

# INPUT DEVICE

**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.