

## Basic Computer Terms

**Application** or **app**: A program that you run on your computer such as Office or Photoshop or a bookkeeping program.

**Boot** or **reboot**: To start up your computer or to restart your computer.

**Browser**: A program used to 'browse' the Internet. Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari, etc.

**Chat**: To text online with another person or persons using a messenger program.

**Click**: With your mouse to place your cursor or to highlight an icon.

**Cursor**: The blinking line or dot that lets you know where to be typing or insert something.

**Desktop**: The main screen which appears when your computer is turned on.

**Directory**: A folder in which you store files or when loaded programs keep installation files.

**Drive**: A storage device. Many types included- Hard drive, CD or DVD, Flash, Floppy, Zip, etc.

**Format**: A specific setting to allow you to maintain something. Also, to clean a storage device.

**Function keys**: The F keys at the top of your keyboard. Each F key have a different function or functions.

**Hardware**: Any mechanical device that runs something in your computer. Hard drive, memory, processor, motherboard, video card, sound card, etc.

**Http** or **Https**: Hypertext transfer protocol. S= secured.

**Internet**: A web of information from around the world.

**Intranet**: A local network of information within a company, small business or home.

**Laptop**: A portable computer.

**Memory** : Computer memory is used to temporarily store data. The most common types of memory are RAM, ROM, and flash.

**Modem**: A communication device that allows the Internet to be sent to your computer via phone line or cable.

**Monitor**: A viewing device for your computer.

**Network**: A group of computers linked to each other in a business or home.

**OS**: Operating System- Windows 7, Vista, XP, etc.

**PC**: Personal computer. Generally Microsoft Based.

**Processor** or CPU (Central Processing Unit): The part of the computer that actually works with the data and runs the programs.

**Router**: A device that allows you to set up a network. A regular router requires cables. A wireless does not.

**Search engine**: An Internet tool that allows you to find things. Google, Yahoo, Bing, etc.

**Software**: Disks or files that have information on them to install operating systems, programs or applications.

**User**: An account on your computer for a person or persons who use it.

**Word processor**: A program to allow you to create and edit documents. Word, Works, Word Perfect, etc.

**www**: World wide web. The Internet.

Next month: Wrap up.