

Tech Tips for Seniors

Internet Searches

Press the back arrow < to return to the menu.

It may be a dot com. Or maybe it is a dot net. It could even be a dot gov. The “dot”, of course, is the period in a web page name.

Translated into Internet language, they are .com, .net and .gov. There are many other Internet domain suffixes, including .edu, .site and .biz.

All are the last few characters of an Internet address ... a web page. The entire Internet address of a website is called a URL, which is the acronym for “uniform resource locator”.

If you know the exact address, or URL, of a website, it is easy to type it in the search bar of any website browser.

The most popular browsers, one of which likely came installed with your computer or mobile phone, are: Safari, Google Chrome, Firefox, Microsoft Edge and Opera. You can find and then download other browsers if you search with the word “browser”.

The browser on your computer will use one preferred search engine. You can select your preferred search engine in the Settings menu on your device. They include Google, Yahoo, Bing and dozens of others.

The search word “pizza”, for example, will return to your screen a list of pizza restaurants near you. Search for “search

engines” and you’ll get a list of search engines.

You likely know how all of this works, so pardon this elementary presentation.

Most websites are built with numerous “inside” pages that follow a “home” page.

For example, the table of contents of this website is named “tableofcontents.html”. You could go directly to that page by typing these words in the search bar of your browser:

“seniortechtips.site/tableofcontents.html”.

The back-slash following the website name tells the Internet to display a specific page of a website.

If you are interested in building your own website, be sure to see a related article on this website.

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If you have questions about any of this, feel free to make a “Technology Tips” appointment on Tuesday mornings at Generations, when the center opens. Just call the main number: 215-723-5841.

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