Anatomy of a Web Address

URL is the abbreviation for Uniform Resource Locator, which lists the exact location (address) of any Internet resource: a WWW page, an ftp file, a newsgroup, or a Gopher site.

Each word and symbol of the URL represents something specific, allowing the routing computer to direct information to the correct location.

Format of the URL: protocol://host/path/filename

Example: **http://www.inform.umd.edu/EdRes/Colleges/**

1. Protocol: http
2. Host computer name: www
3. Second-level domain name: inform
4. Top-level domain name: umd.edu
5. Directory name: EdRes
6. File name: Colleges/

Additional Server Affiliations or Top-level Domains (TLD's)

- *com* - business & commercial
- **gov** - governement institutions
- *net* - network resources
- *edu* - educational institutions
- *mil* - military institutions
- *org* - usually non-profit

Several Two-letter Internet country Codes

- *ch* - Switzerland
- *de* - Germany
- *jp* - Japan
- *uk* - United Kingdom