

Kaeli Moore

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GUI vs CLI

When someone is using their laptop or desktop they are always using a GUI or CLI, knowing that these are always being used. What does it mean to use them?

The abbreviation GUI stands for “graphical user interface” which is a way to click through visual menus to navigate a computer. GUIs are the most commonly used interface in present times as it is used in MacOS, Windows as well as Android. This style of interface navigation was created by Xerox in the 1970s and was then later popularized in the 1980s by Apple.

A CLI on the other hand stands for “command line interface” and while a GUI is made up of visual click and pull systems a CLI is a text based interface that allows one to use their computer. Within a CLI the user types commands into a terminal which allows them to navigate the computer. While many computers use GUI primarily, many of them still have options for CLIs. MacOS has a Mac Terminal, Windows uses Command Prompt and Linux has its own Bash Shell.

Comparatively each one has their own benefits as anything does and which one is better really depends on the activity at hand. GUI is easier for most people as it is visual and most commonly used. CLI however is useful and is best when precision and speed is required for the task.