Computer Glossary

'N' Alphabet

NAS (Network Attached Storage)

A special hard drive connected to the internet so multiple people can store and access files from anywhere.

NAT (Network Address Translation)

A technology that lets many devices in your home or office use the same internet connection by sharing one public IP address.

NIC (Network Interface Card)

A part inside your computer that helps it connect to the internet or a local network.

Node

Any device that connects to a network, like a computer, phone, printer, or router.

NFC (Near Field Communication)

The technology used for contactless payments or quick data transfers by tapping two devices together, like your phone and a payment terminal.

Non-Volatile Memory

A type of memory that keeps its information even when the power is off, like USB drives or SD cards.

Nmap (Network Mapper)

A tool used to find devices and services on a network, often used by IT professionals to check network security.

NVRAM (Non-Volatile Random Access Memory)

A type of memory that saves information even when your computer or device is turned off, often found in routers and printers.

Neural Network

A computer system that learns patterns from data, similar to how our brains work. It's used in things like image recognition and artificial intelligence (AI).

NetBIOS (Network Basic Input/Output System)

A protocol allowing applications on different computers to communicate over a local area network.

Nanometer (nm)

A measurement unit in chip design, indicating the size of transistors. Smaller nanometers mean more efficient processors.

Netmask

A 32-bit mask used in IP addressing to determine the network and host portions of an IP address.

Netstat

A command that shows you what connections are active on your computer or network and which ports are open.

NTP (Network Time Protocol)

A protocol used to synchronize clocks between computer systems over a network.

Network Topology

The arrangement of nodes and connections in a network, such as star, bus, or mesh topologies.

NAC (Network Access Control)

A security measure that regulates who or what can connect to a network, ensuring only authorized devices access it.

Network Protocol

A set of rules that define how data is transmitted and received over a network, such as TCP/IP, HTTP, or FTP.

Network Latency

The delay between the transmission and reception of data across a network, typically measured in milliseconds (ms). Low latency is critical for real-time applications like gaming and video conferencing.