

Unit 1 — IT Slang 1



code monkey

someone who sits and programs all day; someone who is only valued for their programming skills

"The bad software architect said, "Tell the developers to stop thinking and start typing like good little code monkeys!""

early adopter

a person who likes new things and often buys them before they are proven

"A geek is a typical early adopter, often trying the latest and greatest technology before their peers have even heard of it."

EOL (end of life)

the point when something is no longer useful or relevant

"Do you think compiled languages have reached their EOL?"

fanboy

someone obsessed or devoted to a particular item or genre

"Tom is such a fanboy he still uses his old Commodore Amiga as his main computer."

flame

to write an intentionally abusive reply to a comment or forum post

"Joe the sysadmin got sent to counseling because he started too many flame wars on the company intranet."

geek

an individual with a passion for computers, to the exclusion of other normal human interests

"The geek did not have a girlfriend, but he did have a computer named Lisa which he programmed to sing him love songs before bedtime."

horked

completely broken in some mysterious way; corrupted

"The web sites crashed because the server was completely horked."

killer app

a piece of software which redefines the industry, often causing people to rush out and buy new hardware so they can use it

"Email was the first killer app of the Internet. "

leading edge

at the forefront of a new technology; also referred to as "state-of-the-art"

"Kyle's company is so leading edge they buy everyone new computers every six months."

pita (pain in the ass)

This is nerd slang for anything annoying

"Installing and configuring a Linux wireless network card can be a real pita."

PHB (pointy haired boss)

This is a derogatory reference to a stereotypical IT manager who choose their technology platforms based on the latest TV commercial and have no knowledge at all of what their employees actually do

"This is how the PHB is described on the Dilbert web site: "He wasn't born mean and unscrupulous, he worked hard at it.""

spaghetti code

a derogatory term for poorly organized programming code.

"The lead programmer threw his hands up in the air and screamed when he saw the 10,000 lines of spaghetti code that management asked him to debug by tomorrow."

trendsetter

someone who successfully defines a path for the rest of the industry to follow

"Apple is a company of trendsetters, whom everyone else is just following like lemmings."

troll

a person who writes intentionally controversial posts on a user forum in order to start a flame war.

"The forum's popularity among serious users went down when the system operator refused to banish the trolls."

whatever

something sarcastic you can say to non-technical people when they tell repeatedly give you misguided technical instructions that are impossible, impractical, dangerous, or overly time-consuming

"Whatever, dude," replied the programmer when his manager asked him to work overtime to recover his deleted files. "