

Website 101 for Teachers

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February 6, 2009

HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language)

An HTML File is a text file containing small markup tags (< >)

The markup tags tell the Web browser how to display the page

An HTML file must have an htm or html file extension (.htm or .html)

An HTML file can be created using a simple text editor

Create a simple HTML file:

In Windows, start Notepad

On a Mac, start SimpleText (in OSX start TextEdit and change these preferences:

Open the "Format" menu and select "Plain text" instead

of "Rich text." Then open the "Preferences" window under the "Text Edit menu and select "Ignore rich text commands in HTML files.")

Type the following text:

```
<html>
<head>
<title>Title of Page</title>
</head>
<body>
This is my first homepage, <b>This text is bold</b>
</body>
</html>
```

Save the file as "mypage.html"

Start your internet browser. Select "Open" or "Open Page" in the File menu of your browser. A dialog box will appear. Select "Browse" or "Choose File" and locate the HTML file you just created ("mypage.html"), select it and click "Open." Now you should see an address in the dialog box, for example

"C:\MyDocuments\mypage.html". Click OK and the browser will display the page.

Explanation of Example:

<html>	tells the browser this is the start of an HTML document
</html>	tells the browser this is the end of an HTML document
<head> </head>	text between these tags is header information (not displayed in browser)
<title> </title>	text between these tags is the title of your document (in browser's caption)
<body> </body>	text between these tags is text that will be displayed in your browser
 	text between these tags will be bold font

HTML Editors (WYSIWYG editors)

FrontPage or Dreamweaver

It is important to learn HTML language even if you use one of these editors!

HTML Elements

HTML documents are text files made up of HTML elements.
HTML elements are defined using HTML tags.

HTML Tags

HTML tags are used to markup HTML elements

HTML tags are surrounded by two characters < and >

The surrounding characters are called angle brackets

HTML tags normally come in pairs like and

The first tag is the start tag and the second tag is the end tag

The text between the start and end tags is the element content

HTML tags are not case sensitive; means the same as

To follow the latest web standards, always use lower case tags. The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) recommends lowercase tags in their HTML 4 recommendation, and the XHTML (the next generation of HTML) demands lowercase tags.

Basic HTML Tags

Headings

<h1> </h1>

<h2> </h2> and so on...to <h6> </h6>

Paragraphs

<p> </p>

Line Breaks

 (has no end tag; future-proof way:
 ending the tag inside the opening)

Comments

<!-- write a comment to yourself --> (*spaces between dashes are for my example only!*)

Horizontal rule

<hr> </hr>

Useful Tips

When you write HTML language, you can never be sure how the text is displayed in another browser. Some people have large computer displays, some have small. The text will be reformatted every time the user resizes his window. Never try to format the text in your editor by adding empty lines and spaces to the text.

HTML will truncate the spaces in your text. Any number of spaces counts as one. Also, in HTML a new line counts as one space.

Using empty paragraphs <p> to insert blank lines is a bad habit. Use the
 tag instead. (But not to create lists)

HTML automatically adds an extra blank line before and after some elements, like before and after a paragraph, and before and after a heading.

HTML Tag Attributes

Attributes provide additional information to an HTML element

Attributes always come in name/value pairs (name="value")

Attributes are always specified in the start tag of an HTML element

Attribute values should always be enclosed in quotes. Double style quotes are most common, but single style quotes are also allowed.

In rare situations, like when the attribute value itself contains quotes, it is necessary to use single quotes:

Name='Amy "da bomb" Strahm'

Attribute Examples

<h1> defines start of a heading; <h1 align="center"> has information about the alignment

<body> defines body of HTML document; <body bgcolor="green"> adds background color

<table> defines HTML table; <table border="1"> adds border around table (1 pixel)

HTML Links

HTML uses a hyperlink to link to other documents on the Web

<a> defines an anchor

 link to another website

Target attributes: <target="_blank"> opens in new browser window

 links to images

Border attributes: <border="2">

Width & Height attributes: <width="65" height="48">

 mail link

More Useful Tips:

Home page is always saved as "index.html"

Save early and save often!

Save files with lowercase letters and no spaces. Example: website101forteachers.doc

Refresh the web page when you change the HTML language.

Draw a diagram (storyboard) of the website you want to create; pages you plan to have and how they will be organized. (See example)

Keep track of your web adventures with a webquest journal. (see example)

Other Things to Consider:

Where will I store my website? (Server)

How do I upload files to my server? (FTP)

Questions? I'll try to help: orchteach@yahoo.com

My Webquest Journal
February 6, 2009

HTML Tutorials

<http://www.w3schools.com/html/DEFAULT.asp>

great site for basic html language tutorials

HTML Tag List

<http://www.w3schools.com/tags/default.asp>

ordered alphabetically

HTML Attributes Reference

http://www.w3schools.com/tags/ref_standardattributes.asp

HTML Color Names

http://www.w3schools.com/tags/ref_colornames.asp

names, numbers, and examples of web colors

HTML Symbol Entities Reference

http://www.w3schools.com/tags/ref_symbols.asp

characters, numbers, names, and descriptions

W3C HTML Homepage

<http://www.w3.org/MarkUp/>

HTMLSource: HTML Tutorials

<http://www.yourhtmlsource.com/starthere/whatishtml.html>

What is HTML?

HTML Primer

<http://www.cs.tut.fi/~jkorpela/html-primer.html>

Getting Started with HTML

HTML from Wikipedia

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HTML>

history of HTML and definitions