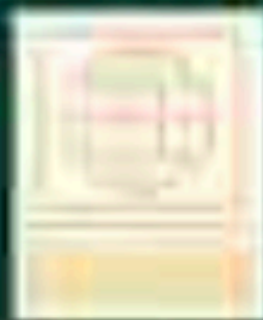BARRON'S

BUSINESS GUIDES

Dictionary of
Computer and
Internet Terms

Tenth Edition

- More than 3,200 key terms defined and explained, many with helpful illustrations and tables
- Practical guidance for the business software user, including computer security, law, and ethics
- Computer science principles and programming examples in the most widely used computer languages
- Includes new media, digital photography and audio, Internet culture and history

Douglas Downing, Ph.D., Michael Covington, Ph.D., and
Melody Mauldin Covington

Dictionary of Computer and Internet Terms

Tenth Edition

Douglas A. Downing, Ph.D.
School of Business and Economics
Seattle Pacific University

Michael A. Covington, Ph.D.
Artificial Intelligence Center
The University of Georgia

Melody Mauldin Covington
Covington Innovations
Athens, Georgia

Catherine Anne Covington
Covington Innovations
Athens, Georgia

With the assistance of
Sharon Covington

BARRON'S

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Douglas Downing teaches economics and quantitative methods at the School of Business and Economics at Seattle Pacific University. He is the author of several books in both Barron's Easy Way and Business Review series. He is also the author of *Java Programming the Easy Way* and *Dictionary of Mathematics Terms*, published by Barron's Educational Series, Inc. He holds the Ph.D. degree in economics from Yale University.

Michael Covington is Associate Director of the Artificial Intelligence Institute at the University of Georgia. He is the author of several books and over 250 magazine articles. He holds the Ph.D. degree in linguistics from Yale University.

Melody Mauldin Covington is a graphic designer living in Athens, Georgia. She is the author of *Dictionary of Desktop Publishing* (published by Barron's).

Catherine Anne Covington is a student at the Lamar Dodd School of Art (University of Georgia).

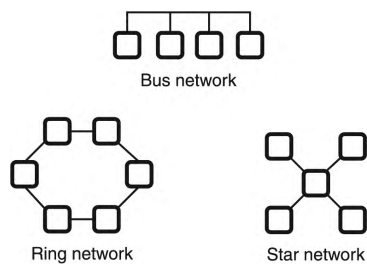Sharon Covington is a student at Emory University.

FIGURE 269. Topologies of computer networks

touchpad a substitute for a MOUSE on a laptop or notebook computer (Figure 270). The user uses a finger to make strokes on a rectangular touch sensor. Just as with a mouse, the direction and length of the strokes is significant, but not their absolute position.

FIGURE 270. Touchpad (on a laptop computer).

touchscreen a computer screen that is sensitive to touch, so that the user can point to things on it by touching the screen itself, without using a mouse.

trace
   1. to execute a program step by step, observing the results of each step.
   2. (in a draw program) to create a path or outline around the contours of a bitmapped shape. It is necessary to trace bitmaps to convert them into VECTOR GRAPHICS. Tracing can be done by a separate utility program or from within the drawing program.

track
   1. one of the concentric circles in which data is recorded on a disk (Figure 271), or one of the parallel strips in which data is recorded on tape.
   2. a music selection on a CD-ROM.
   3. a video selection on a DVD.
   4. a portion of a MIDI file that specifies the performance details of a single instrument.