

# Introduction to the Internet

Exploring the World Wide Web

## What is the Internet?

Also known as the World Wide Web, the Internet is a worldwide network that connects millions of computers and their users. It uses phone lines, cable and satellites to make the connections.

## Logging on to the library computers

- Choose Language
- Barcode (on back of library card)
- Pin number (last four digits of phone #)
- Choose filter preference
  - All 16 and under filtered
  - All 17 and over unfiltered (can still choose filtered)

## Filtered or Unfiltered?

- Congress has adopted the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).
- Libraries seeking to obtain federal funds through e-rate and/or LSTA funds filter material available on the Internet.
- The Pierce County Library System has chosen to comply with CIPA.
- CIPA, as interpreted by the United States Supreme Court, calls for Library computers to be filtered but that adults be given the right to remove the filtering device.

## Rules of Use

These are Pierce County Library System's rules for use of the Internet. Failure to use this service appropriately and responsibly may result in suspension of Internet use privileges, library privileges, and/or criminal prosecution.

- Refrain from deliberately accessing illegal sites.
- Comply with copyright laws or software license restrictions.
- Do not make any attempt to cause degradation of system performance.
- Respect the privacy of others.
- Refrain from any activity which is disruptive, libelous or slanderous.
- The library staff may request computer users to move to another location. Any person showing a lack of cooperation with library staff in the use of the Internet is subject to being restricted from using it.
- Be a smart consumer of information. Evaluate information for accuracy, completeness and validity. Remember, the safest use of the Internet is to provide no personal information.
- All patrons using wireless will have only filtered Internet access.

## Library Internet Use Policy

- <http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/about-us/policies/internet-policy.htm>

## What is an Internet Browser

- A browser is a program which enables the computer to display the text and graphics located on the Internet.
- Internet Explorer and Firefox are two examples.

## What's a URL?

- **URL (Uniform Resource Locator)** is computer jargon for *web address*. Every website has it's own, unique address (just like a house or a business)

For example the library's URL is:

<http://www.piercecountylibrary.org>

### Part 1: www

- www stands for World Wide Web

### Part 2 Name

- No spaces
- Not case sensitive

### Part 3 Extension

- Extension
- .com, .gov, .net, .edu .org or .us

http stands for "hypertext transfer protocol." You don't have to type that part.









## What is a web page?

- A web page is created using computer code called HTML that tells the computer how to display the text and graphics.

## What is a link?

- A *hyperlink* or *link* is text or an image that connects to another web site or to a different page within the same site (you will usually be notified if clicking on a link will take you away from the website).
- Text made to stand out by color, or underlining or both. (Cursor turns to a hand over links)

## Cursor symbols

-  Arrow: selects
-  Working in the background
-  Pointing hand: link to a web page or new location on a web page
-  I bar: allows you to enter text or highlight text
-  Vertical Resize
-  Horizontal Resize
-  Diagonal Resize 1
-  Move

## The Screen and Navigating the Page

- Mouse – regular left-click, arrow, rollover, blinking field-input cursor
- Hyperlink – hand w/pointed finger and status bar (for web address indication)
- Address bar, web address (URL)
- Menu bar
- Tool bar
- Sidebar (size of page)
- Page loading indicators (whirling world, waving flag)

### Toolbar

Stop  
Back                      Refresh  
Forward                  Home

### Menu bar

File                      Favorites  
Edit                      View  
Tools                    Help

## Browsing or Surfing the Web

3 ways to find websites (link, search engine, already know the address)

- Start on a web page and move out from there by following links.
- e.g. [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org) - What's New  
-Alexander McCall Smith Author Visit - Register Now! [More »](#)  
-PLU campus map
- Use the “Back” button to return to starting point.

## What is a search engine?

- A web site visitors can use to search the internet.
- [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)
- [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com)
- It will have a text box to enter the search terms.
- In order to type something in a **text box**, click into the box. The arrow will become a flashing straight line called a cursor. You may begin typing

## The search results

- After you type your search terms and press the “Enter” key on the keyboard you will get a list of web pages to choose from.
- The first on the list may or may not be the right one for you. It is the most popular and has your search terms in it a number of times.

## Google Searching

- Start with the obvious, e.g. *Hawaii*.
- Too much? Narrow search terms. e.g. *travel Hawaii*
- Too little? Broaden search terms, check spelling
- Capitalization doesn't matter. *geoRge wASHINGTON*
- Put phrases in quotes. “statue of liberty”

- Minus sign e.g bass –music, (for the fish).
- Bows (not ships or boats, not bows and arrows) Best bows ribbon
- Tilde ~ for synonyms e.g. train
- <http://www.google.com/intl/en/help/basics.html>

### **Evaluating a Web Site**

Anyone can have a website, you, me, your neighbor, so it is important to evaluate the site. Using the 5 W's will help: Who, What, When, Where, and Why.

**Who** is responsible for the site? Is there an Author listed? What are his/her credentials? Is the "author" a person, organization, business or government entity?

**What** type of site is it?

All Internet and web addresses end in a suffix which shows the nature of the organization that is the registered owner.

- edu=educational      .net=network/utilities
- .org=organization      .mil=military
- .gov=government      .com=commercial

**When** was the site created or updated? An automated date does not indicate when the information was updated.

**Where** can you find more information? Is there contact information other than an e-mail address? Is there documentation for factual statements, assertions and second-hand information? Are there links to other viewpoints, if applicable?

**Why** was this site created? Is the goal to sell? To persuade? To advocate an agenda? To inform? Why are advertisements (if any) there? Do they relate to this site?

### **Recommended web sites**

- [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org)
- See also handout