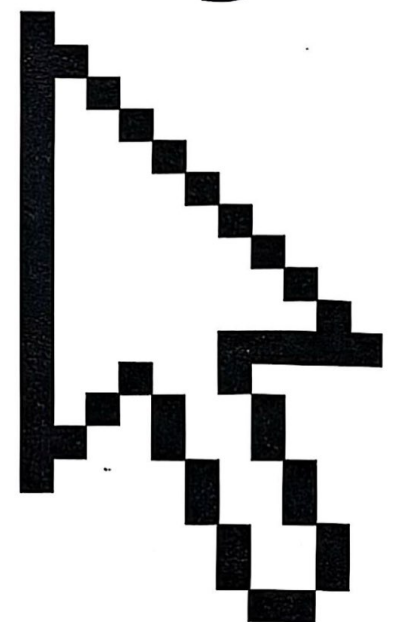


Microsoft®

Computer Dictionary

Fifth Edition



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

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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.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 QWT 7 6 5 4 3 2

Distributed in Canada by Penguin Books Canada Limited.

A CIP catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

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Body Part No. X08-41929

of bandwidth be reserved by the server for a data stream; the server sends back a message (similar to the RSVP sent in reply to an invitation) indicating whether or not the request has been granted. *Acronym:* RSVP (Resource Reservation Setup Protocol).

resource sharing *n.* The act of making files, printers, and other network resources available for use by others.

resource type *n.* One of numerous classes of structural and procedural resources in the Macintosh operating system, such as code, fonts, windows, dialog boxes, templates, icons, patterns, strings, drivers, cursors, color tables, and menus. Resource types have characteristic identifying labels, such as CODE for blocks of program instructions, FONT for fonts, and CURS for mouse cursors. *See also* resource (definition 2), resource fork.

response time *n.* 1. The time, often an average, that elapses between the issuance of a request and the provision of the data requested (or notification of inability to provide it). 2. The time required for a memory circuit or storage device to furnish data requested by the central processing unit (CPU).

restart *vb.* *See* reboot.

restore¹ *n.* The act of restoring a file or files. *See also* backup, recovery.

restore² *vb.* To copy files from a backup storage device to their normal location, especially if the files are being copied to replace files that were accidentally lost or deleted.

restricted function *n.* A function or an operation that can be executed only under certain circumstances, especially when the central processing unit (CPU) is in privileged mode. *See also* privileged mode.

Restructured Extended Executor *n.* *See* REXX.

retrace *n.* The path followed by the electron beam in a raster-scan computer monitor as it returns either from the right to the left edge of the screen or from the bottom to the top of the screen. The retrace positions the electron beam for its next sweep across or down the screen; during this interval, the beam is briefly turned off to avoid drawing an unwanted line on the screen. Retracing occurs many times each second and uses tightly synchronized signals to ensure that the electron beam is turned off and on during the retrace. *See also* blanking, horizontal retrace, raster display, vertical retrace.

retrieve *vb.* To obtain a specific requested item or set of data by locating it and returning it to a program or to the user. Computers can retrieve information from any source of storage—disks, tapes, or memory.

retro virus *n.* A type of virus that avoids detection by attacking or disabling antivirus programs. *Also called:* anti-anti-virus.

return *vb.* 1. To transfer control of the system from a called routine or program back to the calling routine or program. Some languages support an explicit *return* or *exit* statement; others allow return only at the end (last statement) of the called routine or program. *See also* call² (definition 2). 2. To report the outcome of a called routine to the calling routine or program.

return code *n.* In programming, a code that is used to report the outcome of a procedure or to influence subsequent events when a routine or process terminates (returns) and passes control of the system to another routine. Return codes can, for example, indicate whether an operation was successful or not and can thus be used to determine what is to be done next.

return from the dead *vb.* To regain access to the Internet after having been disconnected.

Return key *n.* A key on a keyboard that is used to terminate input of a field or record or to execute the default action of a dialog box. On IBM PCs and compatibles, this key is called ENTER. The corresponding key on a typewriter causes the carriage holding the paper to return to the starting position to begin a new line; hence the name. *See also* Enter key.

return to zero *n.* A method of recording on magnetic media in which the reference condition, or “neutral state,” is the absence of magnetization. *Abbreviation:* RZ. *Compare* nonreturn to zero.

reusability *n.* The ability of code or a design to be usable again in another application or system.

Reverse Address Resolution Protocol *n.* *See* RARP.

Reverse ARP *n.* *See* RARP.

reverse byte ordering *n.* *See* little endian.

reverse engineering *n.* A method of analyzing a product in which the finished item is studied to determine its makeup or component parts—for example, studying a