Chapter 1
Why UNIX, Now?
UNIX was developed by Ken Thompson, Dennis Ritchie and coworkers at Bell Telephone Laboratories in 1969. The initial version was created on the Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) PDP-7 minicomputer.

UNIX is an operating system, a supervisory program that makes it more efficient for you to make the computer work.

Thompson originally had a personal reason for developing UNIX. At the time he developed the package, all of the existing operating systems were difficult to use, and he wanted one for his own use that would create a more comfortable programming environment.

UNIX became a very good operating system; therefore, other people also used it. The number of users within Bell Laboratories gradually increased; many of them added their own improvements, making it an even better operating system. As many people added improvements to UNIX, the amount of software that it can supervise (for simplicity we will refer to it as software which operates on UNIX) steadily increased.

The first use of UNIX outside Bell Laboratories was on the PDP-11 series of minicomputers produced by DEC. UNIX was gradually adapted for use on other computers

The VAX-11/780 super minicomputer made by DEC. UNIX runs on the VAX series