

# Packet Riders

## Peter Packet's Concise & Easy to Understand Networking Dictionary

### Antivirus Software

A software package that is installed to keep computers and servers from being infected by virus programs. Effective antivirus programs protect computers from unwanted data and illegal access.

### Computer Network

A group of computers connected by cables and/or wireless connections.

### Encryption Protection

Protects packets from attacks by making them difficult for hackers to identify.

### Hackers

People who try to get into other people's computers to steal information such as credit card numbers or passwords.

### Hacker Packets

Hacker Packets are packets sent by hackers that cause congestion and other problems on the Internet. Hacker packets can cause Denial of Service attacks, which means that a hacker has flooded a site with so many packets that nobody can get in.

### Interference

Causes problems with wireless communications. Cordless telephones, radios and microwave ovens are possible sources of interference.

### Internet

A group of computer networks that are connected throughout the world. It is often called a network of networks, and it's like a giant spider web, which is why it's sometimes referred to as the World Wide Web.



**Packets**

Small pieces of information such as email, movies, pictures, music, and text that travel through the Internet. We receive packets on our computers when we look at a website or get our email. A packet doesn't include all the information in an email or on a website. Instead, the email or website data is divided into tiny pieces and sent through the Internet as packets. When the packets arrive at your computer, they are put back together.

**Quality of Service (QoS)**

Gives preferential treatment to packets to ensure that they will be delivered quickly and safely.

**Routers**

Sends packets through the best routes to their destinations. Routers provide fast and secure paths for the packets, know how to avoid congestion on the Internet, and can find the shortest routes.

**Security Key**

Protects information sent through wireless communications. Wireless receivers turn away packets without security keys.

**Security Officer**

Software that protects computers from receiving information that is not accompanied by a security key.

**Server**

A computer with software that enables it to work with other computers on a network. A server can handle filing, printing, communication, and applications. The servers on your school network allow you access to the information stored on them and managed by them.



## **Viruses**

Software that can erase computer files, cause computers not to work as they should, send emails from your computer that give other computers viruses, and cause other problems.

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## **Wireless Communication**

Transmits packets through the Internet using wireless access points. The information travels through the air without wires until a wireless receiver retrieves it at the destination computer or server.

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