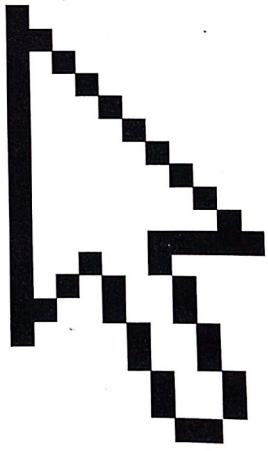
Microsoft

Microsoft® Computer Dictionary

Fifth Edition



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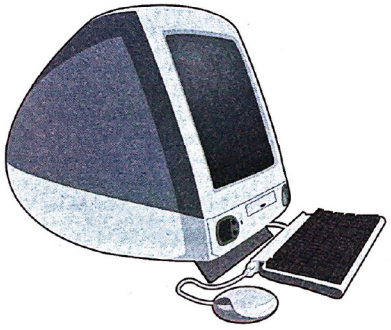
illegal operation might be impossible for a program or system because of built-in constraints. *Compare* invalid.

illuminance *n.* **1.** The amount of light falling on, or illuminating, a surface area. **2.** A measure of illumination (such as watts per square meter) used in reference to devices such as televisions and computer displays. *Compare* luminance.

IM *n. See* instant messaging.

iMac *n.* A family of Apple Macintosh computers introduced in 1998. Designed for nontechnical users, the iMac has a case that contains both the CPU and the monitor and is available in several bright colors. The "i" in iMac stands for Internet; the iMac was designed to make setting up an Internet connection extremely simple. The first version of the iMac included a 266-MHz PowerPC processor, a 66-MHz system bus, a hard drive, a CD-ROM drive, and a 15-inch monitor, with a translucent blue case. Later iMacs came with faster processors and a choice of case colors. See the illustration. *See also* Macintosh.



iMac.

.image *n.* A file extension for a Macintosh Disk Image, a storage type often used on Apple's FTP software download sites.

image *n.* **1.** A stored description of a graphic picture, either as a set of brightness and color values of pixels or as a set of instructions for reproducing the picture. *See also* bit map, pixel map. **2.** A duplicate, copy, or representation of all or part of a hard or floppy disk, a section of memory or hard drive, a file, a program, or data. For example, a RAM disk can hold an image of all or part of a disk in main memory; a virtual RAM program can create an image of some portion of the computer's main memory on disk. *See also* RAM disk.

image-based rendering *n. See* immersive imaging.

image color matching *n.* The process of image output correction to match the same colors that were scanned or input.

image compression *n.* The use of a data compression technique on a graphical image. Uncompressed graphics files tend to use up large amounts of storage, so image compression is useful to conserve space. *See also* compressed file, data compression, video compression.

image compression dialog component *n.* An application programming interface that sets parameters for compressing images and image sequences in QuickTime, a technology from Apple for creating, editing, publishing, and viewing multimedia content. The component displays a dialog box as a user interface, validates and stores the settings selected in the dialog box, and oversees the compression of the image or images based on the selected criteria.

Image Compression Manager *n.* A major software component used in QuickTime, a technology from Apple for creating, editing, publishing, and viewing multimedia content. The Image Compression Manager is an interface that provides image-compression and image-decompression services to applications and other managers. Because the Image Compression Manager is independent of specific compression algorithms and drivers, it can present a common application interface for software-based compressors and hardware-based compressors and offer compression options so that it or its application can use the appropriate tool for a particular situation. *See also* QuickTime.

image compressor component *n.* A software component used by the Image Compression Manager to compress image data in QuickTime, a technology from Apple for creating, editing, publishing, and viewing multimedia content. *See also* Image Compression Manager, QuickTime.

image decompressor component *n.* A software component used by the Image Compression Manager to decompress image data in QuickTime, a technology from Apple for creating, editing, publishing, and viewing multimedia content. *See also* Image Compression Manager, QuickTime.

image editing *n.* The process of changing or modifying a bitmapped image, usually with an image editor.