

HTML basics (Hypertext Markup Language)

HTML is one of the most important types of code behind the web pages we see on the Internet. It works by putting what are called tags around everything you see on the pages. The tags are what make everything look the way it does. Now let's make some!

Start with a basic message.

Click Start > Run, and type 'notepad'. If you are on a Mac, open the TextEdit application.

Hit enter.

Type the following on the blank page:

```
<html>
<body>
</body>
</html>
```



Tags are like sandwiches with stuff in the middle. What you've typed so far is a sandwich that tells any web browser (Firefox, Internet Explorer, Safari) that what is on the page is meant to show on a web page. So let's try it!

Click File > Save, and name this file myname.html.

To see the page in a web browser, click Start > My Computer, and go to the place you saved it. (On a Mac, use the Finder.) When you see the file, double click it. It will open in the default browser for the computer. It will be blank, but don't worry! The tags will not show up.

Now click back to your Notepad document (or TextEdit) and add a "Hello!" on the line inside the <body> sandwich so it looks like this:

```
<html>
<body>
Hello!
</body>
</html>
```

Now click back to your browser and refresh the page (a button up at the top like these  ).

Now your page should say "Hello!" Exciting, right?

Try typing some different messages, saving, and refreshing the browser to see them.

Remember,

1. Edit the message in Notepad (or TextEdit).
2. Save (not Save As)
3. Go to the browser and click Refresh.

Make your message look nicer!

Now we're going to put some tags around the words you typed to make them look different.

Add the following tag to your message:

```
<html>
<body>
<b>Hello!</b>
</body>
</html>
```

Save that, go to the browser, refresh, and see what changed.

Now try these tags:

```
<i>Hello!</i>
<u>Hello!</u>
<h1>Hello!</h1>
```

That last one is a header. It makes bold and a larger size. You can do h1 to h6.

You can combine tags. Here's how:

```
<html>
<body>
<b><i>Hello!</i></b>
</body>
</html>
```

See how the *italics* tags are inside the **bold** tag sandwich?

Now for some color! Try this:

```
<html>
<body>
<font color="blue">Hello!</font>
</body>
</html>
```

Try some different colors! You can find all of the color names here:
http://www.w3schools.com/html/html_colornames.asp

Of course, you will want to try some different fonts:

```
<html>
<body>
<font face="Arial">Hello!</font>
</body>
</html>
```

Here is a list of font names:

<http://www.ilovethisplace.com/webdesign/fonts.html>

To combine color and font, it's the same sandwich routine:

```
<font face="Arial"><font color="red">Hello!</font></font>
```

How about changing the whole background!

Go to your <body> tag and change it like this: <body bgcolor="chocolate"> (Leave the closing body tag alone.)
WOW! THAT'S COOL!

Formatting: Let's move things around!

So far, everything you type is on the same line. Here's how you break it up into paragraphs:

Make your message into two separate sections:

```
<html>
<body>
<p><font color="yellow">Hello!</font></p>
<p><font color="purple">Goodbye!</font></p>
</body>
</html>
```

Now try aligning the paragraphs:

```
<html>
<body>
<p align="center"><font color="yellow">Hello!</font></p>
<p align="right"><font color="purple">Goodbye!</font></p>
</body>
</html>
```

Hey, you're getting to be a pro!

Pictures

I know, what is a web page without pictures? Well this one is a little hard. But here goes:

Get a picture and save it to *the same place as your web page* (That's important!). Make sure it is a JPEG.

Change the name of the picture to something easy, like 'mypicture'. Add the code below:

```
<html>
<body>
<p><font color="blue">Hello!</font></p>
<p><image src="mypicture.jpg"></p>
</body>
</html>
```

You can align the picture like so:

```
<p align="center"><image src="mypicture.jpg"></p>
```

I said above it has to be a JPEG. That's not true, but if you download any other type of image file (GIF, BMP, or PNG), make sure you name the image file with those same three letters in the image tag (mypicture.gif).