

Chapter 52: Control Panel Glossary

administrator Throughout this User Guide, administrator is used synonymously with Control Panel Owner.

alphanumeric A character set containing only letters and numbers.

cache A region of memory used by your computer to store frequently accessed files. For instance, most internet browsers cache visited websites, so that they don't have to be reloaded everytime you visit.

CGI (Client Gateway Interface) Often used to refer to a CGI program, these rules determine the interactions between programs on a web server.

CGI program Any program that uses CGI to interact with the server. CGIs are often used to process forms on webpages, interact with databases, and to produce dynamic web content.

client The Control Panel Owner

client-side scripts Scripts that are processed on the user's computer. They are generally embedded in an HTML document. JavaScript is an example of this.

configuration Set of components that make up a computer system.

contract length the length of time for which your contract will be valid. Your contract period will start on the next billing day after you have ordered a service.

Control Panel Where you access each of the programs you place in your domain packages.

Control Panel Owner You.

cron job An automated process that runs itself at specific, specified intervals on the server. Cron jobs are often used to automate services such as emptying caches, clearing log files, and sending bill reminders.

CSR (Certificate Signing Request) Used to generate a secure certificate.

CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) HTML documents can reference style sheets to determine how the document should be displayed. By seperating presentation and content, style sheets simplify site design and maintenance.

database (DB) an organized collection of data that describes data and relationships between data. An electronic database is much like an electronic filing cabinet.

database management system (DBMS) A computer program that allows a user to manipulate a database (add data to, extract data from, modify information, etc).

database quota The maximum amount of space the databases in your domain may occupy.

data transfer quota The maximum amount of data your domain may send and receive during a particular time span.

directory An area of memory designed to store files. Directories are usually organized in a tree-like structure, where you may have parent and child directories. They are often referred to as folders.

disk quota The maximum amount of space your domain may occupy.

domain A subset of internet addresses, the largest of which describes the general category of a site (.com, .net, etc.). The second level are domain names.

domain package The various products you choose to add to your domains.

domain registration The act of buying a domain name. There is a central registry of domain names (InterNIC), and, in order for people to be able to access your site, you must register your site with them.

dynamic content Information on your webpage that changes automatically, based on a database, or other form of input.

file compression A technique for reducing the size of one or more files, to back them up, save storage space on a disk, or for transmission. Files must be uncompressed before they can be used again.

file extension the letters after the last period in a file name that indicate the type of file.

form A set of data-entry fields on a web page. Often, CGI scripts, such as formmail.pl are used to process web forms.

forum An online discussion group.

GUI (Graphical User Interface) A user interface based on graphics, as opposed to text. GUIs often use a mouse, in addition to a keyboard, for input and interaction.

home directory The root directory for your domain.

hosting provider The company that provides the server your domain rests on.

hosting server The actual computer on which your website rests, at your hosting provider.

hostname The unique name by which a computer is known on a network.

HTML (HyperText Markup Language) A markup language used to structure text and multimedia documents and to set up hypertext links between documents

HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol) The protocol used to define file transfers over the web.

ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers) A non-profit corporation formed to coordinate several Internet functions, including domain system management.

icon A small clickable picture that provides a link to a file or program.

InterNIC (www.internic.com) Website established to provide public information regarding domain name registrations. Most InterNIC functions have been taken over by ICANN.

IP (Internet Protocol) The primary protocol used by source and destination hosts for communicating data across the Internet.

list maintainer The person responsible for maintaining a mailing list. This person is usually the point-of-contact for technical questions concerning the list.

mailing list An email based discussion group. Email is sent to a specific address on the list's server, which sends the email on to group members.

master domain Domain where all user accounts are defined.

merchant key Unique key used to authenticate identification and to keep data flowing between merchants and payment providers.

moderator Someone who manages a moderated mailing list. If a list is moderated, messages are sent to the moderator to be approved before they are sent out to list members.

mySQL An open source database management system that uses Structured Query Language (SQL) to add, process, and access data in a database.

name server Databases that translate domain names to and from IP addresses.

off-network email Email account that does not consist of a domain name hosted on our servers.

open source A computer program whose code is freely available to the public for use and/ or modification.

parameter A means of customizing the way a program functions.

parked domain A domain name that points to another domain, called a master domain, specified by you. Anyone going to this domain will be directed to the master domain. A parked domain is registered with InterNIC and allows multiple domain names to point to the same site.

password A unique and secret sequence of letters and numbers you will use, in combination with your username, to access your Control Panel, and the features within it.

payment gateway System used to collect credit card payments for online purchases.

permissions The set of attributes that control access to files on your domain. You control who may read, write, and execute files.

PHP A server side scripting language. You can use it to create dynamic web pages, interact with databases, and generate on-the-fly graphics.

perl A powerful and popular programming language often used to write CGI scripts.

port Each service on an internet server is assigned a different port number. For example, HTTP generally uses port 80.

portal A website intended to be the first website people see when using the web.

process An instance of a running program.

queue Sequence of stored data waiting to be processed.

script A type of computer program that can be executed in the language it was written in. Scripts do not have to be compiled.

secure certificate Encrypted certificate used to securely transmit information, such as credit card numbers, over the Internet.

search engine A tool that searches documents for specified keywords. A search engine can be site specific or extend through the entirety of the web.

setup fee The fee you're charged to add a new service to your domain.

server a computer that provides services to other computers

server-side scripts Scripts, often embedded in HTML documents, processed by the server. PHP scripts and ASPs are examples of this.

spam The digital equivalent of junk mail, spam is email sent to large numbers of people, usually for advertising purposes.

SSI (Server Side Includes) A method of embedding server-side scripts in an HTML file in order to dynamically generate content.

URL (Uniform Resource Locator) Global address of documents and other resources on the World Wide Web.

virtual domain Multiple domains hosted on a single web server.

web hosting Service that provides internet users systems for storing content, which is accessible via the World Wide Web.

web server A computer that stores all files related to your website and performs all functions necessary for its hosting.

virus A malicious program capable of reproucing itself. Generally, the effects of a virus are undesireable to the user whose computer is infected.