

**CompTIA A+ Acronym List**  
**Core 1 (220-1001) and Core 2 (220-1002)**

AC: Alternating Current

ACL: Access Control List

ACPI: Advanced Configuration Power Interface

ADF: Automatic Document Feeder

ADSL: Asymmetrical Digital Subscriber Line

AES: Advanced Encryption Standard

AHCI: Advanced Host Controller Interface

AP: Access Point

APIPA: Automatic Private Internet Protocol Addressing

APM: Advanced Power Management

ARP: Address Resolution Protocol

ASR: Automated System Recovery

ATA: Advanced Technology Attachment

ATAPI: Advanced Technology Attachment Packet Interface

ATM: Asynchronous Transfer Mode

ATX: Advanced Technology Extended

AUP: Acceptable Use Policy

A/V: Audio Video

BD-R: Blu-ray Disc Recordable

BIOS: Basic Input/Output System

BD-RE: Blu-ray Disc Rewritable

BNC: Bayonet-Neill-Concelman

BSOD: Blue Screen of Death

BYOD: Bring Your Own Device

CAD: Computer-Aided Design

CAPTCHA: Completely Automated Public Turing test to tell Computers and Humans Apart

CD: Compact Disc

CD-ROM: Compact Disc-Read-Only Memory

CD-RW: Compact Disc-Rewritable

CDFS: Compact Disc File System

CERT: Computer Emergency Response Team

CFS: Central File System, Common File System, or Command File System

CGA: Computer Graphics and Applications

CIDR: Classless Inter-Domain Routing

CIFS: Common Internet File System

CMOS: Complementary Metal-Oxide Semiconductor

CNR: Communications and Networking Riser

COMx: Communication port (x = port number)

CPU: Central Processing Unit

CRT: Cathode-Ray Tube

DaaS: Data as a Service

DAC: Discretionary Access Control

DB-25: Serial Communications D-Shell Connector, 25 pins

DB-9: Serial Communications D-Shell Connector, 9 pins

DBaaS: Database as a Service

DC: Direct Current

DDoS: Distributed Denial of Service

DDR: Double Data Rate

DDR RAM: Double Data Rate Random Access Memory

DFS: Distributed File System  
DHCP: Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol  
DIMM: Dual Inline Memory Module  
DIN: Deutsche Industrie Norm  
DLT: Digital Linear Tape  
DLP: Digital Light Processing or Data Loss Prevention  
DMA: Direct Memory Access  
DMZ: Demilitarized Zone  
DNS: Domain Name Service or Domain Name Server  
DoS: Denial of Service  
DRAM: Dynamic Random Access Memory  
DRM: Digital Rights Management  
DSL: Digital Subscriber Line  
DVD: Digital Versatile Disc  
DVD-RAM: Digital Versatile Disc-Random Access Memory  
DVD-ROM: Digital Versatile Disc-Read Only Memory  
DVD-R: Digital Versatile Disc-Recordable  
DVD-RW: Digital Versatile Disc-Rewritable  
DVI: Digital Visual Interface  
DVI-D: Digital Visual Interface-Digital  
ECC: Error Correcting Code  
ECP: Extended Capabilities Port  
EEPROM: Electrically Erasable Programmable Read-Only Memory  
EFS: Encrypting File System  
EIDE: Enhanced Integrated Drive Electronics  
EMI: Electromagnetic Interference  
EMP: Electromagnetic Pulse  
EPROM: Erasable Programmable Read-Only Memory

EPP: Enhanced Parallel Port  
ERD: Emergency Repair Disk  
eSATA: External Serial Advanced Technology Attachment  
ESD: Electrostatic Discharge  
EULA: End User License Agreement  
EVGA: Extended Video Graphics Adapter/Array  
Ext2: Second Extended File System  
exFAT: Extended File Allocation Table  
FAT: File Allocation Table  
FAT12: 12-bit File Allocation Table  
FAT16: 16-bit File Allocation Table  
FAT32: 32-bit File Allocation Table  
FDD: Floppy Disk Drive  
FPM: Fast Page Mode  
FSB: Front-Side Bus  
FTP: File Transfer Protocol  
FQDN: Fully Qualified Domain Name  
GDDR: Graphics Double Data Rate  
GDI: Graphics Device Interface  
GUI: Graphical User Interface  
GUID: Globally Unique Identifier  
GPS: Global Positioning System  
GPT: GUID Partition Table  
GPU: Graphics Processing Unit  
GSM: Global System for Mobile Communications  
HAL: Hardware Abstraction Layer  
HAV: Hardware Assisted Virtualization  
HCL: Hardware Compatibility List

HDCP: High-Bandwidth Digital Content Protection

HDD: Hard Disk Drive

HDMI: High Definition Media Interface

HIPS: Host Intrusion Prevention System

HPFS: High Performance File System

HTML: Hypertext Markup Language

HTPC: Home Theater PC

HTTP: Hypertext Transfer Protocol

HTTPS: Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure

I/O: Input/Output

IaaS: Infrastructure as a Service

ICMP: Internet Control Message Protocol

ICR: Intelligent Character Recognition

IDE: Integrated Drive Electronics

IDS: Intrusion Detection System

IEEE: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers

IIS: Internet Information Services

IMAP: Internet Mail Access Protocol

IMEI: International Mobile Equipment Identity

IMSI: International Mobile Subscriber Identity

IP: Internet Protocol

IPConfig: Internet Protocol Configuration

IPP: Internet Printing Protocol

IPS: Intrusion Prevention System

IPSec: Internet Protocol Security

IR: Infrared

IrDA: Infrared Data Association

IRP: Incident Response Plan

IRQ: Interrupt Request

ISA: Industry Standard Architecture

ISDN: Integrated Services Digital Network

ISO: International Organization for Standardization

ISP: Internet Service Provider

JBOD: Just a Bunch of Disks

KB: Knowledge Base

KVM: Kernel-based Virtual Machine

KVM: Keyboard-Video-Mouse

LAN: Local Area Network

LBA: Logical Block Addressing

LC: Lucent Connector

LCD: Liquid Crystal Display

LDAP: Lightweight Directory Access Protocol

LED: Light Emitting Diode

LPD/LPR: Line Printer Daemon/Line Printer Remote

LPT: Line Printer Terminal

LVD: Low Voltage Differential

MAC: Media Access Control/Mandatory Access Control

MAN: Metropolitan Area Network

MAPI: Messaging Application Programming Interface

mATX: Micro Advanced Technology Extended

MAU: Media Access Unit/Media Attachment Unit

MBR: Master Boot Record

MBSA: Microsoft Baseline Security Analyzer

MDM: Mobile Device Management

MFA: Multifactor Authentication

MFD: Multifunction Device

MFP: Multifunction Product  
MicroDIMM: Micro Dual Inline Memory Module  
MIDI: Musical Instrument Digital Interface  
MIME: Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension  
MIMO: Multiple Input Multiple Output  
MMC: Microsoft Management Console  
MP3: Moving Picture Experts Group Layer 3 Audio  
MP4: Moving Picture Experts Group Layer 4  
MPEG: Moving Picture Experts Group  
MSConfig: Microsoft Configuration  
MSDS: Material Safety Data Sheet  
MT-RJ: Mechanical Transfer Registered Jack  
MUI: Multilingual User Interface  
NaaS: Network as a Service  
NAC: Network Access Control  
NAS: Network-Attached Storage  
NAT: Network Address Translation  
NetBIOS: Networked Basic Input/Output System  
NetBEUI: Networked Basic Input/Output System Extended User Interface  
NFC: Near Field Communication  
NFS: Network File System  
NIC: Network Interface Card  
NiCd: Nickel Cadmium  
NiMH: Nickel Metal Hydride  
NLX: New Low-profile Extended  
NNTP: Network News Transfer Protocol  
NTFS: New Technology File System

NTLDR: New Technology Loader  
NTP: Network Time Protocol  
NTSC: National Transmission Standards Committee  
NVMe: Non-Volatile Memory Express  
OCR: Optical Character Recognition  
OEM: Original Equipment Manufacturer  
OLED: Organic Light Emitting Diode  
OS: Operating System  
PaaS: Platform as a Service  
PAL: Phase Alternating Line  
PAN: Personal Area Network  
PAT: Port Address Translation  
PC: Personal Computer  
PCI: Peripheral Component Interconnect  
PCI: Payment Card Industry  
PCIe: Peripheral Component Interconnect Express  
PCIX: Peripheral Component Interconnect Extended  
PCL: Printer Command Language  
PCMCIA: Personal Computer Memory Card International Association  
PE: Preinstallation Environment  
PGA: Pin Grid Array  
PAG2: Pin Grid Array 2  
PGP: Pretty Good Protection  
PII: Personally Identifiable Information  
PIN: Personal Identification Number  
PHI: Personal Health Information  
PKI: Public Key Infrastructure



PnP: Plug and Play

PoE: Power over Ethernet

POP3: Post Office Protocol 3

PoS: Point of Sale

POST: Power-On Self Test

POST: Plain Old Telephone Service

PPM: Pages Per Minute

PPP: Point-to-Point Protocol

PPTP: Point-to-Point Tunneling Protocol

PRI: Primary Rate Interface

PROM: Programmable Read-Only Memory

PS/2: Personal System/2 Connector

PSTN: Public Switched Telephone Network

PSU: Power Supply Unit

PVA: Patterned Virtual Alignment

PVC: Permanent Virtual Circuit

PXE: Preboot Execution Environment

QoS: Quality of Service

RADIUS: Remote Authentication Dial-In User Server

RAID: Redundant Array of Independent (or Inexpensive) Disks

RAM: Random Access Memory

RAS: Remote Access Service

RDP: Remote Desktop Protocol

RF: Radio Frequency

RFI: Radio Frequency Interference

RFID: Radio Frequency Identification

RGB: Red Green Blue

RIP: Routing Information Protocol

RIS: Remote Installation Service

RISC: Reduced Instruction Set Computer

RJ-11: Registered Jack Function 11

RJ-45: Registered Jack Function 45

RMA: Returned Materials Authorization

ROM: Read-Only Memory

RPO: Recovery Point Objective

RTC: Real-Time Clock

RT: Recovery Time Objective

SaaS: Software as a Service

SAN: Storage Area Network

SAS: Serial Attached SCSI

SATA: Serial Advanced Technology Attachment

SC: Subscription Channel

SCP: Secure Copy Protection

SCSI: Small Computer System Interface

SCSI ID: Small Computer System Interface Identifier

SD Card: Secure Digital Card

SEC: Single Edge Connector

SFC: System File Checker

SFF: Small Form Factor

SFTP: Secure File Transfer Protocol

SIM: Subscriber Identity Module

SIMM: Single Inline Memory Module

SLI: Scalable Link Interface or System Level Integration or Scanline Interleave Mode

S.M.A.R.T.: Self-Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Technology

SMB: Server Message Block

SMTP: Simple Mail Transfer Protocol

SNMP: Simple Network Management Protocol

SoDIMM: Small Outline Dual Inline Memory Module

SOHO: Small Office/Home Office

SP: Service Pack

SPDIF: Sony-Philips Digital Interface Format

SPGA: Staggered Pin Grid Array

SRAM: Static Random Access Memory

SSD: Solid State Drive

SSH: Secure Shell

SSID: Service Set Identifier

SSL: Secure Sockets Layer

SSO: Single Sign-On

ST: Straight Tip

STP: Shielded Twisted Pair

SXGA: Super Extended Graphics Array

TACACS: Terminal Access Controller Access-Control System

TCP: Transmission Control Protocol

TCP/IP: Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol

TDR: Time Domain Reflectometer

TFTP: Trivial File Transfer Protocol

TKIP: Temporal Key Integrity Protocol

TLS: Transport Layer Security

TN: Twisted Nematic

TPM: Trusted Platform Module

UAC: User Account Control

UDF: User Defined Functions or Universal Disk Format or Universal Data Format

UDP: User Datagram Protocol  
UEFI: Unified Extensible Firmware Interface  
UNC: Universal Naming Convention  
UPnP: Universal Plug and Play  
USP: Uninterruptible Power Supply  
URL: Uniform Resource Locator  
USB: Universal Serial Bus  
USMT: User State Migration Tool  
UTM: Unified Threat Management  
UTP: Unshielded Twisted Pair  
UXGA: Ultra Extended Graphics Array  
VA: Vertical Alignment  
VDC: Volts DC  
VDI: Virtual Desktop Infrastructure  
VESA: Video Electronics Standards Association  
VFAT: Virtual File Allocation Table  
VGA: Video Graphics Array  
VLAN: Virtual LAN  
VM: Virtual Machine  
VNC: Virtual Network Computer  
VoIP: Voice over Internet Protocol  
VPN: Virtual Private Network  
VRAM: Video Random Access Memory  
WAN: Wide Area Network  
WAP: Wireless Access Protocol/Wireless Access Point  
WEP: Wired Equivalent Privacy  
WIFI: Wireless Fidelity  
WINS: Windows Internet Name Service

WLAN: Wireless Local Area Network

WMN: Wireless Mesh Network

WPA: Wireless Protected Access

WPA2: WiFi Protected Access 2

WPS: WiFi Protected Setup

WUXGA: Wide Ultra Extended Graphics Array

WWAN: Wireless Wide Area Network

XGA: Extended Graphics Array

ZIF: Zero-Insertion-Force

ZIP: Zigzag Inline Package