

# Introduction to PC Hardware

A Personal Computer (PC) is made up of various hardware components that work together to process data, run applications, and store information. Hardware refers to the physical parts of the computer system.

Key Components of PC Hardware:

1. **Central Processing Unit (CPU):**

The CPU is the brain of the computer. It performs all arithmetic and logical operations and controls other components.

2. **Motherboard:**

The motherboard connects all the internal components. It contains the CPU socket, RAM slots, and expansion slots.

3. **Memory (RAM):**

Random Access Memory is used to store data temporarily while the computer is running. It helps in fast data access.

4. **Storage Devices:**

Hard Disk Drives (HDDs) and Solid State Drives (SSDs) are used to store the operating system, software, and user data.

5. **Power Supply Unit (PSU):**

Converts AC power to DC power for internal components.

6. **Input Devices:**

Examples include keyboard, mouse, and scanner. These devices allow the user to interact with the computer.

7. **Output Devices:**

Devices such as monitors, printers, and speakers display or output the results of computer processes.

8. **Peripheral Devices:**

Additional hardware such as webcams, external drives, and USB devices that expand computer functionality.

A proper understanding of these components helps in assembling, troubleshooting, and maintaining a computer system.