

Selected Internet Definitions

Archie	A computer information system that searches for documents, images, sound files, and software at anonymous FTP sites based on key words supplied by a user.
cc:Mail	E-mail software used by the National Park Service, some universities, and other groups.
Client	Software that resides on a local computer and is used to retrieve or view information on other computers on the Internet. To use Archie you need an Archie client; to use Gopher you need a Gopher client.
Cyberspace	All or any functioning subset of computers, computer networks, and software that are interconnected. The word connotes the existence of electronically created environments used for entertainment or communication that appear to have little or no relationship to their physical locations.
E-mail	A general term for any text-based electronic communication between computers. Cc:Mail, Popmail, and Pine are examples of e-mail software (clients).
FTP	File Transfer Protocol. A system for transferring either text or binary data between computers. Anonymous FTP sites allow access without using a confidential password.
Gopher	A program for viewing directories and getting text information from computers, which are set up as Gopher servers. Using Gopher requires a Gopher client (software).
Server	A computer specially set up and administered to provide information (data or software) to other computers. Servers can provide any combination or subset of Gopher, Archie, Veronica, FTP, World Wide Web, e-mail, or other services.
URL	Uniform Resource Locator. The string of characters used to identify files by resource type, directory, and computer anywhere in the world.
Veronica	A computer information system that searches for documents, images, sound files, or software at Gopher sites based on key words supplied by a user. Veronica is to Gopher as Archie is to FTP.
The Web	The World Wide Web. Collectively, the computers (servers) that are set up to provide interactive and interlinked multimedia documents over the Internet. Whereas the e-mail function of the Internet only allows messages to be sent one way and is limited to text, the web is interactive and allows users to browse through documents that contain text, images, sounds, and movies.