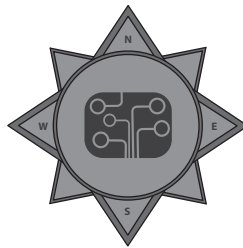


UNDERSTANDING AND USING URLS

“So, what is a URL?” I hear you ask. Know what it is? I can’t even spell it. Well, a URL is a “Uniform Resource Locator.” Does that make it any easier? In essence, when you are using the World Wide Web, you open up a browser. It’s the browser that gets you where you want to go. The URL is the address of where you want to go. So <http://www.google.com> is a URL and so is <http://www.skilltrekker.com>.

FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



EARN THIS NUGGET

- In a web browser, type in [skilltrekker.com](http://www.skilltrekker.com) into a search window and see the options of links it gives you. Next, type [skilltrekker.com](http://www.skilltrekker.com) into the top information bar instead of the search window. Now you are going straight to the site you want. This is handy if you want to copy and paste a hyperlink off of a webpage (usually blue highlighted text).
- Copy and paste the link below into the search window and then into the top bar on the browser and see the difference.
- Log in to [FTP://www.skill-trek.com](ftp://www.skill-trek.com) – Username is Roland, password is skilltrek. Download the file.

So, when you are using your browser and you want to go to a webpage, one way you can do it is type it into the Google search window, for example. It will give you a list of possible options for you ... sometimes thousands. But if you know the actual address, you can go straight there. It’s like asking a taxi driver if he knows where the Scruffbear home is. Well, we have a big family, you’ll have a number of addresses to go around to until you find mine. But if you ask for:

Roland D Scruffbear
Cave 3, Craggy Row
Eagle Heights Mountain.
AR 72921

All of a sudden, he can take you straight to the front door.

Now, if you are looking for a web page, you don’t have to type in the <http://www>. part. You can just type in [skilltrekker.com](http://www.skilltrekker.com) and that will get you there. But there are other URL’s that exist for other reasons. [FTP://Example.com](ftp://example.com) is used to transfer files across the web. FTP is File Transfer Protocol. And there is also a “mailto” protocol that is used for email functions.

So, basically URL’s are hard addresses that you type into the top bar on your web browser to obtain a specific web page or function.

