Twitter Glossary
The Twitter Glossary contains vocabulary frequently used to talk about Twitter and aspects of the service.

# "Hashtag"
The # symbol, called a hashtag, is used to mark keywords or topics in a Tweet. It was created organically by Twitter users as a way to categorize messages.

@ The @ sign is used to call out usernames in Tweets, like this: Hello @Twitter! When a username is preceded by the @ sign, it becomes a link to a Twitter profile.

Activity Lives in the "Connect" tab. Activity is a real-time dashboard to view what the people you're following are up to on Twitter. You can view Tweets they've favorited and discover other good content on Twitter.

Connect The Connect tab lets you view interactions, mentions, recent follows and Retweets. Using the Connect tab you're able to view who has favorited or retweeted your Tweets, who has recently followed you, and all of your @replies and @mentions.

Connections The Applications tab in your Twitter settings shows all third-party websites and applications to which you've granted access your public Twitter profile. Revoke access at any time.

Deactivation A way to remove your profile from Twitter. Information from deactivated profiles remains in our system for 30 days.

Direct Message Also called a DM and most recently called simply a "message," these Tweets are private between the sender and recipient.

Discover The Discover tab is where you'd find top Tweets, Who to Follow, Activity, Find Friends, and Browse Categories. The Discover tab is all about, you guessed it, discovering new and engaging things to do on Twitter!

DM See Direct Message.

Email Notifications Preferences set by Twitter users to regulate notifications via email about events on your account, such as new followers and new direct messages.

Favorite To favorite a Tweet means to mark it as one of your favorites by clicking the yellow star next to the message.
FF
#FF stands for "Follow Friday." Twitter users often suggest who others should follow on Fridays by tweeting with the hashtag #FF.

Follow
To follow someone on Twitter is to subscribe to their Tweets or updates on the site.

Follow Count
The numbers that reflect how many people you follow, and how many people follow you. Found on your Twitter Profile.

Follower
A follower is another Twitter user who has followed you.

Following
Your following number reflects the quantity of other Twitter users you have chosen to follow on the site.

Handle
A user's "Twitter handle" is the username they have selected and the accompanying URL, like so: http://twitter.com/username.

Hashtag
The # symbol is used to mark keywords or topics in a Tweet. It was created organically by Twitter users.

Home
A real-time list of Tweets from those you follow. It appears on your Twitter home page.

HT or h/t
Usually means "hat tip." A way of acknowledging the person who originally shared the content being tweeted, such as a link to an article or video.

Listed
To be included in another Twitter user's list. Listed numbers and details appear in the statistics section of your profile.

Lists
Curated groups of other Twitter users. Used to tie specific individuals into a group on your Twitter account.

Mention
Mentioning another user in your Tweet by including the @ sign followed directly by their username is called a "mention". Also refers to Tweets in which your username was included.

MT
Similar to RT, an abbreviation for "Modified Tweet." Placed before the retweeted text when users manually retweet a message with modifications, for example shortening a Tweet.

OH
"OH" most often means "overheard" in Tweets. Used as a way to quote funny things people overhear.
Profile
A Twitter page displaying information about a user, as well as all the Tweets they have posted from their account.

Profile Picture
The personal image uploaded to your Twitter profile in the Settings tab of your account.

Promoted Tweets
Tweets that selected businesses have paid to promote at the top of search results on Twitter.

Reply
A Tweet posted in reply to another user's message, usually posted by clicking the "reply" button next to their Tweet in your timeline. Always begins with @username.

Reactivation
The act of bringing a deactivated account back to life on Twitter. It's alive!!

Retweet (noun)
A Tweet by another user, forwarded to you by someone you follow. Often used to spread news or share valuable findings on Twitter.

Retweet (verb)
To retweet, retweeting, retweeted. The act of forwarding another user's Tweet to all of your followers.

RLRT
"Real Life Retweet" is another way of saying OH ("overheard"). Used to quote something a person said in "real life."

RT
Abbreviated version of "retweet." Placed before the retweeted text when users manually retweet a message. See also Retweet.

Search (Integrated Search)
A box on your Twitter homepage that allows you to search all public Tweets for keywords, usernames, hashtags, or subject. Searches can also be performed at search.twitter.com.

TIL
Acronym for "Today I learned." Often used at the beginning of a Tweet, for example: "TIL what a hashtag is!"

Timeline
A real-time list of Tweets on Twitter. See also Home Timeline.

Timestamp
A note displaying when a Tweet was posted to Twitter. Can be found in grey text directly below any Tweet. Is also a link to that Tweet's own URL.
TL
Short for "Timeline." See also Timeline and Home.

Top Tweets
Tweets determined by a Twitter algorithm to be the most popular or resonant on Twitter at any given time.

Trends
A subject algorithmically determined to be one of the most popular on Twitter at the moment.

Tweet (verb)
Tweet, tweeting, tweeted. The act of posting a message, often called a "Tweet", on Twitter.

Tweet (noun)
A message posted via Twitter containing 140 characters or fewer.

Tweeter
An account holder on Twitter who posts and reads Tweets. Also known as Twitterers.

Twitter
An information network made up of 140-character messages from all over the world.

Twitterer
An account holder on Twitter who posts and reads Tweets. Also known as "Twitter user".

Unfollow
To cease following another Twitter user. Their Tweets no longer show up in your home timeline.

URL Shortener
URL shorteners are used to turn long URLs into shorter URLs. Shortening services can be found online.

Username
Also known as a Twitter handle. Must be unique and contain fewer than 15 characters. Is used to identify you on Twitter for replies and mentions.

Who to Follow
Who to Follow can be found in the Discover tab. Here, you should see a few recommendations of accounts Twitter thinks you might find interesting. These are based on the types of accounts you're already following and who those people follow.