

Definitions

2 February 1999

client	A remote computer connected to a server computer (a.k.a. host). Also refers to the software that makes this sort of connection possible. <i>E.g.</i> , when you use a telnet program to access your FAS account throughout this semester, you are connecting to Harvard's telnet server (<i>i.e.</i> , fas.harvard.edu) using a telnet client (<i>e.g.</i> , CRT or BetterTelnet).
computer	An electronic device designed to accept input, process it at a high speed, and display the results. <i>E.g.</i> , a calculator can be considered a small computer because it accepts your input (via its buttons), performs a calculation, and displays its answer on its screen.
data	Put simply, information. Can refer to files on a computer, the content of those files, human input, and computer output. When you insert your ATM card into an ATM, you are inputting data into the ATM— <i>i.e.</i> , your identity.
e-mail	An Internet service that allows you to compose messages and transmit them within seconds to one or more other Internet users. Derived from the phrase <i>electronic mail</i> .
emoticon	A.k.a. smiley. A symbol used to express emotion in an e-mail. <i>E.g.</i> , :-) is a happy face, while :- (is a sad face.
Internet	A.k.a. the Net. A global computer network that supports such services as e-mail, USENET newsgroups, and the World Wide Web. In short, a network of computer networks. Derived from the phrase <i>interconnected network</i> . Originally designed in the 1960s by the U.S. Defense Department so that intra-military electronic communications could withstand a nuclear war, the Internet was first known as the ARPAnet (<i>i.e.</i> , the network of the Advance Research Projects Agency).
network	Two or more computers connected to each other with wires or some other medium, sharing a common language so that they can “talk” with one another— <i>i.e.</i> , exchange data. <i>E.g.</i> , automatic teller machines (ATMs) represent a network of bank computers that continually talk to one another so that every ATM knows exactly how much money is in customers' accounts.
server	A host computer on a network that answers requests from client computers for information (<i>i.e.</i> , data) from it. The term server also refers to the software that makes the process of serving information possible. <i>E.g.</i> , when you use a telnet program to access your FAS account throughout this semester, you are connecting to Harvard's telnet server (<i>i.e.</i> , fas.harvard.edu) using a telnet client (<i>e.g.</i> , CRT or BetterTelnet).

Definitions continue on opposite side...

snail mail	The U.S. Postal Service.
Web page	A document accessible on the World Wide Web whose content is written in the HyperText Markup Language (HTML).
Web site	A collection of one or more Web pages that collectively represent a company, individual, or institution on the World Wide Web.
World Wide Web	A.k.a. the Web. An Internet service that allows you to view (with a Web browser) interconnected (<i>i.e.</i> , linked) documents and download files.