

Types of Software

Application software is software for end-user tasks

This means that it's software that the computer user always uses directly

Examples include: word processor; spreadsheet; web browser; computer game; graphics software; media player etc...

- Beware using brand names if asked for types of application software
- Be careful just writing "office software" - check exactly what the question asks for

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System software is used to manage the computer's hardware

It is only concerned with managing the system hardware

Examples include: hard drive management; temperature management; disk utility; disk formatting; activity monitors; bluetooth and wifi management

Types of Software

System software is often (but not always) pre-installed on the system

Application software is often (but not always) downloaded and installed by the user

Types of Software

Operating Systems are a collection of pieces of software which control a computer system and manage the hardware and software components

Five things the OS manages (AMPIS):

- applications
- memory
- processors
- input/output devices
- security

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Utility software is software usually built in to the OS but that is not essential for the management of the OS and may be used directly by the end user

Examples include: file management; anti-virus; encryption systems; backup software