







Technology V9/S1: Common Computer Icons

An icon is a picture that represents a word or idea. Some are simple and others are complicated. The word “icon” comes from the Greek word “Eikon”, which means “image”. Icons are helpful when made well. A good icon is easy to understand.

The word “icon” became popular with the invention of the home computer. Icons are used to easily navigate computer screens. Instead of reading small words, people can find the image of the program they want to open. The program can then be opened by clicking the icon twice.

Many icons look like older technologies. For example, the save icon is a floppy disk. The floppy disk (pictured to the right) used to be inserted into the computer. The user would save their files onto the disc before removing it. Below are some other commonly used icons.



Icon	Name	This icon is used to...
	Search icon	Find photos, documents, programs, and apps
	Printer icon	Turn a digital copy into a paper copy
	Save As icon	Save documents/photos to the computer
	Settings icon	Change how a computer is working
	Wi-Fi icon	Connect/disconnect from Wi-Fi
	Volume icon	Turn the volume up/down