

Appendix C

Glossary

Boolean Comes from the ideas of British mathematician George Boole (1815-1964). From his writings come the Boolean operators: AND, OR, and NOT, used to link words and phrases for more precise queries for search engines and directories.

Database A repository of information that is searchable.

Domain One of the different subsets of the Internet. The suffix found on the host name of an Internet server defines its domain. For example, the host name for Prentice Hall, the publisher of this book, is www.prenhall.com. The last part, .COM, indicates that Prentice Hall is a part of the commercial domain. Other domains include .MIL for military, .EDU for education, .ORG for non-profit organizations, .GOV for government organizations, and many more.

Download The process of transferring a file, document, or program from a remote computer to a local computer. (See Upload.)

E-mail The short name for electronic mail. E-mail is sent electronically from one person to another. Some companies have e-mail systems that are not part of the Internet. E-mail can be sent to one person or to many different people.

Homepage In its specific sense, this refers to a Web document that a browser loads as its central navigational point to browse the Internet. It may also be used to refer to as a Web page describing an individual. In the most general sense, it is used to refer to any Web document.

HTML This is an abbreviation for HyperText Markup Language, the common language used to write documents that appear on the World Wide Web.

HTTP An abbreviation for HyperText Transport Protocol, the common protocol used to communicate between World Wide Web servers.

Link A text element or graphic within a document that has an embedded connection to another item. Web pages use links to access documents, images, sounds, and video files from the Internet, other documents on the local Web server, or other content on the Web page. Hyperlink is another name for link.

Paraphrasing To restate in your own words a passage written or spoken by another person.

PDF This stands for Portable Document Format. It is a file format that allows authors to distribute formatted, high-resolution documents across the Internet. A free viewer, Adobe Acrobat Reader, is required to view PDF documents.

Plagiarism To present another person's words or ideas as if they were your own.

Primary Source Firsthand evidence, based on your own or someone else's original work or direct observation.

Search Engine An online service or utility that enables users to query and search the Internet for user-defined information. They are typically free services to the user.

Secondary Source To report describe, comment or analyze the experiences of work of others. A secondary source is at least once removed from the primary source.

Summarizing To condense the essentials of someone else's thoughts into a few statements. A summary is shorter than a paraphrase and provides only the main point from the original source.

URL An abbreviation for Universal Resource Locator. In basic sense, it is an address used by people on the Internet to locate documents. URLs have a common format that describes the protocol for information transfer, the host computer address, the path to the desired file, and the name of the file requested.

Viewer A program used to view data files within or outside a browser.

Web (WWW) This stands for World Wide Web. When loosely applied, this term refers to the Internet and all of its associated incarnations, including Gopher, FTP, HTTP, and others. More specifically, this term refers to a subset of the servers on the Internet that use HTTP to transfer hyperlinked documents in a page-like format.

Web page A single file as viewed within a Web browser. Several Web pages linked together represent a website.