

## LESSON 170

### OVERRIDING FILE ASSOCIATIONS

### MAKING GOOGLE YOUR DEFAULT HOME PAGE OR SEARCH ENGINE

Many computer software programs register the file extensions they use for their files. For example, Microsoft Word registers .DOC as the default file extension for Word files. Windows uses the program Notepad as the default for opening text files that end with the extension .TXT. Microsoft Excel uses the .XLS extension for spreadsheet files.

When you double-click a file with an extension that Windows recognizes, it automatically opens the program used to create that file. You can also open files in programs other than the ones the files are registered to.

Right-click on My Computer and click on Explore. Find and highlight the file you wish to open hold down the Shift key and right-click the file. Select Open With from the resulting context menu and choose the program you want to open that file with.

Google, at **[www.google.com](http://www.google.com)**, is now one of the top 30 most-visited sites in the world. Google is a terrific search engine, but you have to go to the Google home page before you can use it to search the Internet. The good news is that you can make Google your default home page and the default browser search engine in both Internet Explorer and Netscape Navigator.

Go to **[www.google.com/options/defaults.html](http://www.google.com/options/defaults.html)**. This page gives you all the information you'll need to set Google up as your home default page or as your default web browser search engine.

