CSC 170 - Introduction to Computers and Their Applications

Lecture 8 – The World Wide Web

What is the World Wide Web?

- The Web is not the Internet
- The Internet is a global data communications network
- The Web is just one of the many technologies that use the Internet to distribute data

What is the World Wide Web?

• The World Wide Web (usually referred to simply as the Web) is a collection of HTML documents, images, videos, and sound files that can be linked to each other and accessed over the Internet using a protocol called HTTP.

























URLs

• Rules for correctly typing a URL:

- A URL never contains spaces
- The http:// can be omitted
- Always use a forward slash (/)
- Duplicate the URL's capitalization exactly —some Web servers are case sensitive
- Links aren't URLs, but a link contains the URL that "links" to another Web page



URLs

- Many URLs are long and complex; this can be a problem
- Several services, such as Bitly and Goo.gl, create **short URLs**
 - 1. Copy and paste the full URL into the box provided by a short URL service such as Goo.gl.
 - 2. The service produces a short URL.
 - 3. The short URL is stored on the server along with the full URL.
 - 4. Links to the short URL are directed to the server, which forwards the link to the full URL.



URLs

- Short URL services may lead consumers to believe that all short URLs will last forever
- Short URLs are sometimes used to disguise the real address of a Web site that is illegitimate
- Short URL services may be blocked by Web hosts and ISPs
- Web surfers should be aware that short URLs may lead to questionable Web sites and scams.

URLs
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Online services such as checkshorturi expand short URLs and display the original, full URL.









Customization

- The *browser home page* is the first page displayed when the browser starts.
- If your primary use of the Web is seeking information, then a search engine site, such as Google, makes a good home page.
- You can also use services such as Protopage, My Yahoo, or uStart to design your own start page.







Customization

- A **plugin** is a program that extends a browser's ability to work with file formats. Popular plugins include Adobe Reader for viewing PDF files, Adobe Flash Player for animations, and QuickTime Player for videos.
- Plugins have been exploited by hackers to access computers without authorization and plant malware.















Browser Cache

• Today's browsers also offer private browsing modes, in which traces of your activity are not maintained in the History list or browser cache; use it when you prefer not to leave a trail that can be seen by others who gain access to a device you have recently used.



Browser Cache

- Browsers ask to save passwords when you log in to sites.
- The potential risk of stored passwords is that anyone who gains access to your device can easily log in to your password-protected sites because the passwords are supplied by your browser.







Cookies

- There are two kinds of cookies: session cookies and persistent cookies
 - <u>Session cookies</u> cookies stored in memory and deleted when the browser is closed
 - <u>Persistent cookies</u> cookies that are stored on a device after a session ends; some are programmed to time out after a designated date









