

Operating System (OS)

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An **operating system (OS)**, in its most general sense, is software that allows a user to run other [applications](#) on a computing device. While it is possible for a software application to interface directly with hardware, the vast majority of applications are written for an OS, which allows them to take advantage of common libraries and not worry about specific hardware details.

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Last update: **2021/07/26 13:06**