

ABCs of Information Technology (IT)

27 IT acronyms and terms you need to know

INFRASTRUCTURE

Antivirus

Software designed to detect, prevent, and remove malicious software (viruses, malware, etc.) from computers and networks.

Bandwidth

The maximum data transfer rate of a network, determining how much data can be transmitted in a given period.

Cloud Computing

Using remote servers hosted on the internet to store, manage, and process data, rather than relying solely on local servers or devices.

Cybersecurity

The practice of protecting computer systems, networks, and data from theft, damage, or unauthorized access.

Data Privacy

The protection of sensitive or personal information from unauthorized access, ensuring compliance with privacy regulations.

Domain Name System (DNS)

A system that translates spelled domain names into IP addresses for computers to identify each other.

Information and Technology (IT)

Use of computers, software, networks, and technology to manage and process information, fostering effective communication and information handling across organizations.

Network

A collection of connected computers, servers, devices, and other components that can communicate and share resources.

Patch Management

The process of regularly applying updates and patches to software and systems to fix vulnerabilities and improve performance.

Server

A physical platform from which services, resources, or data are served to other devices on a network.

Technology Service Provider (TSP)

A company that offers tech-related services to individuals or businesses, such as software development, IT consulting, and cybersecurity.

Virtual Private Network (VPN)

A secure network connection that allows users to access resources or browse the internet privately and securely, often used for remote work.

COMMUNICATIONS

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

A policy allowing employees to use their personal devices for work purposes, potentially increasing productivity but requiring security measures.

Cloud Collaboration

The use of cloud-based tools and platforms to facilitate teamwork, document sharing, and communication among employees in various locations.

Enterprising Resource Planning (ERP)

Software that integrates and manages various business processes, including finance, human resources, inventory, and more.

Internet of Things (IoT)

A system where everyday objects are connected to the internet, allowing them to collect and exchange data for improved functionality and efficiency.

Intranet

A private network within an organization that uses web technologies to share information, resources, and collaborative tools among employees.

Software as a Service (SaaS)

Cloud-based software delivery model where applications are hosted by a provider and accessed online.

Telecommuting

Another term for remote work, where employees work from home or other remote locations using communication technology.

Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP)

Technology that allows voice communication and multimedia sessions over the internet, often used for business phone systems.

Workflow Automation

The use of technology to streamline and automate routine tasks and processes, improving efficiency and collaboration within an organization.

PEOPLE

Chief Information Officer (CIO)

A top-level executive responsible for strategic planning and management of an organization's IT systems and technology.

Help Desk Support

IT personnel who provide technical assistance and support to end-users, troubleshooting issues and resolving problems.

IT Manager

An individual responsible for overseeing and managing an organization's IT operations, systems, and technology.

IT Security Specialist

A professional focused on implementing security measures, protecting against cyber threats, and managing data privacy.

Network Administrator

An expert in charge of managing an organization's network infrastructure, including routers, switches, and connectivity.

System Administrator

A professional responsible for setting up, configuring, and maintaining an organization's computer systems and networks.