

CRYPTOCURRENCY

BITCOIN

The world's first (and biggest) cryptocurrency that launched an entire industry. Bitcoin was created by Satoshi Nakamoto, a pseudonym for the currency's anonymous founder. It's decentralized and uses peer-to-peer technology, meaning it doesn't rely on a bank or the Federal Reserve. You might also know it from its nickname, BTC.

BLOCKCHAIN

A Blockbuster revival? Not quite. To put it simply, blockchain is a database that collects information in groups (or "blocks") that are strung together. When a block is filled, it's set in stone, highly secure, and there forever (unlike our favorite video stores of the past).

CRYPTOCURRENCY

A digital or virtual currency that can be used online to buy goods and services. If you're feeling a little skeptical, don't worry; digital signatures are used to keep everything safe, and let other people check that the transactions are real.

DOGECOIN

Similar to Bitcoin and Ethereum, Dogecoin (DOGE) is a form of cryptocurrency originally created as a joke to poke fun at the industry. Here's the punchline, however: This alt-coin is now considered to be wildly popular among the crypto community.

ETHEREUM

Second only in popularity to Bitcoin, Ethereum is a blockchain with its own cryptocurrency: Ether (or ETH). In addition to financial transactions, Ethereum also uses its technology in other cool ways, like protecting online contracts, hosting apps, and trading NFTs.

HODL

It's like an inside joke that everyone wants in on. What was originally a misspelling of "hold" on an internet forum has turned into a mantra for crypto investors to avoid the urge to sell when prices rise.

METAVEVERSE

Think bigger than Minecraft, Fortnite, and Ready Player One. This is a vision for an immersive virtual reality world that will allow users to work, play, travel, shop, interact, and experience life in a new way. This idea is just getting started, so for now, let your imagination run wild.

NFT

Your parents called it "newfangled technology"; we call them non-fungible tokens. These digital assets represent real-world items (like art and music) and are one-of-a-kind. An NFT can only have one owner, putting them in high demand for purchase and bragging rights.

PEER TO PEER

How individuals connect and share resources directly without a third-party server or bank. Later, middleman.

TOKEN

A denomination of a cryptocurrency, or a unit on a blockchain. While coins are only used for purchases, tokens can also be traded or used as investments.

WALLET

A software program that allows you to store, send, and receive digital currency. Because crypto doesn't exist in physical form, all transactions are stored securely on the blockchain — and you'll never have to worry about leaving this wallet at a restaurant.