

Computer Memory and its types SLO # 2.2.1

RAM:

It is an abbreviation for “Random Access Memory”. Almost all memory is randomly accessible including ROM memory. So it can justifiably be called users memory. Ram Memory is temporarily highly accessible, high speed work area. It holds only one measure program and data in a section of memory at a time after the task is completed, it can be erased and new program can be placed in a work space. It is also called volatile memory.

ROM:

It is an abbreviation for “Read Only Memory” Is a type or preprogrammed memory that contains one or more programs vital to computers needs. All computers used Rom to hold certain startup programs such as routines that start disk drives, load operating system into memory and transfer of control to new loaded operating system. This routine is known as Boots-Trap Program. It is a permanent memory. Some memories are listed below.

1. PROM Programmable Read Only Memory.
2. EPROM Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory.
3. EEPROM Electrically Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory.
4. EAPROM Electrically Alterable Programmable Read Only Memory.

INTERNAL MEMORY (Primary Memory / Main Memory):

Generally, there are two types of internal memory; Random Access Memory (RAM) and Read Only Memory (ROM). RAM refers to read and write memory: that is; you can both write data into RAM and read data from it. It is also termed as primary memory or main memory.

While the other internal memory, ROM (Read Only Memory) is permanent which retains data even the computer is turned off. Both the memories considered parts of CPU though located apart from it.

EXTERNAL MEMORY (Secondary Memory):

The secondary memory is a non-volatile memory that is external to main memory of a computer. Secondary memory storage devices (also called auxiliary devices) are physically separated but connected directly to the motherboard through a communication cable (line) so that programs or data can be accessed with almost no intervention.

Secondary storage devices include magnetic disks like hard drives and floppy disk, Optical disk such as CD ROMs and magnetic tapes which was the first form of secondary memory.