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COMPUTER DICTIONARY

NINTH EDITION

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Contains extensive coverage of Internet and multimedia terms

More than 4,500 words, phrases, abbreviations, and acronyms

BRYAN PFAFFENBERGER

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About

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RAD Acronym for rapid application development. In object-oriented programming, a method of program development in which a programmer works with a library of prebuilt objects, allowing him to build programs much more quickly.

radio button In a graphical user interface (GUI), the round option buttons that appear in dialog boxes. Unlike check boxes, radio buttons are mutually exclusive; the user can pick only one radio button option within a group.

radio frequency interference (RFI) The radio noise generated by computers and other electronic and electromechanical devices. Excessive RFI generated by computers can disrupt the reception of radio and television signals. See *FCC certification*.

RAID Acronym for Redundant Array of Inexpensive Disks or Redundant Array of Independent Disks. A group of hard disks under the control of array-management software that work together to improve performance and decrease the odds of losing data due to mechanical or electronic failure by using such techniques as data striping. Because of their complexity and cost, RAID implementations are most often used on network servers. Several RAID levels exist, each with advantages and disadvantages. RAID arrays are generally used for high-volume servers. See *RAID 0*, *RAID 1*, *RAID 2*, *RAID 5*, *RAID 10*.

RAID 0 A type of RAID storage device that combines two or more hard disks into a single logical drive. The technique used is called disk striping; data is written in blocks

fast performance. However, RAID 0 devices do not provide data redundancy and are therefore unsuitable for applications involving mission-critical data. See *RAID*.

RAID 1 A type of RAID storage device that combines two or more hard disks into a single logical drive, but—in contrast to RAID 0—in a way that backs up the data so that nothing is lost if one of the drives should fail. Performance is sacrificed for the sake of data integrity. See *RAID*.

RAID 2 A type of RAID storage device that combines two or more hard disks into a single logical drive. Like RAID 0, RAID 2 provides fast performance but does not provide data protection in case of a drive failure. However, it does provide a means of verifying whether write operations were performed correctly, so it is suitable for backup operations. See *RAID*.

RAID 5 A type of RAID storage device that combines three or more hard disks into a single logical drive. Like RAID 0, RAID 5 provides high write speed, but the striping technique used creates sufficient redundant information that all the data can be reconstructed if one of the drives should fail. See *RAID*.

RAID 10 Also known as RAID 1 + 0. A type of RAID storage device that combines the benefits of RAID 0 (high speed) with RAID 1 (data integrity). Although this approach requires twice as many drives as any of the other RAID standards, it offers the best combination of performance and data integrity. See *RAID*.

RAM See *random access memory (RAM)*.

Rambus DRAM Also called Direct Rambus DRAM and RDRAM. A high-performance random access memory (RAM) design that is capable of data transfer rates of up to 800 MB/s. See *Ex. 2004*