

ALAN FREEDMAN

**The  
Computer  
Desktop  
Encyclopedia**

**Second Edition**

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## encode

### encode

- (1) To assign a code to represent data, such as a parts code. Contrast with *decode*.
- (2) Same as *encrypt*. See *cryptography*.

### encoder

A hardware device or software that assigns a code to represent data. See *encode*.

### Encore

(Encore Computer Corporation, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, [www.encore.com](http://www.encore.com)) A computer company founded in 1983 that specializes in realtime systems and storage products. Its Infinity RT line is an SMP and Alpha-based realtime system that incorporates Encore's Reflective Memory channel, a high-speed memory to memory interconnect. Its Infinity SP disk products are SMP-based UNIX systems that emulate IBM mainframe storage controllers. They provide mainframe storage and also allow UNIX hosts and PC servers access to the same disks as if they were attached SCSI drives.

Encore's products stem back to Systems Engineering Labs, founded in 1961. SEL became a division of Gould, which was acquired by Encore in 1989.

### encrypt, encryption

To encode data for security purposes. See *cryptography*.

### encryption algorithm

The formula used to turn data into a secret code. See *cryptography* and *algorithm*.

### endian

See *big endian*.

### end key

A keyboard key commonly used to move the cursor to the bottom of the screen or file or to the next word or end of line.

### endless loop

A series of instructions that are constantly repeated. It can be caused by an error in the program or it can be intentional; for example, a screen demo on continuous replay.

### end points

In vector graphics, the two ends of a line (vector). In 2-D graphics, each end point is typically two numbers representing coordinates on x and y axes. In 3-D, each end point is made up of three numbers representing coordinates on x, y and z axes.

### end user computing

Using personal computers. The end user is the user of the computer.

### Energy Star

Power conservation requirements set forth by the Environmental Protection Agency of the U.S. Government. In order to display the Energy Star logo, devices (PCs, monitors, printers, etc.) must use less than 30 watts of power when inactive.

### Enfin

A client/server development system based on the Smalltalk language. It is now part of the ObjectStudio environment. See *ObjectStudio*.

### engine

(1) A specialized processor, such as a graphics processor. Like any engine, the faster it runs, the quicker the job gets done. See *graphics engine* and *printer engine*.

(2) Software that performs a primary and highly repetitive function such as a database engine, graphics engine or dictionary engine.

### engineer

See *software engineer*, *systems engineer* and *network engineer*.

### engineering cylinder

See *diagnostic tracks*.