

# Section 1- Basic HTML

Ready to enter HTML land? Put on your suit, grab your briefcase, and lets get ready to rumble! After reading through this section, you will have created your first web page-honest!

-  [Introduction to HTML](#)
-  [Creating your first web page](#)
-  [Adding a background to your document](#)

## -Introduction to HTML

HTML is a markup language used by all web browsers in determining how to display a web page. It consists of simple text (content), plus tags. Tags represents the essence of HTML; whenever you want to make your text bold, insert an image or table, add music to your page, you use tags. Tags are special codes that wrap around various content to affect the content. Lets see an example of a tag:

```
<b>
```

The above is the bold tag, and when wrapped around text, makes the text appear bold!

```
<b>This text is bold</b>
```

Notice that there is a `</b>` tag attached at the end of the content. This is the bold tag's closing tag, and it tells the browser- "Hay, I want bold text only up to that point!" Most tags have a complimentary closing tag, as you will see as we trottle along.

HTML is essentially a bunch of tags with even more text. Once you learn the syntax of these tags, you can call yourself a HTML expert!

## -Creating your first web page

Now that you have a vague idea of what tags are, you're ready to learn about the basic tags that make up a basic web page. Are you ready to create your very first web page?

The below lists the complete syntax used in creating a very basic web page, with only the text "Welcome to my first homepage" on it:

```
<html>
<head>
<title> Welcome!</title>
</head>
<body>
Welcome to my first homepage!
</body>
</html>
```

Go ahead. Open up your text editor (e.g., notepad), type the above, and save the file as "first.html", and see what it looks like in your browser. You'll see a blank page with the title "Welcome!" on the title bar, and the simple line of text "Welcome to my first homepage" sitting in the main browser area. The parts in bold are the tags used in this page. Notice their structure and position in the document. Lets now describe their role in a document:

<b>&lt;html&gt;&lt;/html&gt;</b>	Specifies that this is an HTML document. All html documents begin and end with this tag.
<b>&lt;head&gt;&lt;/head&gt;</b>	Creates a container for meta information, such as the document's title, keywords and description info for search engine crawling, etc to be added to the document.
<b>&lt;title&gt;&lt;/title&gt;</b>	Creates a "title" for the document. Anything you add inside this tag, the browser displays it in the title bar.
<b>&lt;body&gt;&lt;/body&gt;</b>	Creates a container for the document's content (text, images etc). This is where all the "viewable" content will be inserted.

99% of web documents on the web, small or large, simple or complicated, all contain at least the above tags. They make up the framework of any document. Take another look at the definition of the <body> tag- most of the action in html will take place inside it, since the <body> tag contains all of the document's viewable content.

## -Adding a background to your document

The first thing most beginner webmasters want to do with their web page is to add a background to it, whether it be a background color or image. By default, a document with no background appears gray (or white in newer browsers) in the background. That's easy to fix. Lets begin by adding a background color. To add a splash of color to your document, add the following code inside the <body> tag itself:

```
<body bgcolor="#XXXXXX">
```

where xxxxxx is the hex code for the color you want. "Why can't I just use the name of the color", you ask. Well, ask the creators of HTML that question! Anyhow, here's a small chart of the hex code for some common colors:

<b>black</b>	<b>#000000</b>
<b>white</b>	<b>#FFFFFF</b>
<b>blue</b>	<b>#0000FF</b>
<b>yellow</b>	<b>#FFFF00</b>
<b>red</b>	<b>#FF0000</b>
<b>green</b>	<b>#008000</b>
<b>lime</b>	<b>#00FF00</b>
<b>silver</b>	<b>#C0C0C0</b>

For example, the below gives our document a background of black:

```
<body bgcolor="#000000">
```

Now that you know how to give your doc a background color, lets move on to learn

how to give it an image as well. For illustration, lets first bring in a nice image we'll be using:



backgr15.jpg

First of all, copy all files from p:\MS1013\HTML\ to the same directory where "first.html" is in. To utilize the above image as the background, use the following syntax:

```
<body background="backgr15.jpg">
```

Many authors like to give their document BOTH a background color, and an image as well. This way, while the image has yet to come through from the server, surfers will see a background color in the meantime:

```
<body bgcolor="#000000" background="backgr15.jpg">
```

# Section 2- Intermediate HTML

Now that you've gotten a taste of HTML, its time to get down to business. In this section, you'll learn all you need to create a decent web page, with text, graphics, and more!

 [Formatting your text](#)

 [Inserting images](#)

 [Adding links](#)

## -Formatting your text

Learning how to format text ranks as one of the most important things to learn in HTML...after all, all documents contain some text inside of it.

### -Headers

A header is an extra large, bold text used as, well, headers in a document. Headers are created using the <h?> tag, with ? being a number of 1 to 6 (1 is largest, 6 is smallest). Lets see what I mean:

```
<h1>Welcome!</h1>
```

```
<h2>Welcome!</h2>
```

```
<h3>Welcome!</h3>
```

### -Paragraphs

A paragraph can be created in HTML by using the <p> tag. The <p> tag creates a block of text that is separated by a blank line both above and below the block. For example:

```
<p>This is the first paragraph. This is the first paragraph. This is the first paragraph.</p>
```

```
<p>This is the second paragraph. This is the second paragraph. This is the second paragraph.</p>
```

You can go on to manipulate the alignment of any paragraph by using the align attribute. This attribute accepts three values-left, center, or right. Lets align a paragraph to the right edge of the page:

```
<p align="right">This is the rightly aligned paragraph. This is the rightly aligned paragraph. This is the rightly aligned paragraph.</p>
```

### -Bold and italic text

Bold and italic text can be created by using the <b> and <i> tag, respectively:

```
<b>This text is bold</b>
```

```
<i>This text is italic</i>
```

### -Changing font color, size, and type

Like any decent word processor, you can also alter the font color, size, and type of the text. The three tags that accomplish this are as follows:

```
<font color="#FF0000">This text is red</font>
```

```
<font size="6">This text is very big!</font>
```

```
<font face="Courier">This text is in courier</font>
```

The valid values for the font color are the hex values of colors - the same values used for background colors. For font size, an integer between 1 and 7 should be used, with 7 representing the largest font. For the font face, use the name of the font type as the value, such as Courier, Arial, etc.

You can easily shove different formatting tags into one big code to create the effect desired. For example, if you want text that is bold, 2 in font size, italic, and Arial in font type, do the below:

```
<b><i><font size="5" face="Arial">Complex Text</font></i></b>
```

As you can see, HTML is very flexible, and allows you to throw together various tags to create the desired effect when one by itself cannot do the job.

### -Centering text

A <center> tag exists that can be used to wrap around virtually around formatting tag to center it. Here are a couple of examples:

```
<center><b>This bold text is centered</b></center>
```

```
<center><h3>This header is centered as well!</h3></center>
```

### -Inserting Images

Enough with boring text, lets move on to something more colorful- images!

Adding images to your web page can't be simpler (creating them is another story). Images are inserted into a document by using the <img> tag. The below inserts an image called "paperboy.gif":

```

```



Two things to notice here. First, all <img> tags have a src attribute, which is required to

specify the file path of the image you're inserting (in this case, its paperboy.gif). Second, <img> tags do not have closing tags (ie </img>). It's one of those rare cases where a closing tag is not required.

### -The width and height attribute of <img>

There's a secret to making your images load faster in a document- use the width and height attribute of the <img> tag. These attributes allow us to explicitly specify the dimensions of the image, thus saving the browser the boring job of having to determine this info itself (thus increasing download time). The above paper boy is 98\*100 in dimensions. Let's tell our browser that when defining it, shall we?

```

```

The width/height attribute can actually do more than just speed up an image's download. We can use it to also alter the dimensions of the image. Let's blow up the paperboy by giving it a large width and height:

```

```



Ugly paper boy, from this viewpoint!

### -Adding links

What would the WWW be without links? Links represent the essence of the WWW, linking millions and millions of pages from around the world together...what are we waiting for? Let's start linking!

Links are created using the <a> tag. The <a> tag requires a href attribute which specifies the target URL it should follow when the link is clicked on. Here is a text link that goes to Yahoo:

```
<a href="http://www.yahoo.com">Click here for Yahoo</a>
```

[Click here for Yahoo](http://www.yahoo.com)

The above link links to an external document on the WWW. You can easily create links that link to a local document within your site. Just supply the complete path of the target document, with the current document the starting point. Here are some examples:

```
<a href="section3.htm">Click here for the next section</a>
```

[Click here for the next section](section3.htm)

```
<a href="subdir/section3.htm">Click here for the next section</a>
```

[Click here for the next section](#)

The first link assumes that section3.htm is in the same directory as the current page, whereas the second assumes section3.htm is stored in the directory "subdir", a sub directory of the current directory.

### -Adding Image links

Once you understand how to create links in general, creating image links are a snap. Just substitute the text with the <img> tag. Why don't we let our paper boy take us to Yahoo when clicked on?

```
<a href="http://www.yahoo.com"></a>
```



Notice the blue line surrounding the image- this is how an image link appears by default. We can easily get rid of the border by setting the border attribute to 0:

```
<a href="http://www.yahoo.com"></a>
```



## Section 3- Intermediate HTML II

Moving on, lets learn how to implement a little more advanced stuff in HTML, such as lists and bullets, blinking text and marquee.

 [Adding bullets and lists](#)

 [Creating blinking text](#)

 [Creating horizontal rules](#)

### -Adding bullets and lists

HTML provides webmasters an easy way to create attractive bullets and lists for listing things. Before anything else, here's an example of both:

- Bullet 1
  - Bullet 2
  - Bullet 3
1. List 1
  2. List 2
  3. List 3

### -Creating bullets

Bullets are created using the `<ul>` tag and the `<li>` sub tag for each individual bullet. Its best explained with an example:

```
<ul>
<li>Bullet 1
<li>Bullet 2
<li>Bullet 3
</ul>
```

### -Creating lists

The syntax for (numbered) lists is very similar to bullets. Just substitute the `<ul>` tag with the `<ol>` tag:

```
<ol>
<li>List 1
<li>List 2
<li>List 3
</ol>
```

# Section 4- Advanced HTML

Are you ready for some serious fun with HTML?

- [Creating tables](#)
- [Adding background music](#)
- [Categorizing your site for search engines](#)
- [Other fun stuff for your page](#)

## -Creating tables

Tables can get quite hairy to create, but they are a very important part of HTML, and must be learnt eventually. In this section, I'll cover the general syntax for creating tables- complex tables are beyond the scope of this tutorial, though.

All tables involve using the below three tags:

<code>&lt;table&gt;&lt;/table&gt;</code>	Defines a table. All tables begin and end with this tag.
<code>&lt;tr&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;</code>	Defines a row. A table must have at least one row (think about it).
<code>&lt;td&gt;&lt;/td&gt;</code>	Defines a cell within a row. All tables must also have a least one row.

The best way to illustrate how to create tables is to begin by showing the syntax involved in creating a basic table:

```
<table border=1>
<tr>
<td>A basic table</td>
</tr>
</table>
```

A basic table
---------------

Take special note of the structure of the tags- All tables begin with the `<table>` tag, followed by at least one `<tr>` tag, and then by at least one `<td>`.

Lets take the above a little further and create a table with two cells (as opposed to just one):

```
<table border=1>
<tr>
<td>This is the first cell</td>
<td>This is the second cell</td>
</tr>
</table>
```

This is the first cell	This is the second cell
------------------------	-------------------------

Want to try for a table with two rows, and two cells in each of the row?

```
<table border=1>
<tr>
<td>This is the first cell</td>
<td>This is the second cell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This is the third cell</td>
<td>This is the fourth cell</td>
</tr>
</table>
```

This is the first cell	This is the second cell
This is the third cell	This is the fourth cell

Since we wanted two rows, we defined two `<tr>` tags. Since we wanted two cells in each of the row, we defined two `<td>` tags inside each of the `<tr>`. Not that bad, right?

### -Table attributes

Before we get too carried away with creating tables, its appropriate to first introduce the attributes available in manipulating a table's appearance, such as border size, background color, row/cell width etc. Below lists these important attributes:

<b>width</b>	Available to all of the table tags. Used to determine the tag's width, either in px or %
<b>border</b>	Available to the <code>&lt;table&gt;</code> tag. Defines its border size
<b>cellpadding</b>	Available to the <code>&lt;table&gt;</code> tag. Defines the padding width between each of it's cells.
<b>cellspacing</b>	Available to the <code>&lt;table&gt;</code> tag. Defines the spacingwidth between each of it's cells.
<b>bgcolor</b>	Available to the <code>&lt;table&gt;</code> tag. Defines the background color of he table
<b>background</b>	Available to the <code>&lt;table&gt;</code> tag. Specifies the background image of the table.

I encourage you to individually try out all of these attributes; here's an example that uses several of the attributes at once:

```
<table border="2" width="136" background="backgr15.jpg" cellspacing="0"
cellpadding="0">
<tr>
<td width="100%">Sample table<br>Sample table</td>
</tr>
</table>
```

