



Computer Beginners Boot Camp

Part Two: Basic Internet

What is the Internet?

The Internet is a worldwide system of computer networks connected to each other with or without wires.



How do I get the Internet?

1. You need an ISP — Internet Service Provider. An ISP is a company that provides access to the Internet for a monthly fee. This can often be bundled with your phone or cable TV connection.
2. At the library, members can use the Internet for free. Non-residents or those with cards from other libraries can register their card or get a guest pass.

Types of connectivity

- Dial-Up Modems - a device used to connect computers by a telephone line.
- DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) – high speed data connection provided by telephone companies through telephone lines (AT&T)
- Cable modems - A type of modem that allows access to the Internet via cable television service. (Comcast)
- Wireless/**Wi-Fi** (computers, laptops or other devices) - Communication that takes place via airwaves “wirelessly” broadcast from above methods.
- Wireless/**Mobile** (phones, tablets or other devices) - Communication that takes place via airwaves “wirelessly” through cell phone towers.

Frequently Asked Questions

What do you need to have Internet access from Home?

- computer or other Internet capable device
- connectivity
- Internet browser (included with most devices)

What affects speed?

- type of connection - modem, DSL, cable, wireless
- number of graphics on a page
- size of page
- popularity of the web site

How do I access the Internet – You will need an Internet browser.

Browsers are programs that allow you to search and view all the information that's available on the Internet. This information can be words, pictures, video or audio. Of the many browsers, these are three of the most popular:



Parts on the Internet Browser... (Internet Explorer)

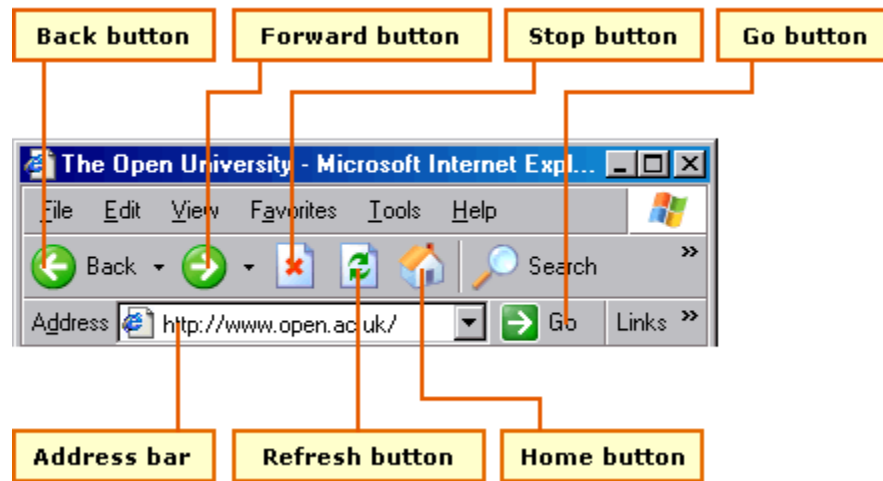


Status Bar or Indicator:

Each browser has a different way of indicating your progress. Mainly this will help you to know information on the page is still loading (or not).

Address Bar:

You will find the address bar at the top of your browser window. This indicates the address of the page you are currently on. It is where you will type your web address.



Older but very standard web browser buttons

Navigation

Internet browsers help you navigate resources with these buttons:

Back and Forward Buttons

Your browser will remember the pages that you have viewed. Use the Back (left arrow) and Forward (right arrow) buttons to move between recent pages.

Stop Button

Cancels a page request - particularly useful if a page is taking a long time to load.

Refresh or Reload Button

Occasionally a page doesn't load completely and parts may be missing. Sometimes you want the latest version of a page that is constantly updated. In either case, this button reloads the page you are currently on.

Home Button

Takes you to your **home page**. This is the default page that loads when you start your browser.

Go Button

Once you have typed the address, use “Go” and your chosen web page will be loaded. Alternatively press Enter or Return on your keyboard.

Learn More @ <http://www.gcflearnfree.org/internet>

The Goodwill Community Foundation offers great tutorials on using and learning about the Internet, as well as a number of tutorials on other computer skills. You may be interested in:

- Internet 101
- Internet Explorer 8
- Google Chrome
- Firefox

If you need further assistance, don't hesitate to:

- Call us at **847-459-4100 ext. 2** for quick over the phone support or to set up a more in-depth one-on-one session.
- Stop by **the Adult Services Desk** for basic assistance.
- You can view all of our course offerings and handouts on our Digital Learning Center page at www.itpld.org/research/dlc

Also, don't forget that all of the services offered by the library are free of charge. You can check out a full listing of our computer classes and registration options at

<http://www.indiantrailslibrary.org/events/>



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