

HOW TO CREATE A WEB PAGE USING XHTML

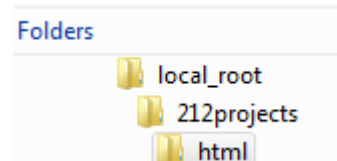
USE A TEXT EDITOR TO CREATE AND SAVE THE HTML FILES.

Both PCs and Macintoshes come with basic text editors -- Notepad on the PC and TextEdit on the Mac. You will use a simple text editor to create your HTML file. NOTE: if you already know a little html, it's probably outdated, so leave it out.

Note to Mac Users: before you begin, change from rich text to **plain text** using the Format menu in TextEdit. Within the Open and Save section of Preferences, under "when opening a file," check "ignore rich text commands in HTML files."

STEP 1

Create a folder named **local_root**. ON CAMPUS, create your folder on your USB disk or H drive. At home, create your folder on your hard drive. This will contain **all of your class work** and it will be published later on a campus web server. You will use one **local_root** folder for all class work. Now create another folder within local_root named **212projects** and another within that named **html**. This is where you will store your HTML and image files for this assignment.



STEP 2

Open Notepad or Notepad++ and create a new file.

Save your file as an html file by clicking **FILE -> SAVE AS**, then type **first name and last name** (no spaces) followed by .html (e.g. **jodireed.html**). You may have to change the **save as type** to **All Files**. Save the file within **local_root\212projects\html**.



Proceed by following the html tutorial below and then adding all of the appropriate html tags and your information.

HOW DOES HTML WORK?

HTML pages are easy to build – you just need to understand a few tags. A tag is a way of identifying the different pieces of your page, like headlines and paragraphs.

Tags are easy to spot. They all begin with the "less than" sign:

<

and end with the "greater than" sign:

>

Between the greater and less than signs is the tag element name. For example, this tag is the paragraph tag:

<p>

In XHTML you must use **lower case letters** for element names.

The tag is usually followed by text. For example, this is the text of a short paragraph:

```
<p>This is going to be the first html page I have ever created.</p>
```

Notice that at the end of the text is another tag, called a **closing tag**. It looks just like the opening tag except it has a **slash in front of it**. It tells the browser that this is the end of this particular element.

STARTING YOUR PAGE

The very first thing you need to put into your HTML file is a tag that identifies the entire file as an HTML file.

```
<html>
</html>
```

The browser uses this information to display your page. Notice that I included the closing tag. I could add this later, but I find it easiest to include both so I don't forget the closing tag.

MAKE A HEAD FOR YOUR PAGE

Now you have an open file with one html tag in it. The next thing you'll do is create a header section. The head is the first part of the page containing information about the page, like its **title**.

In a basic HTML file, the head has two kinds of tags. First, is a tag that identifies the section as a head. Then, inside the head, is one that identifies some text as a title. This is how you type the head tags:

```
<html>
  <head>
    <title>My First Web Page</title>
  </head>
</html>
```

Notice that the head goes **within** the html tags and the title goes **within** the head tags.

START THE BODY

The body is the second part of a web page. It contains all the information you see in a web browser window. You start the body with the body tag. It goes **AFTER** the head tag and **within** the html tags. Your page should have **ONE head and ONE body**.

```
<html>
  <head>
    <title>My First Web Page</title>
  </head>

  <body>

</body>

</html>
```

Now you're ready to start adding your page content.

FORMAT TEXT

Here are some simple formatting tags. Try them in your page (somewhere within the body) and view the page in a browser to see what happens to the appearance of the text within the strong and em tags.

```
This is <strong>easier</strong> than I thought!
```

```
We are <em>very, very happy</em> to find this out!
```

SPACING

Paragraphs are separated by a blank line. If you want to just go to the next line, add a line break tag. This tag stands alone because it doesn't have any content.

```
This is <strong>easier</strong> than I thought!
```

```
<br />
```

```
We are <em>very, very happy</em> to find this out!
```

ADD A LINK

Links are used to connect to another file. The tag you use to identify a link is called the anchor tag (<a>). Within the tag you also include the URL or local file name to which you are linking. Here's an example of a link to the Cuyamaca College home page:

```
Here is a link to <a href="http://www.cuyamaca.edu">Cuyamaca  
College</a> Home Page.
```

Add this to your HTML within the body, save, and view it in a browser. What part is underlined? Does the link work?

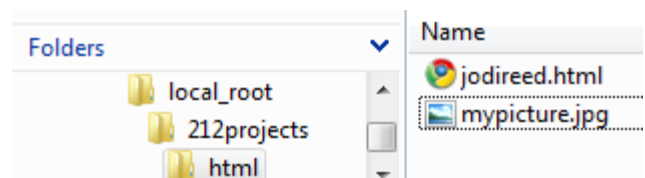
Here is how an email link looks:

```
Contact <a href="mailto:jr@gcccd.edu"> jr@gcccd.edu </a> for more  
information.
```

When the user clicks an email link, the browser will try to launch an email application specified in the preferences. This is not as useful as it used to be because the end user may not have an email application specified if they use web email. Some web developers avoid using email addresses on web pages since they are gathered by email-address harvesters for spam lists.

ADD A PICTURE

Find a photo on the Internet and save it within your `local_root\212projects\html` folder (right click the image and SAVE AS). Make sure the image file format is gif or jpeg and the file name ends in `.gif` or `.jpg`. Here is the code for adding displaying the image named `mypicture.jpg` (assuming that the file is in the same folder as your html file).



```

```

Type this somewhere in the body and see how it looks in the browser. If it doesn't work, make sure the image file is in the same folder as the html and the file name in the html matches the actual image file name.

You can add attributes to the img tag. Here's an example of the code with alternate text that describes the image to visually impaired users. You will also see the alt text when you roll the cursor over the image in Internet Explorer.

```

```

What happens when you include the align attribute?

```

```

ADD A LIST

Here is the code for a list. Try it and see how it looks when you preview it in a browser. What happens if you use `ol` instead of `ul`?

```
<ul>
  <li> item 1</li>
  <li> item 2</li>
  <li> item 3: <a href="http://www.google.com">google</a></li>
</ul>
```

JUST FOR FUN

What does this tag do?

```
<hr />
```

What happens when you add this code **just after your title tag** ?

```
<style type="text/css">
body {
  font-family: Verdana, Geneva, sans-serif;
  color: #033;
  background-color: #9CC;
}
h1,h2 {
  font-family: "Arial Black", Gadget, sans-serif;
  color: #600;
}
</style>
```

MAKE YOUR OWN PAGE

Use the tags above to make your own home page. **Tell a little bit about your background and interests and include a bulleted list of links to web sites you like.** Your page should include the following tags:

- html, head, title, and body tags
- heading
- paragraphs
- image
- list of links to web sites you like

The next page shows an example of what I'm looking for.

Jane Doe's First Web Page

Background

I grew up in Arizona in a rowdy family of six -- 3 older brothers. My Dad taught aero tech classes at Arizona State University and flew refueling jets for the Air National Guard. Mom taught junior high home economics. Three older brothers kept busy with sports, motorcycles, and neighborhood kids. I have fond memories of desert thunderstorms and still love the smell of the [Creosote Bush](#).

At Arizona State University, I studied chemical engineering a few years before I realized I wanted to teach. I changed majors and colleges and eventually got a degree in chemistry with a minor in computer science from the University of Arizona in Tucson.

In 1987, I took a teaching job (computer applications) at [Victor Valley High School](#) in Victorville, California. A forest service trail maintenance summer job introduced me to new friends and led me to a job in San Diego. I taught at [Carlsbad High School](#) for two years, entered the graduate program in Educational Technology at SDSU, and eventually moved back North to Loma Linda, where I helped design and direct a [learning center](#) at [Loma Linda University's](#) School of Medicine.



Interests

Reading, gardening, hiking, and listening to music are preferred pastimes. I've enjoyed sci fi authors [Lois McMaster Bujold](#) & Mercedes Lackey. Other favorite writers include Willa Cather, [J.D. Salinger](#), & Sue Monk Kidd. Lately I read more non fiction than fiction, especially Ezra Bayda, Pema Chodron, Joko Beck, Stephen Levine, Jack Kornfield, Ram Dass, etc. Some of my favorite poems are written by Mary Oliver, William Wordsworth, Dante & Robert Frost.

Links

- [Talks from TED](#).
- Bill Moyers talks with poet [Robert Bly](#) and activist [Grace Lee Boggs](#).
- [The Story of Stuff](#)
- [Mission Trails Regional Park](#).
- [my kid singing Mr. Cellophane](#) in her school talent show
- [Baggu reusable shopping bags](#)
- [Worm World](#)
- [Compost Resource Page](#)

revised January 9, 2008
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