Appendix 2: Glossary

AGP	Stands for Accelerated Graphics Port. The AGP interface provides direct access to main memory so that an AGP graphics adapter can store large texture files in main memory when rendering complex 3D video images.
BIOS	Stands for Basic Input Output System. A BIOS chip provides the basic communications between all the separate components of a modern PC
CD-ROM	Stands for Compact Disc-Read Only Memory. That is a CD-ROM on which the data is fixed and cannot be overwritten or changed.
CPU	Stands for Central Processing Unit. That is, the microprocessor that runs the system.
DIMM	Stands for Dual In-line Memory Module. Computer memory is packaged in this way for easy insertion into a DIMM slot on PC motherboards.
DVD	Stands for Digital Video/Versatile Disc. DVD is the same physical size as a CD-ROM but it holds much more data. DVDs are mostly used to distribute full length feature films with multiple language soundtracks.
FTP	Stands for File Transfer Protocal. The FTP protocol is an efficient means of transferring data over the internet without the graphics overhead of the world wide web.
HTML	Stands for HyperText Mark-up Language. All web sites and many other online documents are written with HTML codes so that they can be universally recognized by HTML web browsers.
IDE	Stands for Integrated Device Electronic. Most personal computers use IDE hard disks and CD-ROM drives because they deliver good performance without high cost.
ISA	Stands for Industry Standard Architecture. This 8/16-bit bus is very nearly obsolete and has been replaced by the 32-bit PCI bus.

LAN	Stand for Local Area Network, that is, a collection of PCs all connected with Ethernet cables.
LED	Stands for Light Emitting Diode. LEDs are used as indicator lights on most computer systems.
NTSC	Stands for National Television Standards Committee/ NTSC is the television video format used principally in the USA, Japan, and Central & Latin America. It uses 525 lines of dots to create each picture frame.
OS	Stands for Operating System. The operating system is the basic software of a computer on top of which you can install applications that are designed to run on that particular OS. Popular OSs include Windows, Windows NT, Unix, and Linux.
PCI	Stands for Peripheral Components Interface. The 32-bit PCI bus has replaced the old ISA bus as the standard interface for adding peripheral items to personal computers
PnP	Stands for Plug and Play. The plug an play initiative attempts to make computer peripherals self-configuring so that they work automatically when they are connected to the system.
POST	Stands for Power On Self Test. Most computers carry out a POST each time they are started up to make sure that everything is working properly
PPGA	Stands for Plastic Pin Grid Array. This describes the square plastic packaging used by many microprocesors including the Celeron, the Pentium-MMX, the AMD K5/K6, and etc.
RAM	Stands for Random Access Memory. That is the memory installed in computers which stores data as long as the computer is turned on and the memory is refreshed with an electric current.

ROM	Stands for Read Only Memory. ROM implies that the data stored in the ROM is fixed and cannot be altered. It does need to be refreshed with an electrical currwent so the data stays intact even if the device is turned off.
SDRAM	Stands for Synchronous Dynamic Random Access Memory. SDRAM is the most popular type of memory for current personal computers
SEPP	Stands for Single Edge Processor Package. This describes the packaging used by the Celeron processor that is designed to fit the Slot1 processor slot.
SLOT1	Slot1 is a special slot on some mainboards that allows for the installation of Slot1 processor cartridges such as the SEPP Celeron, the Pentium-II and the Pentium-III.
SOCKET-370	Socket-370 is a special socket on some mainboards that allows for the installation of a PPGA Celeron processor
SOCKET-7	Socket-7 is a special socket on some mainboard that allows for the installation of socket-7 processors such as the Pentium-MMX, the AMD K6/K7, the Cyrix M1/M2 and so on.
SPDIF	Stands for Sony Phillips Digital InterFace. SPDIF is a 24-bit digital interface for audio systems developed by Sony and Phillips.
USB	Stands for Universal Serial Bus. The USB bus is an attempt to create a new interface to the PC that provides good throughput without high cost. The USB bus allows many devices to connect to a single USB port.
WWW	Stands for World Wide Web. The World Wide Web is a massive collection of inter-linked internet sites that can be accessed with a web browser.