

**.gov** Refers to a site associated with a local, regional, or national government. **.int** Refers to international organizations. **.mil** Refers to military organizations. **.org** Identifies a site dedicated to a non-profit organization that may promote a specific cause such as foundations for feeding the poor, curing cancer, etc.

Additional categories are added as the need arises. Examples include: .aero, .biz, .info, .jobs, .pro, .travel, etc.

### Country Code Top-Level Domains

Some top-level domain names include a two-letter abbreviation to identify the country in which the web site is hosted; examples include:

**au** Australia **fr** France **jp** Japan  
**br** Brazil **il** Israel **mx** Mexico  
**ca** Canada **in** India **tw** Taiwan  
**cn** China **it** Italy **uk** United Kingdom  
**dk** Denmark

## The World Wide Web

### Objective 3-1.1

While the Internet is a network of computers and hardware connections, the World Wide Web is a system of interlinked documents that are stored and accessed on that network called the Internet.

There are millions of documents hosted on web servers – and if you can access a document by typing its address into a web browser, or by clicking a link that takes you to it, that document is part of the World Wide Web.

Documents hosted on web servers are called web pages, and web pages usually contain links (called *hyperlinks*) to other pages located on web servers around the Internet. If you have ever visited a web site and clicked a link that took you to another web site (or to another page within the same web site), then you have used a hyperlink.

Hyperlinks form the connections that make the World Wide Web possible – web pages around the world are connected to one another by hyperlinks.

## The Role of the Web Browser

To view and navigate web pages and to interact with web sites, you need more than simply an Internet connection – you need a web browser.

A web browser is a software program that enables you to view and navigate web pages on the Internet, and to experience pictures, audio, and video. Web browsers are highly sophisticated programs.

## Meet the Browser!

### Objective 3-1.1, 3-1.2

Web browsers (or simply, browsers) enable you to easily access, view and navigate web pages on the Internet. You may be familiar with several browsers, such as Microsoft Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, Apple Safari and Opera.

All browsers share the same features, and they can be customized to suit your working style, and keep you safe while you are online.

## Getting Where You Want to Go – The Address Bar

To visit a web page, type its URL into the browser address bar and press **Enter**. The address bar shows the URL of the page currently displayed in the browser window. If the web page includes a title, it is displayed in the window tab.



You can visit any web page by typing its URL into the Address bar and pressing **Enter**.

As you navigate to other pages within a web site (or as you visit pages on other web sites), the URL shown in the Address field updates to show the address of the current page.

Most browsers maintain a history of URLs that you can access from the address bar. Clicking a URL displayed in the address bar history list works the same as entering the URL directly into the address bar.

The address bar often includes several buttons:



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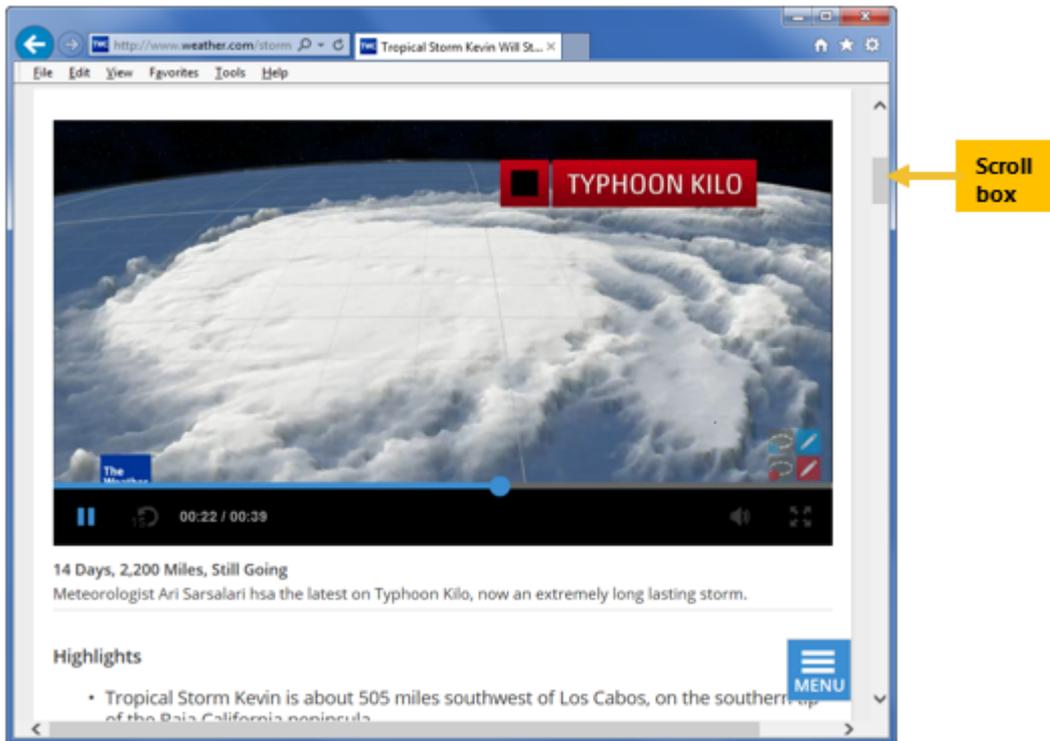
The Internet Explorer address bar includes the following buttons:

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Search</b>       | You can search directly from the Address bar in Internet Explorer, instead of first navigating to a search engine page. Enter your search term in the Address Bar and then click the  ( <b>Search</b> ) button or press <b>Enter</b> to view a list of web sites related to your search term.  |
| <b>Show Address</b> | Click the  ( <b>Show Address</b> ) button to display a history of the URLs of previously visited web sites.  |
| <b>Refresh/Go</b>   | Click the  ( <b>Refresh</b> ) button to re-display or refresh the contents of the current web page. The Go button  ( <b>Go to</b> ) displays in the address bar while you are typing in a web site address. You can click  instead of pressing <b>Enter</b> to go to the site. |
| <b>Stop</b>         | Click the  ( <b>Stop</b> ) button to halt the downloading of information for a web page. The Stop button appears only while a page is loading.   |

## Browser Windows and Scroll Bars

Browser windows can include horizontal and vertical scroll bars. These display when a window is too small to

show all the contents of a web page.



The position of the scroll box within the scroll bar provides an approximate gauge of where the information currently displayed in the window is in relation to the entire window's contents. It gives you an idea of how much more information is on the web page.

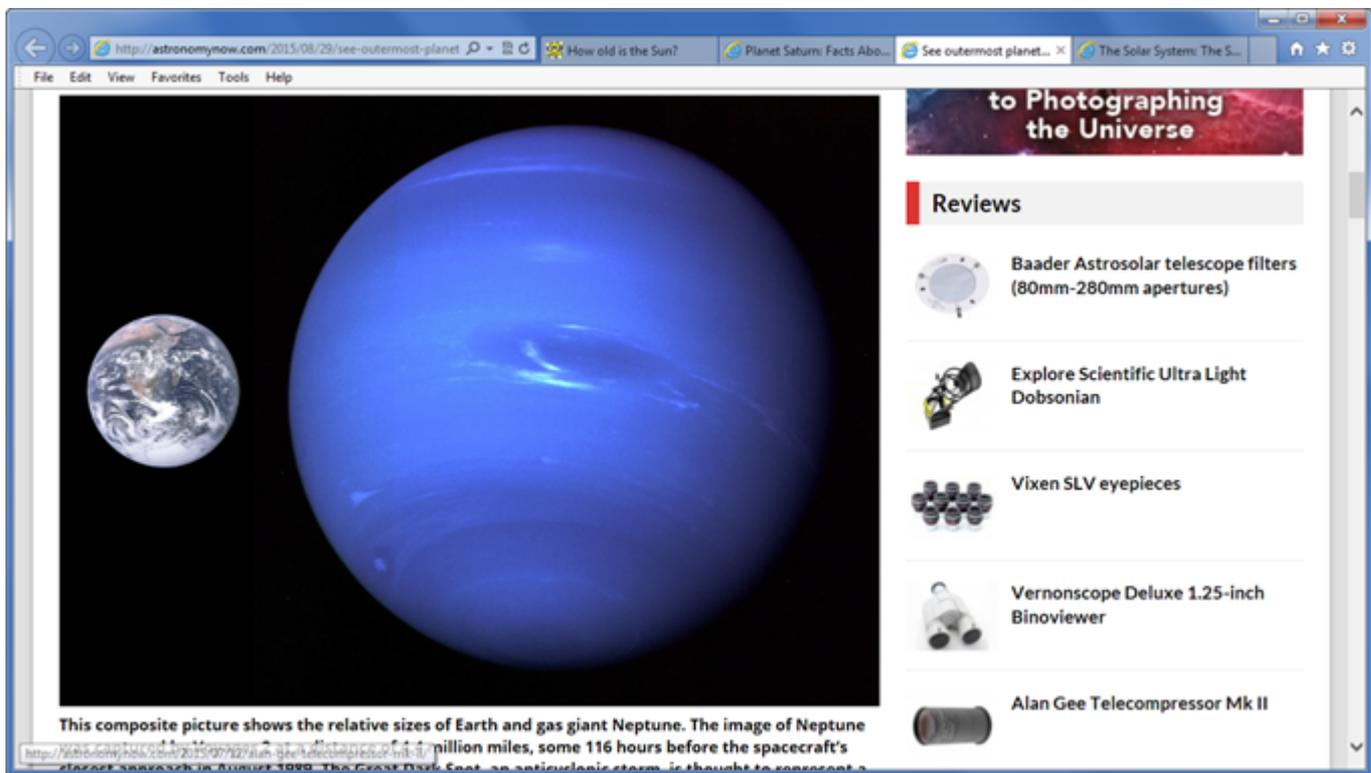
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Studies show that most users do not mind scrolling vertically, but they have a strong dislike for scrolling horizontally. Web site designers try to create pages that respond automatically to changes in the size of the window. As a result, most web pages do not require horizontal scrolling, even though browsers support horizontal scroll bars.

Browser windows, like other windows you have worked with, include the standard Minimize, Maximize/Restore and Close control buttons in the upper-right corner. They can also usually be resized and moved like other windows.

## Browser Tabs

Tabbed browsing is viewing different web sites simultaneously – each in its own window tab. Browser tabs are like dialog box tabs; they show you different views of your current browsing session.



You can open a separate web page in each tab, and switch between them by simply clicking on the tab. Only one tab can be the active tab at any given time.

Working with multiple open tabs allows you to compare information from different web sites, or to copy and paste information from multiple web pages into a document.

To create a new tab, use one of the following methods:

- Click the **New Tab** button, or
- press **Ctrl+T**, or
- right-click the active tab and then click **New tab**, or
- if the Menu bar is displayed, click **File** and then click **New tab**.
- To close a tab you no longer want to view, click the **×** (**Close Tab**) button on that tab.

If you have multiple tabs open, and you click the **Close** button for Internet Explorer, you will be prompted to specify whether you want to close the current tab or close all the open tabs.

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## Hyperlinks in the Browser

In the web browser, hyperlinks often display as underlined or colored text. However, hyperlinks are not limited to text; pictures or icons or even specific areas on a graphic can be hyperlinks as well. When you view a web page in a web browser, hyperlinks behave in a specific manner.

- When you hover the mouse pointer over a hyperlink, the mouse pointer changes to a pointing hand (👉) icon.
- When you click a hyperlink, you move to the “target” web page. This is the page that the hyperlink points to. The web page may be part of the same web site, or may be a page on a different web site.
- If you return to the “anchor” page (the page on which you clicked the link), the hyperlink often displays in a different color, indicating that it has already been followed.

Sometimes you can't see a hyperlink until you position the mouse pointer over it, but once you see a 👉, you know you have found a hyperlink.

Sometimes hyperlinks open the target web page in the current browser tab, while others open a new tab and then display the target web page within the new tab.

## Uploading and Downloading

Browsers upload and download information continually while you are online.

### Downloading

*Downloading* is the process of receiving a file from a server on the Internet to your computer. Every time you visit a web site, one or more pages from the web site are downloaded (and copied) to your computer.



### Uploading

*Uploading* is the process of sending information from your computer to a server on the Internet. The most basic example of uploading is entering a URL. When you press **Enter**, the browser sends (or uploads) a request for the specified web page to the web server.



Other examples of uploading include entering a user name and password for a web site, or submitting information through a web form, or posting to a blog. When you post pictures to Facebook or other social media sites, you are uploading.

Most users download much more information than they upload, and most ISPs provide service in which download speed is much faster than upload speed.

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## Try It! Exercise

In this exercise, you will open the Internet Explorer web browser, enter URLs, follow links, and work with browser tabs.

1. Access the Windows desktop.
2. Click the **Internet Explorer** icon  in the taskbar to open the Internet Explorer web browser. The URL of the browser's home page displays in the browser address bar. (We will talk about home pages later.)
3. Click in the browser's address bar to select the current text, then type: `www.ccilearning.com` and press **Enter**.

The browser displays the CCI Learning.com web site.

4. Click in the address bar to select the current text, type: `www.yahoo.com` and press **Enter**.

The browser displays the Yahoo.com web site.

5. Click the scroll box in the vertical scroll bar, then drag down to scroll the page vertically.
6. If the window is maximized, click  to restore the window. Does the window display both a vertical and a horizontal scroll bar, or just a vertical one?
7. Drag the right border of the restored window to the left to make the window narrower. Notice that the text flow adjusts in the window.
8. Keep making the window narrower if necessary until a horizontal scroll bar displays across the bottom of the window, then scroll the window to the right. What do you observe? Is there text to right of what currently displays in the window?

How easy do you think it would be to view this web page on a tablet or on a smart phone?

9. Click  to maximize the browser window.

Now, open two more tabs.

10. Click  (**New tab**) to open a new browser tab.
  11. In the new tab, click in the address bar, type: [www.tolanoadventures.com](http://www.tolanoadventures.com) and press  to visit the Tolano Adventures web site.
  12. Press  +  to open a new tab and type: [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com) in the address bar. Click  (**Go**) to access the CNN web site.
  13. Click the **Yahoo** tab to make it the active tab.
  14. Click the **Tolano Adventures** tab to make it the active tab.
  15. Click the **CNN** tab and then click  (**Close Tab**).
- You should now have only two tabs open: the Yahoo tab and the Tolano Adventures tab.
16. Click the **Yahoo!** tab to make it active.

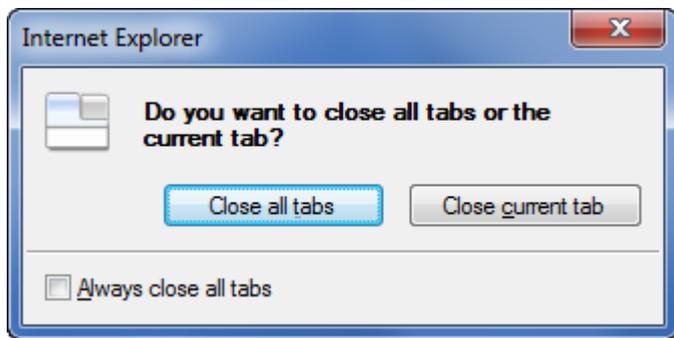
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Locate and follow a few hyperlinks.

17. Move your mouse cursor over the list of words that display along the left side of the window. The list begins with the words Mail, News, Sports, etc.

Notice that when you point the mouse cursor over each word, each displays with an underline and the mouse pointer changes to a pointing hand () icon identifying the current word as a hyperlink.

18. Locate and click the link for **Weather** to view the Yahoo weather page (the target of the hyperlink).
19. The Yahoo weather page displays links to other cities (move the mouse around the page to find the links). Click one to view the weather in another city.
20. Click the **Tolano Adventures** tab to make it active.
21. Take a few moments to move the mouse cursor around the screen to see if you can find links on the page. The only links on the page are the words – Home, About Us, Services, and Contact Us – which provide navigation in the Tolano Adventures web site.  
Even though these links do not appear with underlines, the mouse pointer still changes when you point at them.
22. Position the mouse pointer on the **Services** link, and then click the link to view a list of services that Tolano Adventures provides.
23. Move your cursor to point at the **Biking/Cycling Tours** link in the list and then click it to move to this page to view its contents.  
Again, as you click each hyperlink, the web browser navigates to the web page specified as the target for that link.
24. Click the **Close** button  to close the browser window, and click **Close all tabs** when prompted.



## Browser Navigation Tools

### IC3 Objective 3-1.2

All browsers include navigation tools and features which make them easy to use. These include built-in navigation buttons, a home page you can specify, and various toolbars.

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## Back, Forward and Refresh Buttons

Although web pages often provide their own navigation tools, every browser includes buttons that allow you to navigate among the sites you visit within any given browsing session.

- The Back button moves back one page. The back button becomes active once you click a link or visit a different page by typing a URL in the address bar.
- The Forward button moves ahead one page. The forward button becomes active once you move back one page.
- The Refresh button reloads or re-displays a page. You may want to refresh a page if the content changes continuously, or if part of the page failed to load correctly.

As you can see in the following table, the symbols used for basic navigation buttons are fairly universal regardless of whether you use Microsoft Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, Opera or Apple Safari.

| Button  | Internet Explorer   | Firefox   | Chrome  | Opera   | Safari  |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Back    |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forward |  |  |  |  |  |
| Refresh |  |  |  |  |  |

If a menu bar is available in the web browser, you can usually display it by pressing the **Alt** key. You can then use the View menu to go to a specific page or to refresh the screen.

The menu bar is hidden by default because it is faster to use the buttons.

## Home Page

A browser's home page is the page that displays by default when you open the browser. Most browsers are set up with a default home page when you install them. For example, the default home page for Internet Explorer is the [www.msn.com](http://www.msn.com) page.

You can set any page you like as your browser home page. For example, you might want to set your home page to your favorite web site, or to your favorite search engine. Sometimes a school will set a default browser home page.

All web browsers include a home page button that looks like a house. No matter where you are on the World Wide Web, you can click  to instantly return to your browser home page.

## Setting a Home Page

To set your home page in Internet Explorer, click the **Tools** button , then click **Internet options** in the menu to open the Internet Options dialog box. The home page settings are on the General tab.

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