

Definitions & Glossary

See links for complete definition and additional information.

CGI-bin - Common Gateway Interface [*bin a common Unix directory*]

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Common_Gateway_Interface

The Common Gateway Interface (CGI) is a standard protocol for interfacing external application software with an information server, commonly a web server.

Keith Parkansky: What is CGI and How To Use Your CGI-BIN...: <http://www.parkansky.com/tutorials/bdlogcgi.htm#starting>

CGI is utilized by placing an appropriate HTML tag (called an SSI directive tag) in your HTML code. (The author of the script you wish to use should provide you with the appropriate HTML tag needed to run that script.) When the page is requested by a browser the server reads the tag (and strips it out), executes the server-located script file that's specified by the tag, and puts in the tag's place the results of the execution of the script file. A common example is a hit counter script. The script execution increments the counter and the text of the resulting count is put in the HTML that's sent to the browser so that it appears on the page in the same place where the SSI directive tag was located.

CSS - Cascading Style Sheets

Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Css>

Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) is a style sheet language used to describe the presentation (that is, the look and formatting) of a document written in a markup language. Its most common application is to style web pages written in HTML and XHTML, but the language can be applied to any kind of XML document, including SVG and XUL.

CSS is designed primarily to enable the separation of document content (written in HTML or a similar markup language) from document presentation, including elements such as the colors, fonts, and layout. This separation can improve content accessibility, provide more flexibility and control in the specification of presentation characteristics, enable multiple pages to share formatting, and reduce complexity and repetition in the structural content (such as by allowing for tableless web design). CSS can also allow the same markup page to be presented in different styles for different rendering methods, such as on-screen, in print, by voice (when read out by a speech-based browser or screen reader) and on Braille-based, tactile devices. While the author of a document typically links that document to a CSS stylesheet, readers can use a different stylesheet, perhaps one on their own computer, to override the one the author has specified.

CSS specifies a priority scheme to determine which style rules apply if more than one rule matches against a particular element. In this so-called cascade, priorities or weights are calculated and assigned to rules, so that the results are predictable.

Domain name

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domain_Name

A domain name is an identification label that defines a realm of administrative autonomy, authority, or control in the Internet, based on the Domain Name System (DNS).

Domain names are used in various networking contexts and application-specific naming and addressing purposes. The first-level set of domain names are the top-level domains (TLDs), including the generic top-level domains (gTLDs), such as the prominent domains com, net and org, and the country code top-level domains (ccTLDs). Below these top-level domains in the DNS hierarchy are the second-level and third-level domain names that are typically open for reservation by end-users that wish to connect local area networks to the Internet, run web sites, or create other publicly accessible Internet resources. The registration of these domain names is usually administered by domain name registrars who sell their services to the public.

Domain name registrar [*for anyone interested in obtaining a domain name it is recommend you read the entire article*]

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domain_name_registrar

A domain name registrar is an organization or commercial entity, accredited by the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) or by a national country code top-level domain (ccTLD) authority, to manage the reservation of Internet domain names in accordance with the guidelines of the designated domain name registries and offer such services to the public.

Domain Registrars include: [Go Daddy](#), [eNom](#), [Tucows](#), and [Melbourne IT](#)

Definitions & Glossary

See links for complete definition and additional information.

Domain Name System

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domain_Name_System

The Domain Name System (DNS) is a hierarchical naming system for computers, services, or any resource connected to the Internet or a private network. It associates various information with domain names assigned to each of the participants. Most importantly, it translates domain names meaningful to humans into the numerical (binary) identifiers associated with networking equipment for the purpose of locating and addressing these devices worldwide. An often used analogy to explain the Domain Name System is that it serves as the "phone book" for the Internet by translating human-friendly computer hostnames into IP addresses. For example, www.example.com translates to 208.77.188.166.

FTP - File Transfer Protocol

Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ftp>

File Transfer Protocol (FTP) is a standard network protocol used to exchange and manipulate files over an Internet Protocol computer network, such as the Internet. FTP is built on a client-server architecture and utilizes separate control and data connections between the client and server applications. Client applications were originally interactive command-line tools with a standardized command syntax, but graphical user interfaces have been developed for all desktop operating systems in use today. FTP is also often used as an application component to automatically transfer files for program internal functions. FTP can be used with user-based password authentication or with anonymous user access.

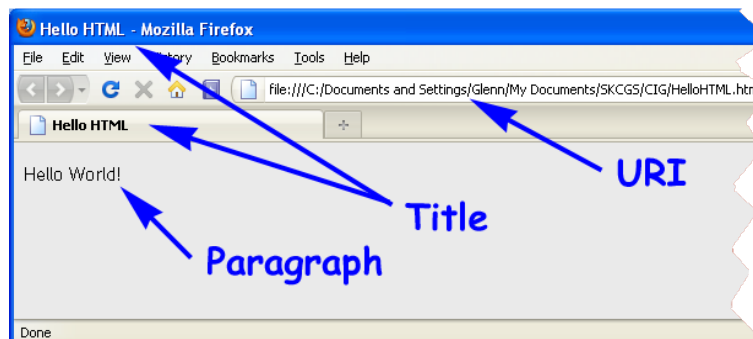
For a list & comparison of FTP clients see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_FTP_client_software

HTML - Hyper Text Markup Language

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hyper_Text_Markup_Language

HTML, which stands for Hypertext Markup Language, is the predominant markup language for web pages. It provides a means to create structured documents by denoting structural semantics for text such as headings, paragraphs, lists etc as well as for links, quotes, and other items. It allows images and objects to be embedded and can be used to create interactive forms. It is written in the form of HTML elements consisting of "tags" surrounded by angle brackets within the web page content. It can include or can load scripts in languages such as JavaScript, which affect the behavior of HTML processors like Web browsers, and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) to define the appearance and layout of text and other material. The use of CSS is encouraged over explicit presentational markup.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <title>Hello HTML</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <p>Hello World!</p>
  </body>
</html>
```



HTML editor

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Html_editor

An HTML editor is a software application for creating web pages. Although the HTML markup of a web page can be written with any text editor, specialized HTML editors can offer convenience and added functionality. For example, many HTML editors work not only with HTML, but also with related technologies such as CSS, XML and JavaScript. In some cases they also manage communication with remote web servers via FTP.

For a list of HTML editors see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_HTML_editors

For a comparison of HTML editors see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_HTML_editors

Definitions & Glossary

See links for complete definition and additional information.

HTTP - Hypertext Transfer Protocol

Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HTTP>

Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) is an application-level protocol for distributed, collaborative, hypermedia information systems. Its use for retrieving inter-linked resources led to the establishment of the World Wide Web.

HTTP is a request/response standard of a client and a server. A client is the end-user; the server is the web site. The client making an HTTP request - using a web browser, spider, or other end-user tool - is referred to as the user agent. The responding server - which stores or creates resources such as HTML files and images - is called the origin server.

ICANN - Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_Corporation_for_Assigned_Names_and_Numbers

ICANN (pronounced /aɪkæn/, eye-can) is the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers. ICANN is responsible for managing the assignment of domain names and IP addresses.

Internet hosting service

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hosting_service

An Internet hosting service is a service that runs Internet servers, [*web servers*] allowing organizations and individuals to serve content to the Internet. There are various levels of service and various kinds of services offered. A common kind of hosting is web hosting. Most hosting providers offer a combined variety of services. Web hosting services also offer e-mail hosting service, for example.

JavaScript

Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JavaScript>

JavaScript is a scripting language used to enable programmatic access to objects within other applications. It is primarily used in the form of client-side JavaScript for the development of dynamic websites.

MIME - Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions

Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MIME>

Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (MIME) is an Internet standard that extends the format of e-mail to support:

- Text in character sets other than ASCII
- Non-text attachments
- Message bodies with multiple parts
- Header information in non-ASCII character sets

MIME's use, however, has grown beyond describing the content of e-mail to describing content type in general, including for the web (see Internet media type).

Virtually all human-written Internet e-mail and a fairly large proportion of automated e-mail is transmitted via SMTP in MIME format. Internet e-mail is so closely associated with the SMTP and MIME standards that it is sometimes called SMTP/MIME e-mail.

The content types defined by MIME standards are also of importance outside of e-mail, such as in communication protocols like HTTP for the World Wide Web. HTTP requires that data be transmitted in the context of e-mail-like messages, although the data most often is not actually e-mail.

MySQL

Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MySQL>

MySQL (pronounced / My S-Q-L, or "My sequel") is a relational database management system (RDBMS) which has more than 6 million installations. MySQL stands for "My Structured Query Language". The program runs as a server providing multi-user access to a number of databases.

Definitions & Glossary

See links for complete definition and additional information.

The project's source code is available under terms of the GNU General Public License, as well as under a variety of proprietary agreements. MySQL is owned and sponsored by a single for-profit firm, the Swedish company MySQL AB, now a subsidiary of Sun Microsystems, which holds the copyright to most of the codebase.

MySQL is commonly used by free software projects which require a full-featured database management system, such as WordPress, phpBB and other software built on the LAMP software stack. It is also used in very high-scale World Wide Web products including Google and Facebook.

Perl

Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perl>

Perl is a high-level, general-purpose, interpreted, dynamic programming language. Perl was originally developed by Larry Wall, a linguist working as a systems administrator for NASA, in 1987, as a general-purpose Unix scripting language to make report processing easier. Since then, it has undergone many changes and revisions and become widely popular amongst programmers. Larry Wall continues to oversee development of the core language, and its upcoming version, Perl 6.

PHP [*originally stood for Personal Home Page*]

Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PHP>

PHP is a widely used, general-purpose scripting language that was originally designed for web development, to produce dynamic web pages. It can be embedded into HTML and generally runs on a web server, which needs to be configured to process PHP code and create web page content from it. It can be deployed on most web servers and on almost every operating system and platform free of charge. PHP is installed on over 20 million websites and 1 million web servers.

SMTP - Simple Mail Transfer Protocol

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simple_Mail_Transfer_Protocol

Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) is an Internet standard for electronic mail (e-mail) transmission across Internet Protocol (IP) networks.

SSI - Server Side Includes

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Server_Side_Includes

Server Side Includes (SSI) is a simple server-side scripting language used almost exclusively for the web. As its name implies, its primary use is including the contents of one file into another one dynamically when the latter is served by a web server.

SSI is primarily used to "paste" the contents of one or more files into another. For example, a file (of any type, .html, .txt, etc.) containing a daily quote could be included into multiple SSI-enabled pages throughout a website by placing the following code into the desired pages:

```
<!--#include virtual="./quote.txt" -->
```

With one change of the quote.txt file, pages including the snippet will display the latest daily quote. Server Side Includes are useful for including a common piece of code throughout a site, such as a navigation menu.

In order for a web server in a default configuration to recognize an SSI-enabled HTML file and therefore carry out these instructions, the file usually must end with the .shtml, .stm or .shtm extension. (It is also possible to configure a web server to process files with extension .html, or really any extension with more modern web servers.)

SSI is most suitable for simple automation tasks; more complex server-side processing is often done with one of the more complex programming languages Perl, PHP, ASP, ASP.NET, JSP, Java, CFML, Python and Ruby.

Definitions & Glossary

See links for complete definition and additional information.

Web browser

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_Browser

A web browser is a software application for retrieving, presenting, and traversing information resources on the World Wide Web. An information resource is identified by a Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) [*often incorrectly referred to as Uniform Resource Locator (URL)*] and may be a web page, image, video, or other piece of content. Hyperlinks present in resources enable users to easily navigate their browsers to related resources.

Although browsers are primarily intended to access the World Wide Web, they can also be used to access information provided by web servers in private networks or files in file systems [*i.e. CD or DVD on a computer*].

The major web browsers are Windows Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari, Google Chrome, and Opera.

Web server

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_Server

The term web server or webservice can mean one of two things:

1. A computer program that is responsible for accepting HTTP requests from clients (user agents such as web browsers), and serving them HTTP responses along with optional data contents, which usually are web pages such as HTML documents and linked objects (images, etc.).
2. A computer that runs a computer program as described above.

Although web server programs differ in detail, they all share some basic common features.

1. HTTP: every web server program operates by accepting HTTP requests from the client, and providing an HTTP response to the client. The HTTP response usually consists of an HTML or XHTML document, but can also be a raw file, an image, or some other type of document (defined by MIME-types). If some error is found in client request or while trying to serve it, a web server has to send an error response which may include some custom HTML or text messages to better explain the problem to end users.
2. Logging: usually web servers have also the capability of logging some detailed information, about client requests and server responses, to log files; this allows the webmaster to collect statistics by running log analyzers on these files.

The major web servers are Apache [*UNIX & Linux*] and Microsoft Internet Information Server (IIS) [*Windows*].

WHOIS

Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whois>

WHOIS (pronounced who is) is a query/response protocol which is widely used for querying databases in order to determine the registrant or assignee of Internet resources, such as a domain name, an IP address, or an autonomous system number. WHOIS lookups were traditionally performed with a command line interface application, and network administrators predominantly still use this method, but many simplified web-based tools now exist. The WHOIS system originated as a method for system administrators to obtain contact information for IP address assignments or domain name administrators. [InterNIC Whois Search](#)

XHTML - Extensible Hypertext Markup Language

Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/XHTML>

The Extensible Hypertext Markup Language, or XHTML, is a markup language that has the same depth of expression as HTML, but also conforms to XML syntax.

While HTML prior to HTML 5 was defined as an application of Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML), a very flexible markup language, XHTML is an application of XML, a more restrictive subset of SGML. Because they need to be well-formed, true XHTML documents allow for automated processing to be performed using standard XML tools - unlike HTML, which requires a relatively complex, lenient, and generally custom parser. XHTML can be thought of as the intersection of HTML and XML in many respects, since it is a reformulation of HTML in XML. XHTML 1.0 became a World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) Recommendation on January 26, 2000. XHTML 1.1 became a W3C Recommendation on May 31, 2001.