

OVER  
10,000  
ENTRIES

Microsoft

# Computer Dictionary

Fifth Edition

- Fully updated with the latest technologies, terms, and acronyms
- Easy to read, expertly illustrated
- Definitive coverage of hardware, software, the Internet, and more!



CPC EX 2045 - Page 001  
ASSA ABLOY AB v. CPC Patent Technologies Pty  
Ltd. IPR2022-01094

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

Copyright © 2002 by Microsoft Corporation

All rights reserved. No part of the contents of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without the written permission of the publisher.

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.

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

Distributed in Canada by H.B. Fenn and Company Ltd.

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

Microsoft Press books are available through booksellers and distributors worldwide. For further information about international editions, contact your local Microsoft Corporation office or contact Microsoft Press International directly at fax (425) 936-7329. Visit our Web site at [www.microsoft.com/mspress](http://www.microsoft.com/mspress). Send comments to [mspinput@microsoft.com](mailto:mspinput@microsoft.com).

Active Desktop, Active Directory, ActiveMovie, ActiveStore, ActiveSync, ActiveX, Authenticode, BackOffice, BizTalk, ClearType, Direct3D, DirectAnimation, DirectDraw, DirectInput, DirectMusic, DirectPlay, DirectShow, DirectSound, DirectX, Entourage, FoxPro, FrontPage, Hotmail, IntelliEye, IntelliMouse, IntelliSense, JScript, MapPoint, Microsoft, Microsoft Press, Mobile Explorer, MS-DOS, MSN, Music Central, NetMeeting, Outlook, PhotoDraw, PowerPoint, SharePoint, UltimateTV, Visio, Visual Basic, Visual C++, Visual FoxPro, Visual InterDev, Visual J++, Visual SourceSafe, Visual Studio, Win32, Win32s, Windows, Windows Media, Windows NT, Xbox are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. Other product and company names mentioned herein may be the trademarks of their respective owners.

The example companies, organizations, products, domain names, e-mail addresses, logos, people, places, and events depicted herein are fictitious. No association with any real company, organization, product, domain name, e-mail address, logo, person, place, or event is intended or should be inferred.

**Acquisitions Editor:** Alex Blanton

**Project Editor:** Sandra Haynes

Body Part No. X08-41929

**CPC EX 2045 - Page 002**  
**ASSA ABLOY AB v. CPC Patent Technologies Pty**  
**Ltd. IPR2022-01094**

**data** *n.* Plural of the Latin *datum*, meaning an item of information. In practice, *data* is often used for the singular as well as the plural form of the noun. *See also* datum. *Compare* information.

**Data Access Objects** *n.* A data access interface that communicates with Microsoft Jet and ODBC-compliant data sources to connect to, retrieve, manipulate, and update data and the database structure. *Acronym:* DAO.

**data acquisition** *n.* The process of obtaining data from another source, usually one outside a specific system.

**data aggregate** *n.* A collection of data records. It usually includes a description of the placement of the data blocks and their relation to the entire set.

**data attribute** *n.* Structural information about data that describes its context and meaning.

**data bank** *n.* Any substantial collection of data.

**database** *n.* A file composed of records, each containing fields together with a set of operations for searching, sorting, recombining, and other functions. *Acronym:* DB.

**database administrator** *n.* One who manages a database. The administrator determines the content, internal structure, and access strategy for a database, defines security and integrity, and monitors performance. *Acronym:* DBA. *Also called:* database manager.

**database analyst** *n.* One who provides the analytic functions needed to design and maintain applications requiring a database.

**database designer** *n.* One who designs and implements functions required for applications that use a database.

**database engine** *n.* The program module or modules that provide access to a database management system (DBMS).

**database machine** *n.* **1.** A peripheral that executes database tasks, thereby relieving the main computer from performing them. **2.** A database server that performs only database tasks.

**database management system** *n.* A software interface between the database and the user. A database management system handles user requests for database actions and allows for control of security and data integrity requirements. *Acronym:* DBMS. *Also called:* database manager. *See also* database engine.

**database manager** *n.* *See* database administrator, database management system.

**database publishing** *n.* The use of desktop publishing or Internet technology to produce reports containing information obtained from a database.

**database server** *n.* A network node, or station, dedicated to storing and providing access to a shared database. *Also called:* database machine.

**database structure** *n.* A general description of the format of records in a database, including the number of fields, specifications regarding the type of data that can be entered in each field, and the field names used.

**data bit** *n.* In asynchronous communications, one of a group of from 5 to 8 bits that represents a single character of data for transmission. Data bits are preceded by a start bit and followed by an optional parity bit and one or more stop bits. *See also* asynchronous transmission, bit, communications parameter.

**data buffer** *n.* An area in memory where data is temporarily stored while being moved from one location to another. *See also* buffer<sup>1</sup>.

**data bus** *n.* *See* bus.

**data cable** *n.* Fiber-optic or wire cable used to transfer data from one device to another.

**data capture** *n.* **1.** The collection of information at the time of a transaction. **2.** The process of saving on a storage medium a record of interchanges between a user and a remote information utility.

**data carrier** *n.* *See* carrier (definition 1).

**Data Carrier Detected** *n.* *See* DCD (definition 1).

**data chaining** *n.* The process of storing segments of data in noncontiguous locations while retaining the ability to reconnect them in the proper sequence.

**data channel** *n.* *See* channel (definition 1).

**data closet** *n.* *See* wiring closet.

**data collection** *n.* **1.** The process of acquiring source documents or data. **2.** The grouping of data by means of classification, sorting, ordering, and other organizing methods.

**datacom** *n.* Short for **data communications**. *See* communications.

**data communications** *n.* *See* communications.

**data compaction** *n.* *See* data compression.

