Mainframe101.org

>>> WHAT IS A MAINFRAME?

A mainframe is a high-performance computer designed for **reliability, security** and **scalability**. Mainframes process **millions of transactions every second**.

>>> WHO USES MAINFRAMES?

- Banks
- Governments
- Airlines
- Global Businesses

>>> QUICK FACTS

- **70%** of global banking transactions run on mainframes
- Mainframes can run for **years without rebooting**
- The latest IBM systems include **AI acceleration** and **quantum-safe encryption**.

>>> WHY DO MAINFRAMES MATTER?

Mainframes still power the world's **digital backbone** — from your ATM withdrawals to flight check-ins. Learning mainframe skills opens doors to **global careers** in tech, finance, and cybersecurity.

>>> HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

Visit **Mainframe101**.org or scan the **QR Code** and explore the optimum learning path for newcomers.

Turn over to explore some key definitions.

Mainframe Term	Definition	Think of it like...
z/OS	Operating system for IBM mainframes	Windows/MacOS
DB2 (Database 2)	Database management system for storing structured data	SQL/ Excel
CICS (Customer Information Control System)	Processes online transactions for users and applications	Web Server
JCL (Job Control Language)	Script language which tells z/OS which jobs to run	Workflow/ Batch script
3270 Terminal	Text-based interface used to access the mainframe	Command Prompt/ Terminal
z16/ z17	Latest generations of IBM mainframes with AI and high security	Server/ Mainframe System
SMF Logs (System Management Facility)	System logs recording events and performance data	Flight recorder/ Analytics
RACF (Resource Access Control Facility)	Security system that manages user access and permissions	Login manager/ Admin controls
REXX (Restructured Extended Executor)	Simple scripting language for automation on z/OS	Python/ PowerShell
Sysplex (System Complex)	Multiple mainframes linked to share workloads	Server cluster
COBOL (Common Business Oriented Language)	Programming language for business and financial systems	Pseudocode - but it actually works
IPL (Initial Program Load)	Starts up the mainframe and loads z/OS	Booting a computer