NAME: SADIKU DAVID JESUFERANMI

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**QUESTION**

**Write comprehensibly on types of computer keyboards, itemise the major differences in a tabular form**

**Answer**

There are 2 types of keyboards

1. Standard Keyboard
2. Enhanced Keyboard
3. **STANDARD KEYBOARD**

An input device consisting of a set of individual keys similar to those on a typewriter. It is used to convey information from a user to a computer or data communications circuit.The standard keyboard is flat, with slightly cupped keys, with small bumps on F J and 5 so your hands can find the home keys without looking. The standard keyboard has from 80 to 84 keys. The standard keyboard layout of letters, numbers, and punctuation is known **as** **QWERTY** because the first six typing keys on the top row of letters spell **QWERTY.** ... AZERTY keyboards differ slightly from the QWERTY keyboard. Across the top row of main keys are 12 function keys. At one time the standard was 10, with the position and orientation 2 columns vertically. A standard keyboard also has legs that allow the keyboard to be tilted forward. There are actually three different PC keyboards: the original PC keyboard with 84 keys, the AT keyboard also with 84 keys. The three differ somewhat in the placement **of function keys, the control keys, the return key, and the shift key.**

1. **ENHANCED KEYBOARD**

An **enhanced keyboard** is a type of [keyboard](https://www.computerhope.com/jargon/k/keyboard.htm) included with almost all PCs sold today. It includes 101 or 102 keys. The biggest difference between enhanced keyboards is the 12 function keys running across the top of the keyboard, instead of 10 that run down the left side. Other changes include the addition of extra [Ctrl](https://www.computerhope.com/jargon/c/ctrl.htm), keys, [Alt](https://www.computerhope.com/jargon/a/alt.htm) keys, and cursor arrow keys between the letter keys and numeric keypad on the right side. In the picture below, is an example of what an enhanced keyboard. The enhanced keyboard provides additional functionality for many things such as boot processes, altering text commands, and controlling sound and video. Prior to the modern enhanced keyboard, and even today, many functional commands have been performed with “bulky” keys which shift a bit sequence in order to input a variety of additional commands. “Function” keys like the command, alt and delete keys have also been instrumental in expanding the scope of what a user can do with a computer keyboard, beyond just entering in text and numbers. The Enhanced Keyboard is provided in a 101 key version for the U.S. user and 102 key versions for the European users.  
Both versions are recappable, as detailed in Highlights, so the key tops may be changed for applications requiring special keys.A good example of an enhanced keyboard is the **IBM ENHANCED KEYBOARD.** Other designs of enhanced keyboard include:

[1. Flexible Keyboard](https://www.tech21century.com/different-types-of-computer-keyboards/#1_Flexible_Keyboard)

[2. Ergonomic Keyboard](https://www.tech21century.com/different-types-of-computer-keyboards/#2_Ergonomic_Keyboard)

[3. Gaming Keyboard](https://www.tech21century.com/different-types-of-computer-keyboards/#3_Gaming_Keyboard)

[4. Wireless Keyboard](https://www.tech21century.com/different-types-of-computer-keyboards/#4_Wireless_Keyboard)

[5. Multimedia/Internet Keyboard](https://www.tech21century.com/different-types-of-computer-keyboards/#5_MultimediaInternet_Keyboard)

[6. Membrane Keyboard](https://www.tech21century.com/different-types-of-computer-keyboards/#6_Membrane_Keyboard)

[7. Mechanical Keyboard](https://www.tech21century.com/different-types-of-computer-keyboards/#7_Mechanical_Keyboard)

[8. Virtual Keyboard](https://www.tech21century.com/different-types-of-computer-keyboards/#8_Virtual_Keyboard)

[9. Laptop Keyboard](https://www.tech21century.com/different-types-of-computer-keyboards/#9_Laptop_Keyboard)

[10. Projection Keyboard](https://www.tech21century.com/different-types-of-computer-keyboards/#10_Projection_Keyboard)

**DIFFRENCES BETWEEN STANDARD AND ENHANCED KEYBOARDS**

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| --- | --- |
| **STANDARD KEYBOARD** | **ENHANCED KEYBOARD** |
| it consist of 83 keys | it consist of 101-104 keys |
| The standard keyboard only has F1- F10 | The enhanced keyboard has F11 & F12 function keys |
| The standard keyboard do not | The enhanced keyboard consist of Enter & / keys on the numeric pad |
| The caps lock is at the right of the spacebar | The caps lock key is above the left shift key |
| Standard keyboards doesn't have these keys | Addition of Insert, Home, Page Up, Page Down, Delete and End keys |