

Windows, in computer science, personal computer **operating system** sold by Microsoft Corporation that allows users to enter commands with a point-and-click device, such as a mouse, instead of a keyboard. An operating system is a set of programs that control the basic functions of a computer. The Windows operating system provides users with a **graphical user interface** (GUI), which allows them to manipulate small pictures, called icons, on the computer screen to issue commands. Windows is the most widely used operating system in the world. It is an extension of and replacement for Microsoft's Disk Operating System (**MS-DOS**).

The Windows GUI is designed to be a natural, or intuitive, work environment for the user. With Windows, the user can move a **cursor** around on the computer screen with a **mouse**. By pointing the cursor at icons and clicking buttons on the mouse, the user can issue commands to the computer to perform an action, such as starting a program, accessing a data file, or copying a data file. Other commands can be reached through pull-down or click-on menu items. The computer displays the active area in which the user is working as a window on the computer screen. The currently active window may overlap with other previously active windows that remain open on the screen. This type of GUI is said to include *WIMP* features: *windows*, *i*cons, *m*enus, and *p*ointing device (such as a mouse).

Computer scientists at the Xerox Corporation's Palo Alto Research Center (PARC) invented the GUI concept in the early 1970s, but this innovation was not an immediate commercial success. In 1983 Apple Computer featured a GUI in its Lisa computer. This GUI was updated and improved in its Macintosh computer, introduced in 1984.

Microsoft began its development of a GUI in 1983 as an extension of its MS-DOS operating system. Microsoft's Windows version 1.0 first appeared in 1985. In this version, the windows were tiled, or presented next to each other rather than overlapping. Windows version 2.0, introduced in 1988 in collaboration with the IBM Corporation, was designed to resemble IBM's OS/2 Presentation Manager, another GUI operating system. Windows version 2.0 included the overlapping window feature. The more powerful version 3.0 of Windows, introduced in 1990, and subsequent versions 3.1 and 3.11 rapidly made Windows the market leader in operating systems for personal computers, in part because it was prepackaged on new personal computers. It also became the favored platform for software development.

In 1993 Microsoft introduced Windows NT (New Technology). The Windows NT operating system offers 32-bit **multitasking**, which gives a computer the ability to run several programs simultaneously, or in parallel, at high speed. This operating system competes with IBM's OS/2 as a platform for the intensive, high-end, networked computing environments found in many businesses.

In 1995 Microsoft released a new version of Windows for personal computers called Windows 95. Windows 95 has a sleeker and simpler GUI than previous versions. It offers 32-bit processing, efficient multitasking, network connections, and **Internet** access.

Other popular operating systems include the Macintosh System (Mac OS) from Apple Computer, OS/2 Warp from IBM, and UNIX.¹

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Operating system: Windows

This article is about a program called Windows. A program Windows was made by Microsoft Corporation. It's an operating system, which is the most widely used operating system in the world. It's based on the GUI (graphical user interface), which allows them to manipulate small pictures, called icons, on the computer screen to issue commands. Before Windows there was "non-graphical" operating system, called MS-DOS (Microsoft Disk Operating System).

The first Windows operating system came out in 1985, it was Microsoft Windows 1.0 . Windows version 2.0 was presented in 1998. Windows 2.0 included the overlapping windows feature. The more powerful version 3.0 of Windows was introduced in 1990. The next versions 3.1 and 3.11 made Windows the market leader in operating systems. In 1993 Microsoft introduced Windows NT (New Technology). The OS already supported 32-bit multitasking. In 1995 Microsoft presented Windows 95, which offered 32-bit processing, multitasking, network and Internet connections. Last year, in 1998 Microsoft introduced to Software Industry a new Windows OS, called Windows 98. Microsoft is working on new Windows project for new Millennium – Microsoft Windows 2000. New Windows 2000 has already been released and it is quite good...

English word

Slovene

interface	The point of Interaction between computer and human operator.
overlapping	To extend over and cover part of.
Resemble	To exhibit similarity or likeness to.
sleeker	Smooth as polished