

Chapter 8

Glossary

1. **JPEG -- (Joint Photographic Experts Group):** JPEG is an image format that allows for compression of the image when it is stored.
2. **Kilobyte:** A thousand bytes.
3. **LAN -- (Local Area Network):** A computer network limited to the immediate area, usually the same building or floor of a building.
4. **Mail list (or Mailing List):** A (usually automated) system that allows people to send e-mail to one address, whereupon their message is copied and sent to all of the other subscribers to the mail list. In this way, people who have many different kinds of e-mail access can participate in discussions together.
5. **Modem -- (Modulator, Demodulator):** A device that connects a computer to a phone line. A modem allows a computer to talk to other computers through the phone system.
6. **Network:** Any time you connect 2 or more computers together so that they can share resources, you have a computer network. Connect 2 or more networks together and you have an internet.
7. **NIC -- (Network Information Center):** Generally, any office that handles information for a network.
8. **Node:** Any single computer connected to a network.
9. **Open Content:** Copyrighted information that is made available by the copyright owner to the general public under license terms that allow reuse of the material.
10. **PDF -- (Portable Document Format):** A file format designed to enable printing and viewing of documents.
11. **Posting:** A single message entered into a network communications system.
12. **Protocol:** On the Internet "protocol" usually refers to a set of rules that define an exact format for communication between systems.
13. **Search Engine:** A (usually web-based) system for searching the information available on the Web.
14. **SEO -- (Search Engine Optimization):** The practice of designing web pages so that they rank as high as possible in search results from search engines.
15. **Spam (or Spamming):** An inappropriate attempt to use a mailing list by sending the same message to a large number of people who didn't ask for it.
16. **Spyware:** Generally referring to software that is secretly installed on a users computer and that monitors use of the computer in some way without the users' knowledge or consent.
17. **Upload:** Transferring data (usually a file) from a computer you are using to another computer. The opposite of download.
18. **URL:** Uniform Resource Locator
19. **Virus:** A piece of code which is capable of copying itself and typically has a detrimental effect, such as corrupting the system or destroying data.
20. **VOIP -- (Voice over IP):** A specification and various technologies used to allow making telephone calls over IP networks, especially the Internet.
21. **WAN -- (Wide Area Network):** Any internet or network that covers an area larger than a single building or campus.
22. **Web:** Short for "World Wide Web."
23. **Web page:** A document designed for viewing in a web browser. Typically written in HTML. A web site is made of one or more web pages.
24. **Website:** The entire collection of web pages and other information (such as images, sound, and video files, etc.) that are made available through what appears to users as a single web server.
25. **Wi-Fi -- (Wireless Fidelity):** A popular term for a form of wireless data communication.
26. **Web Browser:** A web browser is a software application that is used to display web pages.