Famous computer quotes

- **"Computers in the future may weigh no more than one-and-a-half tonnes."**
  - Popular Mechanics, 1949

- **"I think there is a world market for maybe five computers."**
  - Thomas Watson, Chairman of IBM, 1943

- **"I can assure you that data processing is a fad that won't last the year."**
  - Chief Business Editor, Prentice Hall, 1957

- **"Yeah, microchips, but what... is it good for?"**
  - an IBM senior engineer, 1968

- **"There is no reason anyone in the right state of mind will want a computer in their home."**
  - Ken Olson, President of Digital Equipment Corp, 1977.

- **"Bubble Memory, n.: A derogatory term, usually referring to a person's intelligence. See also *vacuum tube*."**
  - The Devil's Dictionary to Computer Studies

- **"As soon as we started programming, we found to our surprise that it wasn't as easy to get programs right as we had thought. Debugging had to be discovered. I can remember the exact instant when I realized that a large part of my life from then on was going to be spent in finding mistakes in my own programmes."**
  - Maurice Wilkes discovers debugging, 1949.

- **"Endless Loop: n., see Loop, Endless."**

- **"Loop, Endless: n., see Endless Loop."**
  - Random Shack Data Processing Dictionary

- **"f u cn rd ths, u cn gt a gd jb n cmptr prgrmmng."**
  - Anonymous

- **"You can measure a programmer's perspective by noting his attitude on the continuing viability of FORTRAN."**
  - Alan Perlis

- **"ADA, n.: Something you need only know the name of to be an Expert in Computing. Useful in sentences like, "We had better develop an ADA awareness."**
  - The Devil's Dictionary to Computer Studies

- **"God made machine language; all the rest is the work of man."**
  - Anonymous

- **"SOFTWARE, n.: Formal evening attire for female computer analysts."**
  - The Devil's Dictionary to Computer Studies

- **"Reach out and grep someone.**
  - Bell Labs Unix

- **"Real Programmers don't write in PL/I. PL/I is for programmers who can't decide whether to write in COBOL or FORTRAN.**
  - Programmers' World

- **"At the source of every error which is blamed on the computer you will find at least two human errors, including the error of blaming it on the computer.**
  - Anonymous

- **"Goto, n.: A programming tool that exists to allow structured programmers to complain about unstructured programmers.**
  - Ray Simard

- **"Hardware, n.: The parts of a computer system that can be kicked."**
  - The Devil's Dictionary to Computer Studies

- **"The world is coming to an end. Please log orff."**
  - Posix 2.1.1 System Shutdown Message

- **"A language that doesn't affect the way you think about programming is not worth knowing."**
  - Alex Lu, commenting on Java Programming

- **"BUG, n.: An undesirable, poorly-understood undocumented feature."**
  - The Devil's Dictionary to Computer Studies

- **"Adding manpower to a late software project makes it later."**
  - Brook's Law

- **"The C Programming Language: A new language which combines the flexibility of assembly language with the power of assembly language."**
  - Murphy's Introduction to C

- **"User n.: A programmer who will believe anything you tell him."**
  - The Devil's Dictionary to Computer Studies

- **"An elephant is a mouse with an operating system."**
  - Anonymous

- **"Line Printer paper is strongest at the perforations."**
  - Murphy's Law of Line Printers

- **"Pascal, n.: A programming language named after a man who would turn over in his grave if he knew about it."**
  - The Chartered Institution of C Programmers

- **"C, n.: A programming language which was names thus because it cannot be named B after bees blocked it in a high-court case."**
  - The Royal Society of Pascal Programmers

- **"C++, n.: C with fine print which is never quoted and no-one knows about; features which renders a correctly-written C programme useless."**
  - The Royal Society of Pascal Programmers

- **"The goal of Computer Science is to build something that will last at least until we've finished building it."**
  - Anonymous

- **"The New Testament offers the basis for modern computer coding theory, in the form of an affirmation of the binary number system. *But let your communication be Yea, yea; nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.*"**
  - Matthew 5:37

- **"The primary purpose of the DATA statement is to give names to constants; instead of referring to pi as 3.141592653589793 at every appearance, the variable PI can be given that value with a DATA statement and used instead of the longer form of the constant. This also simplifies modifying the program, should the value of pi change.
  - FORTRAN manual for Xerox Computers**

- **"Every programme is a part of some other programme, and rarely fits."**
  - The Complete Microsoft Internal Jokes, Vol.III

- **"When the programme refuses to work as intended, change the specification to fit the programme. It's easier than vice versa."**
  - Briefing for new programmers joining Microsoft, 1995

- **"After I run your programme, let's make love like crazed weasels, okay?"**
  - Alice Blair, in a cupboard with Alan Robertson

- **"During the next two hours, the network will be going up and down several times, often with lin~po_~{po~poz~ppo\~{ o n~po_ ~{o[po~y oodsou@No.w4k**n~po_ ~{ol;lkld;f;g;dd;po\~{o**

- **"How many hardware engineers does it take to change a lightbulb?**
  None: "We'll fix it in software."

- **"How many software engineers does it take to change a lightbulb?**
  None: "We'll document it in the manual."

- **"How many Microsoft engineers does it take to change a lightbulb?**
  None: "Let's define darkness as the industry standard."

- **"How many tech writers does it take to change a lightbulb?**
  None: "The user can work it out."

- **"Real Programmers don't play tennis, or any other sport that requires you to change clothes. Mountain climbing is OK, and real programmers wear their climbing boots to work in case a mountain should suddenly spring up in the middle of the machine room."**
  - Anonymous

- **"I haven't lost my mind, it's backed up on tape somewhere."**
  - Anonymous

- **"Information Center, n.: A room staffed by professional computer people whose job it is to tell you why you cannot have the information you require."**
  - The Devil's Dictionary to Computer Studies

- **"Real Time, adj.: Here and now, as opposed to fake time, which only occurs there and then."**
  - The Devil's Dictionary to Computer Studies

- **"Never test for an error condition you don't know how to handle."**
  - Steinbach's Guideline for Systems Programming

- **"If the code and the comments disagree, then both are probably wrong.**
  - Norm Schryer

- **"Every program has at least one bug and can be shortened by at least one instruction - from which, by induction, one can deduce that every program can be reduced to one instruction which doesn't work."**
  - Anonymous

- **"Microcomputers are the tool of the 80's. BASIC is the language that all of them use. So the sooner you learn BASIC, the sooner you will understand the microcomputer revolution."**
  - 30 Hour BASIC Standard, 1981.

- **"I expect that any day now someone will invent a round thing which rolls along the ground and minimises friction, only it will need a 233-megahertz Pentium processor to do it."**
  - Garry Harant, Blackburn, Victoria, Australia

- **"640k is enough for anyone, and by the way, what's a network?"**
  - William Gates III, President of Microsoft Corporation, 1984.

- **"Linux is not portable."**
  - Linus Torvalds.