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Eighth Edition

Alan Freedman

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Freedman, Alan

The computer glossary : the complete illustrated dictionary / Alan Freedman. — 8th ed.

p. cm.

ISBN 0-8144-7978-2

1. Computers—Dictionaries. 2. Electronic data processing—Dictionaries. I. Title.

QA76.15.F733 1998

004'.03—dc21

97-43977

CIP

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Printing number

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

checksum

checksum

A value used to ensure data is transmitted without error. It is created by adding the binary value of each alphanumeric character in a block of data and sending it with the data. At the receiving end, a new checksum is computed and matched against the transmitted checksum. A non-match indicates an error.

Just as a check digit tests the accuracy of a single number, a checksum tests a block of data. Checksums detect single bit errors and some multiple bit errors, but are not as effective as the CRC method.

chicklet keyboard

A keyboard with small, square keys not suitable for touch typing.

child

In database management, the data that is dependent on its parent. See *parent-child*.

child program

A secondary or subprogram called for and loaded into memory by the main program. See *parent program*.

chip

A set of microminiaturized, electronic circuits that are designed for use as processors and memory in computers and countless consumer and industrial products. Chips are the driving force in this industry. Small chips hold from a handful to tens of thousands of transistors. They look like tiny aluminum chips, no more than 1/16" square by 1/30" thick, which is where the term "chip" came from. Large chips, which can be more than a half inch square, hold millions of transistors. It is actually only the top one thousandth of an inch of a chip's surface that holds the circuits. The rest of it is just a base. The terms *chip*, *integrated circuit* and *microchip* are synonymous. See *logic chip* and *memory chip*.

chip carrier

- (1) The package that a chip is mounted in.
- (2) A chip package with connectors on all sides. See *leaded chip carrier* and *leadless chip carrier*.

chipset

A group of chips designed to work as a unit to perform a function. For example, a modem chipset contains all the primary circuits for transmitting and receiving. A PC chipset contains the system, memory and bus controllers. The chipset, CPU, memory, buses, keyboard circuit and BIOS make up the PC motherboard. Chipsets are typically built on two to four chips, but can be built on one for handheld devices.

chirp

See *CHRP*.

chroma key

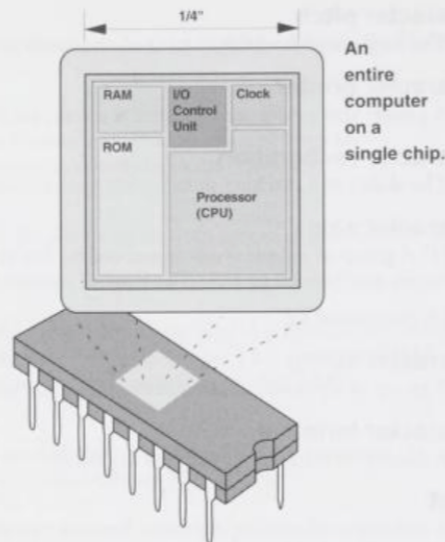
See *color key*.

chromatic dispersion

The spreading of light rays within an optical fiber, which causes decreased bandwidth.

CHRP

(Common Hardware Reference Platform) A specification that defines a common PowerPC platform for multiple operating systems. Since OS/2, NT, Solaris and NetWare support for the PowerPC has been halted, CHRP serves as a standard for Macintosh clones.





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