reflections, typically written in an informal style. They are also increasingly interactive, containing links to videos and other media, and are often accompanied by readers' comments.

10. Social Media

Social media sites, such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, have seen an explosion in popularity in recent years. They bring together multiple pieces of digital technology to enable users to interact via text, photos, video, as well as form social groups. Social media applications rely almost entirely on user-generated content.

11. Computers

Laptops, tablets, desktops, and other forms of computer depend upon digital technology to function. Originally computers were huge and used mainly by large companies and scientific projects for performing complex calculations and storing large amounts of information. Nowadays, they are much more compact, as well as powerful, and can perform a multitude of tasks.

12. Printers

Printers are another digital device that are so commonplace nowadays that we pretty much take them for granted. Although in recent years, information increasingly tends to be stored rather than printed, life without these output devices would still be difficult to imagine. We also shouldn't forget 3D printers, which are increasingly presenting both new opportunities and challenges.

13. Self-Scan Machines

These machines have become increasingly common as they become more sophisticated and scanning technology such as RFID gradually replaces barcodes. Common examples include self-scanning of shopping products when buying at a store, and going through passport control in certain international airports.

14. ATMs

ATMs were invented in London in 1967 and since then have become ubiquitous, giving people a quick and easy way to access their bank accounts. Modern ATMs can be used for such things as cash withdrawals, to check bank balances, deposit money, or credit mobile phones.

15. Digital Cameras

These devices have much greater versatility than traditional cameras, especially when used in conjunction with other digital technology. Digital images are easier to store, organize, edit, email, and print. Most digital cameras can also capture video too.

16. Cars and Other Vehicles

Modern cars have computers at their core to monitor and adjust the engine, control safety systems, as well as operate comfort, convenience, and security systems. Other vehicles such as boats and aircraft rely even more heavily on computers for their functionality. As technology continues to develop, it is only a matter of time before self-driving vehicles become the norm.

17. Alarm Clocks

Digital clocks have a number of advantages over traditional analog clocks: They don't make a ticking sound; they are easy to read, even in the dark; and the alarms go off at the precise time that you set them. They can also be combined with radios, so that you wake up to your favorite show.

18. Robotics

As digital robotic technology becomes more sophisticated, it becomes more widely used. Robotic machines can already be commonly found in the manufacturing industry. They are also used for tasks that are dangerous to humans, such as detecting and defusing bombs. Scientists are also working on nanorobots, tiny robots that can be injected into the human body to carry out medical investigations and procedures.

19. Drones and Guided Missiles

There are many military uses for digital technology. Drones (unmanned combat aerial vehicles) and guided missiles incorporate digital technology in order to operate effectively. Drones are typically directed in real time by a remote human controller. Missiles use digital technology for their guidance, targeting, and flight systems.

20. Banking and Finances

Many people now do most of their banking either on their computer, or their phone. There are apps for a range of other things too, such as checking your credit score, or paying your credit card bill. Apps such as PayPal allow you to transfer money, take payments, and pay bills. If you need an app for investing money, or helping you to save money and pay your taxes, digital technology enables this too.

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Comments

Thibault Achille Ngnotchou Tsonowa on August 25, 2020:

really interesting

Erica on June 05, 2020:

Great article. Very neat!

Marjan on May 10, 2020:

It was great, thank you

amman shoaib on April 22, 2020:

this was extremely helpful

Derek on March 24, 2020:

Good

samanth on February 03, 2020:

very helpful