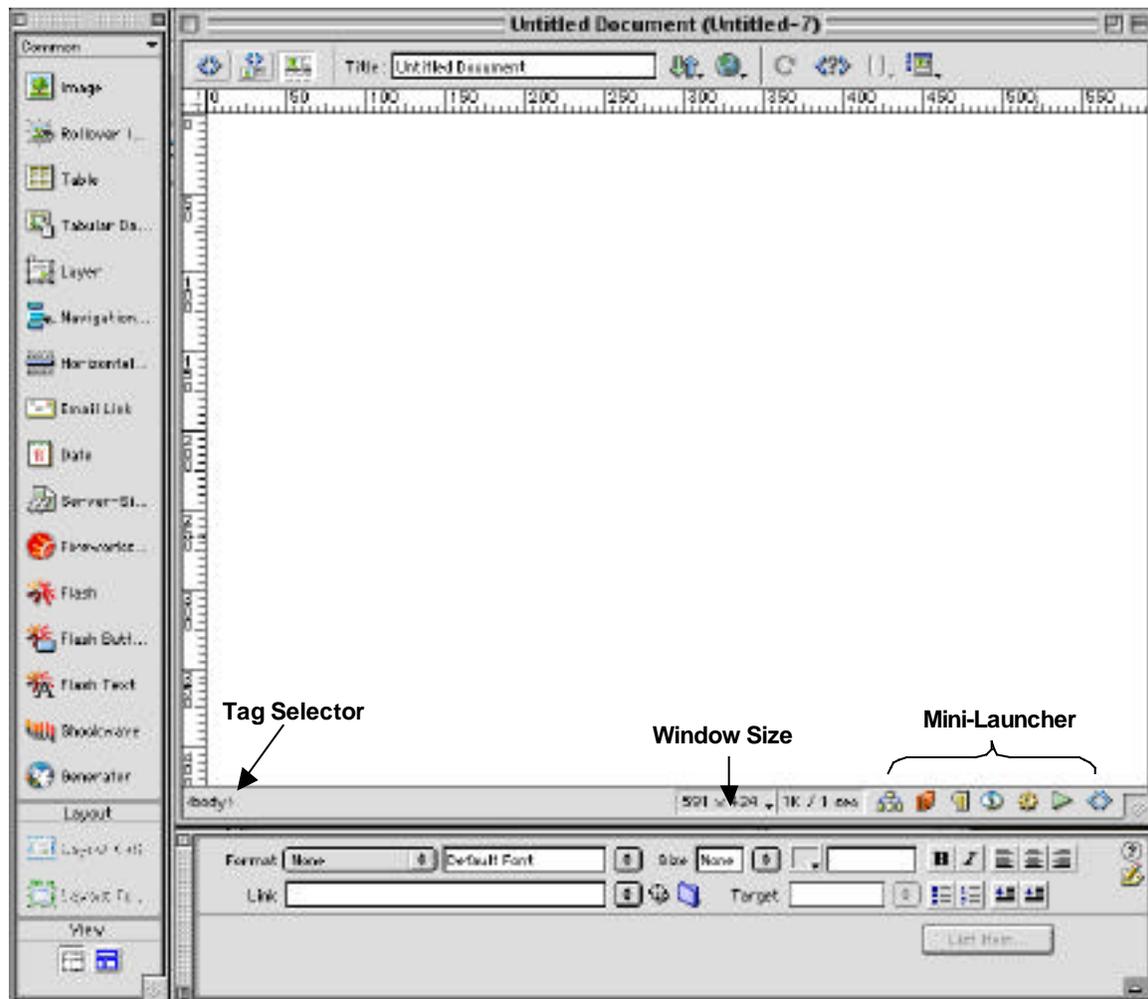


The Dreamweaver Interface

The Desktop

On your desktop there is an alias to the Dreamweaver application. Double-click on it to launch Dreamweaver. The program will open and your desktop should look similar to the picture below. You may have one or two different floating palettes.



The major portion of the screen is taken up by the document window. This is where you'll create your web page. Along the left of the window in the example is the Objects Palette. This floating toolbar can be moved and/or resized as desired. Along the bottom of my window is the Properties Inspector Palette. Many of the things you control will be adjusted in this palette. I highly recommend you leave both of these palettes open all the time you're working in Dreamweaver.

The Document Window

The document window is where you create your pages. Items of interest include the tag selector, size window, and mini-launcher. The tag selector allows you to select objects and HTML coding very easily. The Window Size allows you to set the size of document you want to create (640 x 480 is best for general pages). The Mini-Launcher allows you to click to open various other windows.

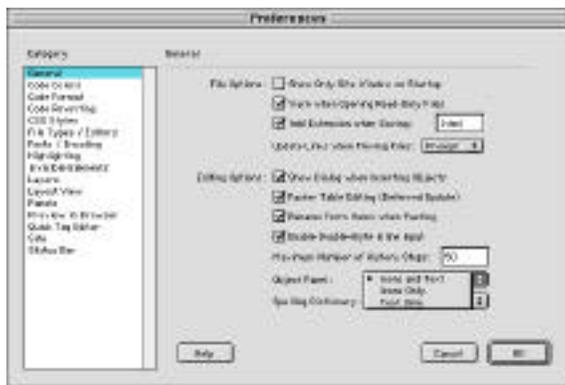
The Objects Palette

The Objects Palette contains shortcut buttons for placing common items onto your page. The items that are show in the Objects Palette can change. The default palette shows common elements. By holding down your mouse on the subtitle at the top of the window, you can switch to see character, form, frame, head, special, or invisible objects. Usually you'll just leave it at common elements.

In my example, my buttons show both the icon and the text naming the button. When you are learning Dreamweaver, that is a good way to remember what each button is for. Once you've become familiar with the program, you may want to turn the text off.

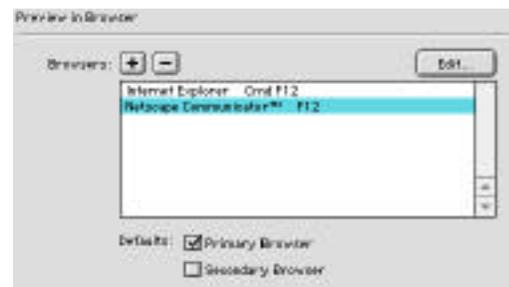
To turn text on or off in the Objects palette, go to Edit > Preferences...

In the middle of the general window, make a choice from the pop-down menu.



Selecting the Preview Browser

As you can see from the Preferences window above, there are many categories where you can make changes to fit your style. However, the only other preferences window that we'll need to check is the Preview In Browser category. This is where you can select which browser you want to be default for checking the appearance of your web page. To add a different



browser to the list, click on the Edit... button, find the browser you want to add and click OK. It is recommended that you preview your pages in both Internet Explorer and Netscape, because often pages look different in the various browsers.

Tip

Notice the keyboard commands affiliated with each browser. It will save you a lot of time and mouse movements if you memorize how to preview in the browser.

The Properties Inspector

The Properties Inspector Palette is context sensitive. It changes depending upon what object is selected.



Click Here

The PI is an expandable window. As you can see on the window above, there is a horizontal line splitting the window in two. If you click on the little arrow in the lower right corner, the bottom half of the window will go away. Click on the arrow again to show the lower half of the palette. The most commonly used features are located in the upper half of the window, so your Property Inspector can take up less valuable screen space most of the time. But sometimes you'll need to use the commands in the lower half, so you'll need to expand the window.

Site Window

Introduction

No matter how you create your web site, one of the most important things you need to do is to place all your documents and images into a common folder. You can put folders inside of folders, but everything needs to be centralized into this one **ROOT** folder. Otherwise you'll run into problems when the pages are uploaded onto the fileserver. Dreamweaver makes it very easy to keep track of your documents inside the root folder with something called the Site Inspector.

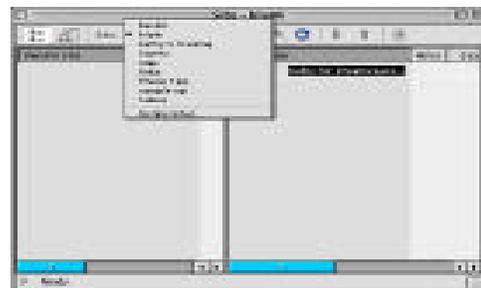
In our workshop, we will be using documents that have already been created and saved onto the hard disk. Everyone's hard disk has a different name, but the procedure below tells how to set up your first site. We will be defining sites for each activity so you'll get lots of practice. On the hard disk there is a Class docs folder. Inside that folder there is another folder entitled Dreamweaver. That folder contains all the folders we'll be using for this workshop.



Defining Your 1st Site

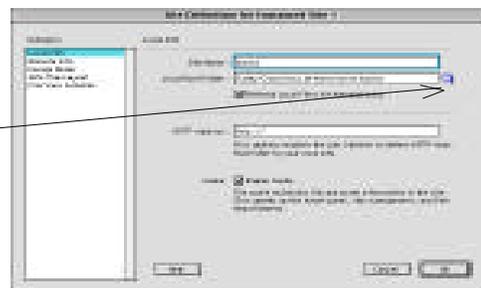
1. Double-click on the Dreamweaver icon to launch Dreamweaver if it's not already open. Press the **F8** key to bring up the Site window.

Click on the little Define Sites... box at the top of the window.



2. In the first little white box, give your site a name.

Click on the little folder to the right of the 2nd white box. Navigate to find the folder we want to use as our ROOT folder.



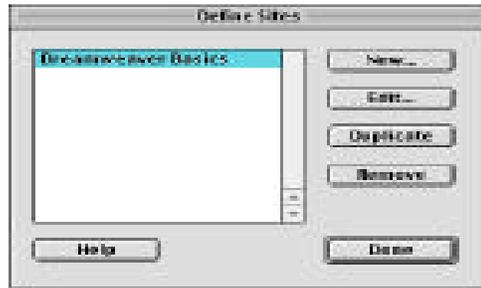
3. For our first activity, highlight **Class Docs** in **Dreamweaver Basics**

Click on the Choose button in the lower right corner.



4. In the Define Sites dialog box, click the Done button.

After your sites have been defined, you can choose which to work on in this box.



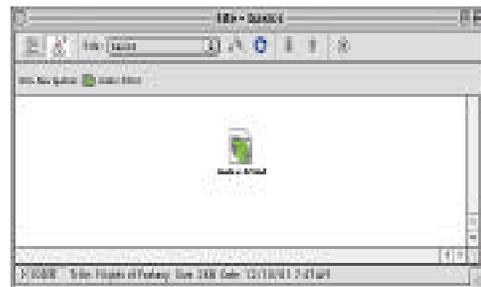
5. This is the Site window after the site has been defined. All items inside that folder are listed.

If you were working with files on your remote FTP site, they would be listed in the left box.



6. You can view your site as a map by clicking on the icon in the upper left of the window. Then you'll see the file structure of your site.

(It doesn't look like much yet because there aren't many pages.)



Tip

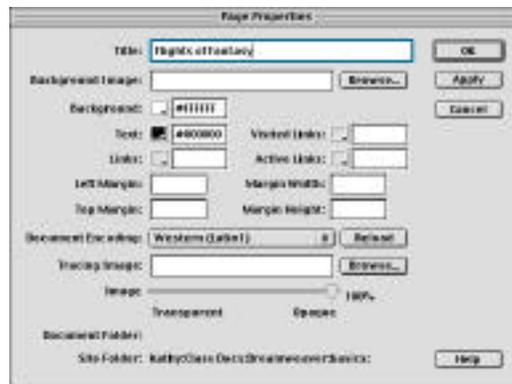
It is really important to train yourself to open your web pages from the Site window instead of the hard drive. Also, if you want to add, move or delete files or folders, do it within the Dreamweaver Site window instead of the hard drive. Otherwise you'll have to manually keep track of links. If you do it within the Site window, Dreamweaver will keep track of changes for you.

The First Page

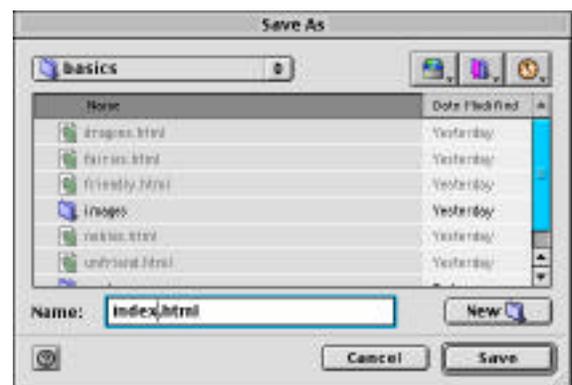
The first page of a web site is commonly named **index.html**. Most web servers recognize the **index.html** page as the default home page. We'll create that page now.

Creating & Saving a Document

1. You should already be in Dreamweaver with a new blank page visible. If the Site window is still open, hit the **F8** key to close it. If you don't have a new, blank page, select **File** \square **New**.
2. Select **Modify** \square **Page Properties...** (**⌘+J**).



3. In the first white box, title your page **Flights of Fantasy**. This title will appear at the top of the web page in the browser and can contain spaces and punctuation. Click OK.
4. It is important to save the document early and in the correct folder. Choose **File** \square **Save** (**⌘+S**). Maneuver so that you're saving the document into the Basics folder (inside **Class Docs** \square **Dreamweaver**). Give the document the filename of **index.html**.





In the Title Bar above, you can see the document title (Flights of Fantasy) and the file name (index.html).

Inserting Images

1. Click on the Insert Images object in the Objects Palette. 
2. In the Basics folder there is an Images folder. Open it up and find the **bannerflt.jpg** image. Click once on it and click Open to have the picture put into your page. The picture will be inserted on your page, but it is still selected, so click off the picture to unselect it and hit the return key twice.
3. Insert the following images without hitting the Return key between insertions:

home.gif

dragons.gif

fairies.gif

nobility.gif

friendly.gif

unfriendly.gif

4. Save your work. It should look like this:



Inserting Text

Typing text onto your Dreamweaver is much like using any word processing program. Just type and it will appear where ever the insertion cursor was. We want a paragraph of text between the banner and the buttons, and a navigation bar at the bottom of the document.

1. Your cursor is probably blinking right behind the unfriendly creatures picture. Click in the space between the banner and the buttons.
2. Type the following text.

Welcome to my fantasy world. Please click on a button below to learn more about each of the creatures living in my world.

3. Select all the text you just typed. In the Properties Inspector, choose the following options:

Format: Paragraph
Font: Verdana, Ariel, Helvetica
Size: 4

4. Click under the buttons and type the following links.
The vertical line is called a pipe and you get it by typing Shift+Backslash (right above the Return key). Put spaces before and after each pipe.

home | dragons | fairies | nobility | friendly creatures | unfriendly creatures

5. Select all the text you just typed. In the Properties Inspector, choose the following options:

Format: Paragraph
Font: Verdana, Ariel, Helvetica
Size: 2

Centering Images & Text

We want the text and images to be centered on the page. We could select each item one at a time and center, but it's easier to select everything and center all at once.

6. Choose **Edit** (E) **Select All**. (⌘+ A).
7. In the Properties Inspector (the palette lurking at the bottom of your screen), click on the Centering Icon. Everything jumps over to the center of the page.

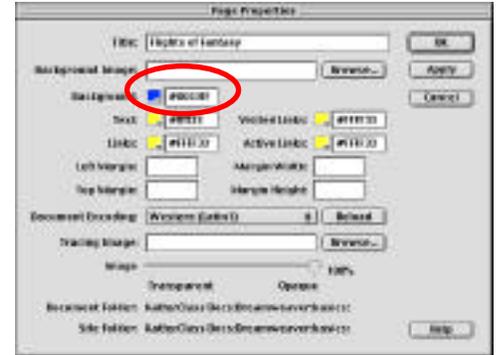


Page Background & Text Colors

The page would look a lot better if you couldn't see where the images borders are. We'll change the background color to make it better.

1. Type **Command+J** (**⌘+J**) to open the Page Properties dialog box. (Or select **Modify** **⌘** **Page Properties**.)
2. In the Background area, click on the tiny white box to open the Color Palette.

When the Color Palette opens, your cursor changes into an eyedropper. Instead of trying to pick a good color from the color chart, move the eyedropper over onto your document and click on the blue background of one of the images.



That selects the color we want (#0033FF), so click on the OK button.

3. The page background is now bright blue and you can't tell where the images leave off and the background begins. You'll probably also notice that it's very hard to read the black text on the blue background.
4. Open the Page Properties dialog box so we can change the rest of our text colors. Follow the chart below:

Text:	#FFFF33	Visited Links:	# FFFF33
Links:	# FFFF33	Active Links:	# FFFF33

Note: all links will all be the same color as regular text, whether they've been visited or not.

5. Your page should now look like this:



6. Save your document and close it.

On Your Own

Located in your DreamWeaver class folder, there is a folder named Exercise_One.

Inside this folder there is a blank DreamWeaver page saved as **index.html**, and an images folder containing various images for you to use. These images include two different banners, several images to be used as buttons to link to other pages, and some plain creature pictures to be used for decoration.

1. Define the folder Exercise_One as the Site Window.
2. Open the document index.html, located in the Exercise_One folder. Although this document already has been saved, it doesn't yet have a document title, so give it one. **(Hint: ⌘+J to open Page Properties.)**
3. Using your creative talents, develop your own introductory page to your "Flights of Fantasy" web site. You can use any of the images located in the images folder. Make up your own text to let readers know what the site is about. Put in some text or images that can be used later to link to other pages or other web sites.
4. Try changing the colors of the background, text, links, etc. Be as creative as you wish. Investigate anything you don't know what it's for.
5. Save your work!