

Internet Plug-Ins and Downloading Terms

Downloading: Copying a program or other information from one computer to another.

Driver: A file that tells the computer how to use the hardware or handle new hardware.

File Extension: The three letter combination after the “.” in a file name which identifies the type of file and the program used to open it.

Flash Player: An interactive media player made by Macromedia using files made with the Flash program made by Macromedia.

Freeware: A term used to describe a program that is free of charge.

Media Player: A program that lets you view video and/or audio from the internet or stored on your computer.

Mirrors: Different websites that offer the same file.

.PDF: A file extension that indicates the file will use the Adobe Acrobat program to view it.

Plug-ins: Programs that you need to access certain features on the Internet such as music, video, and certain types of files.

QuickTime Player: A media player made by Apple that can have interactive content.

Real Player: A media player made by Real.

Shareware: A copyrighted program that can be used for free on a trial basis to continue to use the program after the trial period the user is encouraged to pay the author for using it.

Trial ware: A program that can be used free for a certain period of time or number of uses.

Update: A revision of an existing program so you can have the latest version of their software. An update may include new features, virus prevention, or fixes for programming problems in the original program. These are usually free of charge.

Upgrade: A new version of a piece of software. You will have to pay for an upgrade most of the time.

Virus: A program that replicates itself by attaching to other programs and carrying out unwanted and sometimes damaging operations. Viruses can be transmitted by downloading programming from other sites or can be present on a diskette. The source of the file you're downloading or of a diskette you've received is often unaware of the virus. The virus lies dormant until circumstances cause its code to be executed by the computer.

Windows Media Player: A media player made by Microsoft.

In class links: <http://thelibrary.springfield.missouri.org/edge/downloads.cfm>

File Sizes Explained

Bytes, Kilobytes, Megabytes, Gigabytes and Beyond

File sizes can be very confusing. For instance - which is bigger? 1.2 MB or 1200 KB? They are **basically** the same size! Confused? There is no need to be!

The standard measurement units that are used online and on your family's computer are gigabytes, megabytes, kilobytes and bytes.

<i>Largest</i>	<i>Larger</i>	<i>Large</i>	<i>Basic Unit</i>
Gigabyte (GB)	Megabyte (MB)	Kilobyte (KB)	Byte

Exact Conversion

- 1,024 Byte = 1 Kilobyte (KB)
- 1,024 Kilobyte (KB) = 1 Megabyte (MB)
- 1,073,741,824 Bytes = 1 Gigabyte (GB)
- 1 Gigabyte (GB) = 1,024 Megabyte (MB)

Example: 128MB of memory can store approximately 128 million characters. One Megabyte can hold approximately 500 pages of text.

Estimating

Estimating is a great way to do the math in our heads but remember that it isn't exact. For every 1024 bytes, that makes one kilobyte. For simplicity we are going to **round** to 1000 so that we can do the math in our heads.

The Next Phase of File Measurement

If you are wondering if there are units of measurement bigger than a gigabyte, the answer is yes! Next is a Terabyte! A terabyte is just starting to be seen, as in Microsoft's Terraserver that contains over a terabyte of content. (If you have never checked out the Terraserver be sure to check it out! It has satellite images of the United States. I found my house! Can you find yours?) The next unit is petabyte, then exabyte, zettabyte and yottabyte. Don't be surprised to see hard drive space starting to be measured in terabytes in the next few years. Remember, it was only a few years ago that a gigabyte was not commonly seen.

Taken from: <http://familyinternet.about.com/cs/computinghelp/l/aa052401a.htm>

Virus Do's and Don'ts

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| <p>DO install virus protection software</p> <p>DO update the virus definitions for your virus software weekly</p> <p>DO scan your computer monthly for viruses</p> <p>DO scan all downloaded files and e-mail attachments from the Internet for viruses before opening them</p> <p>DO scan floppy disks, zip disks, CD's before using them</p> | <p>DON'T open or forward e-mails and e-mail attachments without scanning them for viruses first.</p> <p>DON'T use illegal software</p> <p>DON'T download data from doubtful sources</p> <p>DON'T give out your password to others.</p> <p>DON'T reuse passwords when setting up accounts</p> |
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