

THE WEEKLY GEEK

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Welcome to The Weekly Geek

This is a new e-newsletter from the Information & Instructional Technology Departments at Dakota County Technical College. Each week will have a different technology related topic.

Do You Speak Icon?



As you are traveling the information superhighway that there seems to be a lot more road signs along the way. If you are unfamiliar with the specific icon they may seem like all the signs are in a different language. This issue of the Weekly Geek will decode some of the more common icons and the sites or services they lead to.

The goal of having a website is to attract people to visit your site. But it is not enough to just have them visit your site, most sites want people to visit often and bring their friends and family with them. Web site owners are no

longer happy to sit by their front door like a golden retriever waiting for site visitors so they can do the happy dance tail wag when they arrive. Web sites are expanding their reach and relationships with web users by using social media outlets. Many of the icons on sites are about connecting with site visitors even if they aren't on the site at the time.

	<p>Facebook Facebook is one of the most popular social networking sites. You can connect with friends, family and groups. Users of Facebook can share news stories, video, and other files with friends. When the icon appears on a website, it usually will direct you to the site's Facebook page or allow you to quickly share the link to the site on your own Facebook page. Facebook 101</p>
	<p>Twitter Twitter is a "micro-blogging" site that allows users to post short updates or links limited to 140 characters. Twitter users can follow other users, so when a new post is made it will appear on your Twitter update list. On a site the icon will usually bring you to the site's Twitter feed where you can have the new updates from the site pushed to your Twitter updates. Twitter 101</p>
	<p>Google+ Google doesn't want to be left behind in the social networking market, so they developed Google+ which also allows users to connect with friends and family to share information and content. Google+ Video More about Google+</p>

	<p>RSS RSS stands for Real Simple Syndication and it is not a link to a web site but rather to a way of keeping up with the most current content that is posted to a website. Blogs and sites can send you an email when they post new information or you can use a “reader” which basically creates your own custom information site with the content from all the sites you want to have pushed to the reader. RSS in plain English video</p>
	<p>Linked In Linked In is a networking site that is more geared toward career and professional connections. You can connect with profession organizations, employers, industry networks and more by creating your own online resume and portfolio. Linked In Basics Linked In Learning Center</p>
	<p>Flickr Flickr is an online storage and sharing space for photos. You can choose to share your photos with friends and family or with the world. The site also has collective photo pools that connect users with similar interests. Flickr Tour</p>
 YouTube  Vimeo	<p>YouTube and Vimeo are both video sharing sites. Websites that include these icons may have their own groups of videos or channels that they want to share with users. About YouTube Vimeo Basics Vimeo Video School</p>
	<p>Pinterest A previous Weekly Geek issue introduced you to Pinterest. It is a site that is part visual bookmarking and part social networking. Many websites now include “Pin It” links that allow you to quickly save the webpage onto your Pinterest boards or a Pinterest icon that links to the web sites own Pinterest boards where you can follow their bookmarks. Pinterest 101</p>
	<p>Tumblr Tumblr is another “micro-blogging” site – that lets users share links, comments, photos, videos from both the computer and mobile devices. Users can also follow others with similar interests to see what new posts or updates they make. What is Tumblr?</p>
<p>As a bonus for those that actually read to the bottom of the email – many of the tutorials used in this issue were from GCF Learn Free site. They have a ton of easy to use tutorials about computer related topics – here is a list of what they offer (For FREE)</p>	

Questions or Topic Suggestions: Weekly.Geek@dctc.edu

An archive of The Weekly Geek: <http://blogs.dctc.edu/WeeklyGeek>