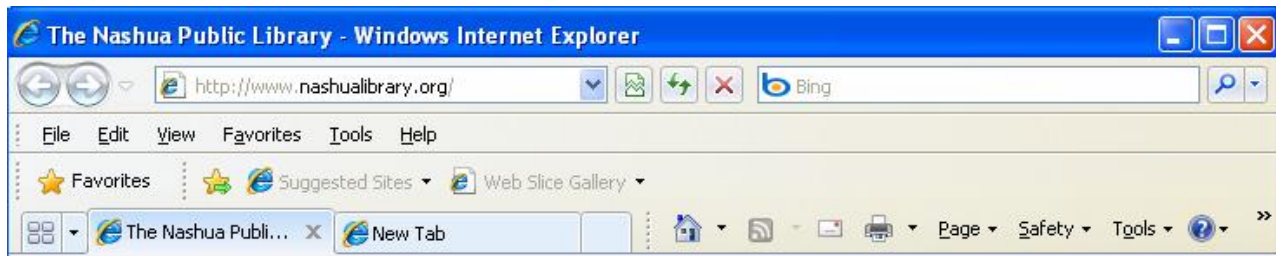



















Introduction to the Internet - Web Browsing Basics

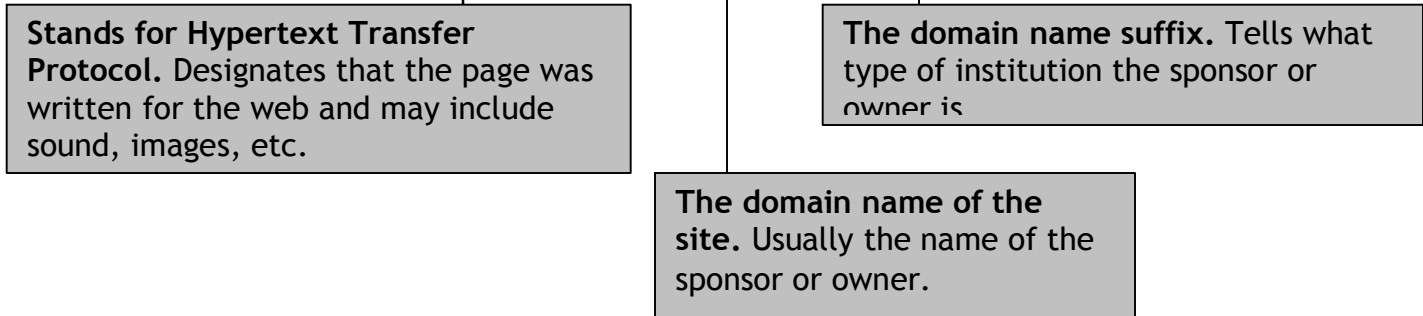


	Point and click with the left mouse button on Back to go back to the page you were looking at previously.
	Point and click with the left mouse button on Forward to move forward to a page you were looking at previously.
	Point and click with the left mouse button on Stop to cease the page loading.
	Point and click with the left mouse button on Refresh to see a fresh copy of the page.
	Compatibility view. Websites designed for older browsers will often look better and some viewing problems may be corrected.
	Point and click with the left mouse button on Home to go back to the start page for the computer on which you are working.
	Point and click with the left mouse button on Favorites to go quickly to a Web site that you have saved as a favorite site.
	Point and click on the minimize button  to reduce your window to a button on the taskbar.
	Point and click on Resize/Restore Down button  to resize the size of your window.
	Point and click on close button  to close the window and program.
	Point and click on the maximize button  to enlarge your window to full screen .
	Browser: A piece of software, usually Netscape Navigator, AOL or Internet Explorer , that allows you to view pictures, read text, listen to audio, and see moving images on the World Wide Web.
	Hyperlink (Link): When you point at an image or words on a web page and the pointer arrow turns into a hand, you can click with the left mouse button and go to another web page or piece of information.
	When there is more information on a Web page than can fit on the computer screen, a scroll bar will appear in the margin of the window. Click on the arrows to move the page one line at a time, or click on the bar and hold down the left mouse button to <i>drag the bar</i> and move the page.

What's In a Web Address?

URL (Uniform Resource Locator): The address of a Web site. Each page on the Web has an address. A Web address is composed of the following:

<http://www.microsoft.com/>



Suffix	This site is sponsored, or hosted, by...	Examples
.gov	U.S. government entity.	http://www.fbi.gov -The FBI http://www.nasa.gov -NASA
.mil	U.S. military entity.	http://www.army.mil -The U.S. Army http://www.navy.mil -The U.S. Navy
.edu	post-secondary educational institution.	http://www.harvard.edu -Harvard University http://www.ohio.edu -Ohio University
.us	a host computer in the United States.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/ - NH General Court
.org	usually non-profit organizations.	http://www.mfa.org -Museum of Fine Arts http://www.nashualibrary.org - Nashua Public Library
.com .biz	commercial organizations but unrestricted.	http://www.aol.com -AOL http://www.nike.com -NIKE
.net	originally for network infrastructures but now unrestricted.	http://www.photo.net -Photo magazine http://www.classical.net -Classical music info

Address bar: Type the address of the site in this space, press *Enter*, and off you go.



If you press the down arrow at the end of the bar you'll see the addresses that have been typed in recently. Highlight one of those, press *Enter*, and you will go to that sight.

Try These Internet Sites - Just for Fun!

www.amazon.com	A huge online bookstore and much more!
www.weather.com	From the TV Weather Channel
www.bhg.com	From Better Homes and Gardens magazine
www.medlineplus.gov	Consumer information on health topics, diseases, drugs, wellness, etc. Sponsored by the National Library of Medicine and the National Institute of Health
www.maps.yahoo.com	Maps and driving directions for the U.S. and Canada
www.boston.com	A Boston Globe site
www.edmunds.com	Information for buyers & sellers of new or used cars
www.expedia.com	Travel; airline reservations; hotel rooms...
www.pricegrabber.com	Comparison shopping
www.ballparks.com	All ballparks, arenas, fields, stadiums—all sports
www.cooks.com	Search for recipes

Search Tools

One of the most common search tools is a web search engine. A web search engine is a computer program designed to search for information on the internet. Google is a very popular search engine. Once you've navigated your browser to Google.com, you can proceed to search for web pages, images, information and other types of files by entering keywords related to your search topic.

Some of the following search tools we have discussed in class. Try some of the other ones listed here to see how they differ. Remember to use the "help" feature to get good tips on how to search and improve the quality of your results.

Altavista (Web Directory and Search Engine)

<http://www.altavista.com>

Ask

<http://www.ask.com>

Clusty (Provides combined search results from MSN, Looksmart, Wisenut, and other search engines and groups similar results by topic)

<http://clusty.com>

Dogpile (Provides combined search results from Google, Ask, Yahoo, and MSN)
<http://www.dogpile.com>

Google (Web Directory and Search Engine)
<http://www.google.com>

Librarians' Index to the Internet (Web Directory edited by librarians)
<http://www.lii.org>

MSN/Live (Portal–Web Directory and Search Engine)
<http://www.msn.com/>

YAHOO! (Portal–Web Directory and Search Engine)
<http://www.yahoo.com>

Bing (Portal–Web Directory and Search Engine)
<http://www.bing.com>

Practice keyword searches Try some of these searches in one of the Search Engines listed above and see what kind of results you get!

- I need to read up on the Jeep Grand Cherokee.
- Where can I buy used auto parts for a BMW?
- Read a review of the movie “Best in Show”.
- Can I get a list of Italian restaurants in Boston?
- What causes tornadoes?
- What is the phone number for city hall?
- What health problems do dust mites cause?
- Where can I get photos of the surface of the planet Mars?
- Find information about Jane Austen and her writings?

Adding a Web Page to Your Favorites List

1. Go to the web page you would like mark (bookmark) as a favorite.
2. Click on **Favorites** from the menu bar with the left mouse button.
3. Select **Add to Favorites**.
4. The Add Favorite box appears and the name of your web page will be displayed in the **Name** field. You can change the name by highlighting and deleting (or backspacing over) it and then typing a new one.
5. In the **Create In** drop down menu you can choose which folder to put the bookmark into. (Or, you can create a new folder by clicking on the **New Folder** button.)
6. When you are finished, click the **Add** button.
7. To select the favorite web page, click on **Favorites** from the menu bar and click on the name of the web page.

Evaluating Web Sites for Quality

The ABC's:

When evaluating a Web site, it's important to keep in mind the type of search you are doing and the information you need. What are you using the Web for? Entertainment? Academic work? Hobbies or vocational interests? Scholarly sources are traditionally very strongly text-based. The appearance of an academic journal is different from the appearance of a popular magazine. For example, compare to the New York Times (<http://www.nytimes.com>) to the National Enquirer (<http://www.nationalenquirer.com>). Also consider the following factors:

Accuracy:

- Does the Internet resource have an identified comparable print or CD ROM data set or source?
- Is the content verifiable and replicable?
- Has the site been reviewed in professional or scholarly sources?
- Remember that nearly anyone can publish on the Web.

Bias:

- Do you want biased, slanted information or objective, balanced information?
- From what domain does the site derive? .edu, .org, and .gov sites are (generally) reliable; .net and .com sites may require more scrutiny.
- Is it clear who is sponsoring the site? Is it an advertisement or propaganda?

Content:

- What is the author's rationale for the creation of the site? The content should add to the existing body of knowledge in a unique way.
- Is the content "popular" or "scholarly"?
- Do the site's graphics and sounds add to the value of the site? Are there spelling or grammar errors?

Documentation:

- Is there a bibliography or sources cited listing on the site? Are they full enough to allow you to access the cited source in print or electronically?
- Does the author display knowledge of theories, schools of thought, or techniques usually considered appropriate in the treatment of his/her topic?

Editorial Control:

- Who is the author or source of the site? Are their credentials listed on the site? Are they well known in the field?
- What is the authority or expertise of the individual or group who created the site? Information should be present to contact the author of a site.
- Is the site current? Is there a date of creation or most recent modification? Do all the links work properly?

Gut Feeling:

- Look closely at these sites, *are they for real?*

Need More Practice?

Try *Mouserobics* at home...

<http://www.ckls.org/~crippel/computerlab/tutorials/mouse/page1.html>

or try these other tutorial sites:

Palm Beach County Library System Mouse Tutorial

<http://www.pbclibrary.org/mousing/>

Ohio State University Libraries: net.TUTOR

<http://liblearn.osu.edu/tutor/>

USC Beaufort Library: Bare Bones 101

<http://www.sc.edu/beaufort/library/pages/bones/bones.shtml>

About.com: Internet Basics, The Essentials

<http://netforbeginners.about.com/od/internet101/u/inetbasics.htm>

Glossary of Terms

Address:

Internet users encounter two important types of addresses:

1. E-mail addresses, for sending e-mail to someone. E-mail addresses almost always contain an @. (Example: JohnSmith@aol.com)
2. Web page addresses; more properly called URLs. (Example: www.nashualibrary.org)

Advanced Search:

In a search engine, advanced search usually refers to added searching features that allow searches to create more precise searches.

Attachment:

A computer file electronically stapled to an e-mail message and sent along with it.

Bookmark:

A URL that has been saved in some way so that you can quickly and easily return to a particular Web document.

Browser:

A program that lets you read information [HTML documents] and navigate the World Wide Web.

Chat:

A system in which people can communicate by typing messages. Unlike e-mail messages, chat messages are sent and received as you type.

Click:

Pushing down *lightly* and *quickly* on one of the buttons on the mouse in order to tell the computer to “do something.” The *left* button on the mouse is used for most things (clicking, dragging, selecting,) and the *right* mouse button is used to open menus for special features and commands.

Domain:

A name given to a host computer on the Internet.

Double click:

Clicking quickly two times on the mouse button. This usually opens the program that your mouse cursor is pointing at. If you don't find it easy to double click, you can left click once on the program icon and then press the enter key on your keyboard.

Drag:

Pointing at an item on the screen, clicking with the left mouse button, and, while holding the mouse button down, *dragging* the item to another part of the screen.

Drop Down Box:

A box on the web page that will not allow you to type whatever you want into it, but instead shows you a list of items from which you may choose by clicking.

E-mail:

Short for electronic mail, the system that lets people send and receive messages with their computers.

Help / FAQ:

An option on most Web sites that gives instructions on how to use the site. It is sometimes called 'About This Site' or 'FAQ' (frequently asked questions).

Home page:

The Web document your browser displays when you start the program or when you use the browser's *Home* command.

Keyword:

Searching for the key terms related to your topic. Usually keyword searching means that the search will find the terms you are looking for in a search engine or directory.

Metasearch Engine:

A special kind of search engine that allows you to search multiple search engines at one time.

Search Engine:

A tool that uses various electronic techniques to visit, search, and collect and organize data from Web sites. Google, Alta Vista and Netscape employ search engines to help you search.

URL:

Proper term for referring to web page addresses.

Web Directory:

A directory (list) of web sites that are selected, categorized and organized by people.