



Meaning of **operating system** in English



operating system

noun [C]

US /ˈɑː.pə.reɪ.tɪŋ ˌsɪs.təm/ UK /ˈɒp.ər.eɪ.tɪŋ ˌsɪs.təm/

Add to word list

a set of programs that control the way a computer system works, especially how its memory is used and how different programs work together

+ **SMART Vocabulary:** related words and phrases

Build your confidence when speaking English!

Sparkle is a new app from Cambridge that connects you with learners around the world to play speaking games in real time.

Try it now

(Definition of **operating system** from the Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary & Thesaurus © Cambridge University Press)

operating system | INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH

operating system

noun [C]

US /ˈɒp.ə.reɪ.tɪŋ ˌsɪs.təm/

(abbreviation **OS**)

Add to word list

the set of programs that a computer uses to operate, store files, and



Contents

To top





operating system | BUSINESS ENGLISH

operating system

noun [C] • IT

UK US

(abbreviation **OS**, **O/S**)

Add to word list

a program that controls the way a computer works, and that allows applications (= programs for particular purposes) to work on it:

- **a computer/PC operating system** *A leading economist denied that the firm has a monopoly in the PC operating system market.*

(Definition of **operating system** from the [Cambridge Business English Dictionary](#) © Cambridge University Press)

EXAMPLES of operating system

operating system

This probably goes without saying, but it's the best *operating system* money can't buy.

From [CNET](#)



These will all be features of the *operating system*.

From [TechCrunch](#)



It's not a time when we have much in the way of launches of new products or a new *operating system*.

From [Wired](#)



The anatomy of each gadget's *operating system* is outlined in bold icons, like an anatomical roadmap that teaches users how to build the object.

From [Wired](#)



The *operating system* up above is concerning itself with writing files and directories and things into clusters, but all the disk cares about is blocks.

From [Ars Technica](#)





Android's popularity means every few weeks a new device running the *operating system* hits the market.

From [Wired](#)



By 2024 we should have a fully *operating system*.

From [Reuters](#)



These examples are from corpora and from sources on the web. Any opinions in the examples do not represent the opinion of the Cambridge Dictionary editors or of Cambridge University Press or its licensors.

What is the pronunciation of *operating system*?



Translations of *operating system*

in Chinese (Traditional)

(電腦的) 操作系統...

See more

in Chinese (Simplified)

(计算机的) 操作系统...

See more

in Spanish

sistema operativo...

See more

in Portuguese

sistema operacional, sistema operativo...

See more

in more languages



Need a translator?

Get a quick, free translation!



Browse

operating profit

operating profit margin

operating room

operating strategy

operating system

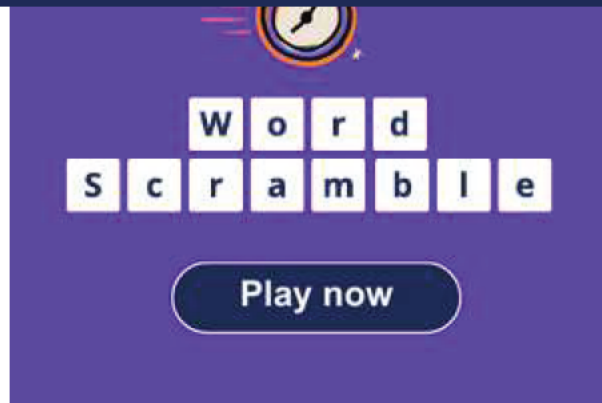
operating table

operating theatre

operation

operation code BETA





More meanings of *operating system*

– All

[disk operating system](#)

[See all meanings](#)



WORD OF THE DAY

white chocolate

a sweet, cream-coloured food made from cocoa butter, sugar, and milk, that is usually sold in a block



BLOG

Renowned and celebrated (Words meaning 'famous')

March 13, 2024

[Read More](#)

Cambridge
Dictionary

NEW WORDS

inverse vaccine

March 11, 2024

[More new words](#)

LEARN



DEVELOP



ABOUT

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS & ASSESSMENT

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2024

