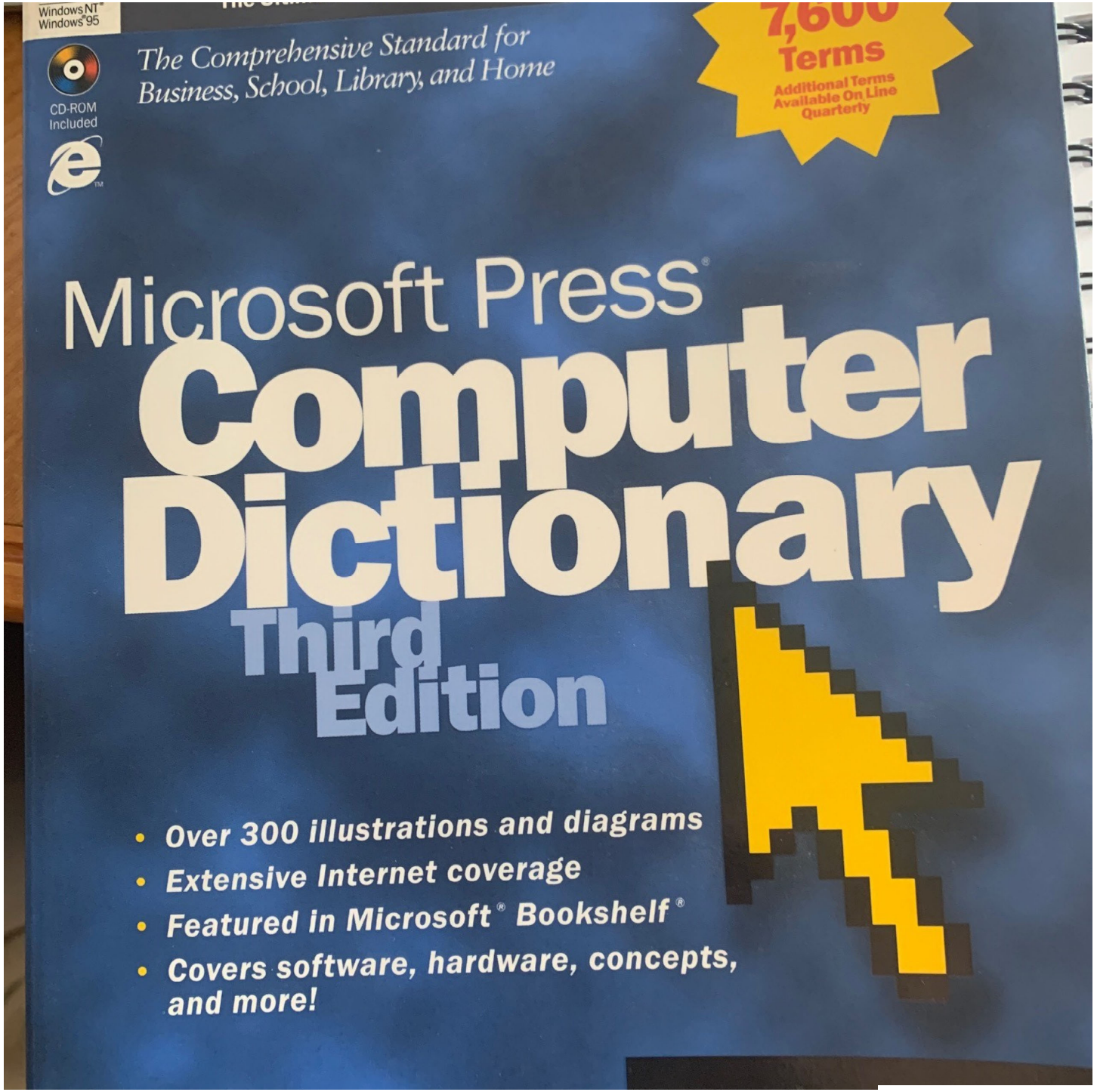
Windows NT
Windows 95
CD-ROM Included
The Comprehensive Standard for Business, School, Library, and Home
7,600 Terms
Additional Terms Available On Line Quarterly
Microsoft Press
Computer Dictionary
Third Edition
• Over 300 illustrations and diagrams
• Extensive Internet coverage
• Featured in Microsoft® Bookshelf®
• Covers software, hardware, concepts, and more!

One Microsoft Way
Redmond, Washington 98052-6399

Copyright © 1997 by Microsoft Corporation

All rights reserved. No part of the contents of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without the written permission of the publisher.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary. -- 3rd ed.
p. cm.
ISBN 1-57231-446-X
1. Computers--Dictionaries. 2. Microcomputers--Dictionaries.
I. Microsoft Press.
QA76.15.M54 1997
004'.03--dc21

97-15489
CIP

Printed and bound in the United States of America.

4 5 6 7 8 9 QMQM 2 1 0 9 8

Distributed to the book trade in Canada by Macmillan of Canada, a division of Canada Publishing Corporation.

A CIP catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

Microsoft Press books are available through booksellers and distributors worldwide. For further information about international editions, contact your local Microsoft Corporation office. Or contact Microsoft Press International directly at fax (425) 936-7329.

Macintosh, Power Macintosh, QuickTime, and TrueType are registered trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc. Intel is a registered trademark of Intel Corporation. DirectInput, DirectX, Microsoft, Microsoft Press, MS-DOS, Visual Basic, Visual C++, Win32, Win32s, Windows, Windows NT, and XENIX are registered trademarks and ActiveMovie, ActiveX, and Visual J++ are trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. Java is a trademark of Sun Microsystems, Inc. Other product and company names mentioned herein may be the trademarks of their respective owners.

Acquisitions Editor: Kim Fryer
Project Editor: Maureen Williams Zimmerman, Anne Taussig
Technical Editors: Dail Magee Jr., Gary Nelson, Jean Ross, Jim Fuchs, John Conrow, Kurt Meyer, Robert Lyon, Roslyn Lutsch

flatbed types, that uses hard rubber or metal wheels to hold the paper against the main roller. *See also* plotter. *Compare* drum plotter, flatbed plotter.

pin-compatible \pin´kəm-pat`ə-bl\ *adj.* Having pins that are equivalent to the pins on another chip or device. A chip, for example, might have different internal circuitry from that used in another chip, but if the two chips use the same pins for input and output of identical signals, they are pin-compatible. *Compare* plug-compatible.

pine \pīn\ *n.* Acronym for **p**ine **i**s **n**ot **e**lm, or for **P**rogram for **I**nternet **N**ews and **E**-mail. One of the most commonly encountered programs for reading and composing e-mail on character-based UNIX systems. The pine program was developed as an improved version of elm at the University of Washington. *Compare* elm.

pin feed \pin´ fēd\ *n.* A method of feeding paper through a printer in which small pins, mounted on rollers on the ends of the platen, engage holes near the edges of continuous-form paper. See the illustration. *See also* continuous-form paper, paper feed. *Compare* tractor feed.

ping[1] \ping\ *n.* **1.** Acronym for **P**acket **In**ternet **G**roper. A protocol for testing whether a particular computer is connected to the Internet by sending a packet to its IP address and waiting for a response. The name actually comes from submarine active sonar, where a sound signal—called a "ping"—is broadcast, and surrounding objects are revealed by their reflections of the sound. **2.** A UNIX utility that implements the ping protocol.

ping[2] \ping\ *vb.* **1.** To test whether a computer is connected to the Internet using the ping utility. **2.** To test which users on a mailing list are current by sending e-mail to the list asking for a response.

Ping of Death \pēng` əv deth´\ *n.* A form of Internet vandalism that entails sending a packet that is substantially larger than the usual 64 bytes over the Internet via the ping protocol to a remote computer. The size of the packet causes the computer to crash or reboot. *See also* packet (definition 2), ping[1] (definition 1).

ping pong \pēng´ pong\ *n.* **1.** In communications, a technique that changes the direction of transmission so that the sender becomes the receiver and vice versa. **2.** In information processing and transfer, the technique of using two temporary storage areas (buffers) rather than one to hold both input and output.

ping-pong buffer \pēng´pong buf´ər\ *n.* A double buffer in which each part is alternately filled and flushed, resulting in a more or less continuous stream of input and output data. *See also* ping pong (definition 2).

pin grid array \pin´ grid ər-ā`\ *n.* A method of mounting chips on boards, preferred for chips with a very large number of pins. Pin grid array packages have pins protruding from the bottom surface of the chip, as opposed to dual in-line packages and leaderless chip carrier packages which have pins protruding from the edges. See the illustration. *Acronym:* PGA (P`G-A´). *Compare* DIP, leadless chip carrier.

pinout \pin´out\ *n.* A description or diagram of the pins of a chip or connector. *See also* pin.

EX. 1026
APPLE INC. / Page 3 of 3