

National Center for Supercomputing Applications

A Beginner's Guide to HTML

This is a primer for producing documents in HTML, the markup language used by the World Wide Web.

Acronym Expansion

What This Primer Doesn't Cover

Creating HTML Documents

- The Minimal HTML Document

- Basic Markup Tags

 - Titles

 - Headings

 - Paragraphs

- Linking to Other Documents

 - Relative Links Versus Absolute Pathnames

 - Uniform Resource Locator

 - Anchors to Specific Sections in Other Documents

 - Anchors to Specific Sections Within the Current Document

Additional Markup Tags

- Lists

 - Unnumbered Lists

 - Numbered Lists

 - Definition Lists

 - Nested Lists

- Preformatted Text

- Extended Quotes

- Addresses

Character Formatting

- Physical Versus Logical:

 - Use Logical Tags When Possible

 - Logical Styles

 - Physical Styles

- Using Character Tags

- Special Characters

 - Escape Sequences

 - Forced Line Breaks

 - Horizontal Rules

In-line Images

- Alternate Text for Viewers

 - That Can't Display Images

External Images, Sounds, and Animations
Troubleshooting

- Avoid Overlapping Tags
- Embed Anchors and Character Tags,
But Not Anything Else
- Check Your Links

A Longer Example
For More Information

- Fill-out Forms
- Style Guides
- Other Introductory Documents
- Additional References

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[Return to HTML.edit Help Contents.](#)

The original of this document is available as

<http://www.ncsa.uiuc.edu/General/Internet/WWW/HTMLPrimer.html>