

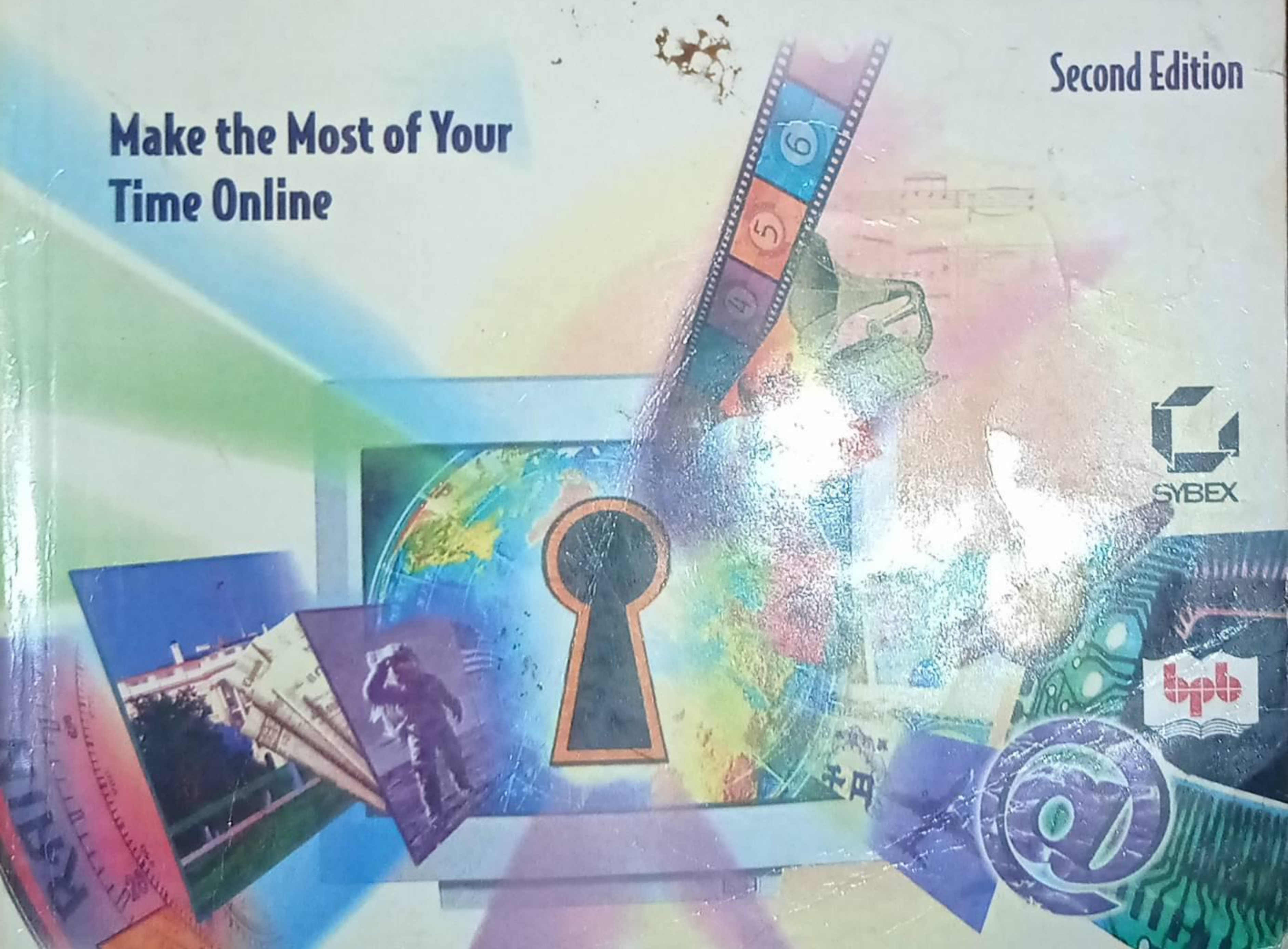
**The ABCs of**

**Christian Crumlish**

# the **Internet**

**Second Edition**

**Make the Most of Your  
Time Online**







# Contents at a Glance

<i>Introduction</i> .....	xvii
<b>Chapter 1:</b> The Internet Getting in Your Face? .....	1
<b>Chapter 2:</b> Sending and Receiving E-Mail .....	21
<b>Chapter 3:</b> Making the Most of E-Mail .....	49
<b>Chapter 4:</b> Browsing the Web .....	77
<b>Chapter 5:</b> Finding Stuff on the Net .....	107
<b>Chapter 6:</b> The Multimedia Explosion .....	135
<b>Chapter 7:</b> Push and the Desktop Web .....	153
<b>Chapter 8:</b> Getting on Mailing Lists .....	165
<b>Chapter 9:</b> Usenet News—Read All About It .....	177
<b>Chapter 10:</b> Chatting, Conferencing, and Collaborating .....	223
<b>Chapter 11:</b> FTP and Telnet—the Transporter Beams .....	241
<b>Chapter 12:</b> Making a Home Page or Web Site .....	263
<b>Appendix A:</b> Getting Connected and Getting Started .....	279
<b>Appendix B:</b> Glossary of Internet Terms .....	293
<i>Index</i> .....	328



# Table of Contents

<i>Introduction</i> .....	xvii
<b>Chapter 1: The Internet Getting in Your Face?</b> .....	<b>1</b>
What Is the Internet? .....	2
E-mail and a Whole Lot More .....	2
The Web Is Not the Net, or Is It? .....	4
What's New on the Net? .....	8
Getting on the Internet .....	11
Accessing the Net at Work .....	11
Accessing the Net at Home .....	12
The Internet Doesn't Care What Kind of Computer You Use .....	15
What You Can Do on the Net .....	16
A Few Words about Internet Addresses .....	18
<b>Chapter 2: Sending and Receiving E-Mail</b> .....	<b>21</b>
Working with E-Mail .....	23
Running a Mail Program .....	24
Sending Mail .....	25
Reading Mail .....	29
Replying to Mail .....	30
Deleting Mail .....	32
Exiting a Mail Program .....	33
E-Mail via Online Services .....	33
AOL (America Online) .....	33
CompuServe .....	35
MSN (Microsoft Network) .....	36
Using Specific E-Mail Programs .....	37
Eudora .....	37
Microsoft Exchange or Internet Mail or Outlook .....	40
NETCOMplete .....	43



Netscape Messenger .....	44
Pegasus Mail .....	45
Pine .....	46
<b>Chapter 3: Making the Most of E-Mail .....</b>	<b>49</b>
What's New with E-Mail? .....	50
Sending Mail to Multiple Recipients .....	50
Sending Files via E-Mail .....	51
Forwarding Mail .....	52
Enhancing Your Mail with HTML Formatting .....	52
Writing Messages with Your Word Processor .....	53
Checking Your Spelling .....	55
Attaching a Signature .....	55
Filing Your Messages .....	56
Filtering Messages As They Come In .....	56
Dealing with Mail from Several Accounts .....	57
Managing an Address Book .....	58
Finding Internet E-Mail Addresses .....	58
Say "Send Me E-Mail" .....	59
Send Mail to Postmaster@ .....	59
The E-Mail Capabilities of Online Services .....	59
AOL .....	59
CompuServe .....	61
MSN .....	62
E-Mail Tricks with Specific Programs .....	62
Eudora .....	62
MS Exchange or Internet Mail or Outlook .....	66
NETCOMplete .....	69
Netscape Messenger .....	69
Pegasus Mail .....	71
Pine .....	73
<b>Chapter 4: Browsing the Web .....</b>	<b>77</b>
What's New on the Web? .....	79



Web Addresses (URLs) .....	79
Web Browser Basics .....	80
Reading a Page in a Web Browser .....	82
Following a Link .....	83
Knowing Where to Go .....	84
Saving or Mailing a Document .....	84
Clicking Image Maps .....	84
Dealing with Frames .....	85
Keeping Track of Floating Windows .....	85
What About Java and JavaScript .....	85
Browsing an Intranet .....	86
Wandering in Gopherspace .....	87
Peeking behind the Scenes .....	89
Making and Managing Bookmarks .....	90
Netcasts Directly to the Desktop Web .....	91
Changing Your Start Page .....	92
Web Help and Info .....	93
Getting to the Web via Online Services .....	93
AOL .....	94
CompuServe .....	95
MSN .....	96
Surfing the Web with Your Web Browser .....	96
Apple Cyberdog .....	96
Lynx .....	98
Microsoft Internet Explorer .....	101
Netscape .....	103
<b>Chapter 5: Finding Stuff on the Net .....</b>	<b>107</b>
What's New with Searching? .....	108
Searching the Web .....	109
Searching through a Directory .....	109
Searching with a Search Engine .....	112
Refining Your Search .....	116
Visiting a Central Search Page .....	117
Some Search Addresses .....	118



Downloading Files and Keeping Your Software Up-to-Date .....	119
Shareware.com .....	121
Compression Programs .....	122
Looking for People on the Internet .....	123
Using Whois .....	123
Using WhoWhere? .....	124
Searching off the Web .....	126
Searching Usenet .....	126
Searching Gopherspace .....	128
Searching University Libraries .....	129
Buying Things Online .....	131
<b>Chapter 6: The Multimedia Explosion .....</b>	<b>135</b>
What's New with Multimedia? .....	136
Downloading and Installing Applications .....	137
Different Ways to View Other Media .....	138
Viewers and Players .....	138
Helper Applications .....	138
Plug-Ins .....	139
Compressed Files and "Streaming Media" .....	139
The Types of Media Out There .....	140
Pictures .....	140
Sounds and Music .....	143
Movies and Animations .....	144
3-D Environments .....	145
Document/Mixed-Media Formats .....	146
Interactive Programs and Multimedia Presentations .....	146
Staying Informed about the Latest Advances .....	147
Multimedia for Specific Browsers .....	148
Apple Cyberdog .....	148
Lynx (Don't Laugh!) .....	148
Microsoft Internet Explorer .....	148
Netscape .....	149



**Chapter 7: Push and the Desktop Web .....153**

The Push Metaphor .....154

Push Tools .....155

- Microsoft Internet Explorer  
("Smart" Favorites, Subscriptions, and Channels) .....155
- Netscape Netcaster .....157
- PointCast .....159

Will the Browser Take Over the Desktop? .....160

- Microsoft's Active Desktop .....160
- Netscape's Webtops .....162

**Chapter 8: Getting on Mailing Lists .....165**

Finding Mailing Lists .....167

- A General List of Lists .....167
- Specific Lists of Lists .....168

Subscribing to Lists .....170

- People-Administered Lists .....171
- Robot-Administered Lists .....171

Canceling Your Subscription .....172

- People-Administered Lists .....172
- Robot-Administered Lists .....172
- Temporarily Unsubscribing .....172

Posting to Lists .....172

Participating in a List .....173

**Chapter 9: Usenet News—Read All About It .....177**

What Is Usenet? .....178

- Some Newsgroups Are Mailing Lists, Too .....179
- Where Everybody Knows Your Signature .....179
- What Is a Newsgroup? .....180
- What Is an Article? .....184
- What Is a Newsreader? .....185
- Usenet as a Public Forum .....186



Semi-Anonymity on the Net .....186  
Being a Good Netizen .....187  
Shooting Stars and net.spewers .....187  
Getting Help .....188  
The Quality of Usenet .....188  
How to Read Newsgroups .....189  
Net News by Mail—If You Don't Have Usenet Access .....190  
Newsreading Basics .....191  
Some Advanced Stuff You Should Know .....197  
What's New with Usenet? .....198  
Reading News via an Online Service .....199  
    AOL .....199  
    CompuServe .....201  
    MSN .....204  
Reading News with Specific Newsreaders .....204  
    Microsoft Internet News or Outlook Express News .....205  
    Netscape News and Netscape Collabra .....207  
    NewsWatcher .....209  
    News Xpress .....213  
    Tin .....215

**Chapter 10: Chatting, Conferencing, and Collaborating .....223**

Live Chatting .....224  
IRC—the Internet's Chat Protocol .....225  
    Chatting with Specific IRC Programs .....227  
Conferencing and Collaborating over the Internet (or an Intranet) ...233  
    What's an Intranet? .....234  
    Workflow and Whiteboards .....234  
    Conferencing Programs .....234  
    Is Wednesday Good for You? .....237

**Chapter 11: FTP and Telnet—the Transporter Beams .....241**

FTP—the File Transfer Protocol .....242  
    What's New with FTP? .....242



How to Find FTP Sites .....243  
How to Do FTP in General .....245  
FTP by E-Mail If You Don't Have "Real" FTP .....246  
FTP with Your Web Browser .....247  
Specific FTP Programs .....250  
Telnet—a Computer in Your Window .....258  
Finding a Telnet Program .....260  
Telnetting from Your Web Browser .....260

**Chapter 12: Making a Home Page or Web Site .....263**

A Quick-and-Dirty Home Page .....264  
Creating a Web Page .....266  
    Basic Formatting .....266  
    Inserting Pictures .....267  
    Linking Pages Together .....267  
Web Editing Tools .....268  
    Adobe PageMill .....269  
    Microsoft FrontPad .....270  
    Netscape Composer .....271  
Building a Web Site .....272  
    Adobe SiteMill .....272  
    Microsoft FrontPage .....272  
    NetObjects Fusion .....274  
Publishing a Site .....275  
    Finding a Host .....276  
    Promoting and Maintaining a Site .....276  
Voila! .....276

**Appendix A: Getting Connected and Getting Started .....279**

Different Types of Connections .....280  
Equipment You'll Need .....281  
    Hardware .....281  
    Software .....282  
Going Online with a Macintosh .....284



Finding a Service Provider .....284  
The Chicken or the Egg .....285  
Getting Started .....286  
    Logging In .....287  
    You're on the Net! .....288  
Dealing with Problems .....288  
    Stop This Crazy Thing! .....289  
    Getting Help .....289

**Appendix B: Glossary of Internet Terms .....293**

*Index* ..... 328