

Webpage Basics

Introduction to Websites/Webpage's

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Participants Handout

Name: _____

Content

What is HTML?

To have information available for global distribution, a standard needs to be established to allow this communication. HTML (HyperText Markup Language) is used by the World Wide Web (WWW or W3) to allow this very distribution of information across the global. HTML is read and understood by a piece of software called an Internet Browser (i.e. Internet Explore, Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari, and Opera). HTML is constructed by using Tags, these Tags are words that tell the browser what to do when displayed on a screen. All Tags are contained between the < and > characters.

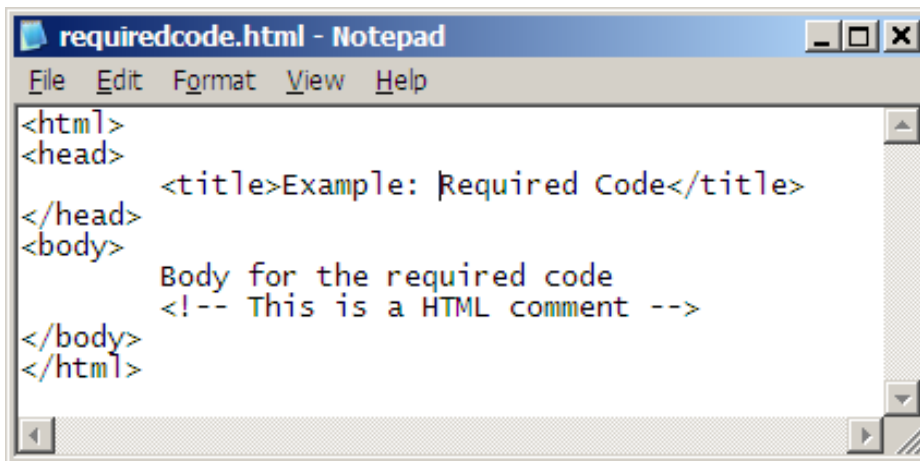
As HTML is an international standard, who then controls how a HTML document is constructed so that the same page looks and acts the same when using different Browsers? Who also sets what is and isn't allowed as HTML tags and its attributes? International consortiums known as the World Wide Web Consortium (or W3C for short) has long been around to shape and define HTML. The consortium is made of many experts in the field of technology and internationalization so that it can be written in any language and ported around the Web with ease.

Further information about the W3C and HTML can be found at <http://www.w3.org/>

The Code

Required Tags

The most basic webpage should contain the minimum required tags for HTML and follow a particular structure, for example:



```
requiredcode.html - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
<html>
<head>
  <title>Example: Required Code</title>
</head>
<body>
  Body for the required code
  <!-- This is a HTML comment -->
</body>
</html>
```

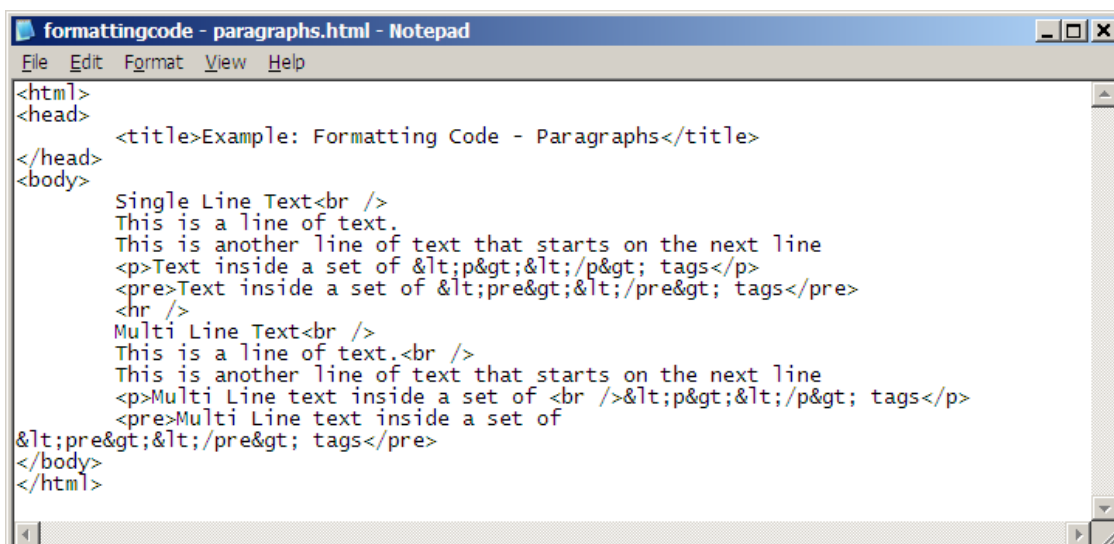
HTML is much like a page from a book, each must page exist (<html></html>), show the title of the book (<head><title></title></head>), display the contents of the page (<body></body>), and occasionally there are some footnotes (<!-- -->).

Formatting Tags

Some of the HTML tags alter the appearance of text. All of the formatting tags show here are apart of that group:

- <p>...</p> marks the start and end of a paragraph
- ... text is shown in **bold**
- <i>...</i> text is shown in *italics*
- <u>...</u> text is shown with a underline
- <h1>...</h1> text is a first level heading (large font size)
- <h2>...</h2> text is a second level heading (smaller than h1)
- <h3>...</h3> text is a third level heading (smaller than h2)
- ... up to h6

For all HTML documents any white space (space, tab and enters) are ignored unless enclosed within the <pre></pre> tags, as the below example shown below:



```
formattingcode - paragraphs.html - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
<html>
<head>
  <title>Example: Formatting Code - Paragraphs</title>
</head>
<body>
  Single Line Text<br />
  This is a line of text.
  This is another line of text that starts on the next line
  <p>Text inside a set of <lt;p>&lt;/p> tags</p>
  <pre>Text inside a set of <lt;pre>&lt;/pre> tags</pre>
  <hr />
  Multi Line Text<br />
  This is a line of text.<br />
  This is another line of text that starts on the next line
  <p>Multi Line text inside a set of <br /><lt;p>&lt;/p> tags</p>
  <pre>Multi Line text inside a set of
  &lt;pre>&lt;/pre> tags</pre>
</body>
</html>
```

Some of the formatting tags have additional attributes that can affect the way the text and items it contains is displayed. Here is a table of some of the more common attributes used by the <p></p> tags:

Attribute	Value	Description
align	left, right, center, justify	Specifies the alignment of the text within the paragraph.

Example: <p align="center">Text will be aligned in the center of the screen</p>

Layout Tags

Some of the HTML tags assist in giving the text and items displayed a structure or layout on the page. Tables are one of the main things that can assist in the layout of items on a page. The other item is lists, these help by displaying items in a set structure to make it easier to read list style items.

Below is an example of how tables are created in HTML:

```

layoutcode - tables.html - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
<html>
<head>
<title>Example: Layout Code - Tables</title>
</head>
<body>
<table>
<tr>
<td>(Row 1, Column 1)</td>
<td>(Row 1, Column 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Row 2, Column 1)</td>
<td>(Row 2, Column 2)</td>
</tr>
</table>
</body>
</html>
  
```

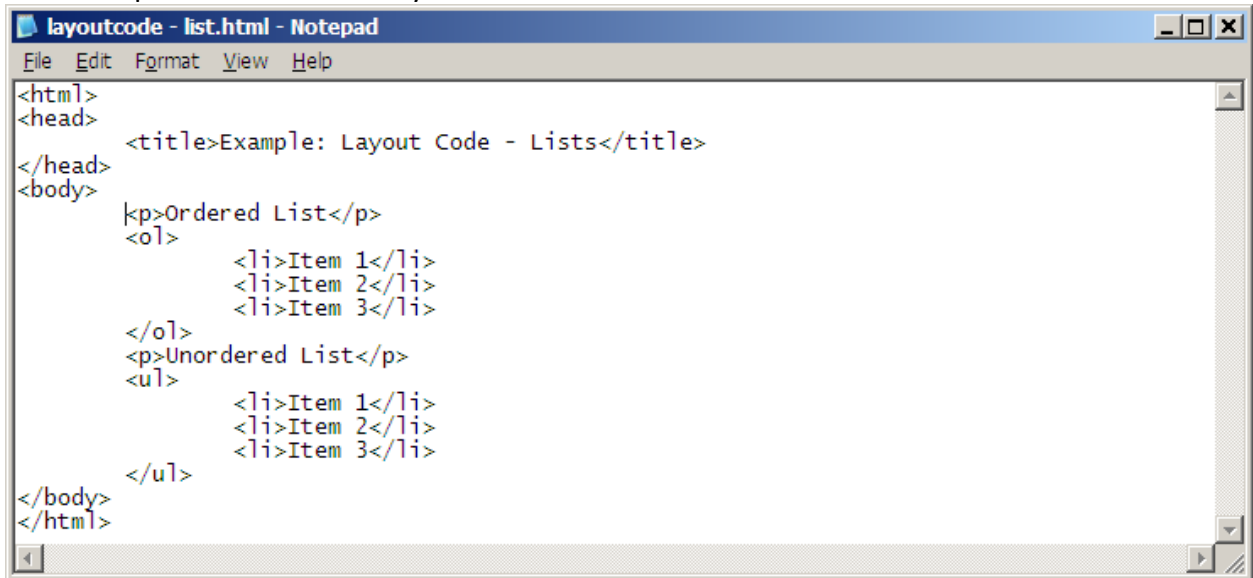
Again, there are some additional tags that allow you to change the way in which the table is displayed:

Tags	Attribute	Value	Description
table, tr, td	border	Pixels	Specifies the border width. Tip: Set border="0" to display tables with no borders!
table	cellpadding	Pixels, %	Specifies the space between the cell walls and contents
table	cellspacing	Pixels, %	Specifies the space between cells
table	summary	text	Specifies a summary of the table for speech-synthesizing/non-visual browsers
table, tr, td	width	Pixels, %	Specifies the width of the table
table, tr, td	valign	top, middle, bottom, baseline	Specifies the vertical text alignment in cells
td	colspan	number	Indicates the number of columns this cell should span
td	rowspan	number	Indicates the number of rows this cell should span
td	height	pixels	Specifies the height of the table cell. Deprecated. Use styles instead.

Example:

```
<table width="100%" border="0" cellpadding="2" cellspacing="0">
  <tr valign="middle">
    <td width="25%">Cell 1</td>
    <td>This cell will expand and contract depending on the size of the window</td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

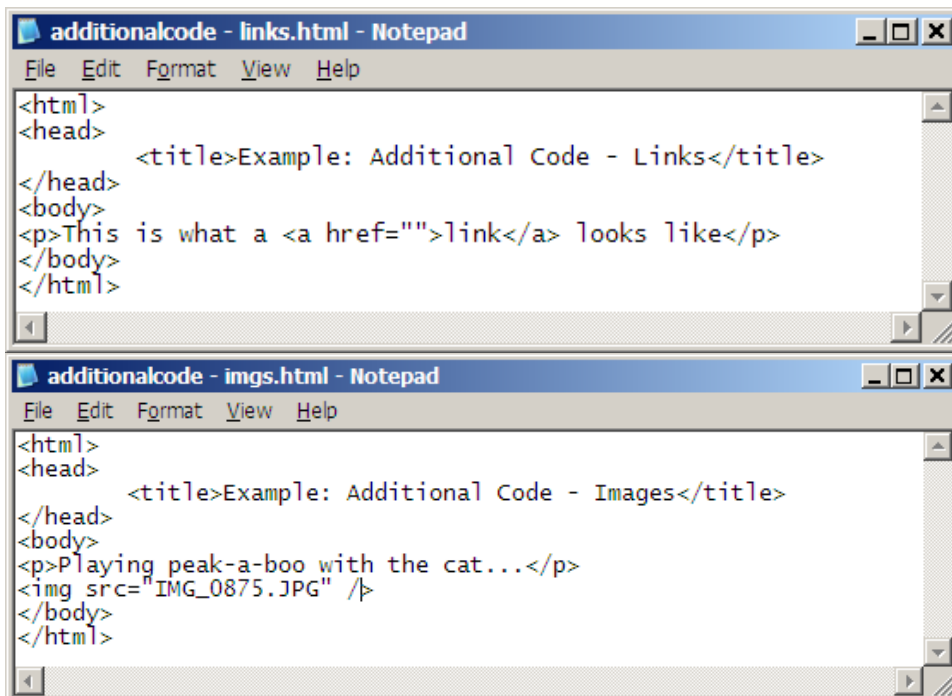
Below is an example of the different style of lists:



```
layoutcode - list.html - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
<html>
<head>
  <title>Example: Layout Code - Lists</title>
</head>
<body>
  <p>Ordered List</p>
  <ol>
    <li>Item 1</li>
    <li>Item 2</li>
    <li>Item 3</li>
  </ol>
  <p>Unordered List</p>
  <ul>
    <li>Item 1</li>
    <li>Item 2</li>
    <li>Item 3</li>
  </ul>
</body>
</html>
```

Additional Code

There are two important tags that allow us to navigate webpages and add images to the webpage that we are creating. These two tags are `<a>` and ``. Without these tags we wouldn't be able to navigate between different pages and provide additional links to external websites.



```
additionalcode - links.html - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
<html>
<head>
  <title>Example: Additional Code - Links</title>
</head>
<body>
  <p>This is what a <a href="">link</a> looks like</p>
</body>
</html>

additionalcode - imgs.html - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
<html>
<head>
  <title>Example: Additional Code - Images</title>
</head>
<body>
  <p>Playing peak-a-boo with the cat...</p>
  
</body>
</html>
```

These tags also have some additional attributes that you can set. Here is a list of attributes for each of the tags:

<a> Tags

Attribute	Value	Description
href	URL	The target URL of the link
target	_blank _parent _self _top	Where to open the target URL. _blank - the target URL will open in a new window _self - the target URL will open in the same frame as it was clicked _parent - the target URL will open in the parent frameset _top - the target URL will open in the full body of the window

 Tags

Attribute	Value	Description
alt	text	Defines a short description of the image
src	URL	The URL of the image to display
border	Pixels	Defines a border around an image.
height	Pixels, %	Defines the height of an image
width	Pixels, %	Sets the width of an image

The Good, The Bad, The Ugly

- Practices
 - Simplicity works best
 - Presentation
 - Page Structure/Layout
 - Too much info is bad... (multiple pages)
 - Make use of the space you have
 - Fonts
 - Use 2-3 fonts across multiple pages (1 for headings, 1 for body)
 - Stick with common fonts
 - Keep the font size standard(10-12 points, size 2 or 3)
 - Pick a font that is easy on the eyes
 - Colours
 - DO NOT USE BRIGHT COLOURS!!!
 - Pastels/Lighter Shades always work best
 - 2 Main Colours, 3-4 complementing colours
 - Use Web-Safe colours (refer to handout for further info)

Notes

Additional References

<http://www.w3schools.com>

<http://www.google.com.au/search?q=basic+web+design+practices> – Google Search

<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/frontpage/HA011102171033.aspx> - FrontPage Training

<http://htmldog.com/guides/htmlbeginner/> - Basic HTML Online Tutorial

<http://www.utexas.edu/learn/html/spchar.html> - HTML Special Characters

<http://www.thesitewizard.com/gettingstarted/howtoupload.shtml> - File Upload Tutorial

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_colors - Web Safe Colors

<http://www.techbomb.com/websafe/> - Web Safe Colors Table