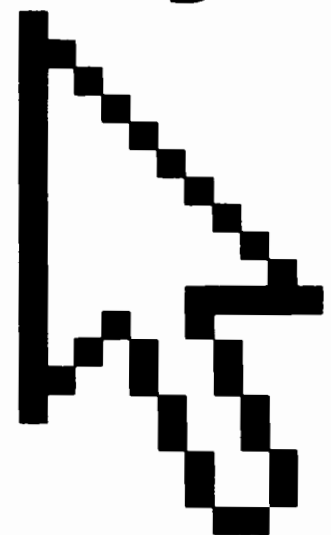


Microsoft

Microsoft

Computer Dictionary

Fifth Edition



PUBLISHED BY

Microsoft Press
A Division of Microsoft Corporation
One Microsoft Way
Redmond, Washington 98052-6399

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
Microsoft Computer Dictionary.--5th ed.

p. : cm.

ISBN 0-7356-1495-4

1. Computers--Dictionaries. 2. Microcomputers--Dictionaries.

AQ76.5. M52267 2002
004:03--dc21

200219714

Printed and bound in the United States of America.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 QWT 7 6 5 4 3 2

Distributed in Canada by Penguin Books Canada Limited.

A CIP catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

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Body Part No. X08-41929

E

elevator seeking *n.* A method of limiting hard disk access time in which multiple requests for data are prioritized based on the location of the data relative to the read/write head. This serves to minimize head movement. *See also* access time (definition 2), hard disk, read/write head.

elite *n.* **1.** A size of fixed-width type that prints 12 characters to the inch. **2.** A fixed-width font that may be available in various type sizes. *See also* monospace font.

ELIZA *n.* A program, modeled on Rogerian psychotherapy, that conducts simulated conversations with humans by echoing responses and posing questions based on key words in earlier comments. It was created by Dr. Joseph Weizenbaum, who considered it a bit of a joke and was alarmed that people took it seriously. *See also* artificial intelligence, Turing test.

ellipsis *n.* A set of three dots (...) used to convey incompleteness. In many windowing applications, selection of a command that is followed by an ellipsis will produce a submenu or a dialog box. In programming and software manuals, an ellipsis in a syntax line indicates the repetition of certain elements. *See also* dialog box, syntax.

elm *n.* Short for **electronic mail**. A program for reading and composing e-mail on UNIX systems. The elm program has a full-screen editor, making it easier to use than the original mail program, but elm has largely been superseded by pine. *See also* e-mail¹. *Compare* Eudora, pine.

e-mail¹ or **email** or **E-mail** *n.* **1.** Short for **electronic mail**. The exchange of text messages and computer files over a communications network, such as a local area network or the Internet, usually between computers or terminals.
2. An electronic text message.

e-mail² or **email** or **E-mail** *vb.* To send an e-mail message.

e-mail address *n.* A string that identifies a user so that the user can receive Internet e-mail. An e-mail address typically consists of a name that identifies the user to the mail server, followed by an at sign (@) and the host name and domain name of the mail server. For example, if Anne E. Oldhacker has an account on the machine called baz at Foo Enterprises, she might have an e-mail address aeo@baz.foo.com, which would be pronounced "A E O at baz dot foo dot com."

e-mail filter *n.* A feature in e-mail-reading software that automatically sorts incoming mail into different folders or mailboxes based on information contained in the message.

For example, all incoming mail from a user's Uncle Joe might be placed in a folder labeled "Uncle Joe." Filters may also be used either to block or accept e-mail from designated sources.

e-mail management system *n.* An automated e-mail response system used by an Internet-based business to sort incoming e-mail messages into predetermined categories and either reply to the sender with an appropriate response or direct the e-mail to a customer service representative. *Acronym:* EMS.

embed *vb.* To insert information created in one program, such as a chart or an equation, into another program. After the object is embedded, the information becomes part of the document. Any changes made to the object are reflected in the document.

embedded *adj.* In software, pertaining to code or a command that is built into its carrier. For example, application programs insert embedded printing commands into a document to control printing and formatting. Low-level assembly language is embedded in higher-level languages, such as C, to provide more capabilities or better efficiency.

embedded chip *n.* *See* embedded system.

embedded command *n.* A command placed in a text, graphics, or other document file, often used for printing or page-layout instructions. Such commands often do not appear on screen but can be displayed if needed. In transferring documents from one program to another, embedded commands can cause problems if the programs are incompatible.

embedded controller *n.* A processor-based controller circuit board that is built into the computer machinery. *See also* controller.

embedded hyperlink *n.* A link to a resource that is embedded within text or is associated with an image or an image map. *See also* hyperlink, image map.

embedded interface *n.* An interface built into a hardware device's drive and controller board so that the device can be directly connected to the computer's system bus. *See also* controller, interface (definition 3). *Compare* ESDI, SCSI, ST506 interface.

embedded system *n.* Microprocessors used to control devices such as appliances, automobiles, and machines used in business and manufacturing. An embedded system is created to manage a limited number of specific tasks