

## What makes a website a GOOD website?

### DESIGN

Navigability is good

Links are clearly labeled

Can move from page to page easily

Site offers interactivity

Appropriate page format

Pages not too long

Information easily found

Good use of graphics and color

Text and background colors do not clash

### CONTENT

Proper title

Additional resource links are included

Information is useful

Content motivates viewer to revisit

### TECHNICAL ELEMENTS

All links work

Thumbnail graphics used

Graphics download quickly

Alternative text page is offered when heavy graphics or frames are used

Image links and image maps have a text alternative

Can see meaningful information within 30 seconds

### CREDIBILITY

Contact person is stated with their e-mail address

Announces when page was last updated

Links have been kept current

Resource links used to develop content are included

States the name of the host institution or group



## Understanding the Internet



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# What is the Internet???

**The Internet** is a network of networks, linking computers to computers by speaking the same language called TCP-IP protocol. Each computer runs software to provide or "serve" information and/or to access and view information. The Internet (with a capital I) is the world's largest Internet. The Internet includes a variety of electronic services such as electronic mail (E-mail), telnet (remote logging), FTP (file transfer protocol for downloading or uploading files), Gopher (an early, text-only method for accessing Internet documents), and the World Wide Web. The internet was originally developed for the United States military, and then became used for government, academic, and commercial research and communications.

**World Wide Web**, also known as WWW, or Web. A hypermedia - based system for browsing Internet sites. It is named the Web because it is made of many sites linked together; users can travel from one site to another by clicking on hyperlinks. The World Wide Web is a network of information servers, principally the ones using HTTP to serve up HTML documents. The servers are linked, not in any type or formal sense, but because an HTML document from one server might contain pointers to documents on many other servers. On the Web, everything (documents, menus, indexes) is represented to the user as a hypertext object in HTML format. Hypertext links refer to other documents other by their URLs.

## Internet Terms

**Browser:** A program that allows users to read hypertext documents on the World Wide Web, and navigate between them. Examples are; Netscape Navigator, Lynx, and Microsoft Internet Explorer. Browsers can be text-based or graphic.

**Cookie:** A cookie is a set of data that a website server gives to a browser the first time the user visits the site, that is updated with each return visit. The remote server saves the information the cookie contains about the user and the user's browser does the same, as a text file stored in the Netscape or Explorer system folder.

**Domain name:** An internet address in alphabetic form. Domain names must have at least two parts: the part on the left names the organization, and the part on the right identifies the sub domain. Directory levels can be indicated at the end, separated by a slash. The right-hand side or end of a domain name helps identify what type of agency or organization is the hosting site. For example:

.com=commercial site,  
.edu=education institution,  
.gov= US government,  
.mil=US military,  
.net=network  
.org=nonprofit organization

**Electronic Mail (e-mail):** A system whereby a computer user can exchange messages with other computer users or groups of users through a communications network.

**Email address:** An e-mail address has the form "person ID" at "domain ID". For example, jdoe@intel.com. In this email address, Mr. Doe is identified by his internet domain name, intel.com.

## MORE Internet

**HTML( Hyper Text Markup Language):** The language of the World Wide Web. Used to create Web pages with hyperlinks and markup for text formatting (heading styles, bold, italic, numbered lists, insertion of images.)

**HTTP( Hyper Text Transport Protocol):** The rules by which World Wide Web browsers and servers communicate. This is the protocol most often used to transfer information from Web servers to browsers which is why Web addresses begin with http://

**Navigate:** To find one's way around on the World Wide Web by following hypertext links from document to document and from computer to computer.

**Portal:** A Web site that offers a great amount of content and services either on many subjects (such as Yahoo or About.com) or on a specific subject (like Education).

**Search Engine:** A remotely accessible program that lets you do keyword searches for information on the Internet. There are several types of search engines, and the search may cover titles of documents, URL, headers or the full text. Examples are; AltaVista, Google and Lycos

**Web Site:** (1) Any computer on the internet running a World Wide Web server process. A particular Web site is identified by the hostname part of a URL( e.g. www.intel.com is the hostname of http://www.intel.com/education). (2) Sets of Web pages that can be visited by browsers.