

Computer Hardware Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Computer Hardware trivia explores the parts, materials, and engineering breakthroughs behind computers, from processors and memory to storage and peripherals. It offers a concise, family-friendly way to learn how hardware evolved across generations while still leaving room for tougher questions on architecture, standards, and design history.

HARD COMPUTER HARDWARE TRIVIA

1. Before 8-bit home computing took over, which bit-width defined the Intel 4004 microprocessor?

Answer: It was a 4-bit microprocessor.

2. Which microprocessor made its debut in 1975: the MOS Technology 6502, Zilog Z80, or Intel Pentium?

Answer: MOS Technology 6502

3. What processor line was introduced in 1976 and carries the Zilog name?

Answer: The Zilog Z80 microprocessor.

4. The machine that defeated Garry Kasparov in a 1997 chess match was what IBM system?

Answer: Deep Blue

5. Which supercomputer, rather than a home computer or CPU, was introduced in 1976?

Answer: Cray-1

6. Name the 1975 computer introduced by MITS that became an early microcomputer icon.?

Answer: Altair 8800

7. Which Apple computer entered the market in 1977?

Answer: Apple II

8. In what year was the Intel Pentium brand introduced?

Answer: 1993

9. Which motherboard form factor did Intel introduce in 1995?

Answer: ATX

10. What graphics interface arrived in 1997 as a dedicated expansion standard for video cards?

Answer: AGP

11. Which storage interface had Revision 1.0 introduced in 2003?

Answer: Serial ATA

12. What interconnect standard reached version 1.0 in 2003?

Answer: PCI Express 1.0

13. JEDEC standardized which SDRAM type in 2003?

Answer: DDR2 SDRAM

14. Around what kind of device did first products begin appearing circa 2000: tiny, pocketable, and USB-based?

Answer: USB flash drive

FUNNY COMPUTER HARDWARE TRIVIA

1. What real insect turned the phrase "computer bug" into a very literal office story in a Harvard Mark II relay in 1947?

Answer: A moth

2. The device called a computer mouse got its name partly because its cord looked like what body part?

Answer: A tail

3. The computing term "spam" got a big boost from a reference to which comedy group?

Answer: Monty Python

4. On many keyboards, what is the common name for the @ symbol that patiently waits for email duty?

Answer: The at sign

5. Who designed Ctrl+Alt+Delete for the IBM PC, creating history's most famous three-finger salute?

Answer: David Bradley

6. Which keyboard key exists almost entirely to help you TYPE LIKE THIS without holding Shift?

Answer: Caps Lock

7. What do you call a small hardware adapter that plugs into a port and often looks like it has important but mysterious business to attend to?

Answer: A dongle

8. Which pointing device is basically the mouse after a yoga inversion, with the ball exposed on top?

Answer: A trackball

9. When the first Macintosh was introduced in 1984, which computer greeted users right on the screen?

Answer: The Macintosh

10. Which logo shows a trident-like symbol, making a cable standard look oddly ready for sea duty?

Answer: The USB logo

11. That little red pointing stick on some laptops is often nicknamed what?

Answer: The TrackPoint nub

12. If a gadget becomes so unusable it might as well audition as a paperweight, what hardware term is often used for it?

Answer: Brick

13. What nickname is given to tiny metallic filaments that can cause hardware failures, despite sounding like a band name for very small robots?

Answer: Tin whiskers

FUN COMPUTER HARDWARE TRIVIA

1. Whose surname ended up attached to the famous prediction known as Moore's Law?

Answer: Gordon Moore

2. Silicon Valley got its name from what semiconductor material?

Answer: Silicon

3. What was the model name of IBM's hard drive that became the first commercially available 1 GB drive in 1980?

Answer: IBM 3380

4. Before livestreams were everywhere, the first webcam had a truly noble mission: watching what?

Answer: A coffee pot

5. True or false: QWERTY was created during the smartphone era.?

Answer: False

6. Which company originally developed the ThinkPad laptop line?

Answer: IBM

7. In what year did the first iPod make its debut?

Answer: 2001

8. The very first iPhone arrived in which year?

Answer: 2007

9. Nvidia bragged that one 1999 graphics card was the first GPU. Which card was it?

Answer: GeForce 256

10. Which two companies teamed up to develop the CD standard?

Answer: Philips and Sony

11. Which device was first released in 2007: the Kindle or the Apple Watch?

Answer: Kindle

12. What year did the first Apple Watch land on wrists?

Answer: 2015

13. Nintendo's red-and-black Virtual Boy blinked into stores in what year?

Answer: 1995

COMPUTER HARDWARE FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Which Apple co-founder is known for helping build the company's early computers?

Answer: Steve Wozniak

2. Who co-founded Intel?

Answer: Gordon Moore

3. Who co-invented Ethernet, the technology used for many wired computer networks?

Answer: Robert Metcalfe

4. Who serves as the chief executive officer of AMD?

Answer: Lisa Su

5. Who founded TSMC?

Answer: Morris Chang

6. TSMC is headquartered in which city in Taiwan?

Answer: Hsinchu

7. Who is often called the father of the PlayStation?

Answer: Ken Kutaragi

8. Which engineer was a key member of the original IBM PC team?

Answer: Mark Dean

9. Which famous designer is known as a pioneer of supercomputers?

Answer: Seymour Cray

10. Who shared the 2000 Nobel Prize in Physics for work related to the integrated circuit?

Answer: Jack Kilby

11. Who led the design of the Intel 4004?

Answer: Federico Faggin

12. Who is widely credited with making the first handheld mobile phone call in 1973?

Answer: Martin Cooper

EASY COMPUTER HARDWARE TRIVIA

1. What does CPU stand for?

Answer: Central Processing Unit

2. GPU is short for what phrase?

Answer: Graphics Processing Unit

3. In computer memory, what does RAM stand for?

Answer: Random Access Memory

4. What is the full name of ROM?

Answer: Read-Only Memory

5. SSD stands for what kind of drive?

Answer: Solid-State Drive

6. What does HDD mean in computer storage?

Answer: Hard Disk Drive

7. Which connector type is famous for being reversible, so you can plug it in either way?

Answer: USB-C

8. PCI Express is commonly abbreviated as what?

Answer: PCIe

9. In names like DDR4 memory, what does DDR stand for?

Answer: Double Data Rate

10. What is the main circuit board inside a computer called?

Answer: Motherboard

11. Which computer part converts wall power for the system's components?

Answer: Power supply unit

12. On a local network, what device forwards data frames between devices?

Answer: An Ethernet switch

13. Which technology is a short-range wireless communication standard?

Answer: Bluetooth

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