

**Webster's
New World
DICTIONARY
OF
COMPUTER
TERMS
Third Edition**



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IN

Third Edition

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Today the use of computers, is one of the most important developments in the history of man. Computers are being used to do everything from solving the most complex problems to controlling the most sophisticated machinery. In a fast-changing world, technology, man's ability to develop with the times, and these terms are constantly updated.

Webster's New World Computer Terms, Third Edition contains 4,500 computer terms of interest to computer users. These terms have been selected as the most important beginning computer terms a layperson can understand. The definitions are clear and concise. Where a term depends upon another term, the reader is referred to that term.

All terms are clearly defined, so that space is saved in looking up a term. The book begins with a list of terms that begins with the letter A. If a term is spelled out; for example, the position for "RS

frequent human intervention.

ide on some interactive com-
: terminal (or keyboard/display
/systems) to be used as a desk
expression; the computer then
answer immediately.

mining by measurement or by
he correct value of each scale
orrect value of each setting of

specific closed subroutine. (2)
on performed by the calling
ssary in making a call, or the
nection between two stations.

: forming an image from scan-
ections and drawn in an arbi-
onics are required, but spatial
: this style of graphics are the
ere considered synonymous
a early days.

t of instructions and data nec-
tine.

that, after diverting execution
ctions (subroutine), permits a
nal sequence.

ER-AIDED MANUFACTURING
KE-UP.

g Society (CIPS) An organi-
er Canadians with a common
ation processing. CIPS has a
and persons, including scien-
ers who make their careers in
rocessing.

at deletes the line currently

canned software Programs prepared by computer manufac-
turers or another supplier and provided to a user in ready-
to-use form. This packaged software is general enough to
be used by many businesses and individuals. Contrast with
CUSTOM SOFTWARE.

Canon engine™ The internal mechanism of a Canon office
photocopier, used in most laser printers.

capacitance A measure of the ability to store electric charge;
the basic unit of measurement being a farad.

capacitor An electronic component that stores a charge of
static electricity and when properly stimulated, releases this
charge. This is the way bits are written to, and read from,
computer storage.

capacitor storage A storage device that utilizes the capaci-
tance properties of materials to store data.

capacity The number of items of data that a storage device
is capable of containing. Frequently defined in terms of
computer words, bytes, or characters.

caps Capitals, or uppercase letters. ALL CAPS WOULD LOOK
LIKE THIS.

capstan The rotating shaft within a magnetic tape drive that
pulls the tape across the recording heads at a constant
speed.

capture (of data) The recording of data on a form or its entry
into a computer.

carbon ribbon Ribbon used with printers to produce ex-
tremely sharp characters with excellent definition.

card (1) Another term for printed circuit board. (2) A storage
medium in which data is represented by means of holes
punched in vertical columns in an 18.7 cm by 8.3 cm (7 3/8
inches by 3 1/4 inches) paper card.

card cage Chassis inside the computer housing on which
printed circuit boards are mounted.

card reader A machine that translates symbols coded on
punched cards into electrical signals to send to a computer.