

Web Development Terminology

ASP

Developed by Microsoft. Dynamically creates a web page from a database.

ASP

(Yes. There is another acronym ASP.) This is "Application Service Provider". An ASP can provide an application over the web without you having to buy it and put it on your computer.

Broadband

Size of the internet connect. Broadband and its big brother, "megaband," ensure that enough information is getting through the pipes to your computer.

Browser

There are two main browsers web developers test for : Internet Expolorer and Netscape. IE has almost 75% mar-ket share.

Cascading NavBars

Navigation that pops out revealing sub-navigation links.

CGI

Common Gateway Interface. Used to dynamically generate information on a site (e.g., Mortgage Calculators).

Data-driven web sites

Example: Amazon. A site that uses stored information to build a site. Very little--if any--html is involved.

DHTML

Dynamic Hypertext Mark-up Language. A beefier version of HTML that creates broader and more powerful web pages. Example: Cascading Navigation.

Flash

Program that creates animation for pages and navigation in web sites.

Frames

Replaceable sections of an HTML page that ensure a border of information remains while other information inside the border can swap out.

GIF

An image optimized for the web. GIFs and JPEGs are the two most common image forms. GIFs are generally used for flat color files like logos. JPEGs are used for photographs.

HTML

Hypertext Mark-up Language. Code that creates the backbone of a web page.

Java

Developed by Sun Microsystems. Operating language that can be used on any computer regardless of OS.

Javascript

Language that enables interactive occurances (like rollovers or submit buttons) to work on a web site.

Microsoft

A large company in Redmond, Washington that is controlling every aspect of your life at this very moment.

MP3

Compression code that enables songs to be reduced enough to transport over the web. Napster songs are MP3s.

Navigation

Dovetailed with Site Architecture. It is the ability to move seamlessly through a site.

Site Architecture

How a site is prioritized and structured to provide the most efficient presentation of information.

SmartCards

The latest form of Credit Cards. SmartCards have a small chip in them that enables computers (and web sites) to do many different tasks.

Tables

Basic building block of an HTML page. Ensures that the elements of a page line up.

Unix

Type of server built by Sun Microsystems. Unix servers have difficulty running ASP pages without special plug-ins.

Windows NT Server

Type of server built by Microsoft. NT servers have difficulty running CGI/perl scripts without special plug-ins.

WML

Wireless Mark-up Language. Used to create sites on wireless devices like PDAs.