

Computer Fundamentals



Block diagram of computer

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CPU : Central Processing Unit

ALU : Arithmetic and Logic Unit

CU : Control Unit

Interaction between CPU, memory and input/output devices



Interaction between CPU, memory and input/output devices

- Input device input data into computer like data entry through keyboard.
- Data is then processed by the central processing unit(CPU).
- Random access memory (RAM) is used for processing.
- information is displayed through the output device, like on monitor.
- Data and information can be stored in computer's memory called secondary memory, like on hard disk.
- Secondary memory of computer includes hard disk, compact disk(CD), digital versatile disk(DVD), pendrive ,memory card etc.

Function of CPU and major functional parts of CPU.



- CPU : Central Processing Unit
- ALU : Arithmetic and Logic Unit

Function of memory

- Computer memory is used for processing data.
- Primary memory processes data.
- When data is input to the computer it is processed according to the program instructions.
- Memory stores data also.
- Like text file, audio file, video file, image file.
- Data is stored on secondary memory. Secondary memory includes harddisk, CD, DVD, pendrive, memory card etc.

Describe the function of input output devices Input device

Input device are used to input data to the computer.

Keyboard, mouse, scanner, joystick, lightpen ,touchscreen ,optical character recognition (OCR) etc.

Input device

Input device

Output device

- Output device are used to display data.
- **E.g.** Monitor , printer , plotter.

- There are two broad categories of the output from computers
- Soft copy
- ► Hard copy

Output device

Output device

Relevance of speed and word length for CPU performance

Wordlength

- Wordlength is the number of bits a CPU can process simultaneously. For example a 32 bit processor is faster than that of 16 bit processor.
 Speed
- Speed refers to the clock speed of the processor.

Relevance of speed and word length for CPU performance

The computer with more processor clock speed and word length has higher performance than the computer with less wordlength and processor clock speed.