

The Web Development Glossary

3K

Jens Oliver
Meiert



The Web Development Glossary 3K

More Than 3,000 Terms and Concepts for the Well-Rounded Developer

Jens Oliver Meiert

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Introduction

This is a glossary for web development.

It includes more than 3,000 (indeed, more than 3,700) terms and abbreviations.

The glossary covers the major standards and concepts of the Web, beginning with HTML, CSS, JavaScript, accessibility, security, performance, code quality and testing, internationalization, localization, frameworks and editors and tooling. It then includes other disciplines of interest and relevance to the modern developer, like computer science, design, typography, usability and user experience, information and project management and more. It goes beyond web development to feed curiosity, about the Web and the technologies and processes used to build it.

That is, this is more than a glossary for web development.

What's more, this glossary tells a story, though it does not do so in the same way other books do. It tells a story that is sterile yet messy. It tells a story that only started three decades ago and that is still unfolding. It tells a story that starts with you. Why you? Because you are on your own web development journey—and because web development is only unfolding, only so alive, because of people like you, people who take a personal interest in it. When you read this glossary like you would read another book, you may notice. (Yet still, it is a glossary.)

*
**

It has been neither necessary nor desirable to come up with a new and different explanation for every term. About 60% of the definitions in this glossary are based on Wikipedia, and about 5% on MDN Web Docs.

Left arrows (“←”) signify sources such as Wikipedia and MDN Web Docs, linked to the respective original material.

Right arrows (“→”) point to the expanded forms of abbreviations, and to common synonyms and expressions. Sometimes they take you on a little detour, as with Personal Home Page → PHP → Hypertext Preprocessor, or HTML 5 → HTML → HyperText Markup Language. This may seem lengthy, but it aims to make meanings, relationships, and sometimes history more clear. A right arrow may also point at a term that encompasses the referring term, or at a related concept, and therefore does not necessarily indicate identity or equivalence.

Up arrows (“↑”), followed by a URL, point to additional information, like company and project pages as well as specifications.

Some terms and abbreviations have several meanings. Only the web-related ones are shown.

Sometimes there is imprecision: Is a home page a special type of web page, but a *homepage* another word for a website? (For this book, which tries to gauge how most people use the respective terms, this is so.)

Unfortunately, there are going to be inconsistencies, errors, and maybe controversy. Please [help improve the glossary](#) as well as, if applicable, Wikipedia and MDN Web Docs. Giving back to both projects, work on this book has led to numerous small improvements to both [Wikipedia](#) and [MDN Web Docs articles](#), but it is improbable that these improvements covered all there was to improve. Thank you for sharing your knowledge and taking the time to contribute as well.

That all being said: Enjoy. Web development is a great field.

—Jens Oliver Meiert



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Other explanations build on [MDN Web Docs](#), by Mozilla contributors. They are marked “MDN Web Docs.” The original material is licensed under a [CC BY-SA 2.5 license](#).

A few explanations build on the [HTML Living Standard](#). They are marked “HTML.” The original material is licensed under a [CC BY 4.0 license](#).

All original material has been shortened and edited.

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The Web Development Glossary 3K

!./_

!important

An indicator for a declaration that should take precedence over a normal declaration, by virtue of the CSS cascade.

.gitignore

A plain-text file that contains patterns for files and directories to be ignored by Git version control, with one pattern per line.

.htaccess

A directory-level configuration file supported by several web servers, used for the configuration of website access issues, such as URL redirection, URL shortening, access control, and more. A site could have more than one .htaccess file, and the files are placed inside the web tree (i.e., inside directories and their subdirectories). .htaccess files act as a subset of the server's global configuration file (like httpd.conf) for the directory that they are in, or all subdirectories. The original purpose of .htaccess—reflected in its name—was to allow per-directory access control by, for example, requiring a password to access web content. More commonly, however, the .htaccess files define or override many other configuration settings such as content type, character set, CGI handlers, etc. ← [Wikipedia](#)

.htpasswd

A flat file used to store usernames and password for basic authentication on an Apache HTTP Server. The name of the file is given in the .htaccess configuration, and can be anything although ".htpasswd" is the canonical name. .htpasswd is often maintained with the shell command "htpasswd" which can add, delete, and update users, and will properly encode the password for use (so that it is easily checked, but not reversed back to the original password). The file consists of rows, each row corresponding to a username, followed by a colon, followed by a string containing the hashed password optionally prepended by an algorithm specifier (\$2y\$, \$apr1\$, or {SHA}) or salt. The hash historically used "Unix crypt" style with MD5 or SHA1 as common alternatives, although as of version 2.2.18 a variant of MD5 is now the default. ← [Wikipedia](#)

.NET

→ [.NET Framework](#)

.NET Framework

A software framework developed by Microsoft that runs primarily on Windows. The .NET Framework includes a large class library named as Framework Class Library (FCL) and provides language interoperability (each language can use code written in other languages) across several programming languages. Programs written for the .NET Framework execute in a software environment (in contrast to a hardware environment) named the Common Language Runtime (CLR). The CLR is an application virtual machine that provides services such as

security, memory management, and exception handling. As such, computer code written using the .NET Framework is called managed code. FCL and CLR together constitute the .NET Framework. .NET was first released in 2002. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ [dotnet.microsoft.com](#)

/dev/null

→ [Null device](#)

/now page

A special page on a website that documents what the individual site owner “is focused on at this point in their life.” It is hosted under the URL slug “/now”. ↑ [nownownow.com](#)

/uses page

A special page on a website that details what software and hardware the individual site owner uses, and what languages and abstractions they specialize in. It is hosted under the URL slug “/uses”. ↑ [uses.tech](#)

__qem

A proprietary, unofficial CSS unit (“quirky em”) to manage margins in reflow roots (body, th, and td) similar to the Internet Explorer web browser. According to [the source code](#), “When the quirky value is used, if you’re in quirks mode, the margin will collapse away inside a table cell.” __qem was originally spelled with one underscore, _qem.



[Is something missing, or did you find a mistake?](#)

0-9

1 Percent Rule

A rule of thumb pertaining to participation in an Internet community, stating that only 1% of the users of a website actively create new content, while the other 99% of the participants lurk.

← [Wikipedia](#)

1-9-90 Rule

→ [1 Percent Rule](#)

1NF

→ [First normal form](#)

2FA → [Two-factor authentication](#)

2NF

→ [Second normal form](#)

3DML

A format for creating three-dimensional websites by combining similar-sized building blocks. 3DML files are written in XML and can be delivered from standard web servers and shown within a browser via a plugin, or in an independent 3DML browser called Flatland Rover. 3DML was created in 1997 by Michael Powers. ← [Wikipedia](#)

3NF

→ [Third normal form](#)

3P → [Third party](#)

8.3 A filename convention used by old versions of DOS and versions of Windows prior to Windows 95 and Windows NT 3.5. The 8.3 convention is also used in modern Microsoft operating systems as an alternate filename to the long filename for compatibility with legacy programs. 8.3 filenames are limited to at most eight characters (after any directory specifier), followed optionally by an extension consisting of a period (".") and at most three further characters. ← [Wikipedia](#)

11ty

→ [Eleventy](#)

20 FTP data transfer TCP port number.

21 FTP control TCP port number.

22 SSH TCP port number.

23 Telnet TCP port number.

25 Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) TCP port number.

53 Domain Name System (DNS) TCP and UDP port number.

70 Gopher TCP port number.

79 Finger TCP and UDP port number.

80 Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) TCP port number.

80/20 Rule

→ [Pareto Principle](#)

88 Kerberos authentication TCP and UDP port number.

90/90 Rule

→ [Ninety-Ninety Rule](#)

100 “Continue” HTTP status code.

101 “Switching Protocols” HTTP status code.

102 “Processing” HTTP status code (WebDAV).

109 Post Office Protocol (POP2) TCP port number.

110 Post Office Protocol (POP3) TCP port number.

143 Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP) TCP port number.

200 “OK” HTTP status code.

201 “Created” HTTP status code.

202 “Accepted” HTTP status code.

203 “Non-Authoritative Information” HTTP status code.

204 “No Content” HTTP status code.

205 “Reset Content” HTTP status code.

206 “Partial Content” HTTP status code.

207 “Multi-Status” HTTP status code (WebDAV).

220 Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP) TCP and UDP port number.

226 “IM Used” HTTP status code.

300 “Multiple Choices” HTTP status code.

301 “Moved Permanently” HTTP status code.

302 “Found” (previously “Moved Temporarily”) HTTP status code.

303 “See Other” HTTP status code.

304 “Not Modified” HTTP status code.

305 “Use Proxy” HTTP status code.

306 Now unused, former “Switch Proxy” HTTP status code.

307 “Temporary Redirect” HTTP status code.

308 “Permanent Redirect” HTTP status code.

389 Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) TCP port number.

400 “Bad Request” HTTP status code.

401 “Unauthorized” HTTP status code.

403 “Forbidden” HTTP status code.

404 “Not Found” HTTP status code.

405 “Method Not Allowed” HTTP status code.

406 “Not Acceptable” HTTP status code.

407 “Proxy Authentication Required” HTTP status code.

408 “Request Timeout” HTTP status code.

409 “Conflict” HTTP status code.

410 “Gone” HTTP status code.

411 “Length Required” HTTP status code.

- 412 “Precondition Failed” HTTP status code.
- 413 “Request Entity Too Large” HTTP status code.
- 414 “Request-URI Too Long” HTTP status code.
- 415 “Unsupported Media Type” HTTP status code.
- 416 “Requested Range Not Satisfiable” HTTP status code.
- 417 “Expectation Failed” HTTP status code.
- 418 “I’m a teapot” HTTP status code, a 1998 IETF April Fools’ joke.
- 421 “Misdirected Request” HTTP status code.
- 422 “Unprocessable Entity” HTTP status code (WebDAV).
- 423 “Locked” HTTP status code (WebDAV).
- 424 “Failed Dependency” HTTP status code (WebDAV).
- 425 “Too Early” HTTP status code.
- 426 “Upgrade Required” HTTP status code.
- 428 “Precondition Required” HTTP status code.
- 429 “Too Many Requests” HTTP status code.
- 431 “Request Header Fields Too Large” HTTP status code.
- 443 Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS) TCP port number.
- 451 “Unavailable For Legal Reasons” HTTP status code.
- 500 “Internal Server Error” HTTP status code.
- 501 “Not Implemented” HTTP status code.
- 502 “Bad Gateway” HTTP status code.
- 503 “Service Unavailable” HTTP status code.
- 504 “Gateway Timeout” HTTP status code.
- 505 “HTTP Version Not Supported” HTTP status code.
- 507 “Insufficient Storage” HTTP status code (WebDAV).
- 511 “Network Authentication Required” HTTP status code.
- 992 Telnet over TLS/SSL TCP and UDP port number.
- 993 Internet Message Access Protocol over TLS/SSL (IMAPS) TCP port number.
- 995 Post Office Protocol 3 over TLS/SSL (POP3S) TCP and UDP port number.
- 8008
Alternative and unofficial Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) TCP and UDP port number.
- 8080
Alternative Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) TCP and UDP port number.
- 8443
Alternative and unofficial Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS) TCP port number, used by the Apache Tomcat web server.



Is something missing, or did you find a mistake?

A

A An IPv4 address resource record in the Domain Name System (DNS). ← [Wikipedia](#)

A List Apart

An online magazine that “explores the design, development, and meaning of web content, with a special focus on web standards and best practices.” A List Apart was founded in 1998.

↑ alistapart.com

A/B testing

A user experience research methodology. A/B tests consist of a randomized experiment with two variants, A and B. A/B testing includes the application of statistical hypothesis testing or “two-sample hypothesis testing” as used in the field of statistics. It is a way to compare two versions of a single variable, typically by testing a subject’s response to variant A against variant B, and determining which of the two variants is more effective. ← [Wikipedia](#)

A11Y

→ [Accessibility](#)

AAA

→ [Arrange, act, assert](#)

AAAA

An IPv6 address resource record in the Domain Name System (DNS). ← [Wikipedia](#)

Ableism

Discrimination and social prejudice against people with physical or mental disabilities. Ableism characterizes people as they are defined by their disabilities, and it also classifies disabled people as inferior to non-disabled people. On this basis, people are assigned or denied certain perceived abilities, skills, or character orientations. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Above the fold

The part of a web page that is visible without scrolling.

Absolute domain name

→ [Fully qualified domain name](#)

Abstract data type

A mathematical model for data types, where a data type is defined by its behavior (semantics) from the point of view of a user of the data, specifically in terms of possible values, possible operations on data of this type, and the behavior of these operations. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Abstraction

A way to reduce complexity and allow efficient design and implementation in complex software systems. Abstractions hide the technical complexity of systems behind simpler APIs. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

Accelerated Mobile Pages

A web component framework and website publishing technology developed by Google

to “provide a user-first format for web content.” The AMP framework consists of three components: AMP HTML, which is HTML markup with web components, AMP JavaScript, which manages resource loading, and AMP caches, which serve and validate AMP pages. Most AMP pages are delivered by Google’s AMP cache. AMP was released in 2015; support was discontinued in 2021. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ [amp.dev](#)

Accept-CH

An HTTP header that is used to specify which client hint headers a client should include in subsequent requests. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

Acceptance criteria

Conditions that are required to be met before deliverables, like a piece of software, are accepted, for example, as part of a contract. Ideally, acceptance criteria are concise and testable.

Acceptance test-driven development

A development methodology based on communication between the business customers, the developers, and the testers. ATDD aids developers and testers in understanding the customer’s needs prior to implementation, and allow customers to be able to converse in their own domain language. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Acceptance testing

A test conducted to determine if the requirements of a specification or contract are met. In systems engineering it may involve black-box testing performed on a system prior to its delivery. In software testing the ISTQB (International Software Testing Qualifications Board) defines acceptance testing as “formal testing with respect to user needs, requirements, and business processes conducted to determine whether a system satisfies the acceptance criteria and to enable users, customers, or other authorized entities to determine whether to accept the system.” Acceptance testing is also known as user acceptance testing (UAT), end user testing, operational acceptance testing (OAT), acceptance test-driven development (ATDD), or field (acceptance) testing. Acceptance criteria are the criteria that a system or component must satisfy in order to be accepted by a user, customer, or other authorized entity. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Access control

The selective restriction of access to a place or other resource. The act of accessing may mean consuming, entering, or using. Access management describes the process of using access control. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Access Control List

A list of permissions associated with an object. An ACL specifies which users or system processes are granted access to objects, as well as what operations are allowed on given objects. Each entry in a typical ACL specifies a subject and an operation. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Access key

In accessibility, a shortcut to jump to a specific web page via the keyboard. Access keys were introduced in 1999 and quickly achieved near-universal browser support. ← [Wikipedia](#)

In computer security, security credentials that consist of an access key ID and a secret access key.

Access logs

→ [Server logs](#)

Access token

A token that contains the security credentials for a login session and that identifies a user, a user's groups, a user's privileges, and, in some cases, a particular application. Typically, one may be asked to enter an access token (e.g., 40 random characters) rather than the usual password (an access token should therefore be kept secret just like a password). ← [Wikipedia](#)

Accessibility

The design and development of products, devices, services, and environments so that they are usable by people with disabilities. In the context of the Web it means to make information and services usable by as many people as possible. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Accessibility Conformance Report

A document summarizing how a product conforms to applicable accessibility standards. An ACR is usually the result of a completed VPAT (Voluntary Product Accessibility Template).

Accessibility Conformance Testing

A rule format for testing conformance with accessibility standards. ↑ [w3.org/WAI/standards-guidelines/act](https://www.w3.org/WAI/standards-guidelines/act)

Accessibility decay

The deterioration of the accessibility of a website or app over time, when not regularly tested, maintained, and improved.

Accessibility Maturity Model

A W3C framework for establishing an accessibility program and identifying areas for improvement. The Accessibility Maturity Model helps to assess the capabilities and effectiveness of an organization, identify gaps between those capabilities and a next level of accessibility maturity, and plan improvements to the organization's accessibility performance. ↑ [w3.org/TR/maturity-model](https://www.w3.org/TR/maturity-model)

Accessibility Object Model

A complement to the Document Object Model (DOM) to be used by assistive technology. ↑ wicg.github.io/aom/spec

Accessibility Toolkit

A software library providing application programming interfaces (APIs) for implementing accessibility support in software. ATK headers files are freely available to help developers who want to make their GUI toolkit accessible. ATK is part of the GNOME Accessibility Framework, which was released in 2001. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ is.gd/omREhG

Accessibility tree

→ [Accessibility Object Model](#)

Accessible Rich Internet Applications

A collection of roles, states, and properties that define accessible user interface elements and can be used to improve the accessibility and interoperability of web content and applications. ↑ [w3.org/TR/wai-aria](https://www.w3.org/TR/wai-aria)

ACE

→ [Arbitrary code execution](#)

ACID

→ [Atomicity, consistency, isolation, durability](#)

Acid tests

A range of web standards compliance tests that were set up in 1999 (Acid1), 2005 (Acid2), and 2008 (Acid3). ↑ acidtests.org

ACK

A signal that is passed between communicating processes, computers, or devices to signify acknowledgement, or receipt of message, as part of a communications protocol like the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP). ← [Wikipedia](#)

ACL

→ [Access Control List](#)

ACM

→ [Association for Computing Machinery](#)

Acq-hiring

→ [Acqui-hiring](#)

Acqui-hiring

The process of acquiring a company primarily to recruit its employees, rather than its products or services. “Acqui-hiring” is a portmanteau of “acquisition” and “hiring.” The term was first used in 2005. ← [Wikipedia](#)

ACR

→ [Accessibility Conformance Report](#)

ACSS

→ [Atomic CSS](#)

ACT

→ [Accessibility Conformance Testing](#)

Action item

→ [Todo](#)

ActionScript

An object-oriented programming language developed by Macromedia (later acquired by Adobe). Though it arose as a sibling, it is now an implementation of ECMAScript, both of which were influenced by the scripting language for HyperCard, HyperTalk. ActionScript is used primarily for the development of websites and software targeting the Adobe Flash Player platform, originally finding use on web pages in the form of embedded SWF files. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Active monitoring

→ [Synthetic monitoring](#)

Active redundancy

A design concept that increases operational availability and that reduces operating cost by automating critical maintenance actions. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Active Server Pages

A server-side script engine for dynamically generated web pages. ASP can be written in a scripting language such as VBScript, JScript, or PerlScript. ASP was introduced in 1996 by Microsoft. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Active Users

A performance metric for the success of an Internet product such as a social networking service, online game, or mobile app. It measures how many users visit or interact with the product or

service over a given interval. This metric is commonly assessed per month as monthly active users (MAU), per week as weekly active users (WAU), or per day as daily active users (DAU).

← [Wikipedia](#)

ActiveX

A software framework that allows applications to share information and functionality, based on the Component Object Model (COM) and Object Linking and Embedding (OLE). ActiveX was introduced in 1996 by Microsoft.

Activity Streams

A specification for activity stream protocols, which are used to syndicate activities taken in social web applications and services, similar to those in Facebook's, Instagram's, and Twitter's/X's. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ w3.org/TR/activitystreams-core

ActivityPub

An open, decentralized social networking protocol based on pump.io's ActivityPump protocol. ActivityPub provides a client/server API for creating, updating, and deleting content, as well as a federated server-to-server API for delivering notifications and content. It became a W3C Recommendation in 2018. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ w3.org/TR/activitypub

Actual value

The final CSS value being applied after having gone through value computation (identifying the winning declaration, and determining the cascaded, specified, computed, and used values).

Adaptive

An aspect of or synonym for agile development.

Adaptive loading

The loading of web resources depending on the connection type and speed.

Adaptive technology

Technology specifically designed for and used by people with disabilities. Adaptive technology often refers to electronic and information technology access. It is a subset of assistive technology. ← [Wikipedia](#)

ADC

→ [Application Default Credentials](#)

Addon

→ [Plugin](#)

Address Resolution Protocol

A communication protocol used for discovering the link layer address, such as a MAC address, associated with a given Internet layer address, typically an IPv4 address. This mapping is a critical function in the Internet protocol suite. ARP was defined in 1982 by RFC 826, which is Internet Standard STD 37. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Adobe ColdFusion

→ [ColdFusion](#)

Adobe Dreamweaver

→ [Dreamweaver](#)

Adobe Flash

→ [Flash](#)

Adobe Photoshop

→ [Photoshop](#)

ADR

→ [Architecture Decision Record](#)

ads.txt

An initiative from the IAB Technology Laboratory that specifies an “ads.txt” text file that companies can host on their web servers, listing the other companies authorized to sell their products or services. This is designed to allow online buyers to check the validity of the sellers from whom they buy, for the purposes of Internet fraud prevention. ads.txt was introduced in 2017. ← [Wikipedia](#)

ADT

→ [Abstract data type](#)

Advanced Encryption Standard

A specification for the encryption of electronic data established in 2001 by the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). AES is a subset of the Rijndael block cipher developed by Vincent Rijmen and Joan Daemen. For AES, NIST selected three members of the Rijndael family, each with a block size of 128 bits, but three different key lengths: 128, 192, and 256 bits, to make AES-128, AES-192, and AES-256, respectively. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Advanced Message Queuing Protocol

An open-standard application layer protocol for message-oriented middleware. The defining features of AMQP are message orientation, queuing, routing (including point-to-point and publish-and-subscribe), reliability, and security. The protocol mandates the behavior of the messaging provider and client to the extent that implementations from different vendors are interoperable, in the same way that SMTP, HTTP, FTP, etc. have created interoperable systems. AMQP was created in 2003. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ [amqp.org](#)

Advanced Package Tool

A software user interface that works with core libraries to handle the installation and removal of software on Debian, Ubuntu, and related Linux distributions. APT simplifies the process of managing software on Unix-like computer systems by automating the retrieval, configuration, and installation of software packages. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Advanced Perceptual Contrast Algorithm

A method to calculate color contrast that takes into account perceived contrast of relative luminance. It is deemed to provide a more accurate way of estimating human contrast perception than earlier contrast algorithms. APCA was presented in 2019 by Andrew Somers. ↑ [github.com/w3c/wcag/issues/695](#)

Advanced Persistent Threat

A stealthy threat actor, typically a nation state or state-sponsored group, which gains unauthorized access to a computer network and remains undetected for an extended period. In recent times, the term may also refer to non-state-sponsored groups conducting large-scale targeted intrusions for specific goals. The median time an APT attack goes undetected differs widely between regions. ← [Wikipedia](#)

ADX

→ [Authenticated Data Experiment](#)

AEO

Application engineering and operations.

AES

→ [Advanced Encryption Standard](#)

Afferent coupling

A coupling metric in software development. Afferent coupling measures the number of incoming connections to a piece of code, like a function, class, or component.

Affordance

Those action possibilities that are readily perceivable by an actor, that is, an affordance suggests how an object may be interacted with. For example, an underlined word on a web page has the affordance of being clickable. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Agile

An umbrella term for approaches to project management and software development under which self-organizing, cross-functional teams cooperate with customers and users to produce requirements and solutions. Agile advocates adaptive planning, evolutionary development, early delivery, continuous improvement, and encourages rapid and flexible response to change. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Agile Manifesto

→ [Manifesto for Agile Software Development](#)

Agile Release Train

A unit of Agile teams that works together, aligned on a common goal, to incrementally develop, test, and maintain projects. An ART, as a virtual organization, is to contain 50–125 people.

AHAH

→ [Asynchronous HTML and HTTP](#)

AIC triad

→ [CIA triad](#)

AirMosaic

An early commercial web browser based on the NCSA Mosaic browser. AirMosaic was released in 1994. ← [Wikipedia](#)

AJAX

→ [Asynchronous JavaScript and XML](#)

AKM

→ [Architectural knowledge management](#)

ALA

→ [A List Apart](#)

Alerting

→ [Notification system](#)

Alertmanager

A part of the Prometheus event monitoring and alerting software. Alertmanager processes alerts sent by client applications. ↑ [is.gd/MAnK75](#)

ALGOL

→ [Algorithmic Language](#)

Algorithm

A finite sequence of well-defined, computer-implementable instructions, typically to solve a class of problems or to perform a computation. Algorithms are unambiguous specifications for performing calculation, data processing, automated reasoning, and other tasks. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Algorithmic Language

A family of imperative computer programming languages, originally developed in the mid-1950s, which greatly influenced many other languages and was the standard method for algorithm description used by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) in textbooks and academic sources for more than 30 years. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Aliasing

An effect that causes different signals to become indistinguishable (or aliases of one another) when sampled. Aliasing also often refers to the distortion or artifact that results when a signal reconstructed from samples is different from the original continuous signal. Aliasing can occur in signals sampled in time, for instance digital audio, and is referred to as temporal aliasing. It can also occur in spatially sampled signals (e.g., moiré patterns in digital images); this type of aliasing is called spatial aliasing. Aliasing is generally avoided by applying low pass filters or anti-aliasing filters (AAF) to the input signal. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Almost-standards mode

→ [Limited-quirks mode](#)

Almost-strict mode

→ [Limited-quirks mode](#)

Alpha blending

→ [Alpha compositing](#)

Alpha compositing

The process of combining one image with a background to create the appearance of partial or full transparency. Alpha compositing is often useful to render picture elements (pixels) in separate passes or layers and then combine the resulting 2D images into a single, final image called the composite. Compositing is used extensively in film when combining computer-rendered image elements with live footage. Alpha blending is also used in 2D computer graphics to put rasterized foreground elements over a background. ← [Wikipedia](#)

ALPN

→ [Application-Layer Protocol Negotiation](#)

Alt root

→ [Alternative DNS root](#)

Alternate style sheet

A style sheet mutually exclusive to other style sheets, which can be selected for alternative styling. An alternate style sheet is indicated through the alternate keyword, as in `<link rel="alternate stylesheet" href=example.css title=Example>`.

Alternative DNS root

An alternative domain name system operated by an organization or government, using its own root name servers and custom top-level domains.

Amaya

A web editor with browsing capabilities. Amaya was developed by the World Wide Web

Consortium (W3C) and INRIA from 1996 to 2012.

Amazon Resource Name

A unique identifier for an Amazon Web Services (AWS) resource. An ARN follows the format `arn:partition:service:region:account-id:resource-id`, `arn:partition:service:region:account-id:resource-type/resource-id`, or `arn:partition:service:region:account-id:resource-type:resource-id`.

Amazon Route 53

→ [Route 53](#)

Amazon S3

→ [S3](#)

Amazon Silk

→ [Silk](#)

Amazon Simple Queue Service

→ [SQS](#)

Amazon Simple Storage Service

→ [Amazon S3](#)

Amazon SQS

→ [SQS](#)

Amazon Virtual Private Cloud

→ [Amazon VPC](#)

Amazon VPC

A commercial cloud computing service that provides users a virtual private cloud, by provisioning a logically isolated section of the Amazon Web Services (AWS) cloud. ← [Wikipedia](#)
↑ aws.amazon.com/vpc

Amazon Web Services

A subsidiary of Amazon that provides on-demand cloud computing platforms and APIs on a metered pay-as-you-go basis. In aggregate, these cloud computing web services provide a set of primitive abstract technical infrastructure and distributed computing building blocks and tools. AWS technology is implemented at server farms throughout the world. ← [Wikipedia](#)
↑ aws.amazon.com

Ambient declaration

A way to inform the TypeScript compiler that specific source code, like functions or variables, is located elsewhere.

AMD

→ [Asynchronous Module Definition](#)

Amdahl's Law

A formula which gives the theoretical speed-up in latency of the execution of a task at fixed workload that can be expected of a system whose resources are improved. Amdahl's Law states that "the overall performance improvement gained by optimizing a single part of a system is limited by the fraction of time that the improved part is actually used." It is named after computer scientist Gene Amdahl, and was first presented in 1967. ← [Wikipedia](#)

American National Standards Institute

A private non-profit organization that, per its mission, “enhances both the global competitiveness of U.S. business and the U.S. quality of life by promoting and facilitating voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems, and safeguarding their integrity.”

The ANSI was founded in 1918. ↑ ansi.org

American Standard Code for Information Interchange

A character encoding standard for electronic communication. ASCII was conceived in 1960 and published in 1963 by the American Standards Association (ASA), now American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

AMP

→ [Accelerated Mobile Pages](https://developers.google.com/accelerated-mobile-pages/)

AMQP

→ [Advanced Message Queuing Protocol](https://www.rabbitmq.com/faq.html)

Analytics

→ [Web analytics](https://www.google.com/analytics/)

Anchor

Technical name for a link, usually referring to the `a` element.

Angular

A TypeScript-based web application framework developed by Google and a community of individuals and corporations. Angular is a complete rewrite of AngularJS, made by the same team that built AngularJS. Angular was released in 2016. ← [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Angular_(web_framework)) ↑ angular.dev

AngularJS

A JavaScript-based frontend web framework mainly maintained by Google and a community of individuals and corporations to address challenges encountered in developing single-page applications (SPAs). AngularJS aims to simplify both the development and the testing of such applications by providing a framework for client-side model–view–controller (MVC) and model–view–viewmodel (MVVM) architectures, along with components commonly used in rich Internet applications. AngularJS was first released in 2010 and makes for the frontend part of the MEAN stack. Google no longer updates AngularJS, and the Angular team recommends upgrading to Angular as the best path forward. ← [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AngularJS) ↑ angularjs.org

Animation

A method in which images and graphics are manipulated to appear as moving. In web development, animations are often created using CSS (CSS Animations, CSS Transitions) or JavaScript. ← [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animation)

Anonymous block box

Within a block container box, a block-level box forced by the presence of other block-level boxes. In `<div>Some text<p>More text</div>`, “Some text” resides in an anonymous block-level box because `<p>` spawns a block-level box.

Anonymous block element

→ [Anonymous block box](#)

Anonymous function

A function definition that is not bound to an identifier. Anonymous functions are often arguments being passed to higher-order functions, or used for constructing the result of a

higher-order function that needs to return a function. If the function is only used once, or a limited number of times, an anonymous function may be syntactically lighter than using a named function. Anonymous functions are ubiquitous in functional programming languages and other languages with first-class functions. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Anonymous inline box

An inline box that does not have an associated inline-level element.

Anonymous inline element

Any text that is directly contained inside a block container element that is not inside an inline element.

Anonymous text

Any string of characters that is not contained within an inline element.

ANSI

→ [American National Standards Institute](#)

Anti-aliasing

→ [Spatial anti-aliasing](#)

Anti-pattern

A common response to a recurring problem that is usually ineffective and risks being highly counterproductive, and that has more negative than positive consequences. ← [Wikipedia](#)

AOM

→ [Accessibility Object Model](#)

AOMedia Video 1

A video coding format initially designed for video transmissions over the Internet. AV1 was developed as a successor to VP9 by the Alliance for Open Media (AOMedia), a consortium founded in 2015. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ aomedia.org/av1-features

AOP

→ [Aspect-oriented programming](#)

Apache

→ [Apache HTTP Server](#)

Apache CloudStack

→ [CloudStack](#)

Apache Groovy

→ [Groovy](#)

Apache HTTP Server

A cross-platform web server. The Apache server was first released in 1995. ↑ httpd.apache.org

Apache Maven

→ [Maven](#)

Apache Subversion

→ [Subversion](#)

Apache Tomcat

→ [Tomcat](#)

Apache Weex

→ [Weex](#)

APCA

→ [Advanced Perceptual Contrast Algorithm](#)

API → [Application programming interface](#)

API evangelism

→ [Developer advocacy](#)

API gateway

An entry point for a system of application programming interfaces (APIs) that takes care of request routing as well as protocol translation. An API gateway also helps mitigate backend issues, for example by offering fallback or cached data.

Apollo

A company and its collection of tools for GraphQL. Apollo Graph was founded in 2011.

↑ apollographql.com

Apollo Graph

→ [Apollo](#)

Apollo GraphQL

→ [Apollo](#)

App

→ [Application](#)

App shell

→ [Application shell](#)

Apple Safari

→ [Safari](#)

Apple Universal Access

→ [Universal Access](#)

Applet

Any small application that performs a specific task that runs within the scope of a dedicated widget engine or a larger program, often as a plugin. Usually referring to a Java applet, a program written in the Java programming language that is designed to be placed on a web page. An applet is not a full-featured application program but intended to be easily accessible.

← [Wikipedia](#)

Applicant tracking system

A software application that enables the electronic handling of the recruitment and hiring process. An ATS is very similar to a customer relationship management (CRM) system, but designed for recruitment tracking purposes. It has several use cases, including sourcing qualified candidates, posting jobs, parsing resumes, searching and filtering candidate databases, ranking and rating candidates, managing and tracking applicants, scheduling applicant interviews, providing communication support as with automated emails and reminders to candidates and hiring managers, as well as reporting and analytics. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Application

A computer program designed to help people perform an activity. An application differs from an operating system (which runs a computer), a utility (which performs maintenance or general-purpose chores), and a programming tool (with which computer programs are created). Depending on the activity for which it was designed, an application can manipulate text,

numbers, audio, graphics, and a combination of these elements. Some application packages focus on a single task, such as word processing; others, called integrated software, include several applications. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Application context

A top-level browsing context that has a manifest applied to it. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

Application Default Credentials

A strategy used by Google authentication libraries to automatically find credentials. ADC searches for credentials in locations like the `GOOGLE_APPLICATION_CREDENTIALS` environment variable, specific files written when providing credentials using the Google Cloud CLI, and the service account. Using ADC allows to run code in a development or production environment without changing how the application authenticates with Google Cloud services.

Application programming interface

An interface or communication protocol between different parts of a computer program intended to simplify the implementation and maintenance of software. An API may be for a web-based system, operating system, database system, computer hardware, or software library.

← [Wikipedia](#)

Application Security Verification Standard

An OWASP project defining a basis for testing web application security and providing developers with requirements for secure development. The ASVS project was started in 2008.

↑ is.gd/67137n

Application shell

The minimal HTML, CSS, and JavaScript necessary to provide a site or app user interface.

Application-Layer Protocol Negotiation

A TLS extension which indicates what application layer protocol is negotiating the encrypted connection without requiring additional round trips. ALPN was specified in 2014 as RFC 7301.

← [MDN Web Docs](#)

APT

→ [Advanced Package Tool](#)

→ [Advanced Persistent Threat](#)

AR → [Augmented reality](#)

Arbitrary code execution

An attacker's ability to run commands or code of the attacker's choice on a target machine or in a target process. An arbitrary code execution vulnerability is a security flaw in software or hardware allowing arbitrary code execution. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Arc A web browser developed by The Browser Company. Arc was released in 2022 after having undergone a closed beta test. It is available for use on Windows, macOS, iOS, and Android. Arc aims to act as an operating system for the Web, integrating web browsing with built-in applications and features. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ arc.net

Architectural knowledge management

Practices related to collecting, documenting, structuring, and sharing the knowledge gained and applied while architecting software systems.

Architecture Decision Record

A document that describes a major software architecture decision, including context and

consequences. ADRs can have several states, like whether they have been proposed, accepted, or rejected.

Arena

One of the first web browsers for Unix. Originally developed in 1993 by Dave Raggett, development continued at CERN and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and subsequently by Yggdrasil Computing. Arena was used in testing the implementations for HTML 3.0, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), Portable Network Graphics (PNG), and libwww. Arena was widely used and popular at the beginning of the World Wide Web. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Argument

The actual input expression passed or supplied to a function, procedure, or routine in a call or invocation statement. ← [Wikipedia](#)

ARIA

→ [Accessible Rich Internet Applications](#)

ARIA roles

A set of predefined names that can be used to specify the meaning and purpose of markup elements. Roles can cover abstract use cases, widgets, document structure, landmarks, live regions, and windows, and are set using the `role` attribute.

Arity

The number of arguments or operands taken by a function, operation or relation. Functions can be labeled accordingly: For example, a nullary function takes no arguments, like $f() = 2$, and an unary function takes one argument, like $f(x) = 2x$. ← [Wikipedia](#)

ARN

→ [Amazon Resource Name](#)

ARP

→ [Address Resolution Protocol](#)

Arrange, act, assert

A pattern to organize tests by: Arrange prerequisites and inputs, act on the object or method to be tested, assert the expected results.

Array

A data structure consisting of a collection of elements (values or variables), each identified by at least one array index or key. An array is stored such that the position of each element can be computed from its index tuple. The simplest type of data structure is a linear array, also called one-dimensional array. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Arrow function

An anonymous function and syntactically compact alternative to a regular function expression, although without its own bindings to the `this`, `arguments`, `super`, or `new.target` keywords. Arrow functions have their name because of the `=>` character sequence that is part of their syntax, reminding of an arrow. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

ART

→ [Agile Release Train](#)

ASCII

→ [American Standard Code for Information Interchange](#)

ASI → [Automatic semicolon insertion](#)

asm.js

A subset of JavaScript designed to allow computer software written in languages such as C to be run as web applications, while maintaining performance characteristics considerably better than standard JavaScript, the typical language used for such applications. asm.js is superseded by WebAssembly. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ [asmjs.org](#)

ASP

→ [Active Server Pages](#)

ASP.NET

A server-side web application framework designed to build dynamic websites, applications, and services. ASP.NET was first released in 2002 with version 1.0 of the .NET Framework, and is the successor to Microsoft's Active Server Pages (ASP) technology. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ [dotnet.microsoft.com/apps/aspnet](#)

Aspect ratio

A proportional relationship between an image's width and height. The aspect ratio is commonly expressed as two numbers separated by a colon, as in 16:9. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Aspect-oriented programming

A programming paradigm that aims to increase modularity by allowing the separation of cross-cutting concerns. It does so by adding behavior to existing code (an advice) without modifying the code itself, instead separately specifying which code is modified via a "pointcut" specification, such as "log all function calls when the function's name begins with 'set'." This allows behaviors that are not central to the business logic (such as logging) to be added to a program without cluttering the code core to the functionality. ← [Wikipedia](#)

AssemblyScript

A TypeScript-based programming language that is optimized for, and statically compiled to, WebAssembly (currently using asc, the reference AssemblyScript compiler). Resembling ECMAScript and JavaScript, but with static types, the language is developed by the AssemblyScript Project with contributions from the AssemblyScript community. It was first released in 2017. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ [assemblyscript.org](#)

Assignment

The setting or resetting of the value stored in the storage location(s) denoted by a variable name; in other words, an assignment statement copies a value into the variable. In most imperative programming languages, the assignment statement (or expression) is a fundamental construct. Today, the most commonly used notation for this basic operation has come to be $x = \text{expr}$ (originally Superplan 1949–51, popularized by Fortran 1957 and C) followed by $x := \text{expr}$ (originally ALGOL 1958, popularized by Pascal), although there are many other notations in use. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Assistive technology

Assistive, adaptive, and rehabilitative devices and software for people with disabilities or the elderly population. Assistive technology can ameliorate the effects of disabilities that limit the ability to perform activities of daily living. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Assistive Technology Service Provider Interface

A platform-neutral framework for providing bidirectional communication between assistive technologies (AT) and applications. AT-SPI is the *de facto* standard for providing accessibility

to free and open desktops, like GNU/Linux or OpenBSD. It is led by the GNOME Project.
← [Wikipedia](#)

Association for Computing Machinery

An international learned society for computing. The ACM was founded in 1947, and is the world's largest scientific and educational computing community. Its motto is "Advancing Computing as a Science and Profession." ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ acm.org

Astro

A web framework. Astro was released in 2021. ↑ astro.build

ASVS

→ [Application Security Verification Standard](#)

Asynchronous

The occurrence of events independent of the main program flow. A common way for dealing with asynchrony in is to provide subroutines that return to their caller an object, sometimes called a future or promise, that represents the ongoing events. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Asynchronous HTML and HTTP

A technique and alternative name for updating parts of a web page, without reloading the whole page, by using the XMLHttpRequest object to request data from the respective server.
↑ is.gd/MghZJV

Asynchronous Module Definition

A specification for the JavaScript programming language. AMD defines an API that defines code modules and their dependencies, and loads them asynchronously if desired. Implementations of AMD promise website performance improvements, because AMD implementations load smaller JavaScript files, and then only when they are needed. AMD implementations also suggest fewer page errors, because developers can define dependencies that must load before a module is executed, so the module does not try to use outside code that is not available yet.
← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ github.com/amdjs/amdjs-api

Asynchronous JavaScript and XML

A set of web development techniques using web technologies on the client side to create asynchronous web applications. With AJAX, web applications can send and retrieve data from a server asynchronously (in the background) without interfering with the display and behavior of the existing page. By decoupling the data interchange layer from the presentation layer, AJAX allows web pages and applications to change content dynamically without the need to reload the entire page. In practice, modern implementations commonly utilize JSON instead of XML. ← [Wikipedia](#)

at A command on Unix-like operating systems, Windows, and ReactOS used to schedule commands to be executed once, at a particular time in the future. ← [Wikipedia](#)

AT → [Assistive technology](#)

AT Protocol

→ [Authenticated Transfer Protocol](#)

at-keyword

The first word of a CSS at-rule, consisting of an @ character and an identifier (e.g., @import).

at-rule

A special CSS statement starting with an at-keyword (like @media). The at-rule holds until either the next semicolon or the next block.

AT-SPI

→ [Assistive Technology Service Provider Interface](#)

ATAG

→ [Authoring Tool Accessibility Guidelines](#)

ATDD

→ [Acceptance test-driven development](#)

ATK

→ [Accessibility Toolkit](#)

Atlassian Bitbucket

→ [Bitbucket](#)

Atlassian Jira

→ [Jira](#)

Atom

An XML-based feed format consisting of two web standards, the Atom Syndication Format and the Atom Publishing Protocol (AtomPub or APP).

Atomic CSS

A CSS architecture that is based on “single-purpose units of style” applied via “short, predictable class names.” ↑ [acss.io](#)

Atomicity, consistency, isolation, durability

A set of properties of database transactions intended to guarantee validity even in the event of errors, power failures, etc. In the context of databases, a sequence of database operations that satisfies the ACID properties (which can be perceived as a single logical operation on the data) is called a transaction. The acronym was coined in 1983 by Andreas Reuter and Theo Härder.

← [Wikipedia](#)

ATS

→ [Applicant tracking system](#)

Attribute

A property of an object, element, or file. An attribute may also refer to or set the specific value for a given instance. An attribute of an object usually consists of a name and a value; of an element, a type or class name; of a file, a name and extension. Attributes should be considered metadata. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Attribute minimization

The option for a Boolean attribute not to have a value. That is, the attribute alone is enough, so that when the attribute is set without a value, it counts as true. In XML-based languages, attribute minimization is disallowed and attributes must have a value; for example, in XHTML, checked is invalid, and must be written checked="checked".

Audit log

→ [Audit trail](#)

Audit trail

A security-relevant chronological record, set of records, or destination and source of records

that provide documentary evidence of the sequence of activities that have affected a specific operation, procedure, event, or device at any time. Audit records typically result from activities such as transactions or communications by individual people, accounts, systems, or other entities. The process that creates an audit trail is typically required to run in a privileged mode, so it can access and supervise all actions from all users; a normal user should not be allowed to stop or change it. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Augmented reality

An interactive experience of a real-world environment where the objects that reside in the real world are enhanced by computer-generated perceptual information, sometimes across multiple sensory modalities, including visual, auditory, haptic, somatosensory, and olfactory. AR can be defined as a system that fulfills three basic features: a combination of real and virtual worlds, real-time interaction, and accurate 3D registration of virtual and real objects. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Authenticated Data Experiment

→ [Authenticated Transfer Protocol](#)

Authenticated Transfer Protocol

A federated protocol for large-scale distributed social applications. The AT Protocol was published in 2022, and is used by Bluesky. ↑ [atproto.com](#)

Authentication

The act of proving an assertion, such as the identity of a computer system user. In contrast with identification, the act of indicating a person or thing's identity, authentication is the process of verifying that identity. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Authoring tool

Software that enables the creation of digital content.

Authoring Tool Accessibility Guidelines

Guidelines for designing web content authoring tools that are accessible to authors with disabilities and designed to enable, support, and promote the production of more accessible web content by all authors. ATAG 1.0 became a W3C Recommendation in 2000, and ATAG 2.0 in 2015. ↑ [w3.org/TR/ATAG20](#)

Authorization

The specifying of access rights and privileges to resources, which is related to information security and computer security in general, and to access control in particular. More formally, “to authorize” is to define an access policy. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Auto Forms Mode

A feature of the JAWS screen reader that automatically switches to forms mode when a form control is encountered, thereby making it easier for users to interact with forms.

Automagic

A blend of “automatic” and “magic,” referring to an action that is performed automatically but also in a way as to seem magical.

Automatic semicolon insertion

An ECMAScript feature in which a semicolon is automatically inserted when two statements are separated by a line ending or a closing brace (}), or if a line ending follows either of `break`, `continue`, `return`, or `throw` (restricted production).

Automation

A technology by which a process or procedure is performed with minimal human assistance. Automation or automatic control is the use of various control systems for operating equipment.

← [Wikipedia](#)

Automation blindness

The phenomenon of people to pay less attention to an automated system that works reliably (without issues). Automation blindness can lead to not noticing when the respective system fails or behaves unexpectedly.

Autonomous custom element

One type of custom element for a web component. An autonomous custom element is standalone, that is, it does not inherit from standard HTML elements. Autonomous custom elements are used by literally writing them out as HTML elements. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

AV1

→ [AOMedia Video 1](#)

AV1 Image File Format

An image file format that uses AV1 compression algorithms. AVIF competes with HEIC which uses the same container format, built upon ISO BMFF, but HEVC for compression. Version 1.0.0 of the AVIF specification was finalized in 2019. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Availability Zone

With Amazon Web Services (AWS), a term for one or more data centers with redundant power, networking, and connectivity. An AWS Region consists of several Availability Zones.

AVIF

→ [AV1 Image File Format](#)

Away team

An engineering team (or a part of one) that works on code owned by another team (the host team). The away team model is used to mitigate organizational dependencies and temporarily speed up development.

Awesome list

A collection of links to websites, software, or other things deemed awesome and curated by an individual or community. ↑ [awesomelists.top](#)

AWK

A domain-specific language designed for text processing and typically used as a data extraction and reporting tool. Like sed and grep, it is a filter, and a standard feature of most Unix-like operating systems. The AWK language is a data-driven scripting language consisting of a set of actions to be taken against streams of textual data—either run directly on files or used as part of a pipeline—for purposes of extracting or transforming text. AWK was created in the 1970s at Bell Labs, and its name is derived from the surnames of its authors: Alfred Aho, Peter Weinberger, and Brian Kernighan. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ [awklang.org](#)

AWS

→ [Amazon Web Services](#)

axe A software suite related to accessibility testing, including tools for development, auditing, and monitoring. axe was released and partially open-sourced by Deque Systems. ↑ [deque.com/axe](#)

AZ → [Availability Zone](#)

Azure

A cloud computing platform developed by Microsoft. Azure offers management, access, and development of applications and services to individuals and organizations through its global infrastructure. It also provides capabilities that are usually not included within other cloud platforms, including software as a service (SaaS), platform as a service (PaaS), and infrastructure as a service (IaaS). Azure supports many programming languages, tools, and frameworks, including Microsoft-specific and third-party software and systems. It was first introduced at the Professional Developers Conference (PDC) in 2008 using the codename “Project Red Dog,” officially launched as “Windows Azure” in 2010, and later renamed to “Microsoft Azure” in 2014. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ azure.microsoft.com



Is something missing, or did you find a mistake?

B

BA → [Basic access authentication](#)

Babel

A JavaScript transpiler that is mainly used to convert ECMAScript 2015+ (ES6+) code into a backwards-compatible version of JavaScript that can be run by older JavaScript engines. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ [babeljs.io](#)

Back/forward cache

An in-memory cache that stores a complete snapshot of a web page to enable fast back and forward navigation. BFCache is a browser optimization that improves the web browsing experience.

Backend

The data access layer of software of a piece of software, usually covering business logic and data storage. In the client–server model, the server is considered the back end. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Backend for Frontend

The concept of having separate backends per application or interface, to act as intermediaries between the respective frontends and the underlying services. BFF was introduced in 2015 by Sam Newman.

Backlink

A link from one web resource (the referrer) to another web resource (the referent), made by an anchor, as viewed from the web resource being referred to. Other words for “backlink” are “incoming link,” “inbound link,” “inlink,” “inward link,” and “citation.” ← [Wikipedia](#)

Backup

A copy of computer data taken and stored elsewhere so that it may be used to restore the original after a data loss event. The verb form, referring to the process of doing so, is “to back up,” whereas the noun and adjective form is “backup.” Backups can be used to recover data after its loss from data deletion or corruption, or to recover data from an earlier time. Backups provide a simple form of disaster recovery. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Backup redundancy

→ [Standby redundancy](#)

Backward-compatibility

A property of a product, system, or technology that allows for interoperability with an older legacy system, or with input designed for such a system, especially in telecommunications and computing. Modifying a system in a way that does not allow backward-compatibility is sometimes called breaking backward-compatibility. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bad neighborhood

Bad quality websites, or websites that are being penalized and downgraded by search engines. Search engine optimization (SEO) best practices suggest to avoid links to and from bad neighborhood websites.

Bada

A discontinued operating system for mobile devices such as smartphones and tablet computers. Bada was developed by Samsung. Its name is derived from “바다” (“bada”), meaning “ocean” or “sea” in Korean. Bada was released in 2010 and discontinued in 2013. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bandwidth

The maximum rate of data transfer across a given path. Bandwidth may be characterized as network bandwidth, data bandwidth, or digital bandwidth. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Banner

An online advertising format, usually a horizontal or vertical rectangle in standardized sizes.

Bar → [Foobar](#)**Barrel file**

A script file that only contains exports from other modules, and does not contain code itself. Extensive use of barrel files is considered an anti-pattern.

Barrierefreie-Informationstechnik-Verordnung

German accessibility regulations. The BITV was first released in 2002. ↑ www.gesetze-im-internet.de/bitv_2_0

Base64

A group of binary-to-text encoding schemes that represent binary data in an ASCII string format by translating it into a radix-64 representation. The term “Base64” originates from a specific MIME content transfer encoding. Each Base64 digit represents exactly 6 bits of data. Three 8-bit bytes (i.e., 24 bits) can therefore be represented by four 6-bit Base64 digits. Common to all binary-to-text encoding schemes, Base64 is designed to carry data stored in binary formats across channels that only reliably support text content. Base64 is particularly prevalent on the World Wide Web where its uses include the ability to embed image files or other binary assets inside textual assets such as HTML and CSS files. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Baseline

In European and West Asian typography and penmanship, the line upon which most letters “sit” and below which descenders extend. ← [Wikipedia](#)

In web development, an indicator of web platform support referring to “features natively supported in the core browser set [Chrome, Safari, Edge, and Firefox] for at least two major versions.” The “Web Platform Baseline” was announced by Google and Mozilla in 2023. ↑ web.dev/baseline

Bash

A Unix shell and command language written by Brian Fox for the GNU Project as a free software replacement for the Bourne shell. First released in 1989, Bash has been used as the default login shell for most Linux distributions. The shell’s name is an acronym for “Bourne Again Shell,” a pun on the Bourne shell, and the notion of being “born again.” ← [Wikipedia](#)

Basic access authentication

A method for an HTTP user agent (e.g., a web browser) to provide a user and password when making a request. In basic HTTP authentication, a request contains a header field in the form of Authorization: Basic <credentials>, where “credentials” is the Base64 encoding of ID and password joined by a single colon (”:”). Basic access authentication is specified in RFC 7617 from 2015, which obsoletes RFC 2617 from 1999. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Basic Multilingual Plane

The first Unicode plane, plane 0, containing characters for almost all modern languages, and a large number of symbols. A primary objective for the BMP is to support the unification of prior character sets as well as characters for writing. Most of the assigned code points in the BMP are used to encode Chinese, Japanese, and Korean (CJK) characters. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Basilisk

A web browser available for Windows, Linux, and with experimental support for macOS and FreeBSD. Basilisk is an updated fork of Firefox designed to look and feel similar to versions before the underlying backend was changed in version 57. The browser was first announced in 2017 by the developer behind Pale Moon, M.C. Straver. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ basilisk-browser.org

BAU

→ [Business as usual](#)

Baud

A common unit of measurement of symbol rate (“Bd”), which is one of the components that determine the speed of communication over a data channel. It is based on symbols or pulses per second. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bazaar

A distributed version control system. Bazaar was first released in 2005. With the last release dating back to 2016, the project appears discontinued.

BBCode

A lightweight markup language used to format posts in many message boards. The available tags are usually indicated by square brackets ([]) surrounding a keyword, and parsed by the message board system before being translated into a markup language that web browsers understand, like HTML. ← [Wikipedia](#)

BCP

→ [Best Current Practice](#)

BDD

→ [Behavior-driven development](#)

Bearer

→ [Bearer token](#)

Bearer authentication

An HTTP authentication scheme that is based on bearer tokens.

Bearer token

A security token that can be used by whoever is in possession of the token. Using a bearer token does not require the user to prove possession of a cryptographic key.

Behavior

In web development, the code that deals with how content can be interacted with. This is usually done through JavaScript.

Behavior-driven development

An agile software development process that encourages collaboration among developers, QA, and non-technical or business participants in a software project. BDD encourages teams to use conversation and concrete examples to formalize a shared understanding of how the application should behave. It emerged from test-driven development (TDD). BDD combines

the general techniques and principles of TDD with ideas from domain-driven design and object-oriented analysis and design to provide software development and management teams with shared tools and a shared process to collaborate on software development. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Below the fold

The part of a web page that is visible only after scrolling down.

BEM

→ [Block Element Modifier](#)

Benchmark

The act of running a computer program, a set of programs, or other operations, in order to assess the relative performance of an object, normally by running a number of standard tests and trials against it. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Best Current Practice

A *de facto* level of performance in engineering and information technology. A BCP is more flexible than a standard, since techniques and tools are continually evolving. The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) publishes Best Current Practice documents in a numbered document series. Each document in this series is paired with the currently valid Request for Comments (RFC) document. BCP was introduced in 1995 with RFC 1818. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Best practice

A method or technique that has been generally accepted as superior to any alternatives because it produces results that are superior to those achieved by other means or because it has become a standard way of doing things, e.g., a standard way of complying with legal or ethical requirements. Best practices are used to maintain quality as an alternative to mandatory legislated standards. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Between-groups design

An experiment that has two or more groups of subjects each being tested by a different testing factor simultaneously. This design is usually used in place of, or in some cases in conjunction with, the within-subjects design, which applies the same variations of conditions to each subject to observe the reactions. The simplest between-groups design occurs with two groups; a treatment group, which receives the “special” treatment (that is, it is treated with some variable), and a control group, which receives no variable treatment and is used as a reference (to prove that any deviation in results from the treatment group is, indeed, a direct result of the variable). ← [Wikipedia](#)

Between-subjects design

→ [Between-groups design](#)

Bézier curve

A parametric curve, mathematically based on Bernstein polynomials, that is defined by a set of control points P_0 through P_n , where n is called its order, and where the first and last points are always the end points of the curve, and where intermediate control points (if any) generally do not lie on the curve. Named after Pierre Bézier (1910–1999). ← [Wikipedia](#)

BFC

→ [Block formatting context](#)

BFCache

→ [Back/forward cache](#)

BFF

→ [Backend for Frontend](#)

BFS → [Breadth-first search](#)**BGP**

→ [Border Gateway Protocol](#)

BHO

→ [Browser Helper Object](#)

Bidi

→ [Bidirectional](#)

Bidi algorithm

→ [Unicode Bidirectional Algorithm](#)

Bidi isolation

→ [Bidirectional isolation](#)

Bidirectional

Text that contains two text directionalities, right-to-left (RTL or dextrosinistral) and left-to-right (LTR or sinistrodextral). It generally involves text containing different types of alphabets, but may also refer to boustrophedon, which is changing text direction in each row.

← [Wikipedia](#)

Bidirectional isolation

The isolating of text from its surroundings, where 1) the content inside the bidi isolate has no effect on the ordering of the content surrounding it; 2) the content outside the isolate has no effect on the ordering inside the isolate; and 3) the element by itself has the effect of a neutral character. The `bdi` element in HTML serves bidi isolation. ↑ webglossary.info/x/bdi

Big Bang

The practice of releasing a great amount of working software all at one time, as opposed to incrementally.

Big data

Data sets that are too large or complex to be dealt with by traditional data-processing application software. Data with many entries (rows) offer greater statistical power, while data with higher complexity (more attributes or columns) may lead to a higher false discovery rate. Though sometimes used loosely, partly due to a lack of formal definition, one interpretation is that big data is a large body of information that cannot be comprehended when used in small amounts only. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Big integer

An integral data type of 64 bits, with a signed range from $-9,223,372,036,854,775,808$ to $9,223,372,036,854,775,807$, and an unsigned range from 0 to $18,446,744,073,709,551,615$.

Big O notation

A mathematical notation that describes the limiting behavior of a function when the argument tends towards a particular value or infinity. It is a member of a family of notations invented by Paul Bachmann, Edmund Landau, and others, collectively called Bachmann-Landau notation or asymptotic notation. In computer science, big O notation is used to classify algorithms according to how their running time or space requirements grow as the input size grows. In

analytic number theory, big O notation is often used to express a bound on the difference between an arithmetical function and a better understood approximation. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Binary chop

→ [Binary search algorithm](#)

Binary compatibility

→ [Binary-code compatibility](#)

Binary large object

A collection of binary data stored as a single entity. Blobs are typically images, audio, or other multimedia objects, though sometimes binary executable code is stored as a blob. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Binary metric

A metric that has only one of two values, like “yes” or “no,” “on” or “off,” “zero” or “one.”

Binary number

A number expressed in the base-2 numeral system or binary numeral system, which uses only two symbols: typically “0” (zero) and “1” (one). ← [Wikipedia](#)

Binary search algorithm

A search algorithm that finds the position of a target value within a sorted array. Binary search compares the target value to the middle element of the array. If they are not equal, the half in which the target cannot lie is eliminated and the search continues on the remaining half, again taking the middle element to compare to the target value, and repeating this until the target value is found. If the search ends with the remaining half being empty, the target is not in the array. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Binary tree

A k -ary $k = 2$ tree data structure in which each node has at most two children, which are referred to as the left child and the right child. A recursive definition using just set theory notions is that a (non-empty) binary tree is a tuple (L, S, R) , where L and R are binary trees or the empty set, and S is a singleton set containing the root. Some authors allow the binary tree to be the empty set as well. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Binary-code compatibility

A property of a computer system, meaning that it can run the same executable code—typically machine code for a general-purpose computer CPU—that another computer system can run. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Binding

The association of entities (data or code) with identifiers. An identifier bound to an object is said to reference that object. Machine languages have no built-in notion of identifiers, but name-object bindings as a service and notation for the programmer is implemented by programming languages. Binding is intimately connected with scoping, as scope determines which names bind to which objects—at which locations in the program code (lexically) and in which one of the possible execution paths (temporally). ← [Wikipedia](#)

Birthday attack

A type of cryptographic attack that exploits the mathematics behind the birthday problem in probability theory, which can be used to abuse communication between two or more parties. The attack depends on the higher likelihood of collisions found between random attack attempts and a fixed degree of permutations (pigeonholes). Although there are some digital

signature vulnerabilities associated with the birthday attack, it cannot be used to break an encryption scheme faster than a brute-force attack. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Birthday problem

In probability theory, the birthday problem asks for the probability that, in a set of n randomly chosen people, at least two will share a birthday. The birthday paradox is that, counterintuitively, the probability of a shared birthday exceeds 50% in a group of only 23 people. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bit blit

→ [Bit block transfer](#)

Bit block transfer

A data operation commonly used in computer graphics in which several bitmaps are combined into one using a Boolean function. The operation involves at least two bitmaps: a “source” (or “foreground”) and a “destination” (or “background”), and possibly a third that is often called the “mask.” The result may be written to a fourth bitmap, though often it replaces the destination. The pixels of each are combined bitwise according to the specified raster operation, and the result is then written to the destination. Modern graphics software has almost completely replaced bitwise operations with more general mathematical operations used for effects, such as alpha compositing. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bit bucket

→ [Null device](#)

Bit manipulation

The act of algorithmically manipulating bits or other pieces of data shorter than a word. Computer programming tasks that require bit manipulation include low-level device control, error detection and correction algorithms, data compression, encryption algorithms, and optimization. For most other tasks, modern programming languages allow the programmer to work directly with abstractions instead of bits that represent those abstractions. Source code that does bit manipulation makes use of the bitwise operations: AND, OR, XOR, NOT, and possibly other operations analogous to the Boolean operators; there are also bit shifts and operations to count ones and zeros, find high and low one or zero, set, reset and test bits, extract and insert fields, mask and zero fields, gather and scatter bits to and from specified bit positions or fields. Integer arithmetic operators can also effect bit operations in conjunction with the other operators. Bit manipulation, in some cases, can obviate or reduce the need to loop over a data structure and can give manyfold speed-ups, as bit manipulations are processed in parallel. ← [Wikipedia](#)

BitBLT

→ [Bit block transfer](#)

Bitbucket

A Git-based source code repository hosting service owned by Atlassian. Bitbucket was launched in 2008. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ [bitbucket.org](#)

Bitmap

A raster graphics image file format used to store bitmap digital images, independently of the display device (such as a graphics adapter). Also known as bitmap image file or device independent bitmap (DIB) file format. ← [Wikipedia](#)

→ [Raster image](#)

BITV

→ [Barrierefreie-Informationstechnik-Verordnung](#)

Black hat

Someone who violates computer security or systems for personal gain or maliciousness.

← [Wikipedia](#)

Black hole

→ [Null device](#)

Black mode

→ [Dark mode](#)

Black-box testing

A method of software testing that examines the functionality of an application without peering into its internal structures or workings. This method of test can be applied virtually to every level of software testing: unit, integration, system, and acceptance. Black-box testing is sometimes referred to as specification-based testing. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Blacklist

A basic access control mechanism that allows through all elements (email addresses, users, passwords, URLs, IP addresses, domain names, file hashes, etc.), except those explicitly mentioned. Those items on the list are denied access. The opposite of a blacklist is a whitelist.

← [Wikipedia](#)

Blink

A browser engine used in the Chrome web browser and other projects. It is developed as part of the Chromium project with contributions from Google, Facebook, Microsoft, Opera, Adobe, Intel, IBM, Samsung, and others. Blink was released in 2013. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Blisk

A developer-centered cross-platform web browser. Blisk was first released in 2016. ↑ [blisk.io](#)

Blitting

→ [Bit blit](#)

Blob

In JavaScript, an object that represents a blob, which is a file-like object of immutable, raw data. Blobs can be read as text or binary data, or converted into a `ReadableStream` so its methods can be used for processing the data. Blobs can represent data that is not necessarily in a JavaScript-native format. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

→ [Binary large object](#)

Block

In CSS, a section enclosed by an opening (`{`) and a closing curly brace (`}`).

In JavaScript, a collection of related statements enclosed by an opening (`{`) and a closing curly brace (`}`). ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

→ [Block box](#)

→ [Block container box](#)

→ [Block container element](#)

→ [Block-level box](#)

→ [Block-level element](#)

Block box

A block-level box that is also a block container.

Block cipher

A deterministic algorithm operating on fixed-length groups of bits, called blocks. Block ciphers are specified elementary components in the design of many cryptographic protocols, such as universal hash functions and pseudo-random number generators, and they are widely used to encrypt large amounts of data, including in data exchange protocols. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Block container

→ [Block container element](#)

Block container box

A block-level box that is not a table box or the principal box of a replaced element. It either contains only block-level boxes or, if establishing an inline formatting context, only inline-level boxes.

Block container element

An element whose principal box is a block container box.

Block element

→ [Block-level element](#)

Block Element Modifier

A naming convention for HTML and CSS classes. BEM was introduced in 2005 by Yandex.
↑ [getbem.com](#)

Block flow

A CSS concept referring to the direction in which blocks are running. In an English document, block flow goes from top to bottom.

Block formatting context

A formatting context in which boxes are laid out vertically. Vertical margins are respected but collapse.

Block-level box

A box created by a block-level element.

Block-level element

An element that is formatted visually as a block.

Blockification

The setting and the effect of setting a box's computed outer display type to `block`.

Blog

A discussion or informational website published on the World Wide Web consisting of discrete, often informal diary-style text entries (posts). Posts are typically displayed in reverse chronological order, so that the most recent post appears first, at the top of the web page. Until 2009, blogs were usually the work of a single individual, occasionally of a small group, and often covered a single subject or topic. In the 2010s, "multi-author blogs" (MABs) emerged.
← [Wikipedia](#)

Bloggng

The act of running a blog, and writing posts for a blog.

Blogosphere

A collective term for all blogs and their interconnections. The term implies that blogs exist together as a connected community (or as a collection of connected communities) or as a social networking service in which everyday authors can publish their opinions. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bloom filter

A space-efficient probabilistic data structure, conceived in 1970 by Burton Howard Bloom, that is used to test whether an element is a member of a set. False positive matches are possible, but false negatives are not—in other words, a query returns either “possibly in set” or “definitely not in set.” Elements can be added to the set, but not removed (though this can be addressed with the counting Bloom filter variant); the more items added, the larger the probability of false positives. Bloom proposed the technique for applications where the amount of source data would require an impractically large amount of memory if “conventional” error-free hashing techniques were applied. ← [Wikipedia](#)

BMP

→ [Basic Multilingual Plane](#)

→ [Bitmap](#)

BOM

→ [Byte order mark](#)

Bookmark

A URI that is stored for later retrieval in any of various storage formats. All modern web browsers include bookmark features. Bookmarks are normally accessed through a menu in the user’s web browser, and folders are commonly used for organization. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bookmark icon

→ [Favicon](#)

Bookmarklet

Unobtrusive JavaScript stored as the URL of a bookmark in a web browser or as a hyperlink on a web page. Bookmarklets allow to add one-click functionality to the respective browser or web page. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Boolean

A data type that has one of two possible values (usually denoted true and false) which is intended to represent the two truth values of logic and Boolean algebra. It is named after George Boole, who first defined an algebraic system of logic in the mid-19th century. The Boolean data type is primarily associated with conditional statements. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bootstrap

An HTML/CSS framework. Bootstrap was first released in 2011. ↑ [getbootstrap.com](#)

Border

Per the CSS box model, any kind of line (solid, dotted, dashed, etc.) surrounding an element of a document, if present. The border area lies between the padding and margin areas of a box.

Border Gateway Protocol

A standardized exterior gateway protocol designed to exchange routing and reachability information among autonomous systems on the Internet. BGP is classified as a path-vector routing protocol, and it makes routing decisions based on paths, network policies, or rule sets

configured by a network administrator. It was first described in 1989 in RFC 1105, and has been in use on the Internet since 1994. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bottom-posting

A posting style in which the reply follows the quote. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bottom-up design

A strategy of processing information and ordering knowledge, used in a variety of fields including software, humanistic and scientific theories, and management and organization. A bottom-up approach is the piecing together of systems to give rise to more complex systems, thus making the original systems subsystems of the emergent system. In a bottom-up approach, the individual base elements of the system are first specified in great detail. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bounce rate

A marketing term used in web traffic analysis that represents the percentage of visitors who enter a site and then leave (“bounce”) rather than continue to view other pages within the same site. The bounce rate is calculated by counting the number of single page visits and dividing that by the total visits. It is then represented as a percentage of total visits. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bound variable

A variable that was previously free, but has been bound to a specific value or set of values. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Boundary value problem

A boundary value problem is a differential equation together with a set of additional constraints, called the boundary conditions. A solution to a boundary value problem is a solution to the differential equation which also satisfies the boundary conditions. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bounding box

The smallest possible rectangle (aligned with the axes of that element’s user coordinate system) that entirely encloses an element and its descendants. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

Bourne shell

A shell, or command-line interpreter, for computer operating systems. Developed by Stephen Bourne at Bell Labs, it was a replacement for the Thompson shell, whose executable file had the same name (sh). The Bourne shell was released in 1979, as part of Version 7 Unix. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bower

A maintenance-only package manager for the JavaScript programming language. Bower was first released in 2012. ↑ [bower.io](#)

Box

The visual space occupied by an HTML element’s content. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Box model

A concept for the rectangular boxes that are generated for elements in the document tree and laid out according to the visual formatting model. The boxes consist of content, padding, border, and margin areas.

Box model hack

An early 2000’s workaround for Internet Explorer 5/5.5’s incorrect support of the CSS box model. The box model hack was made obsolete by improved browser implementations and an additional CSS property (box-sizing). ↑ [is.gd/nZKbJw](#)

Boyscout Rule

The idea to “always leave code better than you found it,” which may be [attributable to Robert C. Martin](#).

BPEL

→ [Business Process Execution Language](#)

Bracket notation

One of two ways to access object properties in JavaScript (`objectName['propertyName']`), the other being dot notation.

Braille (⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠)

A tactile writing system used by people who are visually impaired. Braille is traditionally written with embossed paper. Braille users can read computer screens and other electronic supports using refreshable braille displays. They can write braille with the original slate and stylus or type it on a braille writer, such as a portable braille notetaker or computer that prints with a braille embosser. Braille was developed in 1824 by Louis Braille, who published it in 1829. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Branch

A duplicate of an object under version control. Branches are also known as trees, streams, or codelines. The originating branch is sometimes called the parent branch, the upstream branch (or “upstream,” especially if the branches are maintained by different organizations or individuals), or the backing stream. Child branches are branches that have a parent; a branch without a parent is referred to as the trunk or the mainline. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Branch coverage

→ [Code coverage](#)

Branch predication

→ [Predication](#)

Branching

The duplication of an object under version control (such as a source code file or a directory tree) so that modifications can occur in parallel along multiple branches. Branching generally implies the ability to later merge or integrate changes back onto the parent branch. ← [Wikipedia](#)

BREAD

→ [Browse, read, edit, add, delete](#)

Breadcrumb

A graphical control element frequently used as a navigational aid in user interfaces and on web pages. It allows users to keep track and maintain awareness of their locations within programs, documents, or websites. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Breadth-first search

An algorithm for searching a tree data structure for a node that satisfies a given property. It starts at the tree root and explores all nodes at the present depth prior to moving on to the nodes at the next depth level. Extra memory, usually a queue, is needed to keep track of the child nodes that were encountered but not yet explored. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Breakpoint

In software development, an intentional stopping or pausing place in a program, put in place for debugging purposes. A breakpoint is sometimes also referred to as a pause. ← [Wikipedia](#)

In web development, any point at which a media query is introduced and the layout changed.
← [MDN Web Docs](#)

Breezy

A distributed version control system. Breezy is a friendly fork of the dormant GNU Bazaar system. It was first released in 2017. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ [breezy-vcs.org](#)

Brewer's Theorem

→ [CAP Theorem](#)

Bring Your Own License

A licensing model that allows the flexible use of available software licenses, both on-premise and in the cloud. While BYOL can help to save licensing cost, it comes with the responsibility of managing the respective licenses.

Broken link

A hyperlink that does not work, or work anymore, that is, that points to a target that is not available. Broken links constitute link rot.

Brotli

A data format specification for data streams compressed with a specific combination of the general-purpose LZ77 lossless compression algorithm, Huffman coding, and second-order context modeling. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ [github.com/google/brotli](#)

Browse mode

→ [Virtual mode](#)

Browse, read, edit, add, delete

A variation of CRUD. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Browser

A software application for accessing information on the World Wide Web. When a user requests a particular website, the web browser retrieves the necessary content from a web server and displays the resulting web page on the user's device. In 2020, an estimated 4.9 billion people have used a browser. The most used browser is Chrome, with a 67% global market share on all devices, followed by Safari with 18%. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Browser detection

→ [Browser sniffing](#)

Browser engine

A core software component of every major web browser. The primary job of a browser engine is to transform HTML documents and other resources of a web page into an interactive visual representation on a user's device. Besides "browser engine," two other terms are in common use regarding related concepts: "layout engine" and "rendering engine." In theory, layout and rendering (or "painting") could be handled by separate engines. In practice, however, they are tightly coupled and rarely considered separately. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Browser extension

A software module for customizing a web browser. Browsers typically allow users to install a variety of extensions, including user interface modifications, cookie management, ad blocking, and custom scripting and styling of web pages. Browser plugins are a different type of module and no longer supported by the major browsers. One difference is that extensions are distributed as source code, while plugins are executables (i.e., object code). The most popular

browser, Chrome, has over 100,000 extensions available, but stopped supporting plugins in 2020. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Browser Helper Object

A DLL module designed as a plugin for Microsoft's Internet Explorer web browser to provide added functionality. BHOs were introduced in 1997 with the release of Internet Explorer 4. Most BHOs are loaded once by each new instance of Internet Explorer. BHOs are still supported as of Windows 10, through Internet Explorer 11, while BHOs are not supported in Edge. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Browser sniffing

A set of techniques used in websites and web applications in order to determine the web browser a visitor is using, and to serve browser-appropriate content to the visitor. This practice is sometimes used to circumvent incompatibilities between browsers due to misinterpretation of HTML, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), or the Document Object Model (DOM). While the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) maintains up-to-date central versions of some of the most important Web standards in the form of recommendations, in practice no vendor has developed a browser which adheres exactly to these standards. As a result, different browsers may display the same page differently, and browser sniffing was developed to detect the web browser in order to help ensure consistent display of content. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Browser testing

The testing of websites and apps in different web browsers.

Browser War

A market competition between web browsers, usually referring to the First Browser War (1995–2001) between Internet Explorer (Microsoft) and Navigator (Netscape) or the Second Browser War (2004–2017) between Internet Explorer, Firefox (Mozilla), and Chrome (Google).

Browsing

A kind of orienting strategy to identify something of relevance. One of the two major ways of interacting with the Web, the other one being searching. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Browsing context

The environment in which a browser displays a document, as with a tab, window, or frame. Each browsing context has a specific origin, the origin of the active document, and a history that lists all the displayed documents in order. Communication between browsing contexts is restricted. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

BTR

→ [Build-time render](#)

Buffer

A storage in physical memory used to temporarily store data while it is being transferred from one place to another. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

Bug

An error, flaw, or fault in a computer program or system that causes it to produce an incorrect or unexpected result, or to behave in unintended ways. Most bugs arise from mistakes and errors made in either a program's source code or its design. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bug tracking system

A software application that keeps track of reported software bugs in software development

projects. It may be regarded as a type of issue tracking system. Many bug tracking systems allow end users to enter bug reports directly. Other systems are used only internally in a company or organization doing software development. Typically, bug tracking systems are integrated with other project management software. A bug tracking system is usually a necessary component of a professional software development infrastructure. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bugfix

→ [Patch](#)

Bugzilla

A web-based general-purpose bug tracking system and testing tool originally developed and used by the Mozilla project. Bugzilla was first released in 1998 by Netscape. ← [Wikipedia](#)
↑ [bugzilla.org](#)

Build verification test

→ [Smoke testing](#)

Build-time render

The rendering of a route to HTML, and the inlining of critical CSS and assets needed for the initial presentation, during build time. BTR is a concept from the Dojo framework.

Bulletin Board Code

→ [BBCode](#)

Bulma

An HTML/CSS framework that “provides ready-to-use frontend components” one can “combine to build responsive web interfaces.” Bulma was released in 2016 by Jeremy Thomas.
↑ [bulma.io](#)

Bun

A JavaScript runtime. Bun was released in 2021. ↑ [bun.sh](#)

Bundled HTTP Exchanges

→ [Web Bundles](#)

Bundling

The process of dynamically or statically merging (bundling) several files, notably JavaScript modules, for output to a client or a server. Bundling reduces the number of files and requests to be delivered to a client and thus helps improve performance.

Bus factor

A measurement of the risk resulting from information and capabilities not being shared among team members, derived from the phrase “in case they get hit by a bus.” The concept is similar to the much older idea of key person risk, but considers the consequences of losing key technical experts, versus financial or managerial executives (who are theoretically replaceable at an insurable cost). Personnel must be both key and irreplaceable to contribute to the bus factor.
← [Wikipedia](#)

Bushnell’s Law

An aphorism attributed to Atari founder Nolan Bushnell, on the subject of video game design: “All the best games are easy to learn and difficult to master. They should reward the first quarter and the hundredth.” This is also referred to with the sentence “easy to learn, hard to master.” ← [Wikipedia](#)

Business as usual

The normal execution of standard functional operations within an organisation, and a possible contrast to projects or programs which might introduce change. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Business Process Execution Language

An OASIS standard executable language for specifying actions within business processes with web services. Processes in BPEL export and import information by exclusively using web service interfaces. BPEL is serialized in XML and aims to enable programming in the large. The first version of the standard was published in 2003. ← [Wikipedia](#)

BVT

→ [Build verification test](#)

BYOL

→ [Bring Your Own License](#)

Byte order mark

A particular use of the special Unicode character, U+FEFF ZERO WIDTH NO-BREAK SPACE, whose appearance as a magic number at the start of a text stream can signal several things to a program reading the text: the byte order, or endianness, of the text stream in the cases of 16-bit and 32-bit encodings; the fact that the text stream's encoding is Unicode, to a high level of confidence; and which Unicode character encoding is used. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Bytecode

A form of instruction set designed for efficient execution by a software interpreter. Unlike human-readable source code, bytecodes are compact numeric codes, constants, and references (normally numeric addresses) that encode the result of compiler parsing and performing semantic analysis of things like type, scope, and nesting depths of program objects. The name "bytecode" stems from instruction sets that have one-byte opcodes followed by optional parameters. ← [Wikipedia](#)



Is something missing, or did you find a mistake?

C

C2PA

→ [Coalition for Content Provenance and Authenticity](#)

CA → [Certificate authority](#)

→ [Confidentiality agreement](#)

Cache

A hardware or software component that stores data so that future requests for that data can be served faster. The data stored in a cache might be the result of an earlier computation or a copy of data stored elsewhere. A cache hit occurs when the requested data can be found in a cache, while a cache miss occurs when it cannot. Cache hits are served by reading data from the cache, which is faster than recomputing a result or reading from a slower data store.

← [Wikipedia](#)

Cache busting

A type of HTTP flood attack that uses query variations to get around caching. Instead of returning results from the cache, servers must be contacted which increases their load and potentially overwhelms them.

Cache eviction

The removal of old, unused, or large data from a cache.

Cache partitioning

The dividing and assigning of cache space to different system or application tasks, in order to improve security (as with browser cache partitioning) or performance.

Cache poisoning

→ [DNS spoofing](#)

Cache timing attack

→ [Timing attack](#)

CAI

→ [Content Authenticity Initiative](#)

California Consumer Privacy Act

A state statute intended to enhance privacy rights and consumer protection for residents of California, United States. The bill was passed in 2018, amending the California Civil Code. The intentions of the CCPA are to provide California residents with the right to know what personal data is being collected about them; to know whether their personal data is sold or disclosed and to whom; to say no to the sale of personal data; to access their personal data; to request a business to delete personal information about a consumer collected from that consumer; and not to be discriminated against for exercising their privacy rights. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Call by need

→ [Lazy evaluation](#)

Call by value

→ [Strict evaluation](#)

Call stack

A stack data structure that stores information about the active subroutines of a computer program. Although maintenance of the call stack is important for the proper functioning of most software, the details are normally hidden and automatic in high-level programming languages. Many computer instruction sets provide special instructions for manipulating stacks. A call stack is used for several related purposes, but the main reason for having one is to keep track of the point to which each active subroutine should return control when it finishes executing. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Call to action

A marketing term used extensively in advertising and selling. It refers to any device designed to prompt an immediate response or encourage an immediate sale. A CTA most often refers to the use of words or phrases that can be incorporated into sales scripts, advertising messages or web pages that encourage consumers to take prompt action. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Callback

Executable code that is provided as an argument to other code that executes—calls back—that argument immediately (synchronous callback) or at a later time (asynchronous callback). ← [Wikipedia](#)

Callback queue

A queue of messages (functions) that are processed in a “first in, first out” order (FIFO) by the JavaScript event loop.

Camel case

The practice of writing phrases such that each word or abbreviation after the first one begins with a capital letter, with no intervening spaces or punctuation. Common examples include “iPhone” and “eBay.” Camel case is also sometimes used in online usernames such as “johnSmith.” In programming, camel case is often used for variable names. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Camino

A discontinued GUI-based web browser based on Mozilla’s Gecko layout engine, specifically designed for the OS X operating system. In place of an XUL-based user interface used by most Mozilla-based applications, Camino used Mac-native Cocoa APIs. In 2013, the Camino Project stopped the development of the browser. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Canary

Software that is only released to a small group of users, making it easy to roll it back in case of serious defects. The name comes from canaries that were once used in coal mines to warn of dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.

Candidate Recommendation

The specification-testing phase of a World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) specification (also known as a recommendation).

Cannibalization

A reduction in sales volume, sales revenue, or market share of one product when the same company introduces a new product. In ecommerce, some companies intentionally cannibalize their retail sales through lower prices on their online product offerings. More consumers than

usual may buy the discounted products, especially if they'd previously been anchored to the retail prices. Even though their in-store sales may decline, the company might see overall gains. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Canonical equivalence

The assumption that code point sequences have the same appearance and meaning when printed or displayed. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Canonical link

An HTML element marked `rel=canonical` that helps webmasters prevent duplicate content issues in search engine optimization by specifying the “canonical” or “preferred” version of a web page. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Canonical Name

A type of resource record in the Domain Name System (DNS) which maps one domain name (an alias) to another (the canonical name). ← [Wikipedia](#)

Canvas

A container, the HTML `canvas` element, that allows for dynamic, scriptable rendering of 2D and 3D shapes and bitmap images by providing an empty graphic zone on which specific JavaScript APIs can draw (such as Canvas 2D or WebGL). ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

CAP Theorem

A theoretical computer science theorem that states that it is impossible for a distributed data store to simultaneously provide more than two out of the following three guarantees: 1) Consistency: Every read receives the most recent write or an error. 2) Availability: Every request receives a (non-error) response, without the guarantee that it contains the most recent write. 3) Partition tolerance: The system continues to operate despite an arbitrary number of messages being dropped (or delayed) by the network between nodes. The CAP Theorem implies that in the presence of a network partition, one has to choose between consistency and availability. ← [Wikipedia](#)

CAPTCHA

A type of challenge-response test used in computing to determine whether the user is human. The term stands for “completely automated public Turing test to tell computers and humans apart” and was coined in 2003 by Luis von Ahn, Manuel Blum, Nicholas J. Hopper, and John Langford. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Card sorting

A method that aids the design or evaluation of the information architecture of a website. Card sorting is usually performed with groups, with attendees organizing topics into categories or folksonomies.

Cardinality explosion

The exponential growth in the number of unique values within a particular attribute or dimension in data processing or database management. Cardinality explosion can occur due to high variability in data sets or operations that generate numerous distinct values. It can lead to slower query performance, decreased effectiveness of indexing, and increased storage requirements.

Caret

A grapheme—“^”, “⏏”, “⏏”, or “⏏”—with several uses, including as a proofreading mark, as

a special character in programming languages, as an escape character, or for estimation.
← [Wikipedia](#)

Caret browsing

A kind of keyboard navigation where a caret (also known as a text cursor, text insertion cursor, or text selection cursor) is used to navigate within a document. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Caret navigation

→ [Caret browsing](#)

Carousel

A slideshow-like design element for web pages. A carousel allows focus on one unit of content and media while providing access to similar units (by some way of navigation).

Cart

→ [Shopping cart](#)

Cascade

The order by which declarations are applied in CSS: 1) per target media type; 2) per importance and origin (from user agent to important user declarations); 3) by specificity; and 4) by order in which the declaration was specified (with all having the same weight, origin, and specificity, the latest declaration prevails).

Cascading HTML Style Sheets

A style sheet language proposal drafted in 1994 by Håkon Wium Lie. ↑ w3.org/People/howcome/p/cascade

Cascading Style Sheets

A style sheet language for describing the presentation of documents written in a markup language such as HTML or XML (including XML dialects such as SVG, MathML, or XHTML). CSS is a cornerstone technology of the World Wide Web, alongside HTML and JavaScript. It is designed to enable the separation of content and presentation, including layout, colors, and fonts. This separation can improve content accessibility, provide more flexibility and control in the specification of presentation characteristics, reduce repetition and complexity by allowing web pages to share formatting (by referring to the relevant CSS in a separate file, i.e., a style sheet), and improve page load speed between pages that share such CSS files and the respective formatting (by enabling these files to be cached). The first final specification of CSS was published in 1996 by Håkon Wium Lie and Bert Bos. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ w3.org/Style/CSS

Case

In engineering, as *use case*, a list of actions or event steps typically defining the interactions between a role (known in UML as an actor) and a system to achieve a goal. The actor can be a human or other external system. In systems engineering, use cases are used at a higher level than within software engineering, often representing missions or stakeholder goals.
← [Wikipedia](#)

In programming, a selection mechanism to allow a variable to change the flow of a program.
← [Wikipedia](#)

In typography, as *letter case*, the distinction between the letters that are in larger upper case (also uppercase, capital letters, capitals, caps, large letters, or more formally majuscule) and smaller lower case (also lowercase, small letters, or more formally minuscule) in the written representation of certain languages. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Case folding

The mapping of strings to a form without case differences, e.g., by replacing all non-uppercase characters by their uppercase variants.

Case mapping

The mapping of lowercase, uppercase, and title case characters for a given language. Case mapping can change the number of code points or units of a string, and it is language-dependent as well as context-sensitive. ↑ is.gd/jpfHQH

catch

→ [try...catch](#)

CBD

→ [Component-based development](#)

CBSE

→ [Component-based software engineering](#)

CC/PP

→ [Composite Capability/Preference Profiles](#)

CCPA

→ [California Consumer Privacy Act](#)

CCT

→ [Chrome Custom Tabs](#)

ccTLD

→ [Country code top-level domain](#)

CD

→ [Corporate design](#)

→ [Continuous delivery](#)

→ [Continuous deployment](#)

CDATA

→ [Character data](#)

CDN

→ [Content delivery network](#)

CDP

→ [Chrome DevTools Protocol](#)

→ [Cisco Discovery Protocol](#)

CDUI

→ [Component-driven user interface](#)

CERT

A certificate resource record in the Domain Name System (DNS). ← [Wikipedia](#)

Certificate

An electronic document used to prove the ownership of a public key. The certificate includes information about the key, information about the identity of its owner (called the subject), and the digital signature of an entity that has verified the certificate's contents (called the issuer). ← [Wikipedia](#)

Certificate authority

An entity that issues digital certificates. A digital certificate certifies the ownership of a public key by the named subject of the certificate. This allows others to rely upon signatures or on assertions made about the private key that corresponds to the certified public key. A CA acts as a trusted third party, trusted both by the subject (owner) of the certificate and by the party relying upon the certificate. The format of these certificates is specified by the X.509 standard. One particularly common use for certificate authorities is to sign certificates used in HTTPS, the secure browsing protocol for the World Wide Web. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Certificate revocation list

A list of digital certificates that have been revoked by the issuing certificate authority (CA) before their scheduled expiration date, and that should no longer be trusted. CRLs are no longer required, as alternate certificate revocation technologies (such as OCSP) are increasingly used instead; nevertheless, CRLs are still widely used by certificate authorities. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Certificate signing request

A message sent from an applicant to a certificate authority of the public key infrastructure in order to apply for a digital identity certificate. A CSR usually contains the public key for which the certificate should be issued, identifying information (such as a domain name) and a proof of authenticity including integrity protection (e.g., a digital signature). The most common format for CSRs is the PKCS #10 specification. ← [Wikipedia](#)

CES

→ [Customer Effort Score](#)

CFML

→ [ColdFusion Markup Language](#)

CGI

→ [Common Gateway Interface](#)

Chaining

The calling of several methods after another on an object.

Change list

A set of changes made in a single commit. This can also represent a sequential view of the source code, allowing the examination of source as of any particular changelist ID. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Change set

→ [Change list](#)

Changeset

A method to handle multi-package changes and versions. ↑ github.com/atlassian/changesets

Channel messaging

An API described by the HTML specification that enables independent pieces of code (e.g., scripts in different browsing contexts) to communicate directly. Channel messaging works through two-way channels (or pipes) with a port at each end. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

Chaos engineering

The discipline of experimenting on a software system in production in order to build confidence in the system's capability to withstand turbulent and unexpected conditions. Chaos

engineering can be used to achieve resilience against infrastructure, network, and application failures. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Character

An encoded symbol that maps to a glyph.

Character data

A concept used for distinct but related purposes in the markup languages SGML and XML. “CDATA” indicates that a certain portion of the document is general character data, rather than non-character data or character data with a more specific, limited structure. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Character encoding

A mapping of code points to characters, like UTF-8.

Character entity reference

A character reference that refers to a character by the name of an entity which has the desired character as its replacement text. The entity must either be predefined (built into the markup language) or explicitly declared in a document type definition (DTD). The format is the same as for any entity reference: `&name;`, where “name” is the case-sensitive name of the entity.

← [Wikipedia](#)

Character reference

→ [Character entity reference](#)

→ [Numeric character reference](#)

Character set

→ [Character encoding](#)

Charset

→ [Character encoding](#)

Chartjunk

Visual elements in a chart or graph that are not necessary to comprehend the information represented, or that distract the viewer from this information. Examples of chartjunk include heavy or dark grid lines, unnecessary text, inappropriately complex or gimmicky font faces, and ornamented chart axes. The term “chartjunk” was coined by Edward Tufte in his 1983 book *The Visual Display of Quantitative Information*. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Checkbox hack

The use of HTML labels and checkboxes as well as the CSS `:checked` pseudo-class to influence the appearance of adjacent elements. The checkbox hack is considered a hack because it may not make appropriate use of form markup, and may violate separation of concerns, when the intended behavior is best achieved by use of a scripting language.

CheiRank

An eigenvector with a maximal real eigenvalue of the Google matrix G^* constructed for a directed network with the inverted directions of links. CheiRank is similar to the PageRank vector, which ranks the network nodes in average proportionally to a number of incoming links being the maximal eigenvector of the Google matrix G with a given initial direction of links. Due to inversion of link directions the CheiRank ranks the network nodes in average proportionally to a number of outgoing links. ← [Wikipedia](#)

chmod

On Unix-like operating systems, a command to change access permissions and special mode

flags of file system objects (i.e., files and directories). Originally, these permissions and flags were called an object's modes, and the name "chmod" was chosen as an abbreviation of "change mode." ← [Wikipedia](#)

chown

On Unix-like operating systems, a command to change the owner of files and directories. The ownership of any file in the system may only be altered by a superuser. A user cannot give away ownership of a file, even when the user owns it. Similarly, only a member of a group can change a file's group ID to that group. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Chrome

A cross-platform web browser, based on the Chromium browser project. Chrome was released in 2008 by Google. ↑ google.com/chrome

The graphical elements of a web browser, like title, address, and status bar as well as navigation elements.

Chrome Custom Tabs

A Chrome feature that allows native apps to invoke the Chrome browser with customized actions, toolbars, and animations.

Chrome DevTools

A set of web developer tools built directly into the Chrome web browser. ↑ is.gd/TsOXbb

Chrome DevTools Protocol

A protocol to "instrument, inspect, debug, and profile" Chromium, Chrome, and other Blink-based browsers. ↑ is.gd/a55qQ3

Chrome OS

A Linux kernel-based operating system designed by Google. Chrome OS is derived from the free software Chromium OS and uses the Chrome web browser as its principal user interface. Google announced Chrome OS in 2009, conceiving it as an operating system in which both applications and user data reside in the cloud—hence Chrome OS primarily runs web applications. Chrome OS is only available pre-installed on hardware from Google manufacturing partners, but there are unofficial methods that allow it to be installed in other equipment. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ google.com/chromebook/chrome-os

Chrome User Experience Report

A Google initiative providing real-user metrics for the user experience on popular websites and apps. The metrics make for "the official data set" of the Web Vitals program. CrUX was started in 2017. ↑ is.gd/5puhZv

ChromeVox

A screen reader for Chrome OS as well as the Chrome web browser developed by Google. ↑ is.gd/zCNu0C

Chromium

A Google-developed project whose source code can be compiled into a web browser. Google's Chrome browser is based on the Chromium code, as are several other browsers, including Edge, Opera, and Silk. Other parties have compiled the code as-is, releasing their browsers under the Chromium name. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ chromium.org

CHSS

→ [Cascading HTML Style Sheets](#)

cHTML

→ [Compact HTML](#)

Churn

→ [Churn rate](#)

Churn rate

A measure of the number of individuals or items moving out of a collective group over a specific period. ← [Wikipedia](#)

CI → [Confidence interval](#)

→ [Continuous integration](#)

→ [Corporate identity](#)

CI/CD

The combined practices of continuous integration (CI) and continuous delivery (CD) or, less often, continuous deployment. They are sometimes referred to collectively as continuous development or continuous software development. ← [Wikipedia](#)

CIA triad

→ [Confidentiality, integrity, and availability](#)

CIDR

→ [Classless Inter-Domain Routing](#)

Cipher

An algorithm for encryption or decryption. To encipher or encode is to convert information into cipher or code. ← [Wikipedia](#)

CircleCI

A continuous integration and delivery platform. CircleCI was founded in 2011. ↑ [circleci.com](#)

Cisco Discovery Protocol

A proprietary data link layer protocol developed in 1994 by Cisco Systems. CDP is used to share information about other directly connected Cisco equipment, such as operating system version and IP address. ← [Wikipedia](#)

CJS → [CommonJS](#)

CL → [Change list](#)

Class

An extensible program code template for creating objects, providing initial values for state (member variables), and implementations of behavior (member functions or methods). In many languages, the class name is used as the name for the class (the template itself), the name for the default constructor of the class (a subroutine that creates objects), and as the type of objects generated by instantiating the class. ← [Wikipedia](#)

In web development, the (value of the) `class` attribute, usually used as a selector for styling purposes.

Class variable

Any variable declared with the `static` modifier of which a single copy exists, regardless of how many instances of the class there are. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Classitis

In software development, a negative outcome of the disputed goal to work with many small classes.

In web development, the excessive use of `class` attributes and values.

Classless Inter-Domain Routing

A method for allocating IP addresses and for IP routing. The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) introduced CIDR in 1993 to replace the previous classful network addressing architecture on the Internet. The goal of CIDR was to slow the growth of routing tables on routers across the Internet, and to help slow the rapid exhaustion of IPv4 addresses.

← [Wikipedia](#)

CLDR

→ [Common Locale Data Repository](#)

Clearance

A concept from the CSS `clear` property, potentially introduced by values other than `none`. Clearance prevents margin collapsing, and is a cause of spacing above the top margin of the respective element. Clearance pushes the element past the float.

Clearfix

A name for a variety of float-clearing techniques that may (when CSS-only) or may not (as with relying on presentational helper classes) meet development best practices. ↑ [is.gd/ywDpA3](#)

CLF

→ [Common Log Format](#)

CLI → [Command-Line Interface](#)**Click**

A physical or emulated interaction with a pointing device.

Click-through rate

The ratio of users who click on a specific link to the number of total users who view a page, email, or advertisement. It is commonly used to measure the success of an online advertising campaign for a particular website as well as the effectiveness of email campaigns. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Clickjacking

A malicious technique of tricking a user into clicking on something different from what the user perceives, thus potentially revealing confidential information or allowing others to take control of the user's computer. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Client

A piece of computer hardware or software that accesses a service made available by a server. The server is often (but not always) on another computer system, in which case the client accesses the service by way of a network. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Client hints

A set of HTTP request header fields for proactive content negotiation allowing clients to indicate a list of device and agent specific preferences. Client hints enable automated delivery of optimized assets, like the automatic negotiation of image DPR resolution. ← [MDN Web Docs](#) ↑ [wicg.github.io/ua-client-hints](#)

Client side

Operations on the client as opposed to the server side in a client–server relationship.
← [Wikipedia](#)

Client-side rendering

A technique in which a page is rendered on the client side, as opposed to the server side (as with SSR). On the first request, only a skeleton (a minimal HTML document) is returned by the server. It is then populated on the client side, usually via JavaScript, to turn it into a fully rendered page.

Clipping

A method to selectively enable or disable rendering operations within a defined region of interest. Clip regions are commonly specified to improve render performance. A well-chosen clip allows the renderer to save time and energy by skipping calculations related to pixels that the user cannot perceive. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cloaking

A search engine optimization (SEO) technique in which the content presented to the search engine spider is different from that presented to a user’s browser. This can be done by delivering content based on the IP addresses or the User-Agent HTTP header of the user requesting the page. When a user is identified as a search engine spider, a server-side script delivers a different version of the web page, one that contains content not present on the visible page, or that is present but not searchable. The purpose of cloaking is to deceive search engines so they display the page when it would not otherwise be displayed (black hat SEO). However, it can also be a functional (though antiquated) technique for informing search engines of content they would not otherwise be able to locate. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Clojure

A dynamic and functional dialect of the Lisp programming language on the Java platform. Like other Lisp dialects, Clojure treats code as data and has a Lisp macro system. The development process is community-driven, overseen by Rich Hickey as a “benevolent dictator for life” (BDFL). Clojure advocates immutability and immutable data structures and encourages programmers to be explicit about managing identity and its states. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ [clojure.org](#)

Clone detection

The automated process of finding duplication in source code. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Closure

A technique for implementing lexically scoped name binding in a language with first-class functions. Operationally, a closure is a record storing a function together with an environment. The environment is a mapping associating each free variable of the function (variables that are used locally, but defined in an enclosing scope) with the value or reference to which the name was bound when the closure was created. Unlike a plain function, a closure allows the function to access those captured variables through the closure’s copies of their values or references, even when the function is invoked outside their scope. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cloud

→ [Cloud computing](#)

→ [Cloud storage](#)

Cloud computing

The on-demand availability of computer system resources, especially data storage and computing power, without direct active management by the user. The term is generally used to describe data centers available to many users over the Internet. Large clouds, predominant today, often have functions distributed over multiple locations from central servers. If the connection to the user is relatively close, it may be designated an edge server. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cloud storage

A model of computer data storage in which the digital data is stored in logical pools. The physical storage spans multiple servers (sometimes in multiple locations), and the physical environment is typically owned and managed by a hosting company. These cloud storage providers are responsible for keeping the data available and accessible, and the physical environment protected and running. ← [Wikipedia](#)

CloudStack

IaaS cloud computing software for creating, managing, and deploying infrastructure cloud services. CloudStack uses existing hypervisor platforms for virtualization, such as KVM, VMware vSphere, XenServer/XCP, and XCP-ng. CloudStack was originally developed by Cloud.com, formerly known as VMOps. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ cloudstack.apache.org

CLS

→ [Cumulative Layout Shift](#)

Cluster

A set of loosely or tightly connected computers that work together so that, in many respects, they can be viewed as a single system. Unlike grid computers, computer clusters have each node set to perform the same task, controlled and scheduled by software. ← [Wikipedia](#)

CMF

→ [Color, Material, Finish](#)

CMP

→ [Consent management platform](#)

CMS

→ [Content management system](#)

CMYK

→ [Cyan, magenta, yellow, and key](#)

CNAME

→ [Canonical Name](#)

CNAME cloaking

The disguising of third-party resources as first-party resources through the modification of domain CNAME entries. CNAME cloaking is used to get around tracking protections.

Coalescing

A way to provide a default value if an operand is null or undefined. This so-called null or nullish coalescing allows a default value to be defined for cases where a more specific value is not available. ← [Wikipedia](#)

The merging of two adjacent free blocks of memory, which is relevant as when an application frees memory, gaps can fall in the memory segment that the application uses. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Coalition for Content Provenance and Authenticity

An industry initiative started by Adobe, Arm, BBC, Intel, Microsoft, and Truepic to address disinformation, misinformation, and online content fraud “through developing technical standards for certifying the source and history or provenance of media content.” It connects the Adobe-led Content Authenticity Initiative (CAI) with Microsoft- and BBC-led Project Origin. The C2PA was founded in 2021. ↑ c2pa.org

COC

→ [Code of conduct](#)

→ [Convention Over Configuration](#)

Code

A set of instructions forming a computer program which is executed by a computer. It is one of two components of software which runs on computer hardware, the other being data.

← [Wikipedia](#)

Code coverage

A measure used to describe the degree to which the source code of a program is executed when a particular test suite runs. A program with high test coverage, measured as a percentage, has had more of its source code executed during testing, which suggests it has a lower chance of containing undetected software bugs compared to a program with low test coverage. Many different metrics can be used to calculate test coverage; some of the most basic are the percentage of program subroutines and the percentage of program statements called during execution of the test suite. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Code debt

→ [Technical debt](#)

Code golf

A type of recreational computer programming competition in which participants strive to achieve the shortest possible source code that implements a certain algorithm. Playing code golf is known as “golf scripting.” Code golf tournaments may also be named with the programming language used (for example, Perl golf). ← [Wikipedia](#)

Code of conduct

A set of rules outlining the norms, rules, and responsibilities of, or proper practices for, an individual or an organization. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Code point

Any of the numerical values that make up the code space for a character encoding. Many code points represent single characters but they can also have other meanings, such as for formatting. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Code refactoring

→ [Refactoring](#)

Code review

A software quality assurance activity in which one or several people check a program mainly by viewing and reading parts of its source code, and they do so after implementation or as an interruption of implementation. At least one of the persons must not be the code’s author. The persons performing the checking, excluding the author, are called reviewers. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Code smell

Any characteristic in the source code of a program that possibly indicates a deeper problem. Determining what is and is not a code smell is subjective, and varies by language, development methodology, and developer. The term “code smell” was popularized in the late 1990s by Kent Beck. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Code splitting

The practice of breaking up the code a web application depends on—its own as well as third-party dependencies—into separate bundles that can be loaded independently. This allows an application to load only the code it actually needs at a given point in time, and load other bundles on demand. Code splitting is used to improve application performance, especially on initial load. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

Codeline

→ [Branch](#)

CODEOWNERS

A file that allows to specify files, file types, and folders and the individuals and teams responsible for them. CODEOWNERS can be used to automatically request reviews from the respective individuals or teams. Several developer platforms, like GitHub and GitLab, support CODEOWNERS files.

CodePen

An online community for testing and showcasing user-created HTML, CSS, and JavaScript code snippets. It functions as a code editor and learning environment, where developers can create code snippets (called pens), test, and share them. CodePen was founded in 2012. ← [Wikipedia](#)
↑ [codepen.io](#)

Coder

→ [Programmer](#)

Coding by Convention

→ [Convention Over Configuration](#)

Coding guidelines

Rules for how code is to be designed and formatted. Coding guidelines are usually established in organizations with several developers and development teams.

COE

→ [Correction of Errors](#)

COEP

→ [Cross-Origin-Embedder-Policy](#)

CoffeeScript

A programming language that compiles to JavaScript. It adds syntactic sugar inspired by Ruby, Python, and Haskell in an effort to enhance JavaScript’s brevity and readability. Specific additional features include list comprehension and destructuring assignment. ← [Wikipedia](#)
↑ [coffeescript.org](#)

COGA

→ [COGA TF](#)

COGA TF

→ [Cognitive and Learning Disabilities Accessibility Task Force](#)

Cognitive and Learning Disabilities Accessibility Task Force

A subgroup of the World Wide Web Consortium's Accessibility Guidelines Working Group, chartered in 2014 to provide guidance and document techniques "to make web content, content authoring, and user agent implementation accessible and more useable by people with cognitive and learning disabilities." ↑ webglossary.info/x/coga

Cognitive complexity

A software metric that measures the difficulty of understanding a piece of code. It was developed and presented by Sonar to address shortcomings of cyclomatic complexity. ↑ is.gd/Cac0d6

Cognitive disability

As disabilities affecting cognitive ability, a concept encompassing various intellectual or cognitive deficits, including intellectual disability (formerly called mental retardation), deficits too mild to properly qualify as intellectual disability, various specific conditions (such as specific learning disability), and problems acquired later in life through acquired brain injuries or neurodegenerative diseases like dementia. Many of these disabilities have an effect on memory, which is the ability to recall what has been learned over time. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cold data

Rarely accessed data.

ColdFusion

A commercial rapid web application development computing platform created in 1995 by J.J. Allaire. (The programming language used with the platform is also commonly called ColdFusion, though is more accurately known as CFML.) ColdFusion was originally designed to make it easier to connect simple HTML pages to a database. By version 2 (1996), it became a full platform that included an IDE in addition to a full scripting language. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ is.gd/r6E53v

ColdFusion Markup Language

A scripting language for web development that runs on the Java virtual machine, the .NET framework, and Google App Engine. Multiple implementations of CFML engines are available, including Adobe ColdFusion, Lucee, New Atlanta BlueDragon, Railo, and Open BlueDragon. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Collapsed margin

→ [Margin collapsing](#)

Color blindness

The decreased ability to see color or differences in color. 8% of men and 0.5% of women have some form of color blindness. The most common forms of color blindness are deuteranomaly, deuteranopia, protanomaly, and protanopia. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Color circle

→ [Color wheel](#)

Color management

The controlled conversion between the color representations of various devices, such as image scanners, digital cameras, monitors, TV screens, film printers, computer printers, offset presses, and corresponding media. The primary goal of color management is to obtain a good match across color devices; for example, the colors of one frame of a video should appear the same on a computer LCD monitor, on a plasma TV screen, and as a printed poster. Color management

helps to achieve the same appearance on all of these devices, provided the devices are capable of delivering the needed color intensities. Color management cannot guarantee identical color reproduction, as this is rarely possible, but it can at least give more control over any changes which may occur. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Color scheme

The choice of colors used in design to create style and appeal. Colors that create an aesthetic feeling when used together will commonly accompany each other in color schemes. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Color wheel

An abstract illustrative organization of color hues around a circle, which shows the relationships between primary colors, secondary colors, tertiary colors, etc. Some sources use the terms “color wheel” and “color circle” interchangeably; however, one term or the other may be more prevalent in certain fields. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Color, Material, Finish

An area of industrial design that focuses on the chromatic, tactile, and decorative identity of products and environments. CMF design uses meta-design logic, the simultaneous planning of the identity of entire ranges of products for a given brand. ← [Wikipedia](#)

COM

→ [Component Object Model](#)

Combinator

A CSS selector that combines other CSS selectors. It includes the “ ” (whitespace), “>”, “+”, and “~” characters.

Comma-Separated Values

As a CSV file, a delimited text file that uses a comma to separate values. Each line of the file is a data record. Each record consists of one or more fields, separated by commas. The use of the comma as a field separator is the source of the name for this file format. A CSV file typically stores tabular data (numbers and text) in plain-text, in which case each line will have the same number of fields. The CSV file format is not fully standardized. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Command

A directive to a computer program to perform a specific task. It may be issued via a command-line interface, such as a shell, or as input to a network service as part of a network protocol, or as an event in a graphical user interface triggered by the user selecting an option in a menu. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Command-Line Interface

An interface processing commands to a computer program in the form of lines of text. Operating systems implement command-line interfaces in a shell for interactive access to operating system functions or services. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Command-Query Responsibility Segregation

An architectural pattern that uses different models for reading and writing data. It is motivated by different system loads of read and write operations, as well as different risk profiles and therefore security implications. CQRS is attributed to Greg Young.

Command-Query Separation

A principle of imperative computer programming. CQS was devised by Bertrand Meyer as part

of his pioneering work on the Eiffel programming language. The principle states that every method should either be a command that performs an action, or a query that returns data to the caller, but not both. In other words, “Asking a question should not change the answer.” More formally, methods should return a value only if they are referentially transparent and hence possess no side effects. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Comment

A developer-readable explanation or annotation in the source code of a computer program. Comments are added with the purpose of making the source code easier for humans to understand, and are generally ignored by compilers and interpreters. The syntax of comments in various programming languages varies considerably. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Commit

An operation which sends the latest changes of source code to the respective repository, making these changes part of the head revision of the repository. Unlike commits in data management, commits in version control systems are kept in the repository indefinitely. Thus, when other users do an update or a checkout from the repository, they will receive the latest committed version, unless they specify that they wish to retrieve a previous version of the source code in the repository. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Common Gateway Interface

An interface specification for web servers to execute programs that execute like console applications (also called command-line interface programs) running on a server that generates web pages dynamically. Such programs are known as CGI scripts, or simply as CGIs. The specifics of how the script is executed by the server are determined by the server. In the common case, a CGI script executes at the time a request is made and generates HTML. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Common Locale Data Repository

A project of the Unicode Consortium to provide locale data in XML format for use in computer applications. The CLDR contains locale-specific information that an operating system will typically provide to applications. The first version of the CLDR was released in 2003. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ cldr.unicode.org

Common Log Format

A standardized text file format used by web servers when generating server log files. Because the format is standardized, the files can be readily analyzed by a variety of web analysis programs. Each line in a file stored in the Common Log Format has the following syntax: `host ident authuser date request status bytes`. The format is extended by the Combined Log Format with `referer` and `user-agent` fields. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Common Object Request Broker Architecture

A standard defined by the Object Management Group (OMG) designed to facilitate the communication of systems that are deployed on diverse platforms. CORBA enables collaboration between systems on different operating systems, programming languages, and computing hardware. CORBA uses an object-oriented model, although the systems that use the CORBA do not have to be object-oriented. CORBA is an example of the distributed object paradigm. Version 1.0 of CORBA was released in 1991. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ corba.org

Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures

A system that provides a reference method for publicly known information security vulnerabilities and exposures. The United States' National Cybersecurity FFRDC, operated by The Mitre Corporation, maintains the system, with funding from the U.S. National Cyber Security Division of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The CVE system was officially launched for the public in 1999. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ cve.mitre.org

Common Vulnerability Scoring System

An industry standard for assessing the severity of computer system security vulnerabilities. CVSS assigns severity scores to vulnerabilities, allowing responders to prioritize responses and resources according to threat. Scores are calculated based on a formula that depends on several metrics that approximate the ease and impact of an exploit. Scores range from 0 to 10, with 10 being the most severe. CVSS version 1 (CVSSv1) was released in 2005. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ first.org/cvss

CommonJS

A project to standardize the module ecosystem for JavaScript outside of web browsers. CommonJS is widely used for server-side JavaScript with Node.js. It is also used for browser-side JavaScript, though that code must be packaged with a transpiler as browsers don't support CommonJS. The other major module specification in use is the ES Modules (ESM) specification. CommonJS can be recognized by the use of the `require()` function and `module.exports`, while ES Modules use `import` and `export` statements for similar (though not identical) functionality. Work on CommonJS started in 2009 under the name "ServerJS." ← [Wikipedia](#)

CommonMark

A plain-text format compatible with Markdown. CommonMark was started as a standardization effort in 2012. ↑ commonmark.org

Community of practice

A group of people who share a craft or a profession. The concept was first proposed in 1991 by Jean Lave and Etienne Wenger. A COP can evolve naturally because of the members' common interest in a particular domain or area, or it can be created deliberately with the goal of gaining knowledge related to a specific field. It is through the process of sharing information and experiences with the group that members learn from each other, and have an opportunity to develop personally and professionally. CoPs can exist in physical settings, for example, a lunchroom at work, a field setting, a factory floor, or elsewhere in the environment, but members of COPs do not have to be co-located. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Compact HTML

A subset of HTML for small devices, such as mobile phones and personal digital assistants (PDAs). cHTML was developed by NTT DoCoMo for i-mode, a mobile Internet service, and was a subset of HTML 2.0, with features of HTML 3.2. It was introduced in 1999.

Compared to what?

A question data graphics must be able to answer, according to distinguished information design expert Edward Tufte. Comparisons provide context and enable deeper understanding.

Compass

A former CSS authoring framework for Sass, which had been developed until 2016.

Compatibility

The ability of software to run on a particular architecture or operating system, and the ability of hardware to work with a particular CPU architecture, bus, motherboard, or operating system. Compatible software and hardware may not always run at its highest stated performance.

← [Wikipedia](#)

Compatibility equivalence

The assuming of code point sequences to have possibly distinct appearances, but the same meaning in some contexts. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Compatibility mode

A software mechanism in which a software either emulates an older version of software, or mimics another operating system in order to allow older or incompatible software or files to remain compatible with the computer's newer hardware or software. Examples of software using this mode are operating systems and the Internet Explorer web browser. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Compiler

A computer program that translates computer code written in one programming language (the source language) into another language (the target language). The name "compiler" is primarily used for programs that translate source code from a high-level programming language to a lower level language (e.g., assembly language, object code, or machine code) to create an executable program. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Compiling

The translating of computer code written in one programming language into another language. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Complementary colors

Pairs of colors which, when combined or mixed, cancel each other out (lose hue) by producing a grayscale color like white or black. When placed next to each other, they create the strongest contrast for those two colors. Complementary colors may also be called opposite colors. Modern color theory uses either the RGB additive color model or the CMY subtractive color model, and in these, the complementary pairs are red-cyan, green-magenta, and blue-yellow. In the traditional RYB color model, the complementary color pairs are red-green, yellow-purple, and blue-orange. Opponent process theory suggests that the most contrasting color pairs are red-green and blue-yellow. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Component

A software package, a web service, a web resource, or a module that encapsulates a set of related functions or data. All system processes are placed into separate components so that all of the data and functions inside each component are semantically related (just as with the contents of classes). Because of this principle, it is often said that components are modular and cohesive. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Component library

→ [Pattern library](#)

Component Object Model

A binary-interface technology for software components from Microsoft that enables using objects in a language-neutral way between different programming languages, contexts, processes, and machines. COM is the basis for other Microsoft domain-specific component technologies

including OLE, OLE Automation, ActiveX, COM+, and DCOM as well as implementations such as DirectX, Windows shell, UMDF, Windows Runtime, and the Browser Helper Object.

← [Wikipedia](#)

Component-based development

→ [Component-based software engineering](#)

Component-based software engineering

A branch of software engineering that emphasizes the separation of concerns with respect to the wide-ranging functionality available throughout a given software system. It is a reuse-based approach to defining, implementing, and composing loosely coupled independent components into systems. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Component-driven user interface

A user interface put together by developing and arranging components, and the practice of basing user interfaces on components.

Composite Capability/Preference Profiles

A specification for defining capabilities and preferences of user agents, establishing a delivery context that can be used to guide the process of tailoring content. CC/PP is a vocabulary extension of the Resource Description Framework (RDF). ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ w3.org/TR/CCPP-struct-vocab2

Compression

The process of encoding information using fewer bits than the original representation. Any particular compression is either lossy or lossless. Lossless compression reduces bits by identifying and eliminating statistical redundancy. No information is lost in lossless compression. Lossy compression reduces bits by removing unnecessary or less important information. Typically, a device that performs data compression is referred to as an encoder, and one that performs the reversal of the process (decompression) as a decoder. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Computational irreducibility

A property of computations that cannot be sped up by a shortcut, i.e., which cannot be predicted. Computational irreducibility can be used to explain observed limitations of existing mainstream science. In cases of computational irreducibility, only observation and experiment can be used. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Computed value

The result of resolving the specified value of a CSS property. It is made absolute so as to prepare for inheritance.

Computer programming

→ [Programming](#)

Concurrency

The ability of different parts or units of a program, algorithm, or problem to be executed out-of-order or in partial order, without affecting the final outcome. This allows for parallel execution of the concurrent units, which can significantly improve overall speed of the execution in multi-processor and multi-core systems. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Concurrent Versioning System

→ [Concurrent Versions System](#)

Concurrent Versions System

A client-server version control system. CVS was developed in 1986 by Dick Grune.

← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ savannah.nongnu.org/projects/cvs

Condition coverage

→ [Code coverage](#)

Condition variable

A container of threads that are waiting for a certain condition. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Conditional

A feature of a programming language which perform different computations or actions depending on whether a programmer-specified Boolean condition evaluates to true or false. Apart from the case of branch predication, this is achieved by selectively altering the control flow based on some condition. In imperative programming languages, the term “conditional statement” is usually used, whereas in functional programming, “conditional expression” or “conditional construct” are preferred. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Conditional Comments

Conditional statements in HTML, interpreted by Microsoft Internet Explorer 5–9. Conditional comments can be used to provide and hide code to and from Internet Explorer. Conditional comments are no longer supported in Internet Explorer 10 and 11. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cone of Uncertainty

A model for the evolution of the amount of best case uncertainty during a project. At the beginning of a project, comparatively little is known about the product or work results, and so estimates are subject to large uncertainty. As more research and development is done, more information is learned about the project, and the uncertainty then tends to decrease. The change in uncertainty makes for the shape of a cone. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Confidence interval

An interval which is expected to contain the parameter being estimated. More specifically, given a confidence level γ (95% and 99% are typical values), a CI is a random interval which contains the parameter being estimated $\gamma\%$ of the time. The confidence level, degree of confidence, or confidence coefficient represents the long-run proportion of CIs (at the given confidence level) that theoretically contain the true value of the parameter. For example, out of all intervals computed at the 95% level, 95% of them should contain the parameter’s true value. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Confidence testing

→ [Smoke testing](#)

Confidentiality agreement

→ [Non-disclosure agreement](#)

Confidentiality, integrity, and availability

An information security model to guide an organization’s security policies and procedures. The CIA triad is used to evaluate threats and vulnerabilities based on confidentiality, integrity, and availability of an organization’s assets.

Configuration drift

The phenomenon of servers to become more and more different after some time, because of manual changes as well as entropy.

Conflict of interest

A situation in which a person or organization is involved in multiple interests, financial or otherwise, and serving one interest could involve working against another. Typically, this relates to situations in which the personal interest of an individual or organization might adversely affect a duty owed to make decisions for the benefit of a third party. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Conflict-free replicated data type

A data structure that is replicated across multiple computers in a network, with the following features: 1) The application can update replica independently, concurrently, and without coordinating with other replicas. 2) An algorithm (itself part of the data type) automatically resolves inconsistencies that might occur. 3) Although replicas may have different state at any particular point in time, they are guaranteed to eventually converge. The CRDT concept was formally defined in 2011. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Conformance

The meeting of a specified standard by a product, service, or system. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Conformance testing

Activities that determine whether a process, product, or service complies with the requirements of a specification, technical standard, contract, or regulation. Beyond simple conformance, other requirements for compliance, efficiency, or interoperability may apply. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Confounding variable

A variable that influences both the dependent variable and independent variable, causing a spurious association. Confounding is a causal concept, and as such, cannot be described in terms of correlations or associations. The existence of confounders is an important quantitative explanation why correlation does not imply causation. Some notations are explicitly designed to identify the existence, possible existence, or non-existence of confounders in causal relationships between elements of a system. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Connascent

A software quality metric invented by Meilir Page-Jones to enable reasoning about the complexity caused by dependency relationships in object-oriented design, much like coupling did for structured design. In software engineering, two components are connascent if a change in one would require the other to be modified in order to maintain the overall correctness of the system. In addition to allowing categorization of dependency relationships, connascent provides a system for comparing different types of dependency. Such comparisons between potential designs can hint at ways to improve the quality of the software. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Connection draining

In load balancing, the allowing of existing requests to complete, while no new requests are being sent to the respective machine.

Consent management platform

A platform that requests, stores, and manages user consent. A CMP helps ensure the privacy of user data in compliance with regulation like the European Union's GDPR or California's CCPA/CPRA.

Consistency

A model (the consistency model) that specifies a contract between the programmer and a system, wherein the system guarantees that if the programmer follows the rules for operations

on memory, memory will be consistent and the results of reading, writing, or updating memory will be predictable. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Consistent hashing

A special kind of hashing technique such that when a hash table is resized, only n/m keys need to be remapped on average where n is the number of keys and m is the number of slots. In contrast, in most traditional hash tables, a change in the number of array slots causes nearly all keys to be remapped, because the mapping between the keys and the slots is defined by a modular operation. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Console

A computer program designed to be used via a text-only computer interface, such as a text terminal, the command-line interface of some operating systems (Unix, DOS, etc.), or the text-based interface included with most graphical user interface (GUI) operating systems, such as the Win32 console in Windows, the Terminal in macOS, and xterm in Unix. A user typically interacts with a console application using only a keyboard and display screen. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Constant

A value that cannot be altered by the program during normal execution, i.e., the value is constant. When associated with an identifier, a constant is said to be “named,” although the terms “constant” and “named constant” are often used interchangeably. This is contrasted with a variable. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Constructive ambiguity

The deliberate use of ambiguous language on a sensitive issue in order to advance some political purpose. It might be employed in a negotiation, to disguise an inability to resolve a contentious issue on which the parties remain far apart, and to do so in a manner that enables each to claim obtaining some concession on it. Constructive ambiguity warrants hopes that the ensuing postponement of resolution on the particular point, in a way that causes neither side excessive discomfort, will enable them to make progress on other matters. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Constructor

A special type of subroutine called to create an object. It prepares the new object for use, often accepting arguments that the constructor uses to set required member variables. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Container

A fully functional and portable cloud or non-cloud computing environment surrounding an application, keeping it independent of other parallelly running environments. Individually, each container simulates a different software application and runs isolated processes by bundling related configuration files, libraries, and dependencies. ← [Wikipedia](#)

An HTML element that contains other elements.

Container query

A CSS way of applying styles to a container’s contents based on the size of the container, rather than the viewport or other device characteristics. If a container has less space in the surrounding context, container queries allow to hide certain elements or work with smaller fonts, for example. Given a containment context, the `@container` at-rule is used to write a container query. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

Containerization

An operating system paradigm in which the kernel allows the existence of multiple isolated

user space instances. Such instances, called containers (Solaris, Docker), zones (Solaris), virtual private servers (OpenVZ), partitions, virtual environments (VEs), virtual kernels (DragonFly BSD), or jails (FreeBSD jail or chroot jail) may look like actual computers from the point of view of programs running in them. A computer program running on an ordinary operating system can see all resources (connected devices, files and folders, network shares, CPU power, quantifiable hardware capabilities) of that computer. However, programs running inside a container can only see the container's contents and devices assigned to the container. Containerization is used to securely allocate finite hardware resources among a large number of mutually-distrusting users, to consolidate server hardware by moving services on separate hosts into containers on the one server, or to separate several programs to separate containers for improved security, hardware independence, and added resource management features.

← [Wikipedia](#)

Containing block

The block (element) in which a box resides.

Containment

A CSS mechanism to indicate that an element's subtree is independent of the rest of the respective page. This isolation of a subtree allows a browser to optimize rendering and improve performance. ↑ [w3.org/TR/css-contain-3](https://www.w3.org/TR/css-contain-3)

Content

The information and experiences that are directed toward an end user or audience. Content is “something that is to be expressed through some medium, as speech, writing, or any of various arts.” Content can be delivered via many different media including the Internet, cinema, television, radio, smartphones, audio CDs, books, ebooks, magazines, and live events, such as speeches, conferences, and stage performances. ← [Wikipedia](#)

→ [Content box](#)

Content Authenticity Initiative

An initiative of more than 100 member organizations to develop an industry standard for digital content attribution. The CAI was started in 2019 by Adobe, The New York Times Company, and Twitter. ↑ contentauthenticity.org

Content box

→ [Box](#)

Content category

A category that HTML puts elements in. The main categories are metadata content, flow content, sectioning content, heading content, phrasing content, embedded content, and interactive content.

Content Credentials

Metadata and validation technology to document how content was produced—including whether it was AI-generated—and when it was created or edited. Content Credentials were presented in 2023 by the Coalition for Content Provenance and Authenticity (C2PA). ↑ contentcredentials.org

Content delivery network

A geographically distributed network of proxy servers and their data centers that has the goal

to provide high availability and high performance by distributing the service spatially relative to end users. CDNs came into existence in the late 1990s as a means for alleviating performance bottlenecks of the Internet. They are a layer in the Internet ecosystem. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Content management system

A software application that can be used to manage the creation and modification of digital content. CMSs are typically used for enterprise content management (ECM) and web content management (WCM). ECM typically supports multiple users in a collaborative environment by integrating document management, digital asset management and record retention. Alternatively, WCM is the collaborative authoring for websites and may include text and embed graphics, photos, video, audio, maps, and program code that display content and interact with the user. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Content MathML

MathML markup that focuses on the semantics of the expression, rather than its layout. Central to Content MathML is the `apply` element that represents function application. The function being applied is the first child element under `apply`. Content MathML uses only a few attributes. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Content negotiation

Server- or agent-driven mechanisms that allow to serve different versions of a document (or more generally, representations of a resource) at the same URL, so that user agents can specify which version fits their capabilities the best. Examples include requesting and receiving documents in a preferred language, or media files in a particular format. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Content network

A network of websites that uses and is accessible through a particular advertising platform, that is, that can be advertised on through the respective ad platform.

Content optimization

The process of improving content, making it as relevant and interesting as possible for users and search engines, and increasing its reach.

Content parity

The principle of providing the same content and functionality across different devices and platforms (as opposed to delivering different content to, for example, users on desktop and on mobile).

Content projection

A design pattern in which content from one component is included in (projected to) another component.

Content Security Policy

A computer security standard introduced to prevent cross-site scripting (XSS), clickjacking, and other code injection attacks resulting from execution of malicious content in the trusted web page context. CSP provides a standard method for website owners to declare approved origins of content that browsers should be allowed to load on that website—covered types are JavaScript, CSS, HTML frames, web workers, fonts, images, embeddable objects such as Java applets, ActiveX, audio and video files, and other HTML features. ← [Wikipedia](#)

↑ w3.org/TR/CSP

Content sniffing

→ [MIME sniffing](#)

Context menu

A menu in a graphical user interface (GUI) that appears upon user interaction, such as a right-click mouse operation. A context menu offers a limited set of choices that are available in the current state, or context, of the operating system or application to which the menu belongs. Usually the available choices are actions related to the selected object. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Context switch

The process of storing the state of a process or thread, so that it can be restored and resume execution at a later point. Context switching allows multiple processes to share a single CPU, and is an essential feature of a multi-tasking operating system. The precise meaning of the phrase “context switch” varies. In the multi-tasking context, it refers to the process of storing the system state for one task, so that task can be paused and another task resumed. A context switch can also occur as the result of an interrupt, such as when a task needs to access disk storage, freeing up CPU time for other tasks. Some operating systems also require a context switch to move between user mode and kernel mode tasks. The process of context switching can have a negative impact on system performance. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Continuous delivery

A software engineering approach in which teams produce software in short cycles, ensuring that the software can be reliably released at any time and, when releasing the software, doing so manually. CD aims at building, testing, and releasing software with greater speed and frequency, and helps reduce the cost, time, and risk of delivering changes by allowing for more incremental updates to applications in production. A straightforward and repeatable deployment process is important for continuous delivery. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Continuous deployment

A software engineering approach in which software functionalities are delivered frequently through automated deployments. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Continuous integration

The practice of merging all developers’ working copies to a shared mainline (version control) several times a day. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Continuous media

Data for which there is a timing relationship between source and destination. The most common examples of continuous media are audio and motion video. Continuous media can be real-time (interactive), where there is a “tight” timing relationship between source and sink, or streaming (playback), where the relationship is less strict. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

Contrast

The difference in appearance of two or more parts of a field seen simultaneously or successively (hence: brightness contrast, lightness contrast, color contrast, simultaneous contrast, successive contrast, etc.). Visual information is always contained in some kind of visual contrast, thus contrast is an essential performance (and accessibility) feature of electronic visual displays. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Control flow

The order in which individual statements, instructions, or function calls of an imperative

program are executed or evaluated. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Control stack

→ [Call stack](#)

Convention Over Configuration

A software design paradigm used by software frameworks that attempts to decrease the number of decisions that a developer using the framework is required to make without necessarily losing flexibility. The concept was introduced by David Heinemeier Hansson to describe the philosophy of the Ruby on Rails web framework, but is related to earlier ideas like the concept of “sensible defaults” and the Principle of Least Astonishment in user interface design. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Conventional Commits

A standard format for both human- and machine-readable commit messages. Conventional Commits work with a type and a description, as in “feat: launch new video embed” or “docs: correct spelling mistakes,” but also take optional information like scope, a message body, and a message footer. The format was inspired by the Angular commit guidelines, and first published in 2017. ↑ [conventionalcommits.org](#)

Conversion

In engineering, the converting of data from one format to another.

In marketing, the converting of visitors into customers (or into visitors who meet another conversion goal).

Conway’s Law

The adage that organizations design systems that mirror their own communication structure. Conway’s Law is named after computer programmer Melvin Conway, who introduced the idea in 1967. His original wording was: “Any organization that designs a system (defined broadly) will produce a design whose structure is a copy of the organization’s communication structure.”

← [Wikipedia](#)

Cookie

A small piece of data sent from a website and stored on a user’s computer by the user’s web browser while the user is browsing. Cookies were designed to be a reliable mechanism for websites to remember stateful information or to record the user’s browsing activity. They can also be used to remember arbitrary pieces of information that the user previously entered. Cookies perform essential functions in the modern Web. Perhaps most importantly, authentication cookies are the most common method used by web servers to know whether a user is logged in or not, and which account they are logged in with. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cookie banner

A web page notification alerting and informing about the respective site’s use of cookies. Cookie banners are common on European websites because of European cookie regulations.

Cookie consent

The agreement to but also a term for the requirement for informing about the use of cookies (also known as a cookie consent form, or cookie banner).

Cookie hijacking

→ [Session hijacking](#)

Coordinated Universal Time

The primary time standard by which the world regulates clocks and time. UTC is within about one second of mean solar time (such as UT1) at 0° longitude (at the IERS Reference Meridian as the currently used prime meridian), and is not adjusted for daylight saving time. It is effectively a successor to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). The coordination of time and frequency transmissions around the world began on January 1, 1960. UTC was first officially adopted as CCIR Recommendation 374, *Standard-Frequency and Time-Signal Emissions*, in 1963, but the official abbreviation “UTC” and the official English name of “Coordinated Universal Time” were not adopted until 1967. ← [Wikipedia](#)

COP

→ [Community of practice](#)

CORB

→ [Cross-Origin Read Blocking](#)

CORBA

→ [Common Object Request Broker Architecture](#)

Core Web Vitals

→ [Web Vitals](#)

CORP

→ [Cross-Origin Resource Policy](#)

Corporate design

The official graphical design of the logo and name of a company or institution (or government) used on letterheads, envelopes, forms, folders, brochures, etc. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Corporate identity

The manner in which a corporation, firm, or business enterprise presents itself to the public. The corporate identity is typically visualized by branding and with the use of trademarks, but it can also include things like product design, advertising, public relations, etc. Corporate identity is a primary goal of corporate communications, in order to maintain and build the identity to accord with and facilitate the corporate business objectives. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Correction of Errors

A post-incident analysis and process started after the respective incident has been mitigated. A COE documents the events leading up to the incident; identifies the root cause of the problem as well as corrective actions; analyzes the impact of the incident; and tracks action items to prevent the incident from reoccurring. A COE is similar to a *post mortem* but goes beyond it by its focus on corrective actions.

CORS

→ [Cross-Origin Resource Sharing](#)

Cost-per-click

→ [Pay-per-click](#)

Country code top-level domain

An Internet top-level domain generally used or reserved for a country, sovereign state, or dependent territory identified with a country code. All ASCII ccTLD identifiers are two letters long, and all two-letter top-level domains are ccTLDs. There are 312 ccTLDs in active use totally. .cn, .tk, .de and .uk contain the highest number of domains. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Coupling

The degree of interdependence between software modules, a measure of how closely connected two routines or modules are, and the strength of the relationships between modules. Coupling is not binary but multi-dimensional. It is usually contrasted with cohesion. Low coupling often correlates with high cohesion, and vice versa. Low coupling is often thought to be a sign of a well-structured computer system and a good design, and when combined with high cohesion, supports the general goals of high readability and maintainability. ← [Wikipedia](#)

CPA

→ [Critical path analysis](#)

CPC

→ [Cost-per-click](#)

CPH

Continuous product health.

CPM

→ [Critical path method](#)

CQRS

→ [Command-Query Responsibility Segregation](#)

CQS

→ [Command-Query Separation](#)

CR → [Candidate Recommendation](#)

CRA

→ [Create React App](#)

Craft

A pastime or a profession that requires particular skills and knowledge of skilled work.
← [Wikipedia](#)

CRAP

→ [Create, replicate, append, process](#)

Crawler

An Internet bot that systematically browses the World Wide Web, typically for the purpose of Web indexing (web spidering). Web search engines and some other sites use Web crawling or spidering software to update their web content or indices of others sites' web content.
← [Wikipedia](#)

Crawler trap

→ [Spider trap](#)

Crawling

The systematic browsing of the World Wide Web for the purpose of indexing. ← [Wikipedia](#)

CRDT

→ [Conflict-free replicated data type](#)

Create React App

A script-based command-line helper to make it easier to set up a React application (npx create-react-app my-app). ↑ [create-react-app.dev](#)

Create, read, update, delete

The four basic functions of persistent storage. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Create, replicate, append, process

A variation of CRUD. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Critical CSS

The minimum of CSS needed to show a styled web page. Focus is usually on the immediately visible part of a page at the top and “above the fold.” The respective CSS rules are then inlined, that is, embedded in a `style` element within the page’s head element.

Critical design

A design methodology that uses design fiction and speculative design proposals to challenge assumptions and conceptions about the role objects play in everyday life. Critical design is mainly used to share a critical perspective or inspire debate, while increasing awareness of social, cultural, or ethical issues in the eyes of the public. Critical design was popularized by Anthony Dunne and Fiona Raby. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Critical path

The longest stretch of dependent project activities and the time required to complete them from start to finish. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Critical path analysis

→ [Critical path](#)

Critical path method

→ [Critical path](#)

Critical rendering path

A model for the steps needed to render a web page, and optimize its rendering. The critical rendering path includes the building of DOM (Document Object Model) and CSSOM (CSS Object Model), changes to both through the execution of JavaScript, the construction of the render tree, layout, and paint.

CRL

→ [Certificate revocation list](#)

CRM

→ [Customer relationship management](#)

cron

A time-based job scheduler on Unix-like computer operating systems. Users that set up and maintain software environments use cron to schedule jobs (commands or shell scripts) to run periodically at fixed times, dates, or intervals. cron is most suitable for scheduling repetitive tasks. Scheduling one-time tasks can be accomplished using the associated `at` utility. cron was first released in 1975. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cron job

A job (command) to be executed by cron.

Crontab

A configuration file that specifies shell commands to run periodically on a given schedule. The crontab files are stored where the lists of jobs and other instructions to the cron daemon are kept. Users can have their own individual crontab files and often there is a system-wide crontab file (usually in `/etc` or a subdirectory of `/etc`) that only system administrators can edit. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cross-Origin Read Blocking

A security feature that helps mitigate side-channel attacks. CORB prevents the browser from delivering certain cross-origin responses to a web page, for example, when these responses would contain sensitive information.

Cross-Origin Resource Sharing

A mechanism that allows restricted resources on a web page to be requested from another domain outside the domain from which the first resource was served. A web page may freely embed cross-origin images, style sheets, scripts, iframes, and videos. Certain “cross-domain” requests are forbidden by default by the same-origin security policy. CORS defines a way in which a browser and server can interact to determine whether it is safe to allow the cross-origin request. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cross-Origin Resource Policy

A policy set by the Cross-Origin-Resource-Policy HTTP header that lets websites and applications opt into protection against certain requests from other origins (such as those issued with elements like `script` and `img`), to mitigate speculative side-channel as well as cross-site script inclusion attacks. CORP is an additional layer of protection beyond the default same-origin policy. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

Cross-Origin-Embedder-Policy

An HTTP response header to configure the embedding of cross-origin resources in a document. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

Cross-site request forgery

A type of malicious exploit of a website where unauthorized commands are transmitted from a user that the web application trusts. There are many ways in which a malicious website can transmit such commands; specially-crafted image elements, hidden forms, and JavaScript XMLHttpRequests, for example, can all work without the user’s interaction or even knowledge. Unlike cross-site scripting (XSS), which exploits the trust a user has for a particular site, CSRF exploits the trust that a site has in a user’s browser. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cross-site script inclusion

A vulnerability which uses the circumstance that a script referenced through a `script` element is exempt from the same-origin policy, as scripts need to work across domains. An attacker may access and use what is being loaded using the respective script, and thus leaked across origins.

Cross-site scripting

A type of computer security vulnerability typically found in web applications. XSS enables attackers to inject client-side scripts into web pages viewed by other users. A cross-site scripting vulnerability may be used by attackers to bypass access controls such as the same-origin policy. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cross-site WebSocket hijacking

An attack similar to cross-site request forgery (CSRF), on a WebSocket handshake, which may allow read/write communication on the respective WebSocket connection. ↑ [is.gd/cGQ4bj](#)

CRP

→ [Critical rendering path](#)

CRUD

→ [Create, read, update, delete](#)

Cruft

A jargon word for anything that is left over, redundant, and getting in the way. It is used particularly for defective, superseded, useless, superfluous, or dysfunctional elements in computer software. ← [Wikipedia](#)

CrUX

→ [Chrome User Experience Report](#)

Cryptography

The practice and study of techniques for secure communication in the presence of adversarial behavior. More generally, cryptography is about constructing and analyzing protocols that prevent third parties or the public from reading private messages. Modern cryptography exists at the intersection of the disciplines of mathematics, computer science, information security, electrical engineering, digital signal processing, physics, and others. Core concepts related to information security (data confidentiality, data integrity, authentication, and non-repudiation) are also central to cryptography. Practical applications of cryptography include electronic commerce, chip-based payment cards, digital currencies, computer passwords, and military communications. The first use of the term “cryptograph” (as opposed to “cryptogram”) dates back to the 19th century, originating from *The Gold-Bug*, a story by Edgar Allan Poe.
← [Wikipedia](#)

CSCS

→ [Customized Scripting in C#](#)

CSP

→ [Content Security Policy](#)

CSR

→ [Certificate signing request](#)

→ [Client-side rendering](#)

CSRF

→ [Cross-site request forgery](#)

CSS → [Cascading Style Sheets](#)

CSS Action Committee

→ [CSS Samurai](#)

CSS framework

→ [HTML/CSS framework](#)

CSS lock

CSS code that results in a lower and an upper bound for a particular styling, like a minimum and maximum font size that is otherwise fluid. CSS locks can rely on a single declaration but may include both more declarations as well as media queries. The term “CSS lock” may have first been coined in 2016 by Tim Brown. ↑ is.gd/FjK3B8

CSS Module

A CSS file in which all class and animation names are by default scoped locally.
↑ github.com/css-modules/css-modules

CSS Naked Day

A full-day online community event observed annually on April 9, to promote web standards and maintainability. During CSS Naked Day, participating websites don't apply any CSS, and therefore appear "naked," i.e., unstyled and not designed. CSS Naked Day was initiated in 2006 by Dustin Diaz. ↑ css-naked-day.github.io

CSS Object Model

A set of APIs allowing the manipulation of CSS through JavaScript. CSSOM is much like the DOM, but for CSS rather than HTML. It enables developers to read and modify CSS styles dynamically. ← [MDN Web Docs](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/API/CSS_Object_Model)

CSS pixel

A synonym for the CSS unit px, which is defined as being 1/96th of 1 CSS inch (in). ← [MDN Web Docs](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/pixel)

CSS preprocessor

A program that generates CSS from the preprocessor's own unique syntax. There are many CSS preprocessors to choose from, however most CSS preprocessors add features that do not exist in pure CSS, such as mixins, selector nesting, or inheritance selectors. These features make the CSS structure more readable and easier to maintain. ← [MDN Web Docs](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/Preprocessors)

CSS Samurai

A subgroup of the Web Standards Project that focused on advocacy for CSS, as with reporting on CSS support issues. The CSS Samurai disbanded in 1999. ↑ is.gd/vYNvVA

CSS Zen Garden

A web development resource "built to demonstrate what can be accomplished visually through CSS-based design." Style sheets contributed by web designers and developers from around the world are used to change the visual presentation of a single HTML file, producing hundreds of different designs. Aside from reference to an external CSS file, the HTML markup itself never changes. All visual differences are the result of the CSS (and supporting imagery). CSS Zen Garden is a poster child for CSS-only redesigning. It was created in 2003 by Dave Shea. ← [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CSS_Zen_Garden) ↑ csszengarden.com

CSS-in-JS

A styling technique in which JavaScript is used to style components. When this JavaScript is parsed, CSS is generated (usually as a `style` element) and attached to the DOM. CSS-in-JS abstracts CSS to the component level itself, using JavaScript to describe styles in a declarative and maintainable way. There are multiple implementations of this concept such as styled components or JSS. ← [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CSS-in-JS) ↑ cssinjs.org

CSS-Tricks

A web development online magazine and CSS resource. CSS-Tricks was founded in 2007 by Chris Coyier, and sold in 2022 to DigitalOcean. ↑ css-tricks.com

CSSOM

→ [CSS Object Model](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/API/CSS_Object_Model)

CSV

→ [Comma-Separated Values](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comma-separated_values)

CSWSH

→ [Cross-site WebSocket hijacking](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cross-site_WebSocket_hijacking)

CTA

→ [Call to action](#)

CTR

→ [Click-through rate](#)

Cumulative Layout Shift

A metric, the so-called layout shift score, for measuring visual stability. The layout shift score is based on a multiplication of impact fraction and distance fraction. CLS is a Core Web Vital metric. ↑ web.dev/cls

curl

A computer software project providing a library (libcurl) and command-line tool (curl) for transferring data using various network protocols. The name stands for “Client URL,” which was first released in 1997. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ curl.se

Curly’s Law

“Just one thing,” a film character’s advice from the movie *City Slickers*. Curly’s Law is sometimes used instead of, or as a corollary to, the Single Responsibility Principle.

Currying

The technique of converting a function that takes multiple arguments into a sequence of functions that each take a single argument. ← [Wikipedia](#)

cursive

One of the original generic font families of CSS (beside serif, sans-serif, fantasy, and monospace).

Custom data attribute

An attribute in no namespace whose name starts with the string data-, has at least one character after the hyphen, is XML-compatible, and contains no ASCII upper alphas. Custom data attributes are intended to store custom data, state, annotations, and similar, private to the page or application, for which there are no more appropriate attributes or elements. ← [HTML](#)

Custom element

→ [Autonomous custom element](#)

→ [Customized built-in element](#)

Custom property

A CSS property that is prefixed with --, like --example-name, and whose value can be used in other declarations using the var() function. Custom properties are scoped to the element(s) they are declared on, and participate in the cascade: The value of a custom property is that from the declaration decided by the cascading algorithm. Custom properties are also known as CSS variables. ← [MDN Web Docs](#) ↑ w3.org/TR/css-variables-1

Customer Effort Score

A customer service metric that measures the experience with a product or service. Customers document their experience on a 7-point Likert scale ranging from “Very Difficult” to “Very Easy.” The result can be used to assess how much effort is needed to use the respective product or service, and to predict further use.

Customer relationship management

An approach to manage a company’s interaction with current and potential customers. It uses

data analysis about customers' history with a company to improve business relationships with customers, specifically focusing on customer retention and ultimately driving sales growth.

← [Wikipedia](#)

Customized built-in element

A type of custom element for a web component. Customized built-in elements inherit from basic HTML elements. To create a customized built-in element one has to specify which element it extends, and to use it one writes out the basic element but specifies the name of the custom element through an `is` property. ← [MDN Web Docs](#)

Customized Scripting in C#

A basic scripting language based on C#. CSCS features no functions, methods, and Boolean values. It was presented in 2016 by Vassili Kaplan. ↑ github.com/vassilych/cscs

Cutting the mustard

The succeeding under difficult circumstances, an expression attributed to BBC developers in the context of user agent detection.

CVE

→ [Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures](#)

CVS

→ [Concurrent Versions System](#)

CVSS

→ [Common Vulnerability Scoring System](#)

Cyan, magenta, yellow, and key

As the CMYK color model, a subtractive color model used in color printing, and also used to describe the printing process itself. CMYK refers to the four ink plates used in some color printing: cyan, magenta, yellow, and key (black). The CMYK model works by partially or entirely masking colors on a lighter, usually white, background. The ink reduces the light that would otherwise be reflected. Such a model is called subtractive because inks “subtract” the colors red, green, and blue from white light. White light minus red leaves cyan, white light minus green leaves magenta, and white light minus blue leaves yellow. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cybersquatting

The practice of registering, trafficking in, or using an Internet domain name, with a bad faith intent to profit from the goodwill of a trademark belonging to someone else. The term is derived from “squatting,” which is the act of occupying an abandoned or unoccupied space or building that the squatter does not own, rent, or otherwise have permission to use. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cycle time

The amount of time between the start of work on a task to the time it is delivered.

Cyclomatic complexity

A software metric used to indicate the complexity of a program. It is a quantitative measure of the number of linearly independent paths through a program's source code, and is computed using the control-flow graph of the program. The nodes of the graph correspond to indivisible groups of commands of a program, and a directed edge connects two nodes if the second command might be executed immediately after the first command. Cyclomatic complexity may also be applied to individual functions, modules, methods, or classes. It was developed in 1976 by Thomas J. McCabe, Sr. ← [Wikipedia](#)

Cypress

A frontend test automation tool for regression testing of web applications. Cypress was released in 2017. ← [Wikipedia](#) ↑ [cypress.io](#)



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