

# Devices of Computer

**Input Device Definition:** A piece of equipment/hardware which helps us enter data into a computer is called an input device. For example keyboard, mouse, etc.

## List of Input Devices

Given below is the list of the most common input devices along with brief information about each of them.

### 1. **Keyboard**

- A simple device comprising keys and each key denotes either an alphabet, number or number commands which can be given to a computer for various actions to be performed
- It has a modified version of typewriter keys
- The keyboard is an essential input device and computer and laptops both use keyboards to give commands to the computer

### 2. **Mouse**

- It is also known as a pointing device
- Using mouse we can directly click on the various icons present on the system and open up various files and programs
- A mouse comprises 3 buttons on the top and one trackball at the bottom which helps in selecting and moving the mouse around, respectively
- In case of laptops, the touchpad is given as a replacement of the mouse which helps in the movement of the mouse pointer

### 3. **Joy Stick**

- It is a device which comprises a stick which is attached at an angle to the base so that it can be moved and controlled
- Mostly used to control the movement in video games
- Apart from a computer system, a joystick is also used in the cockpit of an aeroplane, wheelchairs, cranes, trucks, etc. to operate them well

### 4. **Light Pen**

- It is a wand-like looking device which can directly be moved over the device's screen
- It is light-sensitive
- Used in conjunction with computer's cathode ray tube

### 5. **Microphone**

- Using a microphone, sound can be stored in a device in its digital form
- It converts sound into an electrical signal
- To record or reproduce a sound created using a microphone, it needs to be connected with an amplifier

### 6. **Scanner**

- This device can scan images or text and convert it into a digital signal
- When we place any piece of a document on a scanner, it converts it into a digital signal and displays it on the computer screen

#### 7. **Barcode Reader**

- It is a kind of an optical scanner
- It can read bar codes
- A source of light is passed through a bar code, and its aspects and details are displayed on the screen

**Output Device Definition:** A piece of equipment/hardware which gives out the result of the entered input, once it is processed (i.e. converts data from machine language to a human-understandable language), is called an output device. For example printer, monitor, etc.

## List of Output Device

The commonly used output devices have been listed below with a brief summary of what their function is and how they can be used.

#### 1. **Monitor**

- The device which displays all the icons, text, images, etc. over a screen is called the Monitor
- When we ask the computer to perform an action, the result of that action is displayed on the monitor
- Various types of monitors have also been developed over the years

#### 2. **Printer**

- A device which makes a copy of the pictorial or textual content, usually over a paper is called a printer
- For example, an author types the entire book on his/her computer and later gets a print out of it, which is in the form of paper and is later published
- Multiple types of printers are also available in the market, which can serve different purposes

#### 3. **Speakers**

- A device through which we can listen to a sound as an outcome of what we command a computer to do is called a speaker
- Speakers are attached with a computer system and also are a hardware device which can be attached separately
- With the advancement in technology, speakers are now available which are wireless and can be connected using Bluetooth or other applications

#### 4. **Projector**

- An optical device which presents an image or moving images onto a projection screen is called a projector
- Most commonly these projectors are used in auditoriums and movie theatres for the display of the videos or lighting

- If a projector is connected to a computer, then the image/video displayed on the screen is the same as the one displayed on the computer screen

#### 5. **Headphones**

- They perform the same function as a speaker, the only difference is the frequency of sound
- Using speakers, the sound can be heard over a larger area and using headphones, the sound is only audible to the person using them
- Also known as earphones or headset