



# Text Abbreviations & Internet Terms

The internet has given rise to a whole lexicon of slang, abbreviations and phrases. Here's a quick guide to get you up to speed on some of the more commonly used abbreviations and terminology.

## Abbreviations

**AFAIK:** *As far as I know*

**AFK:** *Away from keyboard*

**B/C:** *Because*

**BFF:** *Best friend forever*

**BIO:** *Bio (Bathroom) Break*

**BRB:** *Be right back*

**BRT:** *Be right there*

**BTW:** *By the way*

**HF:** *Have fun*

**HTH:** *Hope this helps*

**IDC:** *I don't care*

**IDK:** *I don't know*

**IM:** *Instant Message*

**IMO:** *In my opinion*

**IMHO:** *In my humble opinion*

**IOW:** *In other words*

**IRL:** *In real life*

**ITT:** *In this thread*

**JK:** *Just kidding*

**LOL:** *Laugh out loud*

**MMW:** *Mark my words*

**N/M:** *Nevermind*

**NNTR:** *No need to respond*

**NOYB:** *None of your business*

**NP:** *No problem*

**OIC:** *Oh, I see*

**OMG:** *Oh my god*

**OMW:** *On my way*

**OTOH:** *On the other hand*

**OP:** *Original post*

**OT:** *Off topic*

**P911:** *Parent alert*

**PAL:** *Parents are listening*

**PAW:** *Parents are watching*

**PIR:** *Parent in room*

**PM:** *Private message*

**POV:** *Point of view*

**QT:** *Cutie*

**ROFL:** *Rolling on the floor laughing*

**RU:** *Are you*

**TBA:** *To be announced*

**TBC:** *To be continued/confirmed*

**TBD:** *To be determined*

**TIA:** *Thanks in advance*

**TY:** *Thank you*

**THX:** *Thanks*

**TYVM:** *Thank you very much*

**TTYL:** *Talk to you later*

**UR:** *Your, you're*

**WB:** *Welcome back*

**WFM:** *Works for me*

**W8:** *Wait*

**YMMD:** *You made my day*

**YW:** *You're welcome*

**YVW:** *You're very welcome*

## Internet Terminology

**Retweet:** To forward/quote a tweet from another user.

**Hashtag:** The # symbol, which designates the words after it as keywords or topics.

**Trending:** When a term is extremely popular on Twitter.

**Feed:** A list of messages from or about a social media user that updates whenever new information is available.

**Handle:** How a Twitter user is publicly identified.

**@Mention:** The @ symbol followed by a Twitter handle, which will send a public message to the user.

**Follower:** Someone who is sent automatic updates on a certain person's feed in social media.

**Stream:** Audio or video that is sent live over the internet.

**Streamer:** The person who is broadcasting a stream. May also refer to someone who frequently streams, either as an occupation or otherwise.

**Forum:** A place for online discussion. Often divided into categories to make finding topics easier.

**Thread:** An individual topic within a forum.

**Post:** A response to a thread.

**Hijack:** Attempting to change the topic of a thread online. This is considered rude on many forums.

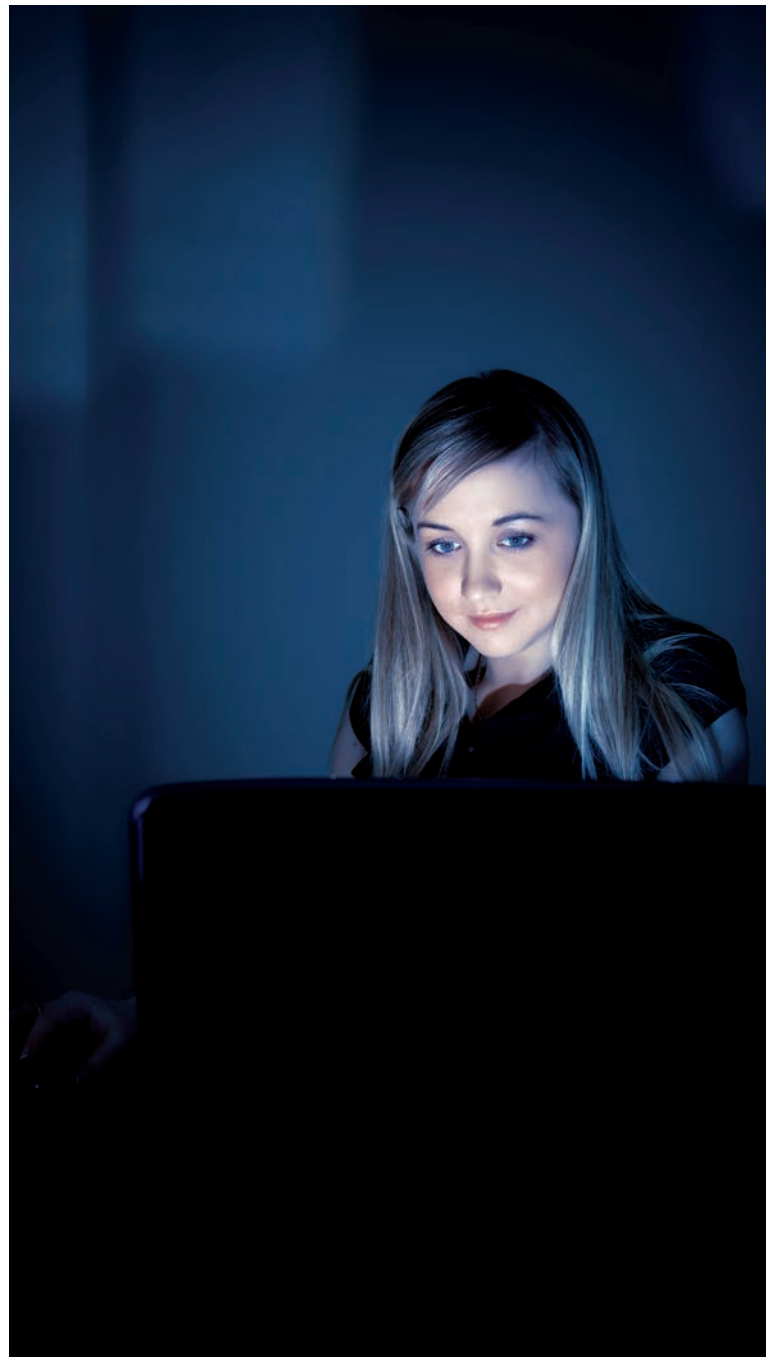
**Derail:** The act of distracting or stopping discussion on a thread.

**Flaming/Flame War:** An argument that has lost all merit and devolved into personal attacks, namecalling, etc. This will often completely derail a thread.

**Bait/Flame Bait:** An incendiary comment intended to incite a flame war.

**Troll:** An individual that makes incendiary or otherwise rude comments with the intent to annoy or anger others online. This is referred to as "trolling".

**Lurk:** To read threads without participating in them. This is often encouraged for new members. Many forums have a unique culture and this allows an individual to get a feel for them in a non-disruptive manner.



**Meme:** A widely known and rapidly spreading idea. On the internet, they often take the form of images, catchphrases or quotes. (Pronounced "Meem".)

**Copypasta:** A post that is taken verbatim from another source. Based on the phrase "Copy and Paste". (Not necessarily intended as plagiarism. These can be considered to be memes.)

**Image Macro:** A meme that takes the form of an image with overlaid text. These will often follow a consistent template.