Background knowledge of the internet

Taken from:

compnetworking.about.com/od/internetaccessbestuses/l/bldef\_internet.htm

The term "Internet" was originally coined in the 1970s. At that time, only the very meagre beginnings of a public global network were in place. Throughout the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, a number of smaller national networks like ARPANET, BITNET, CSNET, and NSFNET evolved, merged, or dissolved, then finally joined with non-US networks to form the global Internet.

**Also Known As:** The Net

People commonly use the words "Internet" and "Web" interchangeably. This usage is technically incorrect.

The Internet started in the 1960's under the original name "ARPAnet". ARPAnet was originally an experiment in how the US military could maintain communications in case of a possible nuclear strike. With time, ARPAnet became a civilian experiment, connecting university mainframe computers for academic purposes. As personal computers became more mainstream in the 1980's and 1990's, the Internet grew exponentially as more users plugged their computers into the massive network. Today, the Internet has grown into a public spider web of millions of personal, government, and commercial computers, all connected by cables and by wireless signals.

**Internet Regulation Groups**

The Internet Society: Provides leadership in addressing issues that confront the future of the Internet, and is the organization home for the groups responsible for Internet infrastructure standards.