

Microsoft®

OVER
10,000
ENTRIES

Microsoft®

Computer Dictionary

Fifth Edition

- *Fully updated with the latest technologies, terms, and acronyms*
- *Easy to read, expertly illustrated*
- *Definitive coverage of hardware, software, the Internet, and more!*



Tableau EX1075

IPR2024-01387

U.S. Patent No. 8,271,892

PUBLISHED BY

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

Copyright © 2002 by Microsoft Corporation

All rights reserved. No part of the contents of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without the written permission of the publisher.

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
004'.03--dc21

200219714

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.

Microsoft Press books are available through booksellers and distributors worldwide. For further information about international editions, contact your local Microsoft Corporation office or contact Microsoft Press International directly at fax (425) 936-7329. Visit our Web site at www.microsoft.com/mspress. Send comments to mspinput@microsoft.com.

Active Desktop, Active Directory, ActiveMovie, ActiveStore, ActiveSync, ActiveX, Authenticode, BackOffice, BizTalk, ClearType, Direct3D, DirectAnimation, DirectDraw, DirectInput, DirectMusic, DirectPlay, DirectShow, DirectSound, DirectX, Entourage, FoxPro, FrontPage, Hotmail, IntelliEye, IntelliMouse, IntelliSense, JScript, MapPoint, Microsoft, Microsoft Press, Mobile Explorer, MS-DOS, MSN, Music Central, NetMeeting, Outlook, PhotoDraw, PowerPoint, SharePoint, UltimateTV, Visio, Visual Basic, Visual C++, Visual FoxPro, Visual InterDev, Visual J++, Visual SourceSafe, Visual Studio, Win32, Win32s, Windows, Windows Media, Windows NT, Xbox are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. Other product and company names mentioned herein may be the trademarks of their respective owners.

The example companies, organizations, products, domain names, e-mail addresses, logos, people, places, and events depicted herein are fictitious. No association with any real company, organization, product, domain name, e-mail address, logo, person, place, or event is intended or should be inferred.

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

Contents

<i>Introduction</i>	vii
<i>Changes in the Fifth Edition</i>	vii
<i>Order of Presentation</i>	vii
<i>Entries</i>	vii
<i>Future Printings and Editions</i>	ix

Dictionary of Computer Terms 1

Appendix A:

Common Character Sets	587
ANSI Character Set	587
Apple Macintosh Extended Character Set	593
IBM Extended Character Set	597
EBCDIC Character Set	599

Appendix B:

Common File Extensions	605
------------------------------	-----

Appendix C:

Instant Messaging Emoticons and Acronyms	613
--	-----

Appendix D:

Internet Domains	623
------------------------	-----

Appendix E:

Numeric Equivalents	631
---------------------------	-----

Introduction

The *Microsoft Computer Dictionary, Fifth Edition* is designed to be a comprehensive and authoritative source of definitions for computer-related terms and abbreviations. The dictionary includes terms drawn from a wide variety of topics relevant to computer users, including software, hardware, networking, data storage, graphics, games, information processing, the Internet and the World Wide Web, gaming, history, jargon and slang, organizations, programming, and standards.

Although this book covers nearly every aspect of computing, it does not include entries on most companies or on most makes and models of computers, nor does it contain entries on most application software products. The few exceptions to this rule of thumb are key companies and products that have a historical or universal importance within the computing industry.

This dictionary emphasizes terminology that the average computer user will encounter in documentation, online help, computer manuals, marketing and sales materials, the popular media, and the computer trade press. Because most computer users operate personal computers and desktop systems at home, work, or both, the majority of the entries in this dictionary cover the terminology used in describing and working with these systems. However, some specialized or highly technical language is included that pertains to areas of industry, academia, software and hardware development, and research. These terms have been included because they have a bearing on more common computer terminology or because they are of historical significance.

Changes in the Fifth Edition

The fifth edition of the *Microsoft Computer Dictionary* has been revised and expanded to include over 10,000 entries, reflecting the many advances in the computer field and

including several areas that have come into prominence in the public eye, such as networking, Web authoring, and new technologies, such as .NET. The content from the Year 2000 appendix has been integrated into the body of the dictionary and a new appendix on emoticons and instant messaging symbols has been added.

Order of Presentation

Entries are alphabetized by letter. Spaces are ignored, as are characters such as hyphens and slashes; for example, *Baud-dot code* falls between *baud* and *baud rate*, and *machine-independent* falls between *machine identification* and *machine instruction*. Numbers and symbols are located at the beginning of the book and are listed in ascending ASCII order. If an entry begins with a letter or letters but contains a number, it is listed alphabetically, according to the initial letter(s), and then according to ASCII order. Thus, V20 precedes V.2x, and both precede VAB.

Entries

Entries are of two types: main entries, which contain full definitions, and synonymous cross-references, which contain *See* references to the appropriate main entries. Synonymous cross-references are generally secondary or less common ways of referring to a main entry. The definition at the main entry can be substituted as a definition for the synonymous cross-reference.

Format

Information in each main entry is presented in a consistent format: entry name in boldface, spelling variants (if any), part of speech, definition, illustration or table reference (if any), acronym (if any), alternative names (if any), and cross-references (if any).



Docking station.

DOCSIS *n.* Acronym for Data Over Cable Service Interface Specification. The International Telecommunications Union standard (ITU Recommendation J.112) that specifies functions and internal and external interfaces for high-speed, bidirectional transfer of digital data between cable television networks and subscribers. DOCSIS-compliant equipment ensures interoperability between cable modems and the cable television infrastructure, regardless of manufacturer or provider. Initially developed by a group of cable television providers, including Time Warner and TCI, DOCSIS was designed to support data, video, and rapid Internet access. Data rates are 27 Mbps to 36 Mbps downstream (from the cable network) and 320 Kbps to 10 Mbps upstream (to the cable network). *See also* cable modem. *Compare* IEEE 802.14.

doctype *n.* A declaration at the beginning of an SGML document that gives a public or system identifier for the document type definition (DTD) of the document. *See also* SGML.

document¹ *n.* Any self-contained piece of work created with an application program and, if saved on disk, given a unique filename by which it can be retrieved. Documents are generally thought of as word-processed materials only. To a computer, however, data is nothing more than a collection of characters, so a spreadsheet or a graphic is as much a document as is a letter or report. In the Macintosh environment in particular, a document is any user-created work named and saved as a separate file.

document² *vb.* To explain or annotate something, such as a program or a procedure.

documentation *n.* The set of instructions shipped with a program or a piece of hardware. Documentation usually includes necessary information about the type of computer system required, setup instructions, and instructions on the use and maintenance of the product.

document-centric *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of an operating system in which the user opens document files and thus automatically invokes the applications (such as word processors or spreadsheet programs) that process them. Many graphical user interfaces, such as the Macintosh Finder, as well as the World Wide Web, are document-centric. *Compare* application-centric.

Document Content Architecture *n.* *See* DCA (definition 1).

Document Content Description *n.* *See* DCD (definition 2).

document file *n.* A user-created file that represents the output of a program. *Also called:* data file. *Compare* program file.

document image processing *n.* A system for storing and retrieving information for an enterprise in the form of bitmapped images of paper documents input with a scanner rather than in the form of text and numeric files. Document image processing takes more memory than purely electronic data processing, but it more readily incorporates signatures, drawings, and photographs and can be more familiar to users without computer training. *See also* paperless office.

Document Interchange Architecture *n.* *See* DIA.

document management *n.* The full spectrum of electronic document creation and distribution within an organization.

document management system *n.* A server-based network facility designed for the storage and handling of an organization's documents. A document management system, or DMS, is built around a central library known as a repository and typically supports controlled access, version tracking, cataloging, search capabilities, and the ability to check documents in and out electronically. The open interface specification known as ODMA (Open Document Management API) enables desktop applications that support ODMA to interface with a DMS so that users can access and manage documents from within their client applications. *Acronym:* DMS. *Also called:* EDMS, electronic document management system.

Document Object Model *n.* A World Wide Web Consortium specification that describes the structure of dynamic HTML and XML documents in a way that allows them to be manipulated through a Web browser. In the Document Object Model, or DOM, a document is presented as a logical structure rather than as a collection of

D

net, remote login is done primarily by rlogin and telnet. *See also* rlogin¹ (definition 1), telnet¹.

remote monitoring *n.* *See* RMON.

remote network monitoring *n.* *See* RMON.

Remote PC *n.* *See* remote system.

remote procedure call *n.* In programming, a call by one program to a second program on a remote system. The second program generally performs a task and returns the results of that task to the first program. *Acronym:* RPC.

remote system *n.* The computer or network that a remote user is accessing via a modem. *See also* remote access. *Compare* remote terminal.

remote terminal *n.* A terminal that is located at a site removed from the computer to which it is attached. Remote terminals rely on modems and telephone lines to communicate with the host computer. *See also* remote access. *Compare* remote system.

removable disk *n.* A disk that can be removed from a disk drive. Floppy disks are removable; hard disks usually are not. *Also called:* exchangeable disk.

REM statement *n.* Short for **remark statement**. A statement in the Basic programming language and the MS-DOS and OS/2 batch file languages that is used to add comments to a program or batch file. Any statement beginning with the word *REM* is ignored by the interpreter or compiler or the command processor. *See also* comment.

rename *n.* A command in most file transfer protocol (FTP) clients and in many other systems that allows the user to assign a new name to a file or files.

render *vb.* To produce a graphic image from a data file on an output device such as a video display or printer.

rendering *n.* The creation of an image containing geometric models, using color and shading to give the image a realistic look. Usually part of a geometric modeling package such as a CAD program, rendering uses mathematics to describe the location of a light source in relation to the object and to calculate the way in which the light would create highlights, shading, and variations in color. The degree of realism can range from opaque, shaded polygons to images approximating photographs in their complexity. *See also* ray tracing.

RenderMan Shading Language *n.* A C-like graphics and rendering language developed by Pixar.

repaginate *vb.* To recalculate the page breaks in a document.

Repeat *n.* A command in Microsoft Word that causes all information contained in either the last command dialog box or the last uninterrupted editing session to be repeated.

repeat counter *n.* A loop counter; typically, a register that holds a number representing how many times a repetitive process has been or is to be executed.

Repeat delay *n.* A delay for the amount of time that elapses before a character begins repeating when you hold down a key.

repeater *n.* A device used on communications circuits that decreases distortion by amplifying or regenerating a signal so that it can be transmitted onward in its original strength and form. On a network, a repeater connects two networks or two network segments at the physical layer of the ISO/OSI reference model and regenerates the signal.

repeating Ethernet *n.* *See* repeater.

repeat key *n.* On some keyboards, a key that must be held down at the same time as a character key to cause the character key's key code to be sent repeatedly. On most computer keyboards, however, a repeat key is not needed because a key automatically repeats if held down for longer than a brief delay. *Compare* typematic.

RepeatKeys *n.* A feature of Windows 9x and Windows NT that allows a user to adjust or disable the typematic keyboard feature so as to accommodate users with restricted mobility, who may activate typematic by accident because they have trouble lifting their fingers from the keys. *See also* typematic. *Compare* BounceKeys, FilterKeys, MouseKeys, ShowSounds, SoundSentry, StickyKeys, ToggleKeys.

repetitive strain injury *n.* An occupational disorder of the tendons, ligaments, and nerves caused by the cumulative effects of prolonged repetitious movements. Repetitive strain injuries are appearing with increasing frequency among office workers who spend long hours typing at computerized workstations that are not equipped with safeguards such as wrist supports. *Acronym:* RSI. *See also* carpal tunnel syndrome, ergonomic keyboard, wrist support.

replace *vb.* To put new data in the place of other data, usually after conducting a search for the data to be replaced. Text-based applications such as word processors typically include search-and-replace commands. In such

R

