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Microsoft Computer Dictionary

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IPR2023-00456
Ex. 3001

PUBLISHED BY
Microsoft Press
A Division of Microsoft Corporation
One Microsoft Way
Redmond, Washington 98052-6399

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
Microsoft Computer Dictionary.--5th ed.
p. cm.
ISBN 0-7356-1495-4
1. Computers--Dictionaries. 2. Microcomputers--Dictionaries.

AQ76.5. M52267 2002 200219714
004'.03--dc21

Printed and bound in the United States of America.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 QWT 7 6 5 4 3 2

Distributed in Canada by H.B. Fenn and Company Ltd.

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

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Body Part No. X08-41929

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coordinates specify such elements as points on a line, the corners of a square, or the location of a pixel on the screen. In other computer applications, coordinates specify cells on a spreadsheet, data points on a graph, locations in memory, and so on. *See also* Cartesian coordinates, polar coordinates.

coordinate dimensioning *n.* A form of spatial positioning in which a point is described, relative to a fixed reference, in terms of its distance and direction along predefined axes. *See also* Cartesian coordinates, three-dimensional model, two-dimensional model.

coordinated universal time format *n. See* Universal Time Coordinate.

coordinate pair *n.* A pair of values representing the x-coordinate and y-coordinate of a point that are stored in a two-dimensional array that can contain coordinates for many points.

COPPA *n.* Acronym for **C**hildren's **O**nline **P**rivacy **P**rotection **A**ct. A U.S. federal law enacted in April 2000 and designed to protect the online privacy of children under the age of 13. COPPA requires Web sites that collect personal information from children under 13 to receive permission from parents or guardians first, and to monitor and supervise children's experiences with interactive Web elements such as chat rooms and e-mail.

copper chip *n.* A microprocessor that uses copper (rather than the more common aluminum) to connect transistors in a computer chip. Copper chip technology, which was developed by IBM and introduced in 1997, can be expected to boost the speed of a microprocessor by as much as 33 percent.

coprocessor *n.* A processor, distinct from the main microprocessor, that performs additional functions or assists the main microprocessor. The most common type of coprocessor is the floating-point coprocessor, also called a numeric or math coprocessor, which is designed to perform numeric calculations faster and better than the general-purpose microprocessors used in personal computers. *See also* floating-point processor.

copy *vb.* To duplicate information and reproduce it in another part of a document, in a different file or memory location, or in a different medium. A copy operation can affect data ranging from a single character to large segments of text, a graphics image, or from one to many data files. Text and graphics, for example, can be copied to another part of a document, to the computer's memory (by means of a temporary storage facility such as the Windows or Macintosh Clipboard), or to a different file. Similarly, files can be copied from one disk or directory to another, and data can be copied from the screen to a printer or to a data file. In most cases, a copy procedure leaves the original information in place. *Compare* cut and paste, move.

copy disk *n.* An MS-DOS command to duplicate the contents of a floppy disk on a second disk. *See also* floppy disk, MS-DOS.

copy holder *n.* An inclined clipboard or other such device designed to hold printed material so that it can be easily viewed by someone working at a computer keyboard.

copyleft *n. See* General Public License.

copy program *n.* **1.** A program designed to duplicate one or more files to another disk or directory. **2.** A program that disables or circumvents the copy-protection device on a computer program so that the software can be copied, often illegally, to another disk. *See also* copy protection.

copy protection *n.* A software lock placed on a computer program by its developer to prevent the product from being copied and distributed without approval or authorization.

copyright *n.* A method of protecting the rights of an originator of a creative work, such as a text, a piece of music, a painting, or a computer program, through law. In many countries the originator of a work has copyright in the work as soon as it is fixed in a tangible medium (such as a piece of paper or a disk file); that rule applies in the United States for works created after 1977. Registration of a copyright, or the use of a copyright symbol, is not needed to create the copyright but does strengthen the originator's legal powers. Unauthorized copying and distribution of copyrighted material can lead to severe penalties, whether done for profit or not. Copyrights affect the computer community in three ways: the copyright protection of software, the copyright status of material (such as song lyrics) distributed over a network such as the Internet, and the copyright status of original material distributed over a network (such as a newsgroup post). The latter two involve electronic media that are arguably not tangible, and legislation protecting the information disseminated through electronic media is still evolving. *See also* fair use, General Public License.

mousetrapping *n.* A practice employed by some Web sites in which the back and exit buttons of a visitor's Web browser are disabled and attempts to leave the site are redirected to other pages on the site or to other sites against the visitor's will. Mousetrapping is most often associated with adult-oriented Web sites. *Compare* page-jacking.

.mov *n.* A filename extension for a movie file in Apple's QuickTime format. *See also* QuickTime.

move *n.* A command or an instruction to transfer information from one location to another. Depending on the operation involved, a move can affect data in a computer's memory or it can affect text or a graphical image in a data file. In programming, for example, a move instruction might transfer a single value from one memory location to another. In applications, on the other hand, a move command might relocate a paragraph of text or all or part of a graphic from one place in a document to another. Unlike a copy procedure, which duplicates information, a move indicates that information either is or can be deleted from its original location. *Compare* copy.

.movie *n. See* .mov.

Moving Picture Experts Group *n. See* MPEG (definition 1).

Mozilla *n.* **1.** A nickname for the Netscape Navigator (later, Netscape Communicator) Web browser, coined by the Netscape Corporation. *See also* Mosaic, Netscape Navigator. **2.** Since 1998, when the Communicator source code was released for free, for use by any interested parties, the name Mozilla has been extended as a generic reference to any Web browser based on Navigator source code.

mozilla.org *n.* The name of the group charged by the Netscape Corporation to act as a clearinghouse for Mozilla-related matters, such as questions, changes to code, bug reporting, forums, and so on.

MPEG Audio Layer-**3**. A digital