

## Internet 1 – Introduction

The Internet is a system of millions of computers linked together by high-speed phone lines, cables or satellites worldwide. Statistics show that as of June 2008 about 72% of the United States population are Internet users. The Internet is also referred to as the World Wide Web, the Wet, or the Web.

### ***Why would you want to use the Internet?***

- exchange e-mail
- socialize (chat rooms, instant messaging)
- look for a job
- up-to-the-minute news
- academic research
- shop, trade, and sell
- driving directions
- browse libraries
- tour museums
- listen to music
- watch videos
- read online books
- plan vacations
- health information
- genealogy research
- taxes, investing, personal finance

### ***What do you need to surf the Internet?***


1. **A computer with an Internet connection**
2. **An account with a connection provider:** Often called "ISP" (Internet Service Provider), these are usually phone or cable companies that charge you a monthly fee for Internet access, depending on what types of connection you subscribe to. You can find ISPs in your area by checking the Yellow Pages.
  - **Dial-up:** phone line and modem – slow but sufficient, least expensive
  - **DSL (digital subscriber line):** digital, very fast connection, more expensive
  - **Cable:** faster, more expensive, often comes with another service like your cable TV service
  - **Wireless (wireless access protocol WAP):** the device sends out a radio signal searching for service, and a connection is made with your service provider
  - **Cellular Broadband:** high speed internet connection through your cellular phone network
3. **Internet browser software:** A browser is a program that you use to explore the Internet. Some of the most popular browsers are Microsoft Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, Safari and Netscape Navigator. We use Internet Explorer at the library.
4. **Anti-virus software:** Symantec/Norton or McAfee are the two most common. These will help defend your computer against nasty programs that will erase parts of your hard drive.

### ***What is a Link?***

A link is a word, image, or anything else on a web page that you can click on to go to another web page or another place in the same web page. Links are often underlined and colored. When the pointer arrow turns into a hand you know it's a link.

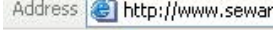


## Using Internet Explorer

To open up Internet Explorer, double-click on the  icon on the left side of the desktop.

Typing in a web site address:

Address

1. Click on the “e” symbol or the current address. 
2. Press “Backspace” or “Delete” on your keyboard.
3. Type in the new web site address.
4. Press “Enter” on your keyboard **or** click on the “Go” button to the right of the Address line.

### More about web site addresses:

- A web site address is also called a URL (uniform resource locator)
- You do not have to type in `http://` and sometimes you don't even have to type in `www`.
- The middle part of the web site address is called the domain name. For example, the library web site address is [www.sewardlibrary.org](http://www.sewardlibrary.org) - *sewardlibrary* is the domain name
- The last part of the web site address is called the domain name suffix. (For example, the **.org** in the library address is the domain name suffix.)
- Looking at the domain name suffix can often give you a clue as to the type of web site it is.
  - .org – organization
  - .com – commercial businesses (generally)
  - .net – network provider
  - .gov – government
  - .mil – military
  - .edu – education



Use the **Back** button to go to a previous page.



If you have just used the back button, you may click on the **Forward** button to return to the page you were previously viewing.



Use the **Stop** button to tell the computer to stop trying to load a web page that is loading too slowly.



You can use the **Refresh** button to reload your view of a web page. For example, on a fast-news day when you are looking at a site such as `cnn.com`, you can use refresh to see if the site has updated its headlines.



The **Home** button will bring you back to the first page that was displayed. On the library computers this is the Seward Memorial Library web site.



One way to print out a paper copy of the information you see on a web page is by using the **Print** button.

## Web Sites for Internet Beginners

[www.internet101.org](http://www.internet101.org)

[www.folksonline.com](http://www.folksonline.com)

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## Nebraska Web Sites

[www.connectseward.org](http://www.connectseward.org)  
*Seward County Web Page*

[www.sewardindependent.com](http://www.sewardindependent.com)  
*Seward County Newspaper*

[www.ngpc.state.ne.us](http://www.ngpc.state.ne.us)  
*Nebraska Game & Parks Commission*

[www.journalstar.com](http://www.journalstar.com)  
*Lincoln Journal Star Newspaper*

[www.omahazoo.com](http://www.omahazoo.com)  
*Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo*

[www.visitnebraska.org](http://www.visitnebraska.org)  
*Nebraska Tourism*

[www.livinghistoryfarm.org](http://www.livinghistoryfarm.org)  
*Wessel's Living History Farm in York, Nebraska*

[www.unl.edu](http://www.unl.edu)  
*The University of Nebraska, Lincoln*

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## Government Web Sites

[www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov)  
*The Library of Congress*

[www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)  
*The Whitehouse*

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## Other Interesting Web Sites

[www.recipesource.com](http://www.recipesource.com)  
*Search for Recipes*

[www.cnn.com/weather](http://www.cnn.com/weather)  
*Check the weather anywhere in the world*

[www.almanac.com](http://www.almanac.com)  
*The Old Farmer's Almanac*

[www.webmd.com](http://www.webmd.com)  
*Health information*

[www.learnthenet.com](http://www.learnthenet.com)  
*Try clicking on "10 Things You Can Do on the Net"*

[www.historyplace.com](http://www.historyplace.com)  
*American History*