

Quick Tips

for

Creating Web Pages Using Dreamweaver

Getting Started

If you can use a word processor, you can create a web page. Basic web pages offer you an efficient way for sharing information with others on the Internet. Better still, web pages are designed to be read by a variety of computers—including Macs, PCs, and other systems—so your web pages should work for everybody. This *Quick Tip* will help you create your first web page, provide you with resources for making your pages, and get you ready to put your pages on the Web.

Planning Your First Web Page

Every web page has a purpose. Before you begin, take the time to define your purpose and your audience. Will you inform, persuade, entertain, or teach them? *How* will you do that? Then consider how your site will be structured: how will you link text within your page, how will you link multiple pages together, and how will you help your audience navigate through your pages? Lastly, consider graphic design and aesthetics: think about *contrast*, *repetition*, *alignment*, and *proximity*.

Creating Your First Web Page

All web pages use HTML (HyperText Markup Language) to describe how a browser (like Netscape or Internet Explorer) should display text and graphics. We'll use *Macromedia's Dreamweaver* as our WYSIWYG ("what you see is what you get") editor for making web pages.

- Log into a campus computer and start Dreamweaver by going to **Start**, then **Class Apps**, then clicking on **Dreamweaver 4**. (If you have not yet installed Dreamweaver, it may say "Install Dreamweaver 4." When you select it, it will install itself. You may need to restart your computer after the install.)
- Save your page by clicking on **File** and selecting **Save As**. Choose the location wherein you want to save your web page, name the page, and click Save.
- Now begin working on your page. Try typing in text and seeing how you can modify the text's justification, font, color, size, and style. The best way to learn is to experiment and try it yourself.

Further Resources for Creating Web Pages

- **Details on Using Dreamweaver:** Select Help from the menu bar and select Using Dreamweaver.
- **Getting Graphics:** there are many free sources for web graphics available on the Internet. Once you find a graphic you like, right-click on it, select "Save Picture As" and save the file to your network directory. You'll then need to place it in your web page. Try these URLs (Universal Resource Locators):
 - www.xoom.com
 - www.coolarchive.com
 - www.erinet.com/jelane/families/index.html

Publishing Your Pages to the Internet

You can automatically publish your web page by saving it on the Danube server (your W: drive. For more information on publishing your web page, see Quick Tips for *Publishing to your Web Drive*.