

Most frequently used IT Terminologies

Access point: A device that allows wireless-equipped computers and other devices to communicate with a wired network.

Authentication: The process of identifying yourself and the verification that you're who you say you are. Computers where restricted information is stored may require you to enter your username and password to gain access.

Bandwidth: A measurement of the amount of data that can be transmitted over a network at any given time. The higher the network's bandwidth, the greater the volume of data that can be transmitted.

Broadband connection: A high-speed Internet connection; at present, cable modems and DSL (Digital Subscriber Lines) are the two technologies that are most commonly available to provide such access.

Browser: A program used to access World Wide Web pages. Examples: Firefox, Safari or Internet Explorer.

Captcha: A challenge-response test in the form of an image of distorted text the user must enter that to determine whether the user is human or an automated bot.

Client: A client is a computer that connects to and uses the resources of a remote computer, or server

Database: A collection of information organized so that a computer application can quickly access selected information; it can be thought of as an electronic filing system. Traditional databases are organized by fields, records (a complete set of

fields), and files (a collection of records). Alternatively, in a Hypertext database, any object (e.g., text, a picture, or a film) can be linked to any other object.

DHCP: Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol; a protocol that lets a server on a local network assign temporary IP addresses to a computer or other network devices.

DNS: Domain Name System - a service for accessing a networked computer by name rather than by numerical, (IP) address. E.g. www.google.com instead of 8.8.8.8. or 8.8.4.4

Domain: A Windows domain is essentially a network of controlled computers used in a business setting. At least one server, called a **domain controller**, is in charge of the other devices. This lets the network administrators (usually IT staff) control the computers on the domain through users, settings, and more..

Flash drive: A small device that plugs into computer's USB port and functions as a portable hard drive.

Freeware: Copyrighted software available for downloading without charge; unlimited personal usage is permitted, but you cannot do anything else without express permission of the author. Contrast to shareware; copyrighted software which requires you to register and pay a small fee to the author if you decide to continue using a program you download.

FTP: File Transfer Protocol; a method of exchanging files between computers via the Internet. A program like WS_FTP for IBM PC or compatibles or Fetch for Macintosh is required. Files can contain documents or programs and can be ASCII text or binary data.

Hardware: The physical components of a computer including the keyboard, monitor, disk drive, and internal chips and wiring. Hardware is the counterpart of software.

Help Desk: A help desk is an information and assistance resource that troubleshoots problems with computers or similar products

Home page: A document you access using a web browser like Firefox or Internet Explorer. It usually refers to the first page of a particular web site; it also is the page that automatically loads each time you start your browser.

HTTP: HyperText Transfer Protocol; a set of instructions that defines how a web server and a browser should interact. Example: When you open a location (e.g., enter a URL) in your browser, what actually happens is an HTTP command is sent to the web server directing it to fetch and return the requested web page. (HTTPs – HTTP Secure)

Internet: A worldwide network based on the TCP/IP protocol that can connect almost any make or model of popular computers from micros to supercomputers. Special programs called "clients" enable users with a network connection to do things like process e-mail or browse web sites using the familiar interface of a desktop computer.

IP address: Internet Protocol address. It is a unique identifying 32 bit address which is used to connect computer to the Internet. Example: 192.168.100.2.

ISP: Internet Service Provider; an organization or company that provides Internet connectivity.

Kilobyte/Megabyte/Gigabyte: A kilobyte (KB or Kbyte) is a unit of measurement for computer memory or data storage used by mathematics and computer science professionals, along with the general public, when referring to amounts of computer data using the metric system (1 MB=1024 kb, 1 GB=1024 MB)

MAC: It is abbreviated as Media Access Control also known as physical address. It is a 48 bit hardware address of a device connected to a shared network.

Mail Server: A networked computer dedicated to supporting electronic mail. You use a client program like Microsoft Outlook for retrieving new mail from the server and for composing and sending messages.

Operating System: An operating system is a software programme required to manage and operate a computing device like smartphones, tablets, computers. Examples are windows, Linux, Macintosh.

Application Software: Application software is a computer program designed to help people perform an activity. Examples are word processing, spreadsheet calculations, or electronic mail.

Network: A group of interconnected computers capable of exchanging information. A network can be as few as several personal computers on a LAN or as large as the Internet, a worldwide network of computers.

Online: A term that has commonly come to mean "connected to the Internet". It also is used to refer to materials stored on a computer (e.g., an online newsletter) or to a device like a printer that is ready to accept commands from a computer.

Password: A secret combination of characters used to access a secured resource such as a computer, a program, a directory, or a file; often used in conjunction with a username.

Phishing: A con that scammers use to electronically collect personal information from unsuspecting users. Phishers send e-mails that appear to come from legitimate

websites such as eBay, PayPal, or other banking institutions asking you to click on a link included in the email and then update or validate your information by entering your username and password and often even more information, such as your full name, address, phone number, social security number, and credit card number.

PING: Packet Internet Groper; a utility used to determine whether a particular computer is currently connected to the Internet. It works by sending a packet to the specified IP address and waiting for a reply.

Protocol: A set of rules that regulate how computers exchange information. Example: error checking for file transfers or POP for handling electronic mail.

Server: A computer that is responsible for responding to requests made by a client program (e.g., a web browser or an e-mail program) or computer. Also referred to as a "file server".

Spam: Email spam, also known as junk email or unsolicited bulk email (UBE), is a subset of spam that involves nearly identical messages sent to numerous recipients by email.

Spyware: Any software that covertly gathers user information, usually for advertising purposes, through the user's Internet connection.

SSH: The SSH protocol (also referred to as Secure Shell) is a method for secure remote login from one computer to another. It provides several alternative options for strong authentication, and it protects the communications security and integrity with strong encryption. It is a secure alternative to the non-protected login protocols (such as telnet, rlogin) and insecure file transfer methods (such as FTP).

SCP: It is abbreviated as secure copy and is a command-line utility that allows you to securely copy files and directories between two locations.

Username: A name used in conjunction with a password to gain access to a computer system or a network service.

VoIP: Voice over Internet Protocol; a means of using the Internet as the transmission medium for phone calls. An advantage is you do not incur any additional surcharges beyond the cost of your Internet access.

VPN: Virtual Private Networking; a means of securely accessing resources on a network by connecting to a remote access server through the Internet or other network.

Wi-fi: Wireless Fidelity; A generic term from the Wi-Fi Alliance that refers to of any type of 802.11 network (e.g., 802.11b, 802.11a, dual-band, etc.). Products approved as "Wi-Fi Certified" (a registered trademark) are certified as interoperable with each other for wireless communications.

Zoom/WebEx/Microsoft Teams/Google Meet: These are software or platform which enables users to make online video conferencing, meetings, or presentations.