

In Windows, **interactive applications require user input to function, while non-interactive applications, like background services, operate without direct user interaction.** Interactive applications, such as web browsers or word processors, provide a graphical user interface (GUI) where users can click, type, and interact with the program. Non-interactive applications, on the other hand, often run in the background without any visual interface, performing tasks like printing or updating software. [1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7]

Elaboration:

- **Interactive Applications:**
 - **User Interaction:** These applications require user input to perform their tasks, such as clicking buttons, typing in text, or selecting options from menus. [3, 3, 4, 4]
 - **GUI:** They typically have a GUI that allows users to interact with the application visually. [3, 3, 8, 9, 10]
 - **Examples:** Web browsers, word processors, media players, and game engines are examples of interactive applications. [3, 3, 4, 4, 11, 12, 13, 14]
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- **Non-Interactive Applications:**
 - **Background Processes:** These applications run in the background without a visible GUI, performing tasks automatically. [1, 1, 2, 2, 4, 15]
 - **Services:** Services are a common type of non-interactive application that performs specific tasks like printing or managing network connections. [2, 2, 16, 17]
 - **Automated Tasks:** They are often used for tasks that can be automated, such as software updates, virus scans, or data backups. [1, 1, 2, 2, 18, 19]
 - **Examples:** System services, scheduled tasks, and background data processing are examples of non-interactive applications. [1, 1, 2, 2, 4, 20, 21]

Key Differences:

Feature	Interactive Applications	Non-Interactive Applications
User Interaction	Requires user input	No direct user interaction

GUI	Typically has a GUI	Often no GUI
Purpose	User-driven tasks	Background tasks
Examples	Web browsers, editors	System services, updates

In Summary:

Interactive applications are designed for direct user interaction through a GUI, while non-interactive applications operate in the background without a user interface, often performing automated tasks. [1, 2, 3]