Age-Friendly AI

10 Artificial Intelligence Terms to Know

This glossary has been created to help you get to know some of the most common terms related to Artificial Intelligence or "AI".

Artificial Intelligence (AI)	Technology that is designed to do tasks that usually need human thinking, like finding patterns in huge amounts of information – it is used on your phone, for example in predictive texting or in online shopping for making suggestions.
Algorithm	A step-by-step set of clear instructions (like a recipe) that computers follow to solve a problem or complete a task. It tells the computer exactly what to do, in what order.
AI Literacy	The knowledge, skills, confidence and understanding of what Artificial Intelligence is, how it works in everyday life and how to use it safely and thoughtfully.
Chatbot (bot)	Also referred to as a bot, a chatbot is a computer programme designed to have conversations with people, either by text or voice, usually to answer questions or provide information.
Data	Information like numbers, words or pictures that computers store and use. It's the raw material that AI systems learn from and work with.
Generative AI (GenAI)	A type of AI (e.g. Chat GPT, Copilot, Gemini) that can generate new text, images, music or even videos, based on what it has learned from existing information.
Human in the Loop	Having a real person involved in checking that any decisions AI systems make are safe, fair, and accurate.
Machine Learning (ML)	A way to teach computer programmes to learn from data (information) without being specifically programmed for every task. This allows the programmes to improve over time as they get more data.
Personal Information	Any information that can be used to identify you, like your name, address, phone number, date of birth or email. It can also include your health or financial information.
Training	The way an AI system learns by being given large amounts of information (data), allowing it to recognise patterns and improve its ability to perform specific tasks. It's how AI gets smart enough to do things like understand speech or identify objects.

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This glossary was developed by Age-Friendly AI, a national initiative led by TU Dublin and the ADAPT Centre, in collaboration with older adults across Ireland.

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10 More AI Terms to Know

This glossary has been created to help you get to know some more of the most common terms related to Artificial Intelligence or "AI".

AI System	Computer programmes and devices that help us do things like answer questions, recognise faces or make recommendations and predictions.
App	An App (short for application) is a piece of software you can download and run on your smartphone, tablet or computer. Apps can perform specific tasks, such as checking the weather, shopping online or sending a text.
Deep Fake	A realistic, manufactured video, image or audio recording created using AI to make it look like someone said or did something they never actually did.
Dis-information	Disinformation is false information that is deliberately created and spread with the specific intention to deceive, mislead, or cause harm to others. Unlike misinformation, this content is knowingly false and is shared to manipulate people's thoughts or actions.
Ethical AI	Developing and using AI in a way that is fair, safe, transparent and respectful of human rights and values.
Mis-information	Misinformation is the spread of false or inaccurate information without meaning to cause any harm.
Recommend-er System	An AI tool that suggests things you might like, such as movies, products or news articles, based on your past activity and the preferences of similar users.
Smartwatch	A watch that connects to your smartphone and is worn on your wrist. It can track your fitness, show notifications, answer calls and perform other basic functions like contactless payment.
Training Data	A collection of information (data), like pictures, words or numbers, that an AI system uses to learn how to do its job.
Voice Assistants	AI technology (e.g. Siri or Alexa), that understands spoken questions and commands and can respond with information or actions. Voice assistants can help you do things hands-free, such as asking to check the weather, set a reminder or play the radio.

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