

# **America Online Glossary**

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America Online: A private online service that can be reached using a modem or a direct (TCP/IP) Internet connection.

Certificate number: A number that you use to register with America Online. The certificate number is included in your software kit.

Certificate password: America Online provides this password in your software kit. It is to be used during your initial sign on to AOL.

Electronic mail: (E-mail) Personal messages sent or received via a computer.

FTP: File Transfer Protocol. The primary method for transferring files over the Internet.

Home page: A startup page of a Web site; a hypertext document on the Internet that contains information and links. To access a home page, you need a Web browser.

Internet: A world-wide network of networks that allows sharing and transferring information.



Newsgroup: An online, public "bulletin board" where you can find articles and discussions on a particular topic.

Online: When a computer or device is connected to a network (e.g. AOL or the Internet).

Online profile: A file in which screen name owners can enter personal information, such as their "real" name, location, occupation, etc.

Posting: An article sent to a newsgroup; or, the act of sending an article to a newsgroup.

Screen name: Identifies users on AOL. Screen names are used when signing on and when posting messages and electronic mail.

Thread: A series of postings in a newsgroup that together form an online discussion.

URL: Uniform Resource Locator- The form of the site address that reveals the name of the server where the site's files are stored, the file's directory path, and its file name. For example: [http://www.whitehouse.gov/info/pres\\_bio.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/info/pres_bio.html).

Web browser: Software that enables viewing hypertext documents on the Web.



World Wide Web: An information retrieval system that allows you to access information located on computers connected to the Internet using an interactive user interface.

Gopher: Internet public database browsing and searching program.

WebCrawler: An Internet search tool, owned and operated by AOL, that allows searches by document title and content.

Favorite Places: A user maintained file which contains names of frequently visited areas in AOL and provides for direct access to those areas.

FlashSessions: An AOL feature which enables scheduled automatic transfers of mail and files between your PC and AOL.

Hypertext: Describes a type of interactive online navigation functionality. Links (URLs) embedded in words or phrases allow the user to select text and immediately display related information and multimedia material.

Keyword: An AOL search feature located in the Go To menu.





