

Vocabulary

Browser

A program used to view, download, upload, surf or otherwise access documents (pages) on the World Wide Web. Browsers can be text-based meaning they do not show graphics or images but most however are text and graphical based.

Browsers read "marked up" or coded pages (usually HTML but not always) that reside on servers and interpret the coding into what we see "rendered" as a Web page. Netscape Navigator and Microsoft Internet Explorer are examples of Web browsers. The program you are using right now to view this information is called a browser.

Browser Window

An enclosed rectangular area that software programs run inside and their data is displayed within, including the program's title bar, toolbar(s), and status bar. You can run multiple web pages simultaneously on your computer, and there will be a window for each.

Cascading Style Sheet (CSS)

A feature of HTML that gives both Web site developers and users more control over how Web pages are displayed. With CSS, designers and users can create style sheets that define how different elements, such as headers and links, appear. These style sheets can then be applied to any page on a particular Web site. So in theory all the pages can be formatted the same way making it much easier. The term cascading derives from the fact that multiple style sheets can be applied to the same Web page.

Cut & Paste

The system supported by most document editing applications (e.g. text editors) and most operating systems that allows you to select a part of the document and then save it in a temporary buffer (known variously as the "clipboard", "cut buffer", "kill ring"). A "copy" leaves the document unchanged whereas a "cut" deletes the selected part. A "paste" inserts the data from the clipboard at the current position in the document (usually replacing any currently selected data). This may be done more than once, in more than one position and in different documents.

Dreamweaver

A desktop publishing application that allows you to edit and create Web pages using visual layout and/or html coding.

Export

To send (data) from one program to another.

Frame set

In HTML, refers to dividing the browser display area into separate frames, each of which is really a different Web page.

GIF

Graphics Interchange Format

A graphics format that compresses the size of image files. On the World Wide Web pictures and graphics you see on Web pages are usually in GIF format because the files are small and download quickly.

HTML

HTML is the language for publishing hypertext on the World Wide Web. It is a non-proprietary format, based upon SGML and can be created and processed in a wide range of tools from simple plain text editors to sophisticated web authoring tools, such as Dreamweaver. HTML uses tags to structure text into headings, paragraphs, lists, hypertext links and more.

HTML page

A page that is defined using HTML language.

Import

To receive (data) into one program from another.

JPEG or JPG

Joint Photographic Experts Group

A standardized image compression mechanism. The shorter JPG (without the E) extension/version is usually only used in association with PC platform files.

JPEG is designed for compressing either full-color or gray-scale images of natural, real-world scenes. It works well on photographs, naturalistic artwork, and similar material; not so well on lettering, simple cartoons, or line drawings. JPEG handles only still images, but there is a related standard called MPEG for motion pictures.

Layers

Layers allow for the absolute positioning of an element upon a page.

Absolute positioning enables an element, such as an image or block of text, to be placed anywhere on the Web page.

Layout Cell

A box you can draw in Dreamweaver by clicking and dragging the mouse to create one cell of a table. The cell will appear outlined in blue on your page. The size of each cell is displayed in the column header area along the top of the cell.

Layout Table

Used to visually create complex tables, it is composed of individual layout cells. A layout table is automatically created as a container for layout cells if they are drawn. You can nest layout tables, insert one inside an already existing layout table.

Link

Text and/or an image area on a Web page that a user can click on to "connect to" or reference another document. Most commonly links are thought of as what connects two Web pages or Web sites. They can also however be referencing a different part of the same document, linking to a file which will download to your computer or triggering the launching of an external or helper application which will then process the clicked on file. Links are also called hyperlinks, hypertext and hot links and they are coded in HTML by Web page authors.

Microsoft Word

A software program used to edit and create word processing documents.

Photoshop

A software program used to edit and create images/photos.

Pixel

Short for "PICture Element"

The smallest unit of a picture on a computer screen. When an image quality is poor, you will see a bunch of square dots, commonly known as a "pixilated" image.

Rollover

A rollover (some people call it a "mouseover") is a technique using JavaScript that lets you change a page element (usually a graphic image) when the user rolls the mouse over something on the page (like a line of text or a graphic image).

Table

An orderly arrangement of data, especially one in which the data are arranged in columns and rows in an essentially rectangular form.

Rows - A series of objects placed next to each other in a horizontal line.

Columns – A series of objects placed next to each other in a vertical line

Tag

A tag is used to describe a type of command or instruction usually in regards to HTML or Web page code. HTML tags look like this:
 , , <body> or <html>, always with a pair of brackets (<>) surrounding the specific instruction.

Target

Synonymous with destination, a target is a file, device or any type of location to which data is moved or copied. With Web site design, the target is the location where you desire a linked page to appear.

Web Safe Palette

Browsers and monitors do not display colors consistently. Thus that lovely shade of cream on your monitor might be pink on someone else's. To ensure that your carefully-chosen colors will appear as you want them on as many systems as possible, you should always use "web safe" colors. Even then the results may not look quite the same on another monitor because of contrast, brightness, and other factors. This palette identifies colors as combinations of red, green and blue, using hexadecimal (base 16) numbers for each color. The web safe palette limits you to the following values for red, green and blue: 00, 33, 66, 99, CC and FF.