E-commerce, short for electronic commerce, is a business transaction that occurs over an electronic network such as the Internet. Anyone with access to a computer, an Internet connection, and a means to pay for purchased goods or services can participate in e-commerce.

In the past, e-commerce transactions were conducted using desktop computers. Today, many mobile computers and devices, such as PDAs and smart phones, also access the Web wirelessly. Some people use the term m-commerce (mobile commerce) to identify e-commerce that takes place using mobile devices.

Popular uses of e-commerce by consumers include shopping, investing, and banking. Users can purchase just about any type of product on the Web. Some examples include flowers, books, computers, music, movies, cars, airline tickets, and concert tickets. Through online investing, individuals buy and sell stocks or bonds without using a broker.

Three difference types of e-commerce are business-to-consumer (B2C), consumer-to-consumer (C2C), and business-to-business (B2B). Most e-commerce transactions are considered B2B transactions.