



Jargon Buster!

Confused by computer terms? Then here's a handy guide!

- Address bar** - the narrow, rectangular box on the top of a browser window with a web
- Backup** - a copy of information held on a computer that is stored separately from the computer
- Browse** - (or **Surf**) means to explore a website for information
- Browser (Search Engine)** - a program used to find information; examples of a web browser are Firefox, Google Chrome, Edge, Bing, Safari used to search the internet
- Computer virus** - software that attacks or corrupts your computer
- Copy and Paste** - highlight words (right click on the mouse) and paste or copy to another position
- Cloud** - cloud storage for backing up data/photographs to massive computer servers on internet
- Cursor** - a small arrow, line or hand blinking on the screen
- Data** - any information stored by a computer
- Desktop** - the screen you see when you turn on your computer or laptop
- Email** - a way to send a message from one computer to another
- FAQ** - an abbreviation for *frequently asked questions*
- File** - to store information as text, image or document. Files can be in folders
- Folder** - to organise information, the icon looks like a yellow office folder on most computers
- Graphic** - a picture or an image
- Hardware** - laptop, desktop computer, mouse, keyboard, printer and monitor
- Homepage** - the main page of a website. 'Home' returns to this page
- Icon** - a small symbol or picture that represents a program
- Internet** - a network of computers connected all over the world
- Link (Hyperlink)** - a highlighted, sometimes blue, underlined place to click on to go to another web page. Point to underlined word or image, it is a link when cursor becomes a hand
- Log on** - access via user ID, username (sometimes your email address) and password
- Menu** - list of options accessed in many ways, right click, click on 3 dots or dashes
- Mouse** - instead of using the touch screen or pad to click on the computer screen
- Password** - unique code to protect data, 8+ characters/words to access a computer, web page, or file. Using letters (upper or lower case), numbers and characters, is a strong password and secure
- Right Click** - the right-hand button on a mouse; gives you a menu of options
- Scroll** - to move text or other information on a computer screen up, down, or sideways
- Social Network / Media** - websites to connect with other people; Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, Twitter, Snapchat, WhatsApp, TikTok
- Software** - programs on a computer, instructions telling the computer what to do
- Spam** - abbreviation *sending particularly annoying message*
- Taskbar (Dock on Apple)** - along bottom of desktop with icons showing programs/volume/Wi-Fi
- Toolbar** - a box at the top with images for shortcuts used in word processing/web editing
- Upload** - to send information from computer to internet, email, saving photos, social media
- URL** - a web address for the location of a specific website, page or file on the internet
- Virus** - attacks a computer via an email link, text message attachment, file or app downloads
- Virus Software** - protects against viruses, Norton, AVG, McAfee, ESET
- World Wide Web (www)** - the internet linking computers worldwide
- Website** - a group of web pages

Would like more help? Then contact the digital team at
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