

TECH TERMS

2020

- **HD** – An acronym for “High Definition” – the highest quality of screen resolution.
- **Aspect ratio** – The ratio between the width and the height of the picture. In most SD television sets, this is 4:3 (more like a square); in most HD widescreen sets, this is 16:9 (more like a rectangle).
- **Bandwidth** (aka “Pipe”) – Term used in web streaming. A data transmission rate; the maximum amount of information (bits/second) that can be transmitted along a channel.
Examples:
 - Dial-up – Bandwidth of 56 Kbps
 - DSL – Bandwidth of 3 Mbps
 - Giant office – Bandwidth of 20 Mbps
- **Bit**– A unit of information in computers.
 - Kilobit (Kb) – equivalent to 1000 bits – (Typical Word documents)
 - Megabit (Mb)– equivalent to a million bits – (Typical .mp3 size)
 - Gigabit (Gb) – equivalent to a billion bits – (Typical movie size)
- **Kbps/Mbps/Gbps** – The “ps” notates the “per second” speed of available bandwidth. Example – 6 Mbps stands for 6 Megabits per second.
- **Hard Line** – A direct line from a computer to a modem. We recommend that all webcast host sites use a hard line for their system connection.
- **Operating System (OS)** – Every computer needs a base program, the so-called operating system that manages the computer and grants control of various functions. Common examples are MS DOS and Windows for PCs, Mac OS for Apple Macintosh.
- **Optical Fiber** – A glass strand designed to carry light in a fashion similar to the manner in which wires carry electrical signals. Optical fibers carry much more information than wires.
- **Pixel** – Short term for “Picture Element”. Small little dots that make up the images on displays and televisions. The smaller and closer together the pixels, the higher the picture resolution.
- **Screen Resolution** – Notated by a number and letter ‘p’. This is the number of horizontal and vertical lines of pixels on a television screen. Most common HD resolutions are 720p and 1080p.
 - 1080p – 1920 x 1080 resolution