
Chapter 4 Basic Web Page Construction

TOPICS: Intro to HTML and
Basic Web Page Design

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

1

Let's Review

- What is a URL?
- Give an example of a URL.
- What are the different parts of a URL?

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

2

Web Definitions

- Web Site: the physical location of the computer that allows Web publishing.
 - a computer
 - a connection to the internet
 - fairly large hard disk
- Web server: specialized software for transmitting information from a web site to a user's computer
- Web page: any document on the web
- Home page: first page of a site

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

3

What are Web Documents?

- HTML documents
 - HyperText Markup Language
- Text files with special formatting and linking instructions
- Browsers process the HTML document and display the information according to commands called "tags"
- What do web pages consist of?

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

4

Web Page Basics

- Web Pages
 - All Browsers recognize Web pages as a basic text file with an extension of .htm or .html
- Problem
 - Locate a simple text file and make a copy of the file with a .html extension OR create a simple text file with a .html extension using the editor SimpleText. Then in a browser, go to File->Open and select the .html file for view in your browser.

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

5

What is HTML?

HTML

- Hypertext Markup Language
- HTML is not a programming language
- Contains formatting commands (tags) to spruce up Web pages. Examples include:
 - Paragraph breaks
 - Bold
 - Lists
 - Tables
 - Links

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

6

HTML Elements

- All Web pages should contain four basic elements:
 - HTML
 - HEAD
 - TITLE
 - BODY
- Editing HTML files will be done in the beginning using SimpleText in the Mac world or NotePad in the Windows world.

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

7

HTML Template

```
<html>
Marks the beginning of an HTML file
<head>
Contains info not displayed but used in the file
  <title>
  Appears in the Browser's title bar
  </title>
</head>
<body>
Text and graphics are placed here and displayed in
the browser's window
</body>
</html>
```

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

8

Problem

- Open a plain text editor such as SimpleText and type in the following:

```
<html>
  <head>
    <title>First Webpage</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <h1>My First Webpage</h1>
    Hello everybody!
  </body>
</html>
```

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

9

Problem

- Save the file you created as ----.html
- Open the file in an Internet browser
- View your page!

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

10

HTML Commands

- Formatting
 - Bold
 - Italic <i> </i>
 - Underline <u> </u>
 - Center <center></center>
- Dividers
 - <p> paragraph break (double carriage return)
 -
 line break (single carriage return)
 - <hr> horizontal rule
- Comment
 - <!-- -->

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

11

Headings

- Headings can be 1 of 6 sizes:
 - Very Large <h1> </h1>
 - Very Small <h6> </h6>
- Some things to note:
 - When a Web browser reads an HTML file, the browser treats the text as a continuous stream of characters. When a tag is encountered, a change can occur.
 - Returns and multiple blanks are ignored.
 - HTML is case insensitive. What does this mean?

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

12

Problem

- Modify your file to print your name, address and phone number
- Use breaks!
- Use any text formatting you'd like (bold, italic, blink)
- If you want to be able to work at home on a project, bring a floppy next time to save your work

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

13

Things to remember

- Save your file after each change you make
- You may need to hit reload on your browser to see your changes

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

14

Color

- You can change the colors in
 - Backgrounds
 - Text
 - Links
- It's always expressed as RGB values
 - Hexadecimal, 2 digits for each
 - Hexadecimal numbers go from 0 to 15, represented as 0, 1, ..., 9, a, b, c, d, e, f
 - Values for each RGB go from 0 to 255
- Examples:
 - #000000
 - #FFFFFF

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

15

Websafe Colors

- You can find a list of RGB values in the back of your book
- Also online at
 - <http://www.webreference.com/html/reference/color/websafe.html>

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

16

Changing Colors

- You can change the colors of text, links, or backgrounds in the <body> tag of the html page
- `<body bgcolor="#ffffcc" text="#000000" link="#0000ff">`

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

17

Problem

- Let's use the different html elements that we have covered today
- Create a webpage that says something interesting
- Use
 - Text formatting
 - Different colors

2/16/05

CS120 The Information Era

18