
Dictionary of Computer and Internet Terms

Twelfth Edition

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Ex. 3001

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I

I-bar, I-beam the shape of the mouse pointer in a text editing environment.
See CURSOR; INSERTION POINT.

Some computer
support exten
In Microsoft

FIGURE 132. I-bar (I-beam) cursor

I-triple-E see IEEE.

I2 see INTERNET 2.

IA-32 (Intel Architecture-32) the architecture of the Intel 80386, 80486, and Pentium microprocessors, used on most personal computers a few years ago and now being displaced by x64. Contrast also IA-64.

IA-64 (Intel Architecture-64) the architecture of the 64-bit Intel microprocessors, such as the ITANIUM, that were intended to be the successor to the Pentium family (IA-32). IA-64 microprocessors can switch into IA-32 mode for compatibility with older software.

In actual use, the x64 (x86-64) architecture, introduced by AMD but also adopted by Intel, has proved considerably more popular than IA-64 and is usually used on 64-bit PCs today. See ITANIUM; PARALLEL PROCESSING. Contrast X64.

IANA (Internet Assigned Numbers Authority) an organization based at the University of Southern California with the responsibility to make sure all IP addresses are unique. Their web address is www.iana.org. See IP ADDRESS; TLD.

IBM (International Business Machines) manufacturer of computers and other office equipment. The company was formed in 1911 by the merger of three companies that made record-keeping equipment for businesses, one of which was the PUNCHED CARD company founded by Herman Hollerith.

IBM started manufacturing mainframe computers in the 1950s. By the late 1960s, IBM controlled about 80 percent of the computer market with models such as the IBM System/360, and the name IBM was practically synonymous with computing. Today, the company continues to make mainframe computers.

In 1981 IBM introduced the IBM Personal Computer (PC), which quickly became one of the most popular microcomputers. Users felt that with IBM behind it, the personal computer had come of age as a practical business machine, not just an experimental machine for laboratories

or hobbyists. The IBM PC was designed in some haste, and very little of its design was patented; as a result, other companies (beginning with Compaq in 1983) were able to produce *clones* (compatible imitations) of it. The IBM PC became the most popular standard for microcomputers, even though most of the computers were produced by other companies, and Intel microprocessors and Microsoft operating system software became the defining elements of the standard. Today's "PC" computers are distant descendants of the original IBM PC. In 2005 IBM sold its PC business to Lenovo. IBM is headquartered in Armonk, New York (web address: www.ibm.com). See also IBM PC.

IBM PC popular lines of microcomputers manufactured by IBM. There are many variations of each; this article will mention only the most historically important.

The IBM Personal Computer (PC), introduced in 1981, was the first of a family of very popular microcomputers, including not only IBM products but also "clones" (imitations) made by other companies. The original IBM PC used very little proprietary technology. Thus, it was easy for competitors to build compatible machines without violating patents. See CLONE; PC COMPATIBILITY.

IBM maintained a high level of upward compatibility within the PC and PS/2 line. This means that later-model machines would run virtually all software written for earlier models.



FIGURE 133. IBM PC (1981)

IBM's two original machines, the PC and PC XT, are virtually identical, featuring 4.77-MHz 8088 microprocessors with an 8-bit bus. The only difference was that the XT had a 10-megabyte hard disk and had eight expansion slots instead of five. The PC AT, introduced in 1984, was the first PC to use the 80286 microprocessor, enabling programs to run much faster. The PC AT had what is now known as the ISA (Industry Standard Architecture) bus; it accepted both 8-bit (XT-style) and 16-bit plug-in cards.

The PS/2 machines were introduced in 1987 and discontinued in 1995. They were more compact than comparably configured PCs or ATs and all but the lowest models used the Micro Channel bus, which made it possible in some situations to use more than one CPU in a single machine.