Tech, Drawn Simple Cheat Sheet · the 26 words you meet every week

Wi-Fi CONNECTIVITY & GETTING ONLINE
The internet arrives by cable. Wi-Fi is only the last wireless hop to your device.
— A radio station only your home can tune into.

Password Manager STAYING SAFE
One app invents and remembers a different long password for every account, so a break-in at one company cannot open all the others.
— A locksmith who keeps every key but only opens for you.

Two-Factor Authentication (2FA) STAYING SAFE
A second proof on top of your password — usually a code on the phone in your pocket.
— A bank locker needing your key and the manager's.

One-Time Password (OTP) STAYING SAFE
A code that works once and expires in minutes.
— A movie ticket good for exactly one showing.

App Store PHONES & APPS
Apps here have been through automated and human checks before you can install them.
— A licensed bazaar with a gate.

Software Update YOUR DEVICES
Most updates are not new features. They close holes that attackers already know about.
— A service for the car you drive every day.

Cloud Storage FILES, CLOUD & BACKUP
Your files sit on a company's computers, so the same copy opens on any device.
— A locker at the station instead of a shelf at home.

Backup FILES, CLOUD & BACKUP
A second copy kept somewhere the first disaster cannot reach.
— A spare key at your sister's house.

Sync FILES, CLOUD & BACKUP
Change a file anywhere and every device updates itself.
— Two notebooks that rewrite themselves to match.

Web Browser BROWSING THE WEB
It fetches pages from other computers and draws them for you.
— A window you carry from building to building.

Browser Tab BROWSING THE WEB
Each tab is a separate page kept loaded in the same window.
— Several books held open at once, fingers in each.

Search Engine BROWSING THE WEB
It read and sorted the web in advance. When you type a question it is not searching the internet.
— A librarian who has read everything and points at a shelf.

URL HOW THE INTERNET ACTUALLY WORKS
A full address: which method, which computer, which file.
— House number, street and city — for a page.

Bookmark BROWSING THE WEB
A saved address you reach by name instead of by searching.
— The ribbon in the book.

Push Notification PHONES & APPS
The app does not need to be open. Its company sends a message to your device whenever it chooses.
— A tap on the shoulder from a shop you once visited.

Spam STAYING SAFE
Sending a million messages costs almost nothing, so it pays even if one person in a million replies.
— Flyers stuffed into every mailbox on the street.

Phishing STAYING SAFE
A message pretending to be your bank, a courier or your boss.
— A stranger in a courier's uniform asking for your keys.

Malware STAYING SAFE
Any program built to work against you — stealing what you type, locking your files, or using your machine for someone else.
— Poison hidden in the pantry.

Antivirus STAYING SAFE
It checks what arrives and what runs against known threats.
— A guard dog trained on the smell of intruders.

Battery Health YOUR DEVICES
Batteries age by charge cycles, not by months.
— A bucket that has slowly sprung leaks.

Storage Full FILES, CLOUD & BACKUP
A full device stops taking updates, which quietly makes it less safe as well as slower.
— A closet so packed the door won't shut.

Clearing the Cache FILES, CLOUD & BACKUP
Apps keep copies of what they already fetched so they load faster.
— Throwing out the scrap paper, keeping the ledger.

Streaming STREAMING & MEDIA
The file is never fully yours — it arrives in pieces as you watch and is discarded behind you.
— Drinking from the tap rather than filling the tank.

Buffering STREAMING & MEDIA
The player downloads the next stretch of video before you reach it.
— Filling the bucket before you pour the glass.

Video Call WORKING & TALKING ONLINE
Picture and sound compressed, sent and rebuilt many times a second, both ways at once.
— A window opened between two rooms far apart.

Screen Share WORKING & TALKING ONLINE
Everyone sees whatever appears on your screen, including a message that pops up mid-call.
— Turning your notebook around for the table to read.

Tech, Drawn Simple Cheat Sheet · 26 more you meet every month

Subscription MONEY & BUYING ONLINE
You are renting access, not buying a thing.
— Renting the apartment instead of buying it.

Auto-Renewal MONEY & BUYING ONLINE
It charges again on its own until you stop it.
— A tap left running quietly in another room.

Free Trial MONEY & BUYING ONLINE
Free for a period, with your card already stored.
— A test drive where you've already signed the papers.

QR Code MONEY & BUYING ONLINE
A square holding a short piece of text — usually a web address or a payment request.
— A barcode that can hold a sentence.

Digital Wallet MONEY & BUYING ONLINE
Your card sits in the phone and the shop is handed a one-time number instead of your real one.
— A purse that lives in your pocket computer.

UPI (Unified Payments Interface) MONEY & BUYING ONLINE
Money moves bank to bank in seconds, with no card number shared.
— Handing cash across the counter, but the counter is anywhere.

Location Services PHONES & APPS
Apps must ask before they can see where you are, and you can answer once, while using, or never.
— A map that asks permission before pointing at you.

Dark Mode PHONES & APPS
Light text on a dark background. Easier in dim rooms and a little kinder on battery.
— Reading by lamplight instead of floodlight.

Screen Lock STAYING SAFE
The single setting that decides whether a lost phone is an expensive annoyance or a stranger reading your email, your messages and your bank app.
— The front door, not the safe.

Router CONNECTIVITY & GETTING ONLINE
One connection shared out to every device in the house.
— Traffic constable at a household junction.

Modem CONNECTIVITY & GETTING ONLINE
The box that turns your provider's line into something your devices understand.
— Interpreter standing between two languages.

Mobile Data CONNECTIVITY & GETTING ONLINE
Internet billed by how much you use, not how long.
— Buying water by the bucket instead of the tap.

Hotspot CONNECTIVITY & GETTING ONLINE
Your phone lends its mobile connection to a laptop beside it.
— Holding your umbrella over the person beside you.

Bluetooth CONNECTIVITY & GETTING ONLINE
A short link between two devices close by.
— A whisper that only carries across the room.

SIM Card CONNECTIVITY & GETTING ONLINE
The chip that tells the network which number is yours.
— Your membership card to the phone network.

Airplane Mode CONNECTIVITY & GETTING ONLINE
One switch that turns every radio off at once.
— A single switch that closes all the windows.

Public Wi-Fi CONNECTIVITY & GETTING ONLINE
The real danger now is rarely eavesdropping — it is a fake network wearing a familiar name.
— A private conversation held in a crowded waiting room.

Broadband CONNECTIVITY & GETTING ONLINE
The advertised speed is a shared maximum, not a promise.
— A wide highway, with a narrow lane coming back.

5G CONNECTIVITY & GETTING ONLINE
Mostly a capacity upgrade rather than a speed one — it shines in crowds where 4G stalls.
— Adding lanes and raising the speed limit at once.

Signal Strength CONNECTIVITY & GETTING ONLINE
The bars are not a standard measure and mean different things on different phones.
— How well you hear someone calling across a field.

Factory Reset YOUR DEVICES
It wipes the device back to the day it was bought, taking everything not already backed up with it.
— Repainting a room back to bare white.

Force Quit YOUR DEVICES
Ends one app that has stopped responding.
— Lifting the needle off a stuck record.

Safe Mode YOUR DEVICES
Starts the device with only its own essentials loaded.
— Switching every breaker off, then back on one at a time.

RAM (Memory) YOUR DEVICES
It is not speed, it is room to work. More of it will not make a machine faster.
— Counter space while you're cooking.

Processor (CPU) YOUR DEVICES
The part that does the actual thinking. For everyday use it is rarely what slows a machine down.
— The cook in the kitchen.

Storage vs Memory YOUR DEVICES
Two different things sold with similar words.
— The pantry versus the countertop.