



RANDOM HOUSE WEBSTER'S

COMPUTER
& INTERNET
DICTIONARY

Third Edition

Philip E. Margolis

Random House
New York

Random House Webster's Computer & Internet Dictionary, Third Edition

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ly.

uter is apt to break down eventually. Many at you make two, or even three, backups of ly safe, you should keep one backup in a dif- rs.

ig operating system commands, or you can p utility. Backup programs often compress ure fewer disks.

IVAL BACKUP; ARCHIVE; DATA COMPRESSION; DATA

g up. 2. A substitute or alternative. The a disk or tape that contain a copy of data.

uitable with earlier models or versions of the of a program is said to be backward com- data created with an older version of the said to be backward compatible if it can previous model of the computer. mportant because it eliminates the need to a newer product. A backward-compatible allows you to edit documents created with ram. In general, manufacturers try to keep mpatible. Sometimes, however, it is neces- mpatibility to take advantage of a new tech-

ompatibility is *upward compatibility*. Up- is backward compatible, except that it is older model. compatible is *downward compatible*.

SL.

.not be used because it is flawed. ig system identifies any bad sectors will not be used. If a sector that al- ged, you will need special software to

ors that are damaged during the manu- usually replaced with spare sectors at the shipped, it should be free of bad sectors. ng bad sectors, therefore, this is a sign with the disk or disk drive.

with a .BAK extension, indicating that the ons produce BAK files as part of their au- you may want to search for BAK files and

delete old ones.

⇒ See also AUTOSAVE; EXTENSION.

ballistic tracking See under DYNAMIC ACCELERATION.

banding The presence of extraneous lines in a printed page. Banding generally occurs when a color printer needs to pass the print head over a page multiple times to print each color. If the page isn't exactly lined up for each pass, lines may appear. Such printers are called *multi-pass* printers. Because of the banding problem, *single-pass* printers—those that print all the colors in one pass—are generally better.

⇒ See also COLOR PRINTER.

bandwidth The amount of data that can be transmitted in a fixed amount of time. For digital devices, the bandwidth is usually expressed in bits per second (bps) or bytes per second. For analog devices, the bandwidth is expressed in cycles per second, or Hertz (Hz).

The bandwidth is particularly important for I/O devices. For example, a fast disk drive can be hampered by a bus with a low bandwidth. This is the main reason that new buses, such as AGP, have been developed for the PC.

⇒ See also BUS; CIR; EISA; I/O; LATENCY; PCI.

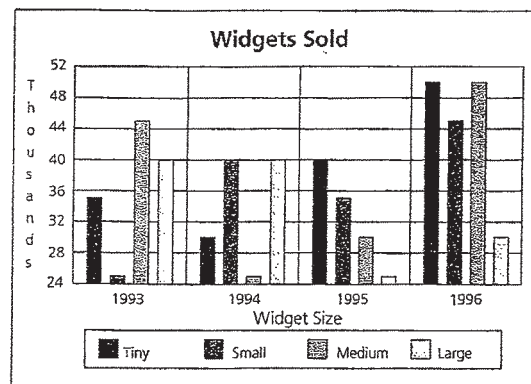


Figure 7: bar chart

bar chart In presentation graphics, a type of graph in which different values are represented by rectangular bars.

⇒ See also PRESENTATION GRAPHICS.

barrel distortion See under PINCUSHION DISTORTION.