

SSL

The **SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) Protocol** was developed by Netscape Communications, which provides secure communications between the server and client, preventing others from capturing or viewing the data being exchanged.

Encryption — Process of creating secret codes to protect stuff flying through cyberspace.

Extranet — Extension of corporate intranet that connects the internal network of one company with the intranets of its customers and suppliers. Makes it possible to create e-commerce applications that link all aspects of business relationship, from ordering to payment.

Hypertext — Text that contains links to other Internet sites and documents.

Interchange — The exchange of information, transaction data and money among banks. Interchange systems are managed by Visa and MasterCard associations and are standardized so banks and merchants worldwide can use them.

Micropayments — Transactions in amounts between 25 cents and \$10.

Order confirmation — E-mail message notifying you that an order has been received and will be processed and immediately sent.

Portal — Aims to be the first place people see when entering Internet, especially within an industry category; has links galore, perhaps a search engine, to encourage its popularity as a "port of entry."

Shareware — Software that can be used on a trial basis for free. Payment is expected if used after trial period.

Real-time credit card processing — Credit card purchase is authorized while a shopper is still online. If credit is denied, the shopper has opportunity to fumble around for another credit card to try.

The screenshot shows the infoplease.com website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with "Home", "Daily Advisor", "Glossary", and "Email". The main content area is titled "Computer Glossary" and features a search bar. Below the search bar, there are several definitions:

- ASCII**: American Standard Code for Information Interchange, an encoding system for converting keyboard characters and instructions into the binary number code that the computer understands.
- bandwidth**: The capacity of a networked connection. The more bandwidth, you have, the more data you can send along the networked wire. Bandwidth is particularly important for Internet connections, since greater bandwidth also means faster download.
- binary code**: The most basic language a computer understands, it is composed of a series of 0s and 1s. The computer interprets the code to form numbers, letters, punctuation marks, and symbols.
- bit**: (short for "binary digit"). The smallest piece of computer information, either the number 0 or 1.
- boot**: To start up a computer.
- browser**: Software used to navigate the Internet. Netscape Navigator and Microsoft Internet Explorer are today's most popular browsers for accessing the World Wide Web.
- bug**: A malfunction due to an error in the program or a defect in the equipment.
- byte**: Most computers use combinations of eight bits, called bytes, to represent one character of data or instruction. For example, the word "cat" has three characters, and it would be represented by three bytes.
- CD-ROM**: Compact Disc Read-Only Memory. Similar to a standard compact disc, but designed for computers, a single disc can hold around 640 megabytes of data, enough for several encyclopedia. Most software programs are now delivered on CD-ROMs.
- chip**: A tiny wafers of silicon containing miniature electronic circuits that can store millions of bits of information.

www.infoplease.com

If you've ever wondered what terms like ASCII, megahertz and URL mean, the computer glossary at www.infoplease.com will provide you with detailed definitions of those terms and more.

User ID — Unique identifier selected by a person opening an account on an e-commerce site.

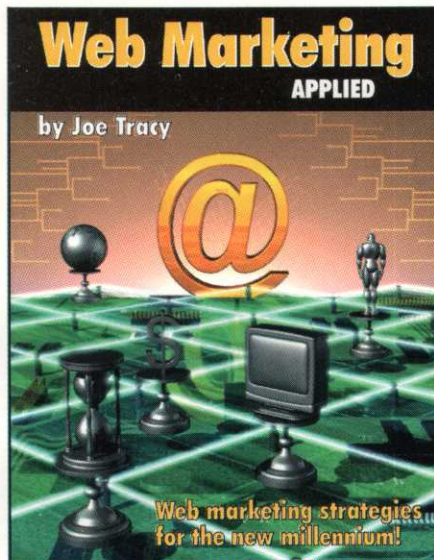
Weight threshold/Price threshold — Method of charging for shipping. Merchant defines various price ranges and assigns a dollar amount for shipping charges to each range. ■

ing for shipping. Merchant defines various price ranges and assigns a dollar amount for shipping charges to each range. ■

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