

## **Computer Glossary**

**ADDRESS:** The network address for a website or e-mail address.

**BOOKMARKS:** Saving a Website to the Favorites Folder.

**BOOT:** The techie term for “starting up your computer.”

**BROWSER:** Generic term for programs that allow a person to navigate and view documents on the World Wide Web.

**CPU:** Stands for central processing unit. The part of the computer that has the thinking part. It takes input from the floppy disk or CD-ROM, processes it, and gives an output.

**CURSOR:** The flashing horizontal bar that tells you where the text will appear when you type it on the keyboard.

**DEFAULT:** The standard choice. You don't have to make any changes if you just want the default changes.

**DOS:** Stands for Disk Operating System, which is the software that makes your computer work.

**E-MAIL:** Electronic mail allows you to communicate with other Internet users.

**FLOPPY DISK:** Software that contains programs for input in a computer or stores information or output. Can be either 3.5 inch or a CD-ROM.

**HARD DRIVE:** An internal storage unit- part of the CPU. The computer's built-in information storage.

**HARDWARE:** All the equipment, such as the computer, monitor, printer, keyboard, and mouse.

**HOME PAGE:** The first page of a World Wide Web site or document. An electronic front door that often includes an index to further information.

**ICON:** A graphic symbol that represents a computer program or function.

**INSTALL:** To load software programs into your computer by copying their files from one or more diskettes to your computer's hard disk drive.

**INTERNET:** A worldwide network of many smaller networks. Uses the TCP/IP standard.

**KEYBOARD:** Looks and functions much like a typewriter. A keyboard is used to communicate information from the user to the computer.

**LAN:** Local Area Network-Any physical network technology that operates at high speed over short distances.

**LINK:** A synonym for URL. Also a verb, "link to a WWW page."

**LOG ON – LOG OUT:** Putting your password in the network. To log out – the procedure to exit or leave a computer software program or turn off the computer hardware.

**MENU:** The various programs that are available on the network or selections available on a software program.

**MONITOR:** Looks like a television set, makes output information visible.

**MOUSE:** A mechanical device you use to control the point that appears on your computer screen.

**NETWORK:** A giant computer hardware and software system that makes software available to many users simultaneously.

**RAM:** Stands for random access memory. The memory that your computer uses in order to store and recall information.

**SEARCH ENGINE:** A useful tool to help locate items of interest on the World Wide Web.

**SERVER:** A computer that shares its resources, such as printers and files, with other computers on the network.

**SOFTWARE:** The floppy disks and CD-ROMs used in computer hardware to perform certain operations.

TCP/IP: A set of protocols used by the Internet to support services such as remote login and file transfer.

URL: Uniform Resource Locator – an address on the World Wide Web.

WEBCRAWLER: A commonly used WWW search engine that looks for keywords in web pages and displays a list of pages that contain that keyword. Webcrawler is located at <http://www.webcrawler.com>.

WORLD WIDE WEB: An information space on the Internet, unified by a common addressing system and distinguished by documents capable of being linked from one computer to another.

YAHOO: A WWW search engine and index. Yahoo is arranged as a constantly updated topical index of WWW sites located at <http://www.yahoo.com>.