FREE GUIDE · MIKE STRASSBURG IT SERVICES & SUPPORT

Tech Words Made Simple

The 12 computer and internet words you'll hear most, explained in plain English. No tech background needed.

MEMORY TRICK **CPU** = brain **RAM** = desk **Storage** = filing cabinet **Router** = traffic cop **Cloud** = storage unit

INSIDE YOUR COMPUTER

CPU — Processor

Think: the brain

What it is: The main chip inside your computer.
What it does: Runs every app and task. A faster CPU means a quicker computer.

RAM — Memory

Think: your desk

What it is: Short-term memory that empties when the PC turns off.
What it does: Holds what you're using right now. More RAM lets more apps run at once. Get at least 8 GB.

Storage — SSD or HDD

Think: a filing cabinet

What it is: Where your photos, files and programs are saved.
What it does: Keeps your stuff even when it's off. An SSD is much faster than an HDD.

GB / TB — Gigabytes & terabytes

Think: the size of the box

What it is: Units that measure storage space and memory.
What it does: Show how much fits. 1 TB = 1,000 GB, about 250,000 photos.

GETTING ONLINE

Modem — Your internet box

Think: the front door

What it is: The box from your internet provider.
What it does: Brings the internet into your home by cable, fiber line or dish.

Router — Shares the internet

Think: a traffic cop

What it is: A box that plugs into the modem. Sometimes they're one box.
What it does: Shares the internet with your devices and creates your Wi-Fi.

Wi-Fi — Wireless connection

Think: a radio

What it is: The wireless link from your device to your router.
What it does: Gets you online without cables. Walls and distance weaken it.

Ethernet — The internet cable

Think: a wired highway

What it is: A cable with a wide, clip-in plug that runs to your router.
What it does: Faster and steadier than Wi-Fi. Great for desktops and TVs.

EVERYDAY WORDS

Browser — Your web app

Think: a window to the web

What it is: The app for visiting websites: Edge, Chrome, Safari or Firefox.
What it does: Opens websites. Google is a website, not a browser.

Cloud — Online storage

Think: a storage unit across town

What it is: Space on someone else's computers, like OneDrive or iCloud.
What it does: Backs up your files so you can reach them from any device.

Malware — Harmful software

Think: a break-in

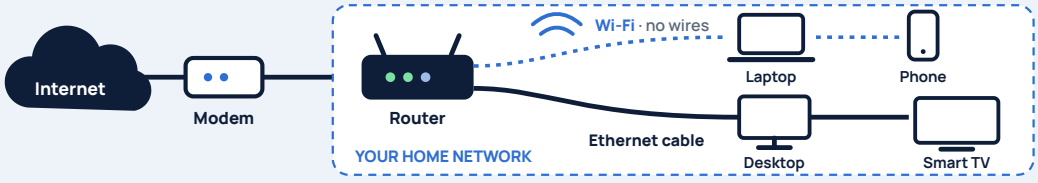
What it is: Viruses, spyware and other harmful programs.
What it does: Steals info, slows your PC or locks your files. Windows Security helps block it.

2FA — Two-step verification

Think: a second lock

What it is: An extra code after your password, usually sent to your phone.
What it does: Stops thieves even if they steal your password. Never share the code.

HOW YOUR INTERNET GETS TO YOU



Need help?

Confused by computer specs? Call me and I'll explain it in plain English.

CALL 218-431-1739

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