

# Columbia: Introduction

**Category: Columbia**

## Columbia Phase Out:

As of Feb. 27, 2013, the Columbia21, Columbia23, and Columbia24 nodes have been taken offline as part of the [Columbia phase out process](#). Columbia22 is still available. If your script requires a specific node, please make the appropriate changes in order to ensure the success of your job.

Columbia, an SGI Altix supercomputer named to honor the crew of [Space Shuttle Columbia flight STS-107](#), has been in production since 2004. In March 2008, the system had 14,136 cores in 24 nodes (Columbia1-Columbia24). When the [Pleiades](#) system came into production, the original 20 Columbia nodes (1-20) were retired. Columbia currently comprises 1 front-end node (cfe2) and 4 compute nodes (Columbia21-Columbia24).

The following few articles provide Columbia hardware information at varying levels of detail:

[Columbia Hardware Overview](#) provides a high-level overview of the Columbia system architecture, including resource summaries of the compute- and front-end nodes, the interconnect, and storage capacity.

[Columbia Configuration Details](#) focuses on more detailed configuration statistics of the processors and their associated memory.

The article [Columbia Home Filesystem](#) - provides information on the quota and backup policies on the home filesystem.

The article [Columbia CXFS Filesystems](#) - details the configurations of the CXFS filesystems and users' quotas on these filesystems.

In addition, the article [Columbia Front-End Usage Guidelines](#) provides guidelines on using the front-end node (cfe2).

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<http://www.nas.nasa.gov/hecc/support/kb/entry/170/?ajax=1>