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| **BASIS OF COMPARISON**  | **INPUT DEVICE**    | **OUTPUT DEVICE**  |
| **Description**  | An input device is any hardware device which enables the user to enter data and instructions into a computer.    | An output device is any hardware component that use received data from a computer to perform a task.    |
| **Functionality**  | An input device can send data to another device but it cannot receive data from another device.    | An output device can receive data from another device and generate output with that data, but it cannot send data to another device.    |
| **Necessity**  | Input devices are necessary for a computer to receive commands from its users and data to process.    | Output devices are necessary for a computer to share its results and prompt users for more information and commands.    |
| **Control**  | Input devices are controlled by the user.    | Output devices are controlled by the computer.    |
| **Nature**  | Input devices are relatively complicated as they have complex coding that ensures that the user can interact with the computer correctly.    | Output devices are simpler for the user since they only see the results and do not have to learn the processes.    |
| **Example**  | keyboard and mouse, microphone, webcam, image scanner, Microphone, pointing device, touch screens, graphics table, Optical character reader (OCR), joystick etc.    | Printer, monitor, speakers, projector LCD projection panels, computer output microfilm, plotters etc.  |