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about this lesson

- **Title:** Links & Images
- **Description:** Use the DreamweaverMX "insert" feature to add hyperlinks and images to your Web pages.
- **Pages: six (6)**
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this lesson

1. Link Basics
2. Links to other Web pages
3. E-mail links
4. Links within a page (jump links)
5. Images

DW home : 5. Links & Images

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5.1 Link Basics

Hypertext defines a relationship between two objects -- the Web page you are currently viewing (parent) and something else (node). That something else is often another Web page; however, it could be a specific location on the current Web page (named anchors). It might be an image, a Flash file, a PPT presentation, a PDF file ... the list is not infinite, but it is long.

The link represents the relationship between the two nodes. In the beginning, hypertext links were **text**; that is, the presence of the link was reflected in the appearance of text. Traditionally, the text was underlined and blue if you had not yet followed the link.

As the Web evolved, hypertext evolved to hypermedia. Now links can be represented by images. This linked system attempts to parallel how our brains work, which is by association rather than by sequence. It also allows authors to create paths through related material with links.

Anatomy of a Link

```

http://www.washington.edu/computing/index.html
|         |         |         |         |
|   site   domain   path     filename
|
protocol
  
```

```
<a href="http://www.washington.edu/computing/" title="Computing @
University of Washington">UW Computing</a>
```

This is an absolute link.

```
<a href="2.html" title="Links to other Web pages">Next Lesson</a>
```

This is a relative link.

All links are surrounded by angle brackets [`<` `>`] and, in turn, surround text or images by using a closing tag [``]. The **<a** represents the start of the *anchor*; the **href** attribute represents *HTML reference*; **title** attribute represents one type of meta-data that can be attached to the link. For more about links, see *W3C Specification*.

If there is no **target** meta-data in the link string -- the link will open in the current browser window (parent window). There are several ways to force a link to open in a different window; the most simple is to create a named target link. (View source to see the W3C link above.)

We will explore three types of links

1. Links to other Web pages
2. E-mail links
3. Links within a page (jump links)

Next: *Links to other Web pages*

DW home : 5. Links & Images : 5.1 Link Basics

exercise

1. View source (right-click, view source or select from main browser menu)
2. Examine the various hyperlinks on this page

resources

- The Electronic Labyrinth: Hypertext
- The Electronic Labyrinth: The Rhetoric of Link Traversal
- Encyclopedia of Computer Science: Hypertext & Hypermedia: Definition

5.2 Links to other Web pages

We can create links to other Web pages within our site several different ways.

1. Menu Driven

In Design View or Code View, highlight a word, words, or image. Choose **Modify > Make Link** (or Cmd/Ctrl-L). Browse to the file you'd like to link to. Click **OK** (win) or **Choose** (mac).

2. Properties Inspector

In Design View or Code View, highlight a word, words, or image. In Properties Inspector (F3), click the **Browse for File** icon, which is next to the **Link** option. Browse to the file you'd like to link to. Click **OK** (win) or **Choose** (mac).

3. Insert Bar

In Design or Code View, place the cursor where you'd like to add a link. From the Insert Bar (F2), click **Hyperlink**. You'll notice from the screenshot that there are more options than we have discussed to this point; one of the options is typing the URL rather than browsing to a local file.

Next: e-mail links

exercise

1. Download lesson_5a.html to your hard drive.
2. Using the Dreamweaver Site Panel, drag the file into the workshop lesson folder. (Note - we will relocate the site so that we have access to all of Dreamweaver's automated tools.)
3. There is navigation at the top (images) and bottom (text). Practice using the first and second processes for adding links to only the images.

Link each image to the index.html file in each corresponding folder (for example, the Art of Bonsai image will link to art_of_bonsai/index.html).

4. When you are ready to test, press **F12** to preview in browser. See if the links work.
5. We will now try to use the **Link History** feature to add links to the text at the bottom of the page.

Highlight the words **Art of Bonsai**; in the Property Inspector, click the **Link History** pop-up menu. What do you see? You should see links to any files created in the prior step using Property Inspector; if the link to **art_of_bonsai/index.html** is present, choose it. Otherwise, use the **Browse to File** feature to create the link.

Complete for the other links.

6. When you are ready to test, press **F12** to preview in browser. See if the links work.
7. We'll use the last method to insert a link for the text link **treebay.com**.

Place your cursor at the end of the bottom navigation line (to the right of Contact Information). Press return. Click **Insert Hyperlink**. Complete the box like the bottom image at the left. Click OK. Now compare your Property Inspector with the one at the left. Again preview in browser. Why do you think this link looks different from the others?



5.3 e-mail Links

When we want a link to pop-open our reader's e-mail software to send a message, we use an e-mail hyperlink. It will launch our reader's e-mail application and insert the address from our link in the "to" field.

We can also "pre-fill" the subject line of the e-mail. "Contact Me" links may or may not be e-mail hypertext; "e-mail me" should be.

The code:

```
<a href="mailto:address@domain.xxx">  
<a href="mailto:address@domain.xxx?subject=automatic  
subject line">
```

Next: *Links within a page (jump links)*

exercise

1. Download [lesson_5b.html](#) to your hard drive.
2. In Design View, click inside the cell to the left of the **General Information** cell.
3. From the **Insert Panel**, select **Email link**. This will open the e-mail link dialog box.
Enter Text: General Information
Press Tab
Enter e-mail: info@bonsaihut.com
Click OK.
4. Click on the link. Now check the Property Inspector to see the link syntax.
5. Click inside the cell to the left of the **Photo Submissions** cell. Select **Email link** from the Insert Bar.
Enter Text: photos@bonsaihut.com
Press Tab
Enter e-mail: photos@bonsaihut.com
Click OK.

What's the difference between the appearance of the two links?

6. Semi-Manual Process

Click inside the cell to the left of the **Comments/Suggestions** cell.

Type: comments@bonsaihut.com

Highlight the text.

In Property Inspector, type
mailto:comments@bonsaihut.com in the **Link** field.

Press Return/Enter.

5.4 Links within a page (jump links)

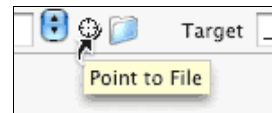
When we have a long Web page, it may be helpful to provide a table of contents at the top of the page, with each content section linking "down" to the appropriate section within the document.

To do this, we use named anchors, which have two components: the name and the link. If it's not clear that the link goes to information on the page, it's useful to add a "down" icon; see [Qbullet Icons](#).

Next: *Images*

exercise

1. Download [lesson_5c.html](#) to your hard drive. Save it in the **art_of_bonsai** folder (so that links work).
2. In Design View, highlight the words "Formal Upright" -- this is going to be our first named anchor point.
3. Click the **Named Anchor** icon in the **Insert Bar**. 
4. In the **Named Anchor** dialog box, type formal_upright; click OK. [Note: we don't use spaces in file names; it's a good idea to continue this practice in anchor names.]
5. In Design View, there should now be an anchor marker on the page.
6. Do the same for the other four types of trees.
7. Now we can add the links at the top of the page. We'll use the **Point to File** option in the Property Inspector (F3) to create these links.



Highlight the words **Formal Upright**.

Click and hold the Point to File icon.

Drag the Point to File icon onto the anchor beside the sub-head **Formal Upright**. Release the cursor.

You should see **#formal_upright** in the Link box of the Property Inspector.

8. Repeat for the other four links.

5.5 Images

Images can hold links -- both to on-page anchor links or to other Web pages or objects.

There are a variety of ways to add the code for an image to a Web page, as we reviewed last week. To recap, we can drag an image from the Dreamweaver Site Panel (explorer); use the Insert Bar; use the Insert Menu.

Image types that are supported by browsers include .gif, .jpg, and .png.

Example code (attributes presented on separate lines for discussion - code would be one line)

```

```

Next: [Section 6. Tables and CSS](#)

exercise

1. For this exercise, we are working with your [Lesson 5c](#) file. Download the "scroll down" and "scroll up" arrows from QBullets
2. Save these images in the primary **images** folder in the workshop lesson site.
3. Using one (or more) of the methods at the left, place "scroll down" arrows to the right of the text links at the top of the page.
4. Highlight each down arrow and make it a hot link. Can you use Property Inspector to keep from having to type anchor names?
5. View source. Compare with [lesson_5c_complete.html](#)

DW home : 5. Links & Images : **5.5 Images**