

Defining Download Terms

Ever wonder what all the different terms mean when someone refers to downloads? No worries. Some common terms have been uploaded here so that you may download them into your brain's internal memory.

Download: As a verb, it means to transfer a copy of a file from a remote computer to another computer (usually the one on which you're working). As a noun, it's the file itself. Used in a sentence: I need to download the latest anti-virus updates before opening any more downloads.

Upload: To upload means to transfer a copy of a file from your computer to another computer. Used in a sentence: Everyone should be sure to upload important documents to network folders that are backed up regularly so they will be protected.

Add-in: A type of download that adds functionality to an existing program. Used in a sentence: Adobe Acrobat included an add-in into my Office programs so that I can create PDF files within Word, Outlook, and Excel.

Viewer: A utility you can download that lets you view or read files — such as Visio diagrams and PowerPoint presentations — even if you're too cheap to buy the actual programs themselves. Used in a sentence: Even though I don't have PowerPoint installed, I was still able to view the presentation sent to me thanks to a viewer.

Converter: A type of program that allows you to change from one format to another. Sometimes different versions of the same software won't play nice together, so you need a converter to mediate. Used in a sentence: Access 2003 wouldn't open my older Access files, that is until after I used a converter to change the files.

Update: A type of download that increases performance or security for a program you already have. Used in a sentence: My latest anti-virus software update helped protect my computer from the most recent virus threats.

Security Update: This is a high-priority update, one that can potentially save you from being vulnerable to those sneaky, hostile hackers. Used in a sentence: Luckily, I installed the latest security update for Internet Explorer before any hackers could take advantage of a recently exposed vulnerability.

Service Pack: A service pack is a single, big update that includes all the individual updates released since the last service pack was released. This can include full product updates as well

as security updates. Used in a sentence: Instead of downloading and installing all fifty-four updates recommended, I was able to install the latest service pack that included all of them.

About Desktop Resources, Inc.

Desktop Resources, Inc. was founded in 1995 by Tony Schafer, and is a leader in helping organizations couple their business initiatives with the technology to address those needs. DRI's "InformIT" managed services offerings proactively manage client infrastructure and strive to prevent problems before they occur. For more details, contact DRI at (317) 596-3650 or <http://www.DesktopResources.com>