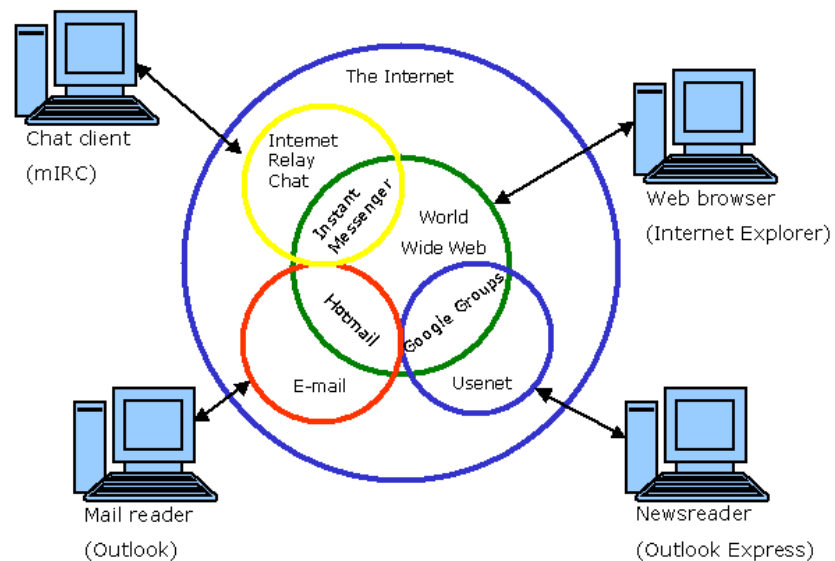


About the Internet – General Features

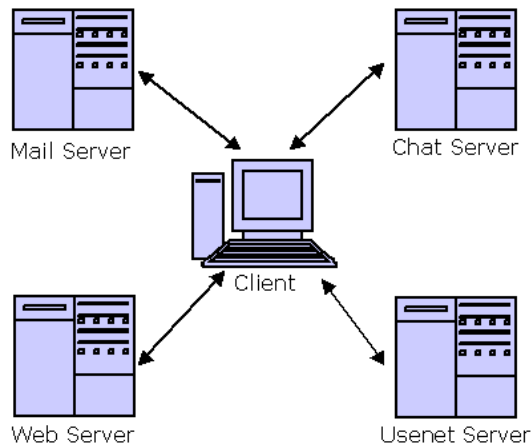
Internet services

The Internet is made up of several services that deliver information. These services include the World Wide Web, e-mail, Usenet, and IRC (Internet Relay Chat). Usually each of these services requires a separate software program in order to access the service. To access the World Wide Web, for example, you need to use a program called a Web browser. The Internet Explorer and Netscape Navigator are the two most popular Web browsers. E-mail is usually accessed by using an e-mail program such as Outlook. Newsgroups in Usenet are usually accessed with a newsreader program such as Outlook Express. Chat groups are usually accessed with a chat program such as mIRC. Lately, some companies have offered e-mail, Usenet, and IRC services that can be accessed with a Web browser.



Service Delivery

The services on the Internet are delivered through a network connection between a computer called a server and another computer called a client. The server contains files that are available for sharing with a client. A personal computer assumes the role of a client when a user accesses different kinds of data files (such as e-mail or a Web page) from a server.



Internet network

The Internet consists of many different servers and clients that are all linked together. Each server and client has a unique name that makes it possible for communication to take place across the network. The client needs to know the server's name in order to request data from it, and the server needs to know the client's name in order to know where to send the requested data.

