

## SharePoint Terminology

**Central Administration** – A Web application provided by SharePoint for administering SharePoint Web applications. Also known as *Centralized Administration Site*.

**Column** – See *list column* and *site column*.

**Content database** – The back-end storage that holds SharePoint files and documents.

**Content page** – A customizable SharePoint Web page that contains user-provided content or supports customization, such as a Web Part page. Compare with *application page*.

**Content type** – A reusable collection of settings to define the metadata and behavior for a certain category of content.

**Designer** – See *SharePoint Designer*.

**Document library** – A SharePoint list that contains documents. A place on a site where you can create, collect, update and share files with others. A document library normally is located in the "Shared Documents" area of a site.

**Field type** – Defines a type that can be used as a field or column in SharePoint. SharePoint has a set of standard field types, and developers may also define custom field types. For more information, see [Custom Field Types](#) on MSDN.

**Group** – See *SharePoint group*.

**Image library** – A SharePoint list that contains photos and other images.

**Library** – See *document library* and *image library*.

**List** – See *SharePoint list*.

**List column** – The user interface that displays a field. Part of a SharePoint list. See *field*.

**List item** – A record in a SharePoint list.

**List template** – An element of the site definition that defines the initial structure of a list.

**Master page** – A template used by ASP.NET that allows sites to use a similar appearance on multiple Web pages.

**Personalization** – A feature provided by SharePoint that allows users to change site elements. Changes are stored in the content database. Also known as *customization*.

**Permission level** – A named capability used in access control. For example, Read and Write are permission levels.

**Quick Launch bar** – A SharePoint feature with links to commonly used pages and features on a SharePoint site.

**SharePoint application** – An application designed to run on SharePoint. SharePoint applications are packaged in SharePoint solutions, and the functionality is typically encapsulated in SharePoint features for modularity and management.

**SharePoint Designer** – A developer tool used for customizing the appearance and page elements of a SharePoint site.

**SharePoint group** – A collection of users that are assigned a level of access control. Permission levels can be set on a per-group basis or individually.

**SharePoint list** – A structure of rows and columns, or fields that contain data provided by SharePoint similar to a database table.

**SharePoint theme** – A collection of graphics and cascading style sheets that control the appearance of a site.

**Site** – A SharePoint Web site.

**Site Actions menu** – A drop-down menu that provides the ability to manage a SharePoint site settings and to create new sub-sites.

**Site collection** – Represents a collection of sites in a Web application, including a top-level Web site and all its sub-sites. A site collection acts as an administrative unit that allows for common security permissions, list templates, content types, and workflows to be shared by multiple sites.

**Site template** – A customized site design based on an existing site definition file. This is the difference between a site and its underlying site definition. Applies mostly to layout and appearance.

**Sub-sites** – Refers to any site in a collection other than the first (or top-level) site. Also known as *subwebs*.

**Theme** – See *SharePoint theme*.

**Top-level site** – The first site in a site collection. Allows administration of attributes shared by all sites in the site collection. Also known as *root web*.

**Web application.** See *SharePoint application*.

**Web content** – Content such as text and images that is created by the site owner.

**Web Part** – A feature of SharePoint that can be added to a web page to customize its appearance or behavior.

**Workflow** – A business process that proceeds in operational steps and implemented using the Windows Workflow Foundation library.

*Source: Patterns & Practices SharePoint Guidance*