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The laptop power button is pushed, one waits for a few seconds for the laptop to come on but instead it stays silent and fails to come on at all. There are several reasons as to why the laptop does not start or power up. Coming into function of a laptop that had previously been switched off is a series of processes that involve physical electronic switch connection, followed by a series of computer programs that finally bring the laptop to functionality. All these constitute the laptop computer boot system and if the laptop fails to start, it is said the laptop computer has failed to boot.

Before the boot process starts, there are other core components that must be functioning properly. The laptop power supply system is made up of a mains plug that connects to the electricity mains supply. A section of the system is the power adaptor that transforms the power from the alternating current in the mains to direct current which is finally used by the laptop for its operations. These power adaptors are specific to each brand of laptop computers. The jack pin which is inserted into a slot either on the side or the back section of the laptop finally completes the connection. A laptop battery is continually recharged by the direct current from the mains and usually provides continuous power to that laptop even if the mains go off. Any default in the power supply system can lead to a situation in which a laptop does not start.

Little problems are normally seen with the connecting plugs though occasionally they are the source of the problem. This arises due to loose fitting into the mains or disconnection at the terminal roots. More commonly, the power adaptor is the source of power problems for a laptop. Given that it is the one that connects directly to the mains, it is more vulnerable especially to power surges. Laptop battery charging problems are another more commonly experienced that lead to failure of laptop to start. The laptop quickly drains the power stored. When switched off, the laptop computer fails to start when later switched on.

Another common source of failure to start in laptop computers is a problem with the boot system. These are specific programs designed to initiate and maintain the start up process till the laptop becomes fully functional. Errors in execution of these programs usually result from insertion, deletion or alterations of the boot programs. These are commonly caused by computer viruses. Same changes can also be brought about by failure to follow correct shut down processes. A laptop is designed to shut down in a systematic way, a process that is carefully controlled. Abrupt shut downs either due to complete battery drainage or failure to follow correct shut down order by the user can lead to failure of a laptop to start up.

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