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➡ Computer Terms

Free Computer Help By Mitz

All terms and definitions are only relevant to this web page.

AGP: (Accelerated Graphics Port) is usually located near the white PCI slots on a Motherboard. This is where you install a video card for better graphical performance.

Application: A computer program that performs tasks that the user wishes to perform

ADSL: Short for asymmetric digital subscriber line, a new technology that allows more data to be sent over existing copper telephone lines

Animation: A simulation of movement created by displaying a series of pictures, or frames. Cartoons on television is one example of animation.

Attachment: A file attached to an e-mail message. For example you could attach a picture to send with your e-mail.

Auto responder An e-mail utility that automatically replies to an e-mail message with a prewritten response. [Read More.....](#)

Bios: Basic input output system. You can access this when you start-up a computer. It will say on the screen "To enter setup presskey". It lets you change whether the CD-ROM or hard drive boots first. There are also settings to overclock some computer systems.

Boot sequence: The order of drives that a system's BIOS follows when looking for the operating system. For example it can go to the hard drive, the floppy drive, or the Cd rom.

Broadcast: To simultaneously send the same message to multiple recipients. Broadcasting is a useful feature in e-mail systems

Browser: A program to allow you to view and browse web pages on the internet. I use Internet Explorer.

Cookie: A text information message that is stored on your computer when you visit a web page. When you return to the page the cookie is used to recognise you.

CPU: (Central Processing unit) This is the brains of the computer. It is a chip attached to the motherboard and controls and calculates data and is a vital part of your computer. Sometimes known as the Processor, the CPU comes in different speeds. I have a 2.8ghz processor.

CTRL: Stands for control button. Found on both sides, bottom left and right, of the keyboard. Used to perform special functions such as selecting all (Ctrl-A).

Data: A collection of facts, information, photos, text, anything, on a computer or on the internet.

Desktop: It is everything you see when you start your computer except the taskbar.

Format: (Hard drive, re-writeable disks) To clear of all data. Clean to the original state of empty.

Forward: Forward is an option found in an e-mail client, which allows you to forward a received e-mail to another recipient.

Hardware: The basic parts that make up your computer.

Html: (hyper text markup language) This is coding used to develop webpages. You can start from scratch, writing html or you can use a html editor like Frontpage that has a template to start with.

IP Address: A unique address that each computer has.

Keypad: The set of numbers on the right hand side of the keyboard.

OS: (Operating System) Is the main program that runs your computer. Windows is probably the most popular.

Peripherals: Peripherals are those pieces of hardware that you add on to your computer. For example a mouse, keyboard, modem, monitor, etc.

PCI: (peripheral component interconnect) These are slots on the motherboard, usually white, where you can add cards onto your computer. You can add soundcards, internal modems, TV cards, and more...

Print Screen (Key): The key between the letters and the keypad labelled "Prt Sc/Sys Rq". Commonly used to take photographs of the screen.

More Computer Terms

Computer terms continued....

Remote Desktop: This feature enables you to connect to your computer across the Internet from virtually any computer anywhere. You need to know your computers IP address and its password and username.

Registry: This is where the very important settings for your computer are stored. This includes software serial numbers and passwords, email settings and accounts and a lot more information.

Screenshot: A photograph of a computer screen or a portion of it.

Snail mail: Normal postal mail, where an actual physical letter or package is delivered. The term didn't exist until electronic mail (e-mail) came along.

Software: Refers to all of the programs on your computer. Software helps you get things achieved, like writing letters, sending emails, and surfing the internet.

Task Bar: The Blue (default colour) bar with the start button on one end and the time on the opposite

Task Manager: A program (taskman.exe) in which you can view all running programs and services. You can also shutdown a program non-responding program from here.

Tweak: To make small changes that fine-tune a piece of software or hardware. There are many programs that help you do this. For example XP tools, Tweak u, Ashampoo.

URL: Universal Resource Locator is the global address of a web page or document. Domain names are used in URL's. This URL is <http://www.tips4pc.com>.

Wallpapper: The monitor pattern or picture or other graphic representation that forms the background onto which all the icons, menus and other elements of the operating system are displayed.

Web Server: A computer that holds a web page and makes it available on the internet.

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