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# Computer Dictionary

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**Acquisitions Editor:** Alex Blanton

**Project Editor:** Sandra Haynes

Body Part No. X08-41929

## **Contributors**

Peter Aiken  
Bart Arenson  
Janice Borzendowski  
Jerome Colburn  
Duane Hanson  
Andrew Himes  
Robert Howecton  
Annette B. Jackson  
Larry S. Jackson  
Thomas A. Jackson  
Chris Kinata  
Ilana Kingsley  
Robin Lombard  
Thomas A. Long  
William G. Madison

Thomas P. Magliery  
David Mason  
Terrence M. McLaren  
Wallace Parker  
Charles Petzold  
Phil Rose  
John Ross  
David Rygmyr  
Aimée Truchard  
Michael Vose  
Bruce Webster  
Judson D. Weeks  
Tom Winn  
JoAnne Woodcock

## **Illustrators**

Travis Beaven  
David Holter  
Alton Lawson

Rob Nance  
Joel Panchot

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## C

that the compact disc is compliant with the ISO 9660 standard. CDFS is also used as a part of commands that mount media (hard drives, tape drives, remote networked drives, and CD-ROMs) for use on a computer. *See also* CD-ROM, ISO 9660.

**CD-I** *n.* Acronym for **compact disc-interactive**. A hardware and software standard for a form of optical disc technology that can combine audio, video, and text on high-capacity compact discs. CD-I includes such features as image display and resolution, animation, special effects, and audio. The standard covers methods of encoding, compressing, decompressing, and displaying stored information. *See also* CD-ROM.

**CDMA** *n.* *See* Code Division Multiple Access.

**CDN** *n.* Acronym for **content delivery network**. A service that caches the pages of a Web site on geographically dispersed servers to enable faster delivery of Web pages. When a page is requested at a URL that is content delivery-enabled, the content delivery network routes the user's request to a cache server close to the user. *See also* content delivery.

**CDP** *n.* Acronym for **Certificate in Data Processing**. A certificate awarded by the Institute for Certification of Computer Professionals to individuals who pass a set of examinations on computers and related areas, including programming, software, and systems analysis.

**CDPD** *n.* *See* Cellular Digital Packet Data.

**CD player** *n.* Short for **compact disc player**. A device that reads the information stored on a CD. A CD player contains the optical equipment necessary for reading a disc's contents and the electronic circuitry for interpreting the data as it is read.

**CD Plus** *n.* A compact disc encoding format that allows mixing of audio recordings and computer data on the same CD, without the possibility of audio equipment becoming damaged by attempting to play the data sections.

**CD-R** *n.* Acronym for **compact disc-recordable**. A type of CD-ROM that can be written on a CD recorder and read on a CD-ROM drive. *See also* CD recorder, CD-ROM.

**CD-R/E** *adj.* Acronym for **compact disc-recordable and erasable**. Of or pertaining to hardware and software for interfacing computers with both CD-R (compact disc-recordable) and CD-E (compact disc-erasable) devices. *See also* CD-R.

**CD recorder** *n.* A device used to write CD-ROMs.

Because a disc can be written only once on these machines, they are used most commonly to create CD-ROMs for data archives or to produce CD-ROM masters that can be duplicated for mass distribution. *Also called:* CD-R machine, CD-ROM burner. *See also* CD-ROM.

**CD-R machine** *n.* *See* CD recorder.

**CD-ROM** *n.* **1.** Acronym for **compact disc read-only memory**. A form of storage characterized by high capacity (roughly 650 megabytes) and the use of laser optics rather than magnetic means for reading data. Although CD-ROM drives are strictly read-only, they are similar to CD-R drives (write once, read many), optical WORM devices, and optical read-write drives. *See also* CD-I, CD-R, WORM. **2.** An individual CD (compact disc) designed for use with a computer and capable of storing up to 650 megabytes of data. *See also* CD, disc.

**CD-ROM burner** *n.* *See* CD recorder.

**CD-ROM drive** *n.* An electromechanical device that reads data on CD-ROMs. Most CD-ROM drives have a SCSI interface, although some are connected to a PC via a controller for a disk drive. Data is read through a small laser that is focused on the surface of the CD-ROM through optical mirrors in the read/write head. A spindle and drive motor revolve the CD-ROM, so all data, which is stored in spirals from the center, can be read. CD-ROM drives vary in the access time to locate a track on the CD-ROM and the seek time to move the read/write head. *See the illustration.* *Also called:* CD drive. *See also* CD-ROM, compact disc.



**CD-ROM drive.**

**CD-ROM Extended Architecture** *n.* *See* CD-ROM/XA.

**CD-ROM File System** *n.* *See* CDFS (definition 1).