

Tech Giants: Microsoft and Facebook

Microsoft

Microsoft Corporation, founded by Bill Gates and Paul Allen in 1975, is one of the largest technology companies in the world. It is best known for its Windows operating system and Microsoft Office productivity suite. Over the years, Microsoft has diversified into cloud computing with Azure, hardware products like the Surface line, and enterprise software. It acquired LinkedIn in 2016 and GitHub in 2018, further expanding its influence in social and developer communities. Today, Microsoft is a major player in artificial intelligence, cloud computing, gaming through Xbox, and enterprise solutions.

Facebook (Meta)

Facebook, now known as Meta Platforms Inc., was founded by Mark Zuckerberg and his college roommates in 2004. Initially launched as a social network for Harvard students, it quickly expanded to become the largest social media platform in the world. Facebook acquired several companies including Instagram, WhatsApp, and Oculus VR, broadening its influence in social media, messaging, and virtual reality. In 2021, the company rebranded to Meta to focus on building the metaverse—a shared virtual space integrating augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR). Despite facing privacy and regulatory challenges, Meta remains a dominant force in global communication and digital advertising.