



RANDOM HOUSE
WEBSTER'S

COMPUTER & INTERNET DICTIONARY

THIRD EDITION



- Over 3,000 Computer Terms Clearly Explained
- Covers the Latest Technology Including the World Wide Web

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Creator of www.pcwebopaedia.com

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Random House Webster's Computer & Internet Dictionary, Third Edition

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tem both for designing a product and for controlling manufacturing processes. For example, once a design has been produced with the CAD component, the design itself can control the machines that construct the part.

⇒ See also 3-D SOFTWARE; CAD; CADD; CAM; MODELING.

CADD Acronym for *c(omputer)-a(ided) d(esign) and d(rafting)*. CADD systems are CAD systems with additional drafting features. For example, CADD systems enable an engineer or architect to insert size annotations and other notes into a design.

⇒ See also CAD; CAD/CAM.

CAE Abbreviation of *c(omputer)-a(ided) e(engineering)*, computer systems that analyze engineering designs. Most CAD systems have a CAE component, but there are also independent CAE systems that can analyze designs produced by various CAD systems. CAE systems are able to simulate a design under a variety of conditions to see if it actually works.

⇒ See also CAD; CASE.

calculator 1. A small hand-held computer that performs mathematical calculations. Some calculators even permit simple text editing and programming. **2.** A program on a computer that simulates a hand-held calculator. Calculator programs let you perform simple math calculations without leaving the computer. The Apple Macintosh comes with a calculator desk accessory. Likewise, Microsoft Windows includes a calculator accessory.

⇒ See also DESK ACCESSORY (DA); MICROSOFT WINDOWS; PROGRAM.

calendar A program that enables you to record events and appointments on an electronic calendar. Computer calendars act like datebooks, but they have several advantages over traditional datebooks:

automatic entries for regular events: You can specify, for example, that the first Thursday of every month is bridge night, and the calendar program will automatically fill in the appropriate days.

signaling of upcoming events: Most calendars will let you know that an event is approaching by issuing sounds.

clean deletion: With an electronic calendar, you can erase an appointment without leaving a trace.

Calendar software is part of a more general category of software known as *PIMs* (personal information managers). A special type of calendar, called a *scheduler*, enables groups of users connected to a network to coordinate their schedules.

⇒ See also PIM; SCHEDULER; UTILITY.

call v 1. To invoke a routine in a programming language. Calling a routine consists of specifying the routine name and, optionally, parameters. For

Controller

call

example, the following is a *function call* in the C programming language: `printf("Hello")`

The name of the function is *printf* and the parameter is "Hello." This function call causes the computer to display the word *Hello* on the display screen.

A routine that invokes another routine is sometimes referred to as the *calling routine*. The routine that is invoked is referred to as the *called routine*. —n 2. An invocation of a routine.

⇒ See also FUNCTION; ROUTINE.

CAM Acronym for *c(omputer)-a(ided) m(anufacturing)*, a type of computer application that helps automate a factory. For example, the following are types of CAM systems:

- real-time control
- robotics
- materials requirements

All these systems are concerned with automatically directing the manufacture and inventory of parts.

⇒ See also CAD; CAD/CAM; ROBOTICS.

camera-ready In desktop publishing, *camera-ready* refers to the final state of a publication before it is printed. Historically, the term has meant that the copy is ready to be photographed and turned into plates for offset printing. Increasingly, however, it is possible to print directly from the electronic version, either by sending it to a high-resolution laser printer or to a special device that can generate plates directly from electronic elements rather than from photographs. In these cases, therefore, *camera-ready* means merely that the document is ready to be printed.

⇒ See also DESKTOP PUBLISHING; IMAGESETTER; ISP; OFFSET PRINTING.

caps Short for *capital letters*. For example, "all caps" means all letters capitalized.

⇒ See also CASE SENSITIVE; UPPERCASE.

Caps Lock key A *toggle key* on computer keyboards that, when activated, causes all subsequent alphabetic characters to be uppercase but has no effect on other keys.

⇒ See also KEYBOARD; TOGGLE; UPPERCASE.

capture To save a particular state of a program. The term *capture* often refers to saving the information currently visible on a display screen. You can capture the screen to a printer or to a file. The act of saving a display screen is called a *screen capture*. *Video capture* refers to storing video images in a computer.

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disk cache, which results in much smoother playback.
⇒ See also CD-ROM PLAYER; MSCDEX; VCACHE.

CD-I *C(ompact) D(isc)-I(nteractive)*, a software and hardware standard developed jointly by Philips International and Sony Corporation for storing video, audio, and binary data on compact optical disks. It supports 552MB (megabytes) of binary data and specifies several different types of video and audio encoding formats. Unlike conventional CD-ROM drives, CD-I drives have a built-in microprocessor to handle many of the computing functions. CD-I is sometimes referred to as the *Green Book* standard.

Although there are some CD-I devices and titles, the format has not become widely accepted.

⇒ See also CD-ROM; CD-ROM/XA; DVD; DVI; GREEN BOOK; OPTICAL DISK; OS/9.

CDMA Short for *C(ode)-D(ivision) M(ultiple) A(ccess)*, a digital cellular technology that uses *spread-spectrum* techniques. Unlike competing systems, such as GSM, that use *time-division multiplexing (TDM)*, CDMA does not assign a specific frequency to each user. Instead, every channel uses the full available spectrum. Individual conversations are encoded with a pseudo-random digital sequence.

CDMA was developed by Qualcomm, Inc.

⇒ See also CELLULAR; GSM; MULTIPLEX; PCS; TDM; TDMA.

CDPD Short for *C(ellular) D(igital) P(acket) D(ata)*, a data transmission technology developed for use on cellular phone frequencies. CDPD uses unused cellular channels (in the 800- to 900-MHz range) to transmit data in packets. This technology offers data transfer rates of up to 19.2 Kbps, quicker call setup, and better error correction than using modems on an analog cellular channel.

⇒ See also CELL; PACKET SWITCHING.

CD-R See CD-R DRIVE.

CD-R drive Short for *C(ompact) D(isk)-R(ecordable) drive*, a type of disk drive that can create CD-ROMs and audio CDs. This allows users to "master" a CD-ROM or audio CD for publishing. Until recently, CD-R drives were quite expensive, but prices have dropped dramatically.

A feature of many CD-R drives, called *multisession recording*, enables you to keep adding data to a CD-ROM over time. This is extremely important if you want to use the CD-R drive to create backup CD-ROMs.

To create CD-ROMs and audio CDs, you'll need not only a CD-R drive but also a CD-R software package. Often, it is the software package, not the drive itself, that determines how easy or difficult it is to create CD-ROMs.

CD-R drives can also read CD-ROMs and play audio CDs.

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