

## Internet Glossary

---

**Downloading** - This is a term used for when you get a file from a remote computer to your computer. This is known in the FTP language as a **GET** command.

**Uploading** - This is a term used for when you put a file from your computer to a remote computer. This is known in the FTP language as a **PUT** command.

**URL - (Uniform Resource Locator)** - This is a global term for a "place" or a "file" you can visit on the Internet. This can be a web site, a location of a file, or just about any path to locate a service on the Internet. When someone says they are going to give you a URL (pronounced "Earl" in some cases), they mean a location on the Internet to see or retrieve something.

Studying the Protocols below will help you to know which kind of URL they are giving you.

**Protocols** - This refers to the method computers use to communicate with each other. In computers, there are several different methods that are used to communicate from one computer to another based on what you're trying to do. When computer programmers refer to the various methods a computer uses to communicate, they call them **Protocols**.

Here is your first list of **Protocols**:

**TCP - (Transmission Control Protocol)** - This is the method that computers use to communicate over a network. You don't need to understand how it works. Just know that it is the fastest growing method to communicate and you might hear the term used from time to time. Depending on your computer, the TCP software you're using will probably go through some updates, which will require that you install new versions.

**IP - (Internet Protocol)** - This is used in conjunction with the TCP protocol to form a method of communicate over a network and then over the Internet. Remember, TCP is a method for computers to communicate over the network. IP is the method for computers to identify each other over the Internet. The two together is often referred to as TCP/IP (pronounced as one set of letters TCPIP).

**IP Address- (Internet Protocol Address)** - This is your personal address on the Internet. No one else on the Internet should have your same IP address. An IP address looks something like, 147.14.87.23. This collection of numbers is not random, but tells the world what kind of company you're connecting from (size of company that is) and what your personal address is. If you are calling into an Internet provider, you are assigned a "dynamic" IP address that is different each time you call in.

**SMTP - (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol)** - This is the method that computers use to send mail to each other.

**POP, POP2, POP3 - (Post Office Protocol)** - This is the method that computers use to get mail from other computers. Remember, it's not used for sending mail, only retrieving it from mail servers. The various versions of POP are merely a result of updates to the POP technology. Don't be too surprised to see POP4 to POP10 in years to come.

**FTP - (File Transfer Protocol)** - This is the method that computers use to send files to one another.

**HTTP - (Hyper Text Transfer Protocol)** - This is the method that your web browser uses to transfer WebPages. It is essentially a method of formatting text so that the browser knows which part is for the browser, and which part is for your viewing.

**SPAM** - Ever receive an email that you didn't ask for advertising a product or service? Then you have received SPAM. SPAM is very simply email that you did not request or sign up

for. Services, which provide free email, sell your email address to advertisers for SPAMMING.

**Abuse** - There are many forms of Internet abuse. Outside of unruly conduct where others on the Internet use foul language and personal attacks via emails and Message Boards, there is a form that you can slip into when trying to advertise on the Internet. The service of Discussion Boards (aka Message Boards) can lead one into participating in abuse where you might have thought it was impossible. Discussion Boards are electronic bulletin boards that allow people to trade messages on a daily basis. Each Discussion Board "forum" has a topic that is associated with each topic. If you post messages in forums that don't align with the topic being discussed, you can find your Internet Service Provider (ISP) canceling your account over night. So be aware if you decide to post advertisements for your business. It is almost valuable to know that threats via the Internet are considered illegal by law just like threats face-to-face. If someone threatens you, you can call the appropriate law officials in that person's area to press full charges.

**Email - Electronic Mail** - Electronic mail is an electronic means of sending a message from one computer to another in an organized fashion. Sending e-mail uses the SMTP protocol.

**MIME- Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions** - This is the method that e-mail applications use to send files back and forth. These files can be of any type. MIME was first created to send Images, Audio, and Video.

**IRC - Internet Relay Chat** - This is a new technology that allows you to communicate with other people on the internet instantly, without waiting for e-mails or newsgroup postings to receive a response. IRC's let you dial into "Channels" (which are sometimes called rooms) and join conversations. America On-Line has a similar service they call rooms.

**UseNet - Internet Newsgroups** - This is a more complex service that the Internet provides. However, you will have to get service from your Internet provider before you will be able to access a Newsgroup. A Newsgroup is a collection of locations where people post

messages for everyone in the world to read. If someone is interested in responding to your message or posting, they have the option to e-mail you directly with their response, or post a reply for everyone to read. The most valuable feature of this service is for finding answers to questions. You simply pick the newsgroup that best deals with your question, and go there to post it. After a couple a days, you will most likely have several responses.

**Cookie(s)** - If you've had any conversations with people about the Internet you might have heard someone talk about cookies. These are small text files that are written to your hard drive from web sites that want to store information about you.

There are a lot of myths about cookies, and unfounded fears that should be dismissed.

1. Cookies shouldn't contain any sensitive information that would cause you harm if someone read the file.
2. Cookies have restrictions in that ONLY the website that wrote the file can read it back. Each cookie file is stored based on the domain name (say borders.com) that created it. If Amazon.com stored a cookie on your computer, Borders.com cannot read that file. A website only gets the file that THEY created.

They greatly enhance your experience on the Internet, and reduce your need to constantly tell a website what it is you're looking for. Disabling cookies will prevent you from visiting some sites all together, so it is recommended you leave them turned on.