

## Creating a Web Page in Dreamweaver - A TRIO ThinkQuest Tutorial

[URL: <http://depts.washington.edu/trio/comp/howto/page/dreamweaver/mxpage/index.shtml>]

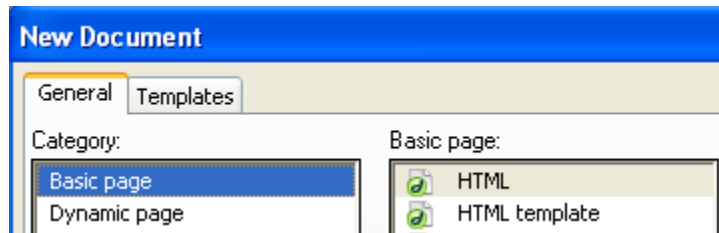
Macromedia Dreamweaver MX 2004 offers a powerful way to create Web pages and Web Sites. Follow these steps to create a basic Web page.

### Opening Dreamweaver MX 2004

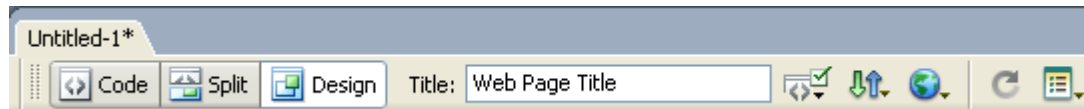
Select *Start* then *Programs, Macromedia* and then select *Dreamweaver MX 2004* from the list of programs displayed (it may be inside another folder).

### Creating a New Web Page

Go to the *File* menu in Dreamweaver and select *New*. The *New Document* dialog box opens. Select *Basic page* and *HTML*, and then click *Create*.



Give your Web page a meaningful title. In the *Title* box type in the name of your Web page.



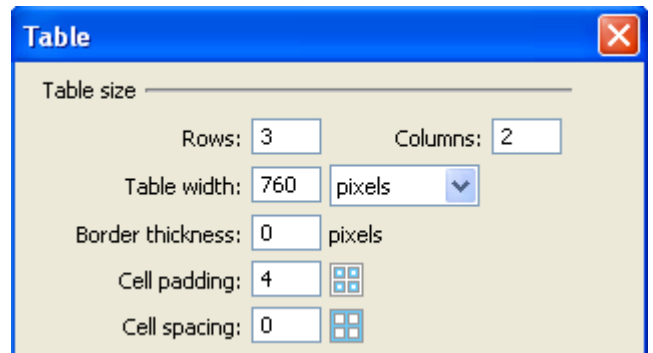
### Creating a Simple Layout Using Tables

The following steps will teach you how to layout a header, scan column, main body column and footer using tables. The table below is a simple layout example.

<b>Header:</b> the top of the Web page containing the title and other important information about a Web site, letting viewers see what the page is about at first glance.	
<b>Scan Column:</b> displays links to reach different parts of a site.	<b>Body Column:</b> the main content of your site will be in the body column.
<b>Footer:</b> may contain email links, a "last revised" date, other information and links to other sections of your site.	

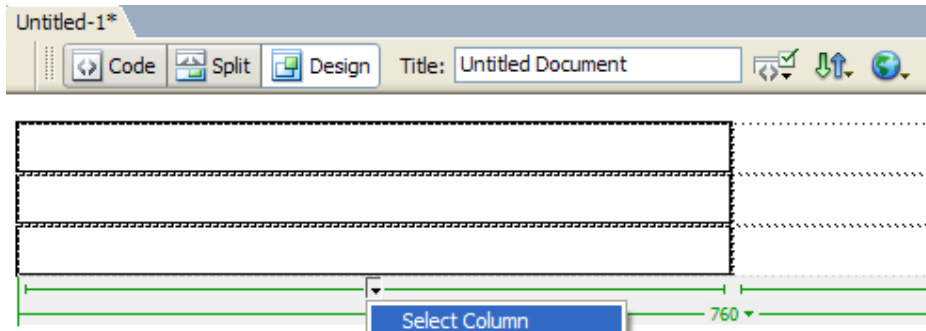
Go to the *Insert* menu and select *Table*. Choose the table settings as shown:

Rows: 3  
 Columns: 2  
 Width: 760 pixels  
 Border: 0  
 Padding: 4  
 Spacing: 0  
 Header: None  
 Accessibility: Leave Blank

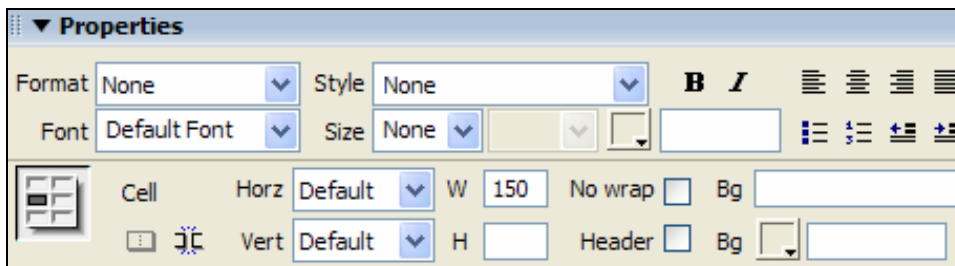


Click OK.

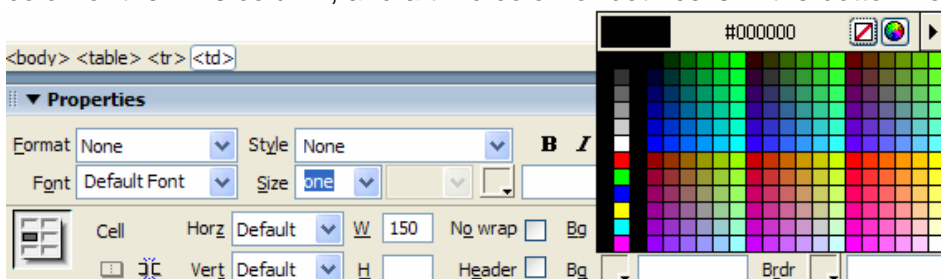
Select the left column by clicking on the *Down Arrow* under the first column and choosing *Select Column* (click inside the column if it doesn't appear).



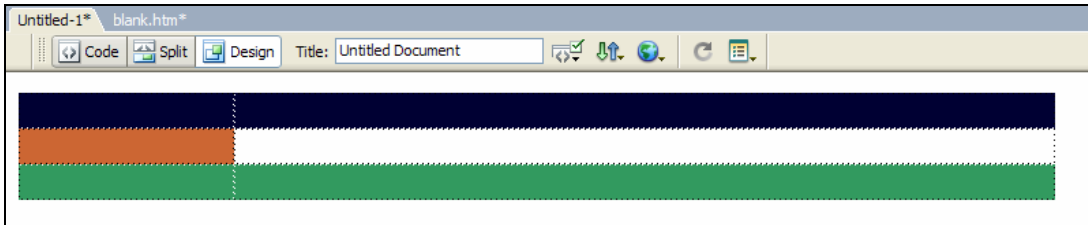
Set the width of this column to 150 pixels by typing 150 in the *Width* box in the *Cell* section of the *Properties* panel.



Set a background color for each cell. Click into a cell to select it, select the down arrow next to the small *Bg* box of the *Properties* window. A palette of color choices will appear. A common scheme is to use one color for both cells in the top row, a complementary color for the links column, and a third color for both cells in the bottom row.

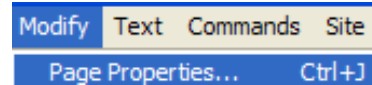


At this point, your page should look something like this:

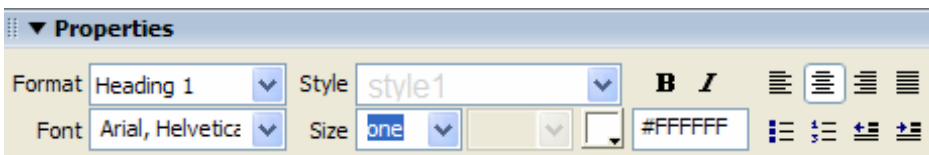


### Working with Text

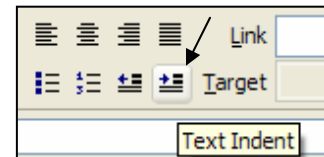
Select *Modify > Page Properties* and then set the *Appearance* and *Links* properties to change the way the entire page appears. Click *OK*.



Add text to your Web site. Click in the top right cell and type in the text for the title of your page. If you want to change the format, highlight the text, and then change the desired property.



Click in the left middle cell and type in the text for the links that will allow visitors to navigate your site. Since you haven't created other pages yet, use place holders for now and change them later within Dreamweaver. Place the cursor in the center row of the left links column, click on the *Left Align* icon and then the *Text Indent* icon to move the text from the left edge. Set the *Vert* (vertical alignment) to *Top*.

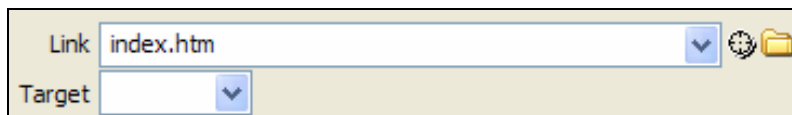


### Saving your Web Page

Before creating links or inserting images, save your page. Go to *File > Save*. Browse to your Web folder, choose a short name (8 characters or less, all lower case, no symbols or spaces for maximum compatibility) for your Web page and click *Save*.

### Creating Links

1. Type in some text, such as "TRIO ThinkQuest" or "Home"
2. Highlight the text.
3. Go to the *Link* field of the *Properties* box. For external links to other Web sites, type in the full Web address in the *Link* field (<http://www.triothinkquest.org> for example). For internal links to pages on your Web site, use the *Folder* icon to the right of the *Link* field to browse to and select the file. Dreamweaver will then set the link properties for you.



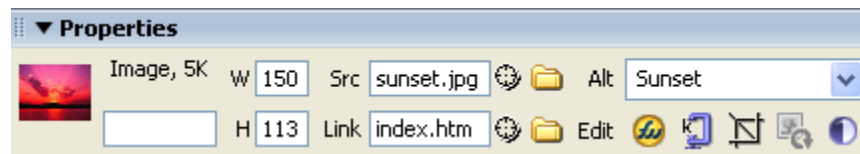
## Inserting Digital Images, ALT Text, and Image Links

Go to the *Insert* menu and select *Image*. In the *Select Image Source* dialog box, locate the desired image. Click on the *Down Arrow* to the right of the *Look In* box, choose the correct drive, go to the desired folder, and select the image. Instructions for preparing and saving these images are provided on our [Adobe PhotoShop page](#).

If this image is outside of your Web site, Dreamweaver will ask if you want to save a copy of the image inside of your Web. Click *Yes*.

Dreamweaver will then give you the option of renaming your image or changing the folder where it will be saved. Make any necessary changes and then click *OK*.

With the image selected, go to the *Properties* window and type in a short description of the image in the *Alt* field. This text will appear if the image does not display, and when the image is moused over in a Web browser. Each image on your Web site should have an *Alt* tag. This will make your site more accessible to people who do not have computers capable of displaying all images or are themselves disabled and unable to experience online images. For more information on the topic of accessibility, see our page [Making an Accessible Web Site](#).



*Optional - Make the image a link:* Type in a complete Web address into the *Link* field, or browse to a page on your Web site using the folder to the right of the *Link* field.

## Previewing your Web Page

Go to the *File* menu and select *Save* to save your work. To see what your Web Page looks like in a browser, click anywhere in the page and press the <F12> key. A preview of your Web page will open in a new browser window.

*Optional – Save As Template:* Go to the *File* menu and select *Save as Template*. Make sure your site is selected, type in a file name under *Save As*, click *Save*, and then *Yes* to *Update Links?* Your template page will now have a *.dwt* file extension. See our tutorial on [Using a Template Page in Dreamweaver](#) for directions on how to use the template page with your Web site.