



RANDOM HOUSE
WEBSTER'S

COMPUTER & INTERNET DICTIONARY

THIRD EDITION



- Over 3,000 Computer Terms Clearly Explained
- Covers the Latest Technology Including the World Wide Web

Philip E. Margolis
Creator of www.pcwebopaedia.com

Random House Webster's Computer & Internet Dictionary, Third Edition

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⇒ See also ETHERNET; IPX; LOCAL-AREA NETWORK; NDS; NOVELL; OPERATING SYSTEM; SAP; SPX; TOKEN-RING NETWORK.

NetWare Loadable Module Known as an *NLM*, it is software that enhances or provides additional functions in a NetWare 3.x or higher server. Support for database engines, workstations, network protocols, and fax and print servers are examples. The NetWare 2.x counterpart is a VAP.

network A group of two or more computer systems linked together. There are many types of computer networks, including:

local-area networks (LANs): The computers are geographically close together (that is, in the same building).

wide-area networks (WANs): The computers are farther apart and are connected by telephone lines or radio waves.

In addition to these types, the following characteristics are also used to categorize different types of networks:

topology: The geometric arrangement of a computer system. Common topologies include a bus, star, and ring.

protocol: The protocol defines a common set of rules and signals that computers on the network use to communicate. One of the most popular protocols for LANs is called *Ethernet*. Another popular LAN protocol for PCs is the *IBM token-ring network*.

architecture: Networks can be broadly classified as using either a *peer-to-peer* or *client/server architecture*.

Computers on a network are sometimes called *nodes*. Computers and devices that allocate resources for a network are called *servers*.

⇒ See also BACKBONE; CLIENT/SERVER ARCHITECTURE; COMMUNICATIONS; ETHERNET; FIREWALL; HETEROGENEOUS NETWORK; INTRANET; LOCAL-AREA NETWORK; MAN; NETWORK MANAGEMENT; PACKET SWITCHING; PROTOCOL; SERVER; SNA; SNMP; TOKEN-RING NETWORK; TOPOLOGY; WIDE-AREA NETWORK.

network adapter Same as NETWORK INTERFACE CARD.

Network Address Translation See NAT.

Network Basic Input/Output System See NETBIOS.

network card Same as NETWORK INTERFACE CARD.

network computer A computer with minimal memory, disk storage, and processor power designed to connect to a network, especially the Internet. The idea behind network computers is that many users who are connected to a network don't need all the computer power they get from a typical personal computer. Instead, they can rely on the power of the net-