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What Are Hyperscalers? The Companies Driving The AI Infrastructure Boom

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for Technology

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In 2026, the largest U.S. hyperscalers are on track to spend more than $700 billion on the computing behind AI, nearly double what they spent a year earlier. The biggest of them are names you know: Amazon, Microsoft, Google, Meta and Oracle. They run huge fleets of data centers: the windowless buildings packed with servers that train AI models and run the online services you use every day. That spending is behind a lot of today's headlines, the giant new campuses, the strain on power grids, the race for advanced chips. It makes these companies the driving force behind the whole infrastructure boom.

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You also lean on them dozens of times a day without noticing, every time you stream a show, tap a card at checkout, back up a photo or ask a chatbot a question. And where they build, and how much power they use, now matters to your town, your bills and the economy.

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What Is A Hyperscaler?

A hyperscaler is a company that runs computing at enormous scale, either renting that capacity to customers or using it to power its own services. The biggest operate global fleets of massive data centers, run millions of servers and use software to manage them as a single system.