

Using IE7 with Dolphin Pen

Net Systems Informatics

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Lesson 1: World Wide Web (WWW) Overview

In this lesson, you will learn to:

- ▶ Define World Wide Web (WWW)
- ▶ Access and browse the Web
- ▶ Explain the working of the Web
- ▶ Describe Uniform Resource Locator (URL)
- ▶ Explain Search Engines

Imagine you have to write a document on “Cricket”. For this, you first need to gather all kind of information needed. To gather information, you need to go through various books, magazines or even meet or contact people so that you have enough information to write a document.

Doesn't this sound a bit boring? Want to try another easier and faster way of searching information? Want to get all the information with a click of a button sitting at home?

Yes! It's true!! World Wide Web (WWW) enables you to get access to any kind of information you need. Using Web you can:

- ▶ Search any kind of information related to people, technologies, softwares, games, astrology, and many more
- ▶ Chat with friends and make new friends
- ▶ Send and receive e-mails
- ▶ Download latest softwares, music files, videos, and many more

Let's understand what exactly Web is!!!

What is WWW?

Tim Berner's Lee developed WWW in 1989 for CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research). The main aim behind developing WWW was to develop a single user interface and allow people to access large database containing information.

In simple terms, you can say that Web is a network of computers that enables user on one computer to access information on another computer.

You can understand WWW as a client - server model. Here, you as a user rely on the client to retrieve information from the server, where the data is stored. That sounds interesting isn't it? Now, let's learn how to access the Web.

How to Access the Web?

There are various ways of accessing the Web. Some of them include:

- ▶ **Browsers:** Browsers act as an Interface to the Web
- ▶ **E-mail Softwares:** Using e-mail softwares, you can send and receive mails
- ▶ **RSS Feed Readers:** RSS feeds contain frequently updated information such as news and blogs. Various RSS feed readers are available using which you can receive timely updates

Browsing the Web

Let's take the same example of preparing a document on "Cricket". Here, you would scan through various books or magazines and gather relevant data. Browsing the Web is similar to searching for information in the books but in a much easier way. You can browse the Web using different Web browsers, such as:

- ▶ Internet Explorer
- ▶ Mozilla Firefox
- ▶ Opera
- ▶ Safari

The most widely used browser is the Internet Explorer. Internet Explorer (IE) was developed by Microsoft.

Let's understand how to use these browsers to access the Web.

It's simple! Just type the name of the Web site in the address bar and click the Go button or just press Enter.

You would not like to search for information in books anymore after learning this. Isn't it?

How Does the Web Work?

After reading all this, you would definitely like to know that how does the Web work. Let's try to understand the Web as we move forward.

A Web is a system of multiple interconnected computers. These computers have information in the form of hypertext documents. These documents are referred to as Web pages which can be accessed using a Web browser.

OK!!!! So now there comes another question, what do we understand by a Web page?

A Web page is written using Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) and contains text, images, graphics, and links to same Web pages or other Web pages. Web pages are stored on a Web server and accessed using Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP).

Viewing a Web page begins with entering a URL in the address bar of the Web browser.

Let's go into the depth of understanding the question now in your mind - What is a URL?

What is a URL?

Uniform Resource Locator (URL) also referred to as a Web address is a unique address assigned to hypertext documents on WWW. Some of the examples of URL are:

<http://www.yahoo.com>

<ftp://ftp.freeweb.com/freetrial.exe>

<http://mydownload.com/pictures/sampleimage.jpg>

<ftp://www.mydownloads.com/sampledloads/freetrial.exe>

Let's understand the different parts of a URL:

- ▶ **Protocol used:** The first part of the URL specifies the protocol used. In the first example, the protocol used is Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP). In the second example, File Transfer Protocol is used to download "freetrial.exe" from a remote computer.

- ▶ **Domain Name:** The second part defines the address of the computer where the Web site is stored. The address is a combination of words followed by .com, net, .org which are referred to as the domain names.

Too much of theory and concepts learnt, right? Now let's have some practical fun!!!

Demonstration

1. Click **Start** à **All Programs** à **Internet Explorer 7**.
2. Press **Alt + D** to go to the Address bar.
3. Type the URL, for example, www.google.com. The Google home page is displayed.

Did you enjoy that? Wasn't that easy!!!

What is a Search Engine?

By now you must have understood what is a Web and how is it helpful. But what exactly happens when you search for specific information on the Internet?

When you are looking for specific information, a search engine lists all the Web sites that match your search criteria. Different search engines include, Google, Yahoo, AltaVista, Rediff, and MSN.

Let's access a search engine, for example, Yahoo.

1. Open Internet Explorer 7.
2. Press **Alt + D** to go to the Address bar.
3. Type www.yahoo.com. The home page of Yahoo is displayed.
4. In the **Search box**, enter Sports.
5. Click the **Web Search** button or press **Enter**.



Some search engines may have the **Go** button or the **Search** button.

When you click the **Web Search** button, the search engine looks for information in the database and displays a list of Web sites matching your search criteria. In the above example, all the Web sites related to sports will be displayed.

Wasn't that interesting??

Now, its time to test your learning!

Lab Exercise

Open Internet Explorer and access the Google home page and search for "Cricket".

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Lesson 2: Getting Started with Internet Explorer 7 Window

In this lesson, you will learn to:

- ▶ Explain the IE7 interface
- ▶ Discuss the IE7 window components

In the previous lesson, you learnt about the basic concepts of WWW, how to browse the Web, use Web pages, and how to access Internet Explorer 7 (IE7).

Now, before starting with IE7 window, let's understand what IE7 is.

Windows IE7 is a web browser and the latest version of Microsoft. IE7 provides new features such as tabbed browsing, integrated search box, and features related to security such as phishing filter. You will learn about these features in the later lessons.

First, let's understand how to open IE7 using the Dolphin Pen.

Starting IE7 using Dolphin Pen

You can access IE7 in many ways, such as from the Start menu or from the desktop shortcut, if present. However, using Dolphin Pen you can start IE7 in just one press.

Demonstration

To access IE7 using Dolphin Pen:

1. In the **Application Menu**, press the down arrow key until you reach **5 Microsoft Internet Explorer**.
2. Press **Space bar** or **Enter** key. The Microsoft Internet Explorer window is displayed.

Alternatively, you can directly press 5 to open IE7.

When you open IE7, the home page will get loaded in the web browser. You can also use Alt + Home or Alt + M key strokes to directly open the home page of your Web browser.

If you have not specified any home page, it will display **about: blank** in the address bar where you need to enter the appropriate URL to open the Web page.

Would you like to try this yourself? Great!!

Open IE7 on your computer and check what your home page is.

We have learnt how to access IE7 but how does this IE window looks like. Let's understand this in detail.

IE7 User Interface

The IE7 window looks just like My Computer or Windows Explorer. The major components of IE7 window include:

- ▶ Title bar
- ▶ Address bar
- ▶ Tool bar
- ▶ Menu bar
- ▶ Status bar

Let's understand these components in brief:

Title Bar

Title bar displays the name of the Web page. It is the first thing that a screen reader reads when you open a Web browser.

Lab Exercise

Open IE7 and check the name of the Web page.

Address Bar

We have already talked about the Address bar in the previous lesson. You remember that, right?? Great!!!

Address bar is a very important component of IE7 that helps to open user specific URL address. Remember that you can select the Address bar by pressing the Alt + D key strokes. You can also view the list of previously visited URL addresses below the bar by pressing the F4 key.

Just as information gets stored in folders in a file on computer similarly information is stored within Web site as file directory structure.

Tool Bar

A toolbar is a block of buttons and icons of most frequently used commands. Generally, it appears below the Menu bar. IE7 allows you to lock the toolbar and customize the buttons and icons that are displayed on the toolbar.

Demonstration

To customize the toolbar:

1. Press **Alt + O** to access the **Tools** menu located on the right corner of the browser window. A drop-down menu appears.
2. Select the **Toolbars** option by pressing the **Down Arrow** key or press **T**.
3. Select the **Customize** option from the list or press **C**. The Customize Toolbar window appears as shown in Figure 2.1.

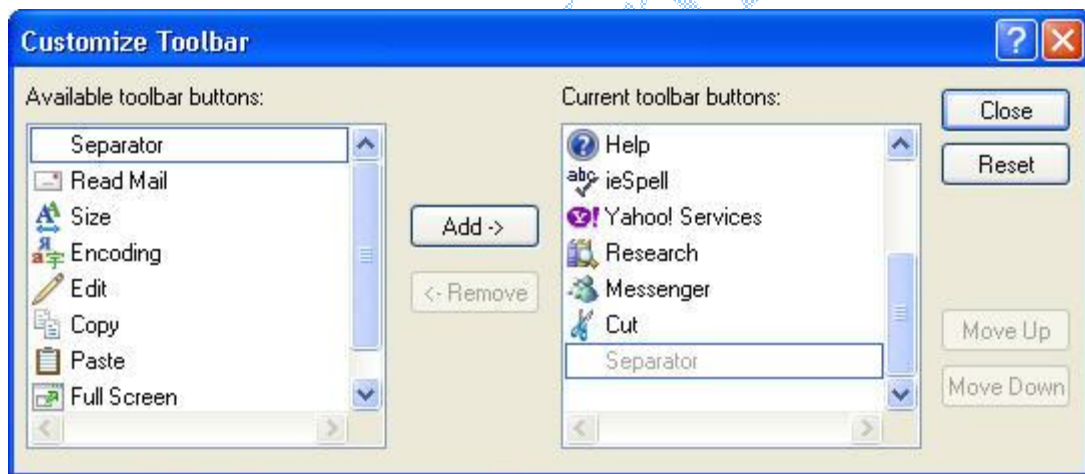


Figure 2.1: Customize Toolbar window

4. Press the tab key to reach the **Available toolbar buttons** list box.
5. Select the appropriate tool from the **Available toolbar buttons** list box, and press **Add** or press **Alt+A**. The selected tool will be added to the current toolbar buttons list box.
6. Press the **Close** button or **Alt+C**.

Now, let's take an exercise.

Lab Exercise

Explore the Tools options available on your Web browser.

Menu Bar

Menu bar is similar to the menu bar available on applications such as Microsoft Word or My Computer. It displays menus, such as File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, and Help. These menus provide various options to manage tasks in IE7.

Let's learn more about each of these menus:

- ▶ **File Menu:** Like other applications, File menu provides options such as New Window, Open, Save As, Print, and Exit options. Using the Send option, you can send current Web page or link of Website by e-mail. You can also create shortcut of a link on your desktop.

In addition, it enables you to open multiple pages in single browser window. This is known as the tabbed-browsing feature of IE7. To open a new tab, you can press Ctrl+T. We will learn about this feature in the next lesson.

- ▶ **Edit Menu:** It provides options like Cut, Copy, Paste, Select All, and Find (On This Page) similar to Microsoft Word Document.
- ▶ **View Menu:** It contains options, such as Toolbars, Status Bar, Quick tabs to displays all tabs, Explorer Bar, Go To, Stop, Refresh, Text Size that can be used to increase the size of the text displayed on screen. It also provides options such as Encoding, Source View, and Full Screen.
- ▶ **Favorites Menu:** This menu enables you to save the frequently used or visited Web pages. You can also organize favorite websites in different folders that can be renamed, deleted, or moved.
- ▶ **Tools Menu:** It contains options such as Phishing Filter, Pop-up Blocker, Delete Browsing History, Manage add-ons, and Internet Options, Windows Update. We will discuss these features in detail in the later lesson.
- ▶ **Help Menu:** The Help menu enables you to learn more about the IE7.

Too much theory we learnt, right? So, now let's have some practical fun!!!

Status Bar

Status bar is a component of IE7 that displays the progress of Web pages loading in the browser.

Let's take an example of www.bbc.co.uk website, to check the progress of the Web page being loaded, you can keep Num Lock off and press 2.

Dolphin Pen will speak Done Internet 100% after the Web page is loaded completely.

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