

Introduction to IT Systems for Beginners

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Overview of Application Types

- **Desktop Applications**

- Installed and run on a personal computer (PC or Mac).
- Example: Microsoft Word, Adobe Photoshop.

- **Web Applications**

- Accessed through a web browser, hosted on a server, and do not require installation.
- Example: Google Docs, Gmail.

- **Mobile Applications**

- Designed specifically for mobile devices like smartphones and tablets.
- Example: Instagram, WhatsApp.

Comparison of Applications

| Criteria | Desktop | Web | Mobile |
|----------------------------|---|---|--|
| Installation | Requires installation on the device | No installation, accessed via browser | Installed via app stores (e.g., Play Store) |
| Performance | Generally faster and more powerful | Dependent on internet speed | Optimized for mobile devices but limited by hardware |
| Accessibility | Accessible only on the installed device | Accessible from any device with a browser | Accessible on mobile devices |
| Updates | Manual or automated updates | Automatically updated by the server | Updates via app store |
| Internet Connection | May work offline | Requires an internet connection | Can work offline or online depending on the app |

Application Use Cases

- **Desktop Applications**

- Ideal for resource-heavy tasks (e.g., video editing, software development).
- Strong offline capabilities.

- **Web Applications**

- Great for collaboration and accessibility from multiple devices.
- No need for installation; always up to date.

- **Mobile Applications**

- Best for on-the-go access and optimized for touch interaction.
- Utilizes mobile-specific features (GPS, camera, etc.).

Application Pros & Cons

| | Pros | Cons |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Desktop Applications | High performance, better for offline work. | Limited to the device it's installed on. |
| Web Applications | Accessible anywhere, no installation. | Requires internet connection. |
| Mobile Applications | Convenient for mobile use, optimized for mobile hardware. | Limited performance due to hardware constraints. |