

# Platform

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A **Platform** is a group of technologies that are used as a base upon which other applications, processes or technologies are developed.

In personal computing, a [platform](#) is the basic [Hardware \(H/W\)](#) (computer) and [Software \(SW\)](#) ([operating system](#)) on which software [applications](#) can be run. This environment constitutes the basic foundation upon which any application or software is supported and/or developed.

Computers use specific [Central Processing Units \(CPUs\)](#) that are designed to run specific machine language code. In order for the computer to run software applications, the applications must be in that CPU's binary-coded machine language.

Thus, historically, application programs written for one platform would not work on a different platform.

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