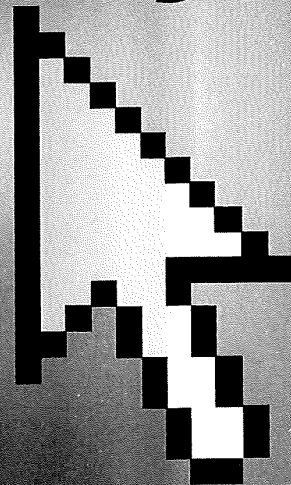


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Acquisitions Editor: Alex Blanton

Project Editor: Sandra Haynes

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kiddie script *n.* A simple and easy-to-use executable script used to hack into a computer or network. Unlike the traditional hacker's techniques, which require detailed networking and programming knowledge, a kiddie script does not require any specialized skills or knowledge. *See also* script, script kiddie.

kill *vb.* **1.** To stop or abort a process in a program or operating system. **2.** In file management, to erase a file, often without hope of reversing the action.

killer app *n.* **1.** An application of such popularity and widespread standardization that it fuels sales of the hardware platform or operating system for which it was written. *See also* application. **2.** An application that supplants its competition. *See also* application.

kill file *n.* *See* bozo filter.

kilo- *prefix* **1.** Metric prefix meaning 10^3 (one thousand). **2.** In computer-related terms, a prefix meaning 2^{10} (1024).

kilobaud *n.* A unit of measure of the transmission capacity of a communications channel, equal to 2^{10} (1024) baud. *See also* baud.

kilobit *n.* A data unit equal to 1024 bits. Abbreviated Kb or Kbit.

kilobits per second *n.* Data transfer speed, as through a modem or on a network, measured in multiples of 1024 bits per second. Abbreviated Kbps.

kilobyte *n.* A data unit of 1024 bytes. Abbreviated K, KB, or Kbyte. *See also* kilo-.

kilocycle *n.* A unit of measurement representing 1000 cycles, generally meaning 1000 cycles per second. Abbreviated kc. *See also* kilohertz.

kilohertz *n.* A measure of frequency equivalent to 1000 hertz, or 1000 cycles per second. Abbreviated kHz. *See also* hertz.

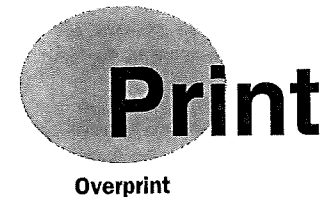
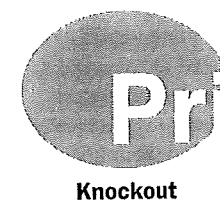
Kinesis ergonomic keyboard *n.* A keyboard designed ergonomically to eliminate repetitive strain injuries. *See also* ergonomic keyboard, repetitive strain injury.

kiosk *n.* A freestanding computer or terminal that provides information to the public, usually through a multimedia display.

kludge *n.* **1.** A short-term or makeshift hardware construction. **2.** A program characterized by a lack of design or forethought, as if written in a hurry to satisfy an immediate need. A kludge basically operates properly, but its

construction or design is severely lacking in elegance or logical efficiency. *See also* braindamaged, hack¹ (definition 1), spaghetti code.

knockout *n.* **1.** In multicolor printing, the process of removing from one image the overlapping parts of a graphic or text that are to be printed in a different color so that ink colors will not mix. *See the illustration. See also* spot color. *Compare* overprint. **2.** In hardware, a section of a panel that can be removed to make space for a switch or other component.



Knockout. A knockout allows an overlapping image to print in the correct color.

knowbot *n.* Short for **knowledge robot**. An artificial-intelligence program that follows a set of predetermined rules to perform work, such as searching for files or looking for documents that contain specific pieces of information on a network, such as the Internet. *See also* bot (definition 2).

knowledge acquisition *n.* The process of translating knowledge from one or more human experts into a form of representation usable by a computer, for the purpose of developing an expert system. *See also* expert system.

knowledge base *n.* A form of database used in expert systems that contains the accumulated body of knowledge of human specialists in a particular field. The reasoning ability or problem-solving approach that a specialist would use is contained in the inference engine, which forms another crucial part of an expert system. *See also* expert system, inference engine.

knowledge-based system *n.* *See* expert system.