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| Glossary | |
| Alerts | An alert is a message, email, icon, or another symbol that appears when an application wants you to pay attention. It often includes a sound as well as a visual alert. |
| Alexa | Alexa is a voice controlled virtual assistant created by Amazon. |
| Android | Android is an operating system developed by Google for mobile devices like smart phones and tablets. It is the operating system from all Samsung, Sony, HTC, Motorola and Google mobile devices. |
| App | Apps are computer programs that can run on your smartphone, tablet or computer. |
| Apple | Apple is a technology company which makes smart phones, tablets, computer and software. Their products include the iPhone and the iPad. |
| Apple App Store | Apple’s online store where you can purchase and download apps for all apple devices including iPad and iPhone. |
| Attachment | Documents and files like photos and scanned documents, which are attached and sent with emails. |
| Biometrics | Many mobile devices offer the use of biometrics (such as face, iris or fingerprint recognition) rather than passwords or codes to unlock the device. |
| Blog | A blog is a type of website that usually features thoughts, opinions, links and photos. There are different types of blogs, ranging from personal blogs of people you might know to company blogs and celebrity blogs. |
| Bluetooth | Bluetooth is a short-range wireless technology that uses radio waves to enable different electronic devices to communicate with each other. |
| Bookmark | When referring to the Internet or a browser, a bookmark is a method of saving a web page's address when you're using an internet browser. |
| Captcha | A part of a web form that asks you to re-type letters and numbers shown in an image to prove that you are a real person. |
| Computer program | A computer program is a list of instructions that tell a computer what to do. Everything that is done on a computer is completed using a computer program. |
| Computer program license | A computer program license is required to use some computer programs. You can usually trial computer programs for 30-60 days before you buy them. When this time period expires you will require a computer program license to continue to use it. Usually, you will have to pay a sum of money to buy this license. However, once bought, the computer program license will grant you permission to use the software on a specified number of devices for as long as you want. |
| Cortana | Cortana is a virtual assistant created by Microsoft. |
| Cursor | A cursor is a visible and moving pointer that the user controls with a mouse, touch pad, or similar input device. |
| Desktop Computer | A desktop computer/personal computer or PC has a base unit or tower which is the main part of the computer and houses all the computer wiring and circuits. |
| Device | A device is any machine you can use to access the internet on. This includes desktop computers, laptop computers, tablets and smart phones. |
| Digital Assistive Technology (DAT) | Digital Assistive Technology (DAT) is any digital device which can assist with daily tasks. It includes smartphones, tablets, smart watches and computers. |
| Digital inclusion | Digital inclusion is about affordable access to information technology, economic development of disadvantaged communities, increasing individual's digital literacy skills, the creation of relevant content and the inspiration of local communities to lifelong learning. |
| Download | To transfer a file from the internet on to your device. |
| Email | Email is electronic mail sent via the internet. |
| Email account | An email service which you can log in to and can send and receive emails online. |
| Emoticon | An emoticon is a method of showing an emotion on the internet and text-based communication. The term emoticon is also often interchangeable with emoji. Emojis use small graphic pictures to show emotion. 😊 |
| Forum | One type of a forum is an online discussion site on the Internet. Users can type messages for others to see, and reply to other user's messages. Messages (or "posts") are organised by topic (or "thread"), with each poster either replying to an existing topic or creating a new topic for a new conversation. |
| Gmail | A free online email service run by Google. |
| Google | A global company named after its online search engine ‘Google’. |
| Google Assistant | A voice controlled virtual assistant created by Google. It is include on most Android devices and is activated by saying “Hey Google” or “Ok Google”. |
| Google Maps | Google maps is an online navigation tool. You can enter any address or location in the world and ask for directions to another address or location. You can also explore different countries and their streets and terrain. |
| Google Play Store | Google’s online store where you can purchase and download apps for all devices that use the Android operating system. |
| Google Street View | A feature of Google maps, allowing you to see exactly what a location looks like using photographs taken from a vehicle. |
| GPS | GPS stands for ‘Global Positioning System’. This satellite-based global navigation system is the technology behind Google Maps, Google street view and other location-based apps you use on your mobile device. |
| Hard drive | This is a device’s main storage for files. A hard drive stores everything from computer programs to photos to emails. Hard drives can be external or internal to the device. The bigger the hard drive the more space you have to store files. |
| Hardware | The physical parts of a computer including the internal parts like the hard drive and the external parts like the keyboard and mouse. |
| Hashtag | A word or phrase preceded by a hash sign (#) is used on social media sites such as Twitter, Instagram or Facebook. It turns any word or group of words that directly follow it into a searchable link which is called a hashtag. |
| Homepage | The homepage is the webpage that your internet browser displays whenever you open your browser. You can set this to whatever you like. Many people set their homepage to websites like a search engine, their email service or the local weather. |
| Icon | An icon is a small graphical representation of a program, feature or file. Clicking on the icon will open the related program. |
| Inbox | The folder of your email account where you can view the emails sent to your email address. |
| Install | Install refers to adding new computer programs to your computer’s hard drive. Once your computer program is installed correctly you can start using it. |
| International roaming | International roaming is a feature that allows you to use the mobile networks in other countries. Check your mobile plan for details about which countries you can roam in and how much it will cost you to do so. This can often be very expensive. |
| Internet | The internet is the name given to the network of millions and millions of computers and servers around the world connected by telephone lines, cables, satellites.  To explain more simply; The internet is the pipes and the world wide web is the water that flows through it. |
| Internet connection | An internet connection provides access for individual devices to the Internet, enabling you to access Internet services like email, weather reports and news services.  Different type of internet connections in Australia include dial-up Internet, broadband internet and the National Broadband Network (NBN). You can also access the internet over the mobile phone network in Australia. |
| Internet Service Provider (ISP) | An Internet Service Provider (ISP) is a company that provides access to the internet. |
| iOS | A mobile operating system manufactured by Apple Corporation, iOS is the engine that runs Apple’s handheld devices, including the iPhone and iPad. |
| iPad | A touch-screen 'tablet' device made by Apple, which will only run software approved by Apple and purchased through the Apple App Store. |
| iPhone | A touch-screen smartphone made by Apple which will only run software approved by Apple and purchased through the Apple App Store. |
| Keyword | Keywords are used to categorise and find information online. When searching online for information, the more keywords you use the more relevant the information you will find. |
| Laptop computer | A laptop is a portable version of a desktop computer. It has combined all of the features of a desktop computer into a single device that makes it portable and easy to carry around. Most modern-day laptop computers also have a webcam and a microphone pre-installed. A laptop can be powered either from a rechargeable battery, or by mains electricity via an AC adapter. |
| Liking | 'Liking' allows social media users to use the 'like' button to show their support for different content. |
| Mac OSX | An operating system for Apple products like iPad, iPhone etc |
| Mbps | Mbps stands for ‘megabits per second’ and is a term used to measure the speed of your mobile network connection. The higher the Mbps, the faster your connection speeds will be. |
| Menu | A menu is the list of options available for you to select and interact with on your device. You can use menus to: navigate through device settings, navigate through a website, search for an app to download, and navigate through documents stored on your device. |
| MicroSD card | A MicroSD card is a tiny memory card that can boost the memory capacity of some mobile handsets. |
| Microsoft | The company who makes Microsoft Windows, which comes as standard on most PCs and popular software including Microsoft Office. |
| Microsoft Office | A suite of computer programs used to create text documents, slide shows and spreadsheets. |
| Microsoft Word | A word processing computer program that creates basic documents in a digital format. |
| Mobile Data | Mobile data is internet content delivered to mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets over a wireless cellular connection. This means you can access internet anywhere there is a mobile signal. Mobile data plans offer varying amounts of data transfer per month for a range of rates, but is usually more expensive than home internet. |
| Mobile Device | A mobile device is any device you can use to wirelessly access an internet connection. Mobile devices either access wireless networks or access internet through the mobile data network. |
| Mobile Phone | Mobile phones do the basics like send and receive text messages and phone calls. Some might have a camera and simple games that you can play. Smart phones can also be called mobile phones. |
| Modem | A modem is a device that is used to connect your computer to the internet. |
| National Broadband Network (NBN) | The National Broadband Network (NBN) is a nationwide infrastructure project, designed to deliver reliable, high capacity internet to the majority of Australia. Access to the NBN is organised through an Internet Service Provider (ISP) |
| Notifications | A notification is a message, email, icon, or another symbol that appears when an application wants you to pay attention. It often includes a sound as well as a visual alert. |
| Online | The term online can describe two things. a) to be connected to the internet b)to be hosted on the internet |
| Online data storage | Online data storage is a place where you can store your files on the internet instead of on your own device. Online data storage allows you to access the files you have stored online from anywhere you have a device connected to the internet. This is also called cloud storage. |
| Online shopping | Online shopping allows you to browse stores and buy things using a device connected to the internet. You will need a credit or debit card or to provide bank details. |
| Password | A secret word, phrase, pattern or series of characters that is used for authentication to access devices or logon to secure websites online. |
| Pixel/megapixel | A pixel is a tiny dot of illumination that makes up the images on a display screen. A megapixel is the equivalent of one million pixels and relates to the resolution on your digital camera. In general, the more megapixels your phone’s camera has, the better quality your photos will be. |
| Router | The router is a small box that connects your devices to your home internet connection. You can plug a cable from the router to a laptop or desktop computer. Some routers also broadcast a wireless signal to allow your device to connect to the internet wirelessly. |
| Search engine | An online service which searches the internet for the keywords you specify to find the information you are looking for. |
| Selfie | A photograph that a person takes of themselves. A selfie is often casual, and can include more than the person taking the photo. Typically, this photo is taken with a smartphone held at arm's length or in a mirror and shared via social media. |
| SIM card | It’s the small chip from your mobile phone provider that contains data such as your mobile number and account details, and enables you to connect to the mobile network. |
| SIM-only plan | A SIM-only plan is a mobile plan that includes a SIM card only. SIM-only deals do not come with a phone and can be contract, pre-paid or month-to-month. |
| Siri | Siri is a voice-activated virtual assistant that is available on many Apple devices. |
| Smartphone | A smartphone is a mobile phone with extra features and more capabilities. Smartphones have cameras, web browsers and email management. They have large amounts of storage space so they can store photos and videos, music and other information. |
| Smart watch | A smart watch is a wearable computer that resembles a wrist watch. In addition to telling time, many smart watches can connect to your phone and allow access to your phone’s apps from your wrist. |
| Social media platform | A type of website which lets you connect and communicate with your existing friends and meet new ones online. Examples include Facebook and Twitter. |
| Software | Software is the computer programs stored on a computer. Software uses the hardware to give instructions to the computer. Software or computer programs are used for things such as listening to music, reading the news, and writing. |
| Tablet | A tablet is a cross between a laptop and a smart phone. It is essentially a flat panel portable computer, which is operated by touch screen. It is smaller than a laptop and bigger than a smartphone. Instead of using a keyboard and mouse, you touch the screen to control the tablet. |
| Uninstall | Uninstalling means to delete computer programs off the hard drive of your device. Once you have uninstalled the program you will no longer be able to use it. |
| Upload | To transfer a file from your device to the internet. |
| URL | URL stands for Universal Resource Locator, the technical term for the web address of information hosted on the internet such as a website or an image within a website. A URL can also be called a Web Address. |
| Username | A username is a unique name to identify you on websites. A lot of websites will make you use your email address as your username as it is completely unique to you. Other websites will make you create a username for their system. Use the correct username and password to login to different websites where you have accounts. |
| Web browser | A web browser is a computer program on your device that allows you to access websites on the internet. Web browsers are free to download. The most popular web browers are Chrome, Firefox, Safari and Internet Explorer. |
| Web page | Any page on the internet. |
| Website | A website is a set of pages of information that is hosted on a specific web address. |
| Widgets | A widget is an extension of an app. They provide information without having to open the app. For example a weather widget can be set up to display the current temperature at your location on your home screen. |
| WiFi | WiFi is a wireless networking technology that allows devices to connect to the internet without having to be plugged in to a router. |
| World Wide Web (WWW) | The World Wide Web (WWW) is the billions of pages linked to each other that contain text, graphics, multimedia files, and other interactive software. To put it simply, the internet is the pipes and the World Wide Web is the water that flows through it. |