

Web browser: the program people use to access the World Wide Web. It interprets HTML code including text, images, hypertext links, Javascript, and Java applets. Common browsers include Internet Explorer, Firefox and Safari.

Webmaster: the person in charge of maintaining a web site. The jobs of a webmaster include writing HTML for web pages, organizing the web site's structure, responding to e-mails about the web site, and keeping the site up-to-date.

Zipped file: a compressed file with the .zip file extension. For example, when you download a file, if the filename looks like "filename.zip," you are downloading a zipped file. "Zipping" a file involves compressing one or more items into a smaller archive. A zipped file takes up less hard drive space and takes less time to transfer to another computer.

References:

- Blurtit.com
- BusinessDictionary.com
- Designreviver.com
- developer.mozilla.org
- sharpened.net
- SQL Visual Quickstart Guide
- TechTerms.com
- yourHTMLsource.com
- Zeald.com



If you need more help, make an appointment with us at...

Student Academic Learning Services

Phone: 905.721.2000 ext. 2491

Email: sals@durhamcollege.ca

or

visit our front desk in Room 204,
Student Services Building (SSB)

Student Academic Learning Services

Computer Terminology

Bandwidth: refers to how much data you can send through a network or modem connection. It is usually measured in bits per second, or “bps.”

CSS: stands for “Cascading Style Sheet.” Cascading style sheets are used to format the layout of web pages. They can be used to define text styles, table sizes, and other aspects of web pages.

Encryption: the coding or scrambling of information so that it can only be decoded and read by someone who has the correct decoding key. It is used in secure web sites and other types of data transfer.

External hard drive: a hard drive that is outside of the computer case in its own enclosure. These are usually used for extra or portable data storage.

File types: Programs save information created in them in a format that will be able to be opened later by that program, and possibly others. For example, if you create a “Word file,” or document, in Microsoft Word, you will later open that file in Word or another program to view or edit it. File types are designated by **file extensions**, the three or four letters following the period after the file name, for example, .doc for Word files or .ppt for PowerPoint presentations.

Footer: a repeated design or text at the bottom of a document or web page.

Header: text at the top of every page in a set, such as the title, author, or page number. You can set a header in most document creation programs. Different styles of academic writing (i.e. MLA, APA) require different styles of header. On web pages, a header may be graphics (such as drawings, but not pictures) that appear at the top of a collection of related web pages.

HTML: the method by which you move around on the web, by clicking on special text called **hyperlinks** which bring you to the next page. The code for web pages uses *markup*, made of HTML tags, to mark text to appear a certain way or take you somewhere when you click on it.

HTTP: stands for “HyperText Transfer Protocol.” This is the protocol used to transfer data over the World Wide Web. Whenever you type a URL into your browser and hit enter, your computer sends an HTTP request to the appropriate Web server.

JavaScript: a programming language that can be integrated into standard HTML pages. This scripting language is used mainly to create dynamic, interactive web pages.

JPEG: stands for “Joint Photographic Experts Group,” the name of the committee that developed this file format used for high-quality images.

PDF: stands for “Portable Document File,” a file type that can be read in Adobe Acrobat Reader and which is free to download. PDFs are often used for article and electronic version of print publications; they cannot be edited unless you own the expensive Acrobat software.

Photoshop: image editing software developed and manufactured by Adobe Systems Inc. The software allows users to manipulate, crop, resize, and colour correct digital photos.

Server: a piece of equipment that serves information to computers connected to it. When users connect to a server, they can access programs, files, and other information from the server. Common servers are web servers, mail servers, and LAN (Local Area Network) servers.

URL: stands for “Uniform Resource Locator”, the address of a specific web site or file on the Internet. It cannot have spaces or certain other characters and uses forward slashes to denote different directories.

USB: stands for “Universal Serial Bus”, the most widely used hardware interface for attaching peripheral devices to a computer. A USB or “flash” drive is a small device that connects with the USB port used to easily transport and back up data.