

How computers work: the World Wide Web and the internet

During this unit you will learn that the World Wide Web and the internet are NOT the same thing. The term 'protocol' will be made clear and you will understand binary code and IP addresses.

Key Vocabulary	
clients	Computers or computer controlled devices that can connect to the server are called clients .
encrypted	The process of changing a message so it cannot be read by anyone except who it is sent too.
protocol	A protocol is a set of rules that say how information and data should be sent.
router	Routers are small computers that communicate between the Internet and devices that connect to the Internet. They keep the packets in a network moving to their destination as smoothly and quickly as possible.
server	A server is a piece of hardware that has a large memory drive where lots of files and resources are stored. It also responds to requests across a computer network.

Internet vs World Wide Web

Many people believe that the Internet and the World Wide Web are the same. In fact, they are two separate concepts. One is a network and the other is a file system.

The Internet is a network of computers connected to each other all around the world. The World Wide Web is a global filing system that runs on the Internet. Many entries in the World Wide Web's filing system are websites which consist of many web pages.



What Is a Computer Network?

A computer network is a group of connected devices, such as computers, printers, smartphones, **routers** and hard drives. They link together to 'communicate' with each other and share information. Computer networks can be large or small and can have lots of devices connected to them. For example, most schools have a computer network that allows staff and pupils to access and share information and resources. Some devices they might use are printers, computers, tablets and photocopiers.

